



BOARD REPORT

A Summary of the December 13, 2011 School Board Meeting

The school board met in regular session on December 13, 2011 at Newport High School with approximately 30 members of the staff, media and patrons present.

Communications

Vice Chairman Jean Turner reported she and other board members received several emails from a patron questioning the District's use of the construction excise tax (CET). Chairman Beck suggested placing this item on the January board agenda to allow staff time to gather data.

Board Reports

Chairman Beck wished Superintendent Rinearson "happy birthday," and noted he needed to leave the meeting early due to travel plans.

Mr. Beck gave kudos to Newport Intermediate students, staff and principal for their excellent work with "math facts" (multiplication tables). He visited the school recently to participate in both seeing students in action and distributing certificates to those who passed their math facts test on the first attempt. "That excitement for learning is why I'm here," commented Beck.

Director Liz Martin directed the Board's attention to the most recent edition of the "Harbor Light," Newport High's newspaper. She noted the strength of the paper.

2010/11 Audit Report

Kenny Allen of Pauly, Rogers and Co. presented the audit report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. He reported the District received an unqualified, clean audit, the highest attainable. He thanked Business Manager Julie Baldwin and staff for their excellent work; Ms. Baldwin thanked Business Services Supervisor

Kim Cusick for stepping forward to assume many new duties in the business office, including several related to the audit.

Student Representative

Newport High Student Body President Sophie Hendrix updated the Board on several activities at that school, including: ●the NHS Cross Country team placed 5th in state competition; ●the Leadership Team planned a "blue out" for a basketball game at the school; ●Holiday Spirit week is taking place this week, prior to winter break; ●the second "write-a-palooza" event is being planned for students to explore several different writing styles; ●a career fair took place at the school, with over 30 community members coming in to visit with students; ●many NHS students took part in the recent Yaquina Bay bridge celebration, including the band and cheerleaders; ●students continue to work on ocean literacy; ●a future activity is being planned to send supplies to troops overseas; ●the "Mr. NHS" contest is coming up and will benefit Doernbecher Children's Hospital.

West Area Report

Sam Case Principal Ryan Relken thanked the Booster club for their hard work on the holiday concert recently held at Newport Intermediate School. He reported construction planning is ongoing and has resulted in changes, i.e., separate pick up/drop off "loops" for buses and parents.

Student improvement is increasing, and teachers are employing many visual learning techniques.

The Board Report is a summary from the latest meeting of the Lincoln County School District Board of Directors. For additional information, you may contact Laurie Urquhart, Secretary or Tom Rinearson, Superintendent at 265-4403.

Newport Intermediate Principal Majalise Tolan reported the school is in the midst of the Olweus anti-bullying campaign. So far, 75% of students know at least two anti-bullying rules. The next goal is for 75% of students to know 75% of the rules.

The “Polar Express” movie will be shown at NIS on December 15th. Students involved with this year’s east coast trip will be selling concessions then.

Newport High Principal Jon Zagel noted the Board toured new construction on campus the evening of the board meeting. “The changes at Newport Prep have really changed our culture,” said Zagel. He thanked Board members for their hard work on the bond measure, and gave kudos to Rich Belloni and staff for their in-depth communication with employees in schools to learn their opinions about what will work best in new classrooms/space.

Mr. Zagel reported several Chinese educators visited Newport High recently to explore the IB program. He said the visitors represent a school with high test scores and a 100% graduation rate. But in deeper discussions, it was learned the school has zero teen parents, speakers of a different language, or homeless students. “Our doors are open to everyone,” said Zagel. He thanked the Board and Superintendent for their outstanding contributions, and said he is proud to be a part of this district.

State Revenue Forecast

Business Manager Julie Baldwin presented an overview of the current year’s budget as well as projections for the coming year. Staff has six fewer work days this year, compared to 12 last year. Administrators/Confidential/Exempt employees volunteered to accept pay freezes; there were reductions to positions this year as a result of decreased state funding.

The state revenue forecast for the current year is down by \$306 million from the close of the

legislative session. Mid-year cuts to K-12 education are not expected, but future forecasts bear watching. The volatile global market has a significant impact on Oregon’s economy.

For the coming school year, the state school fund is expected to be \$25 million less than the current year, which will result in a reduction of approximately \$235,144 to LCSD. In addition, “School Year Subaccount Funds” will not be available to districts. These two factors, combined with “roll up” costs for the coming year (assuming no reduced days), could result in a reduction of approximately \$2.5 million compared to the current year’s adopted budget.

Student enrollment has flattened, moving away from the steep decreases seen in prior years. Because the district has been able to maintain an adequate beginning fund balance, borrowing of funds has been eliminated, which resulted in savings of between \$25,000 and \$60,000. Building carryover funds have been used to hire additional staff.

Other unknowns for 2012/13 include a reduction in federal grant funding, the possible elimination of federal forest fees, and uncertain ESD funding levels.

Ms. Baldwin reported the Learning Support Team will continue to monitor the budget picture, looking at ways to lessen the impact of reductions with a focus on student achievement.

Monthly Financial Report

Business Manager Julie Baldwin reported the District received substantial state timber revenue in November. She learned from County Treasurer Linda Pitzer that this timber revenue stream appears to be stronger than last year’s. This is considered “local revenue.” When local revenue is higher than expected, state school fund monies decrease to the district.

Superintendent Rinearson cautioned the Board that though the district received higher than

expected local revenue, it would be offset by a reduction in the state school fund.

Capital Construction (Bond) Update

Director of Support Services Rich Belloni and Business Manager Julie Baldwin updated the Board on the progress of bond projects around the district, sharing pictures and the monthly budget reports for each project.

The artificial turf fields are substantially under budget.

“We are keeping our word with what we said we would do with bond funds,” said Belloni.

The school-by-school financial reports divide projects between those funded with bond revenue, construction excise tax funds, and building maintenance funds. Superintendent Rinearson said the natural tendency would be to move forward on projects listed in columns other than bond projects. “We need to complete everything we said we would do in the bond first.”

Mr. Rinearson also noted the significant impact on local builders, suppliers, etc., saying he has been told by several that the bond work has enabled them to stay in business. He said Mr. Belloni will present an in-depth report on bond projects every six months or so.

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Rinearson recognized Crestview Heights Learning Specialist Krista Williams for obtaining a Target field trip grant. The grant will fund an excursion to the Hatfield Marine Science Center for 48 students in February.

Mr. Rinearson thanked Optometric Physician Dr. Rick Letherer for his donation of six eye exams to students, along with glasses for those who need them. Dr. Letherer started this tradition in 1994, and has given this gift every year since then.

The Superintendent thanked Road and Driveway for a recent donation of paving behind the softball backstop at Toledo Jr./Sr. High.

He recognized Crestview SLP Heather Loman, whose thesis will be presented at an international conference.

Mr. Rinearson congratulated 23 NIS students for passing their “math facts” (multiplication tables) test on the first try.

He noted he and Assistant Superintendent Sara Johnson attended a STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Math) meeting with district ocean literacy partners and the Oregon Department of Education. “ODE is very interested in learning about how we developed these partnerships” said Rinearson.

He also congratulated Newport Intermediate School, Attendance Flag winners for November, the third consecutive month.

Toledo Elementary will host a winter festival on December 15th at 1:00 p.m., and Newport High’s winter concert is the same date, 7:00 p.m. at the Newport Performing Arts Center.

Mr. Rinearson noted that Communications Coordinator Mary Jo Kerlin developed a brochure to help share financial information about the bond projects.

The Superintendent wished Director Liz Martin “Happy Birthday” on December 28th. He noted Friday, December 16th is the last day of school before Winter Break; school resumes Tuesday, January 3rd.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

The Board approved Consent Calendar items, including:

- Minutes, 11/8/11 Regular Session;**
- Policy IK, Academic Achievement;**
- Policy IKA, Grading System;**

- Policy IKFB, Graduation Exercises;**
- Regular Personnel Items and Addendum, including:**
 - New Classified Hires:** Kathryn Thomas, Taft Elem.; Amy Becksted, Homeless Outreach; Kelley Deckard, CVH; Jeannine Deaville, Taft 7-12;
 - New Temporary Licensed Hires:** Ronee Treadwell, TOES;
 - Leave of Absence:** Tracie Swanson, 12/14/11-1/3/12; Robyn Bailey 10/27/11-6/15/12; Mary Rastler, 11/21/11-1/3/12; Starla Nelson, 1/3/2012-3/22/12;
 - Resignations:** Guillermo Gonzales, WHS; Terri Brown, NIS; Von Taylor, WHS; Mary Beth Guerena, Olake; Matt Falby, Taft Elem.; David Wirick, WHS; Debby Clark, NIS; Christie Walker, NIS; Carol Funk, HR; Kristin Becker (resigned status as administrator-continuing as teacher); Marsha Rider, Toledo Jr./Sr.; Susan Duncan, NHS; Linda Serbus, WHS; Lynn Bishop, TOES; Susan Miller, TOES; Doug Hoffman, Media Specialist; Barbara Perkins, Title I; Deb Gaffney, Mentor Teacher;
 - Termination:** Lucas Pearson, Tech Support;
- Policy AD, Educational Philosophy;**
- Policy AE, District Goals.**

Appointment of Gary Nees to Budget Committee, Zone 2

The Board appointed Gary Nees to the LCSD Budget Committee in Zone 2 for a one-year remainder term, to serve until June 30, 2012. (The previous Zone 2 representative resigned the position. The standard term of office for budget committee members is three years.) The first Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2012.

Approval of OSBA Resolutions; Candidate

The Board approved two resolutions and a candidate to the OSBA Legislative Policy Committee. One resolution would allow consecutive terms for the secretary/treasurer; the other would allow the legislative policy

committee more flexibility to make changes to legislative policies and priorities.

David Dowrie was approved as the Zone 10 representative to the Legislative Policy Committee. He currently serves on the Linn Benton Lincoln Board of Directors.

Discussion on Superintendent’s Evaluation Instrument and Timeline

Each year, the Board conducts an evaluation of the Superintendent. In addition to input from Board members, District administrators will be asked to complete the forms. The evaluation will take place during January, 2012.

Director Martin noted the Board has mentioned using a different evaluation tool; the Superintendent said it would be a good topic for a board retreat.



Best wishes for a happy and peaceful holiday.

*Next Regular Session Meeting: January 10, 2012- 7:00 p.m.
@ Newport Intermediate School*