

**LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Board of Directors**

**Tuesday, January 12, 2016- 7:00 p.m.**

**Newport Middle School**

**Newport, Oregon**

**Minutes**

**PRESIDING:** Liz Martin, Chairman

**Present:** Liz Martin, Chairman; Karen Bondley, Vice Chairman; Ron Beck, Kelley Ellis, Amanda Remund, Directors

**Also Present:** Steve Boynton, Superintendent; Laurie Urquhart, Secretary

**Handouts:** Financial Reports, 12/31/15; Personnel Addendum, 1/12/16; Audited Financial Report for Year Ended June 30, 2015; Newport Middle School Report; The Cub Way (NHS) Report;

**Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum**

Chairman Martin convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum of all five board members present. The board recessed into a public hearing to hear comments on the proposed renewal of Siletz Valley School.

**Public Hearing- Siletz Valley Charter School**

Elementary/Special Education Director Susan Van Liew noted she is the district liaison for charter schools, and said if the board decided to declare its intent to renew the charter, she would be the point person.

No comments were generated; the board meeting was then reconvened.

**Board Reports**

Board members expressed appreciation for the mementos given them by the schools in honor board recognition month, as well as feelings that it is a pleasure to serve on the board, if difficult at times. Chairman Martin commented, "We do this because we care about our students, schools and staff."

Director Remund reported Crestview Heights will have a presentation night on Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. She reported Waldport High received a "bronze" award from U.S. News and World Report, and said a memorial service for former teacher Rose Burbee will be held at Waldport High on January 17 at 1:00 p.m.

## **Student Representative**

Newport Middle School Principal Belloni introduced student Niko Krutzikowsky, calling him a role model for other students. Mr. Krutzikowsky updated the board on events at that school. The school has several student committees to administer activities, including fundraising, dances, sports, and assemblies. A recent canned food drive generated 1,449 cans; students held a “remember Paris” day and wore red, white and blue; a student/staff volleyball game was held. Much effort is put forth at the school on character development.

## **Annual Audit Report**

Kenny Allen of Pauly, Rogers and Co. presented the audit report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. He reported this district obtained a “clean, unmodified” opinion, the highest level attainable.

He noted a new federal accounting standard requires reporting of upcoming pensions to be paid. Because LCSD has a large “side account,” it will not be assessed any of the state’s unfunded PERS liability, one of only two districts in Oregon of which he is aware. He gave kudos to Business Manager Julie Baldwin and staff for their excellent work.

## **Compliance with Standards- Division 22**

Data Coordinator Vince Dye reported LCSD is in compliance with Division 22 standards. The process for reporting this compliance to ODE has changed to help with the paperwork reduction act. This year’s report required focus on five areas: reporting child abuse, the continuous improvement plan, required instructional time, diploma requirements and district curriculum.

## **West Area Report**

**Newport Middle Principal Aaron Belloni** reminded the board that one year ago, the conversation about reconfiguring the west area and blending three schools (Newport Intermediate, Isaac Newton Magnet, and Newport Prep Academy) began. Newport Middle now houses grades 6-8, and is focused this year on culture/environment, teaching the whole child, and implementing the “bring your own device” (BYOD) program. The BYOD program uses one to one electronic devices as academic tools to enhance and engage learning.

Mr. Belloni shared the list of academic offerings at the school, and reported early data shows students are on target to attain at least a year’s growth in many areas. The school is also focused on continuous improvement and continually refines instruction to meet students at their individual levels.

**Newport High Principal Jon Zagel** reported the Smarter Balanced test scores released last year generated deep thought by several teachers and him about how they were offering instruction. After a summer retreat, they refocused and are now intently pursuing the “Cub way.” This system has three parts: a growth mindset, achievement and character; and all students and staff can learn.

The school has three main expectations of staff: 1) Build a relationship with each student and greet them at the door each day; 2) Everyone will help to meet Smarter Balanced requirements; and 3) Never give up on a student.

Math/Physics teacher Brian Hanna described changes in the math department, including a new diagnostic tool to measure where each student is in math. Teachers ask students to self-reflect on different math concepts, and are working on mental math and math review. Data is not yet available to measure how the changes are affecting student achievement, but will be shared when available. Mr. Hanna is also helping align math instruction across the district.

Language Arts teacher Brad Thompson reported staff examined at-risk factors to address students who struggled on the Smarter Balanced test. Students were asked to complete a diagnostic test in Language Arts. He noted focus on a high level of thinking sometimes leaves the fundamentals behind. All departments are helping students remember to address capitalization, complete sentences and spelling. IB curriculum is being used for junior English.

Students in junior level English also use Chromebooks, which will help reduce test anxiety.

Mr. Zagel noted Newport High performed at about the same level of schools of like size, and said “This year is the best start we’ve had.”

### **Financial Reports**

Business Manager Julie Baldwin reported nothing unanticipated in the month of December. Projections for current year tax levy collections were reduced by 9.6% due to the high rate of tax collection in November.

Student enrollment is holding steady. Interest rates are up slightly.

Ms. Baldwin thanked her team (Kim Cusick, Jamie Nicholson, Brooke Helmandollar and Carole Kunde) for their excellent work which resulted in a clean audit report.

### **Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Boynton thanked the five board members for their service in honor of Board Recognition month. He presented them with mementos from several schools.

The Superintendent congratulated Waldport High School for their receipt of the \$384,734 ODE Career Technical Education (CTE) Revitalization grant. The grant funds will be focused on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) activities at the school.

Mr. Boynton recognized Homeless Program Coordinator Katey Townsend, who will present at an upcoming Homeless Education Symposium.

Superintendent Boynton gave kudos to Waldport and Newport High Schools, who were named “bronze” level best high schools by U.S. News and World Report. This is a first for Newport; Waldport has been named in several previous years. 114 schools in Oregon were named in the rankings, three at the gold level, 25 at silver, and 86 bronze.

The Superintendent thanked several community partners who contributed to a safety project in the district to label all school halls and exterior doors in a consistent, east to identify manner. The Siletz Tribal

Charitable Contribution fund, Lincoln County Sheriff's office, and Newport, Lincoln City and Toledo Police Departments all contributed funds for this project.

Mr. Boynton reminded the board of an upcoming work session January 26<sup>th</sup> to continue work on the rewrite of district policies. He wished an early 'happy birthday' to Director Kelley Ellis (February 2<sup>nd</sup>), and reported the recent Dutch Bros. book collection drive brought in approximately 2,000 books.

He noted Taft Elementary will have a Family Literacy/bingo night on Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 5:30 p.m. at the school.

### **Approval of the Consent Calendar**

**Motion 15/16-19**

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Remund, the Board unanimously approved Consent Calendar items, including:

- Minutes, 12/8/15 Regular and Local Contract Review Board Sessions;**
- Regular Personnel Items and Addendum.**

### **Intent to Renew Charter, Siletz Valley School**

**Motion 15/16-20**

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Ellis, the board unanimously approved its intent to renew the charter with Siletz Valley School. Representatives from the school submitted a renewal request to the board; the next step is negotiating a new charter contract. The contract will return for the board's consideration in the coming months.

### **LCEA and LCSD Agreements**

**Motion 15/16-21**

On motion of Director Ellis, seconded by Director Bondley, the board unanimously accepted the negotiated tentative agreements to the LCEA collective bargained agreement. As of the evening of the board meeting, the Association had not yet ratified the agreement.

The tentative contract is for three years, 2015-2018. A Memorandum of Understanding was finalized defining retroactivity for the new salary schedule as November 1, 2015; salary as applied to beyond FTE and curriculum rates would go into effect January 1, 2016.

The board will consider the finalized contract at its next regular meeting, following ratification by the Association.

### **Approval of Instrument (Form) /Timeline, Superintendent's Evaluation**

**Motion 15/16-22**

On motion of Director Ellis, seconded by Director Remund, the Board unanimously approved the timeline and evaluation form for the 2016 evaluation of the Superintendent, with modifications to question #10 (completers will select whether they are board members or "other").

Each year, the Board of Directors conducts an evaluation of the Superintendent as prescribed by policy and the Superintendent's contract. The evaluation instrument (form) and timeline was approved by the board during the meeting, after reaching consensus that board members and district administrators would

be asked to complete the form. Human Resources Director Michael Morgan will summarize the results and provide them to the Board and Superintendent.

### **Admission of Non-Resident Students**

Superintendent Steve Boynton noted a state law enacted in 2011 allows districts to continue to enter into voluntary inter-district transfers with other districts, but also created a new transfer process that does not require the consent of the district in which the student lives.

Part of the law directs the Board to decide upon the number of students they wish to admit under this process by March 1<sup>st</sup> each year. Mr. Boynton recommended the board admit “zero” students under this process, but continue with inter-district transfers as it has for many years. This item will return for the board’s consideration at the next meeting.

### **Independent Adoption, Math**

Curriculum/Instruction Administrator Betsy Wilcox reported that a math textbook adoption was scheduled to occur this school year for grades K-12. Staff requests the board re-adopt the current materials (known as an “independent adoption”) to allow the district time to review materials that align with the Common Core standards. This item will return for the board’s consideration at the next meeting.

### **ESD Resolution- Updated Local Service Plan**

Every two years, the Linn/Benton/Lincoln ESD presents a resolution to each of the twelve districts within their boundaries describing services to be provide the following two years by the ESD and funded with “Resolution” dollars. These services are offered to districts when approved by two-thirds of the districts representing over one-half of the average daily membership of the 12 districts.

The two year plan was approved by the board last year. State law requires that the Local Services plan be adopted annually, so was presented to the board for their review. It will return to the board for consideration at the next board meeting.

### **Update on Recommendations, Facilities Use, Volunteers**

At the last board meeting, Superintendent Boynton, discussion occurred about use of district facilities and meetings of non-school affiliated groups meeting at schools during non-instruction time within the school day.

Mr. Boynton proposed six recommendations at that time:

- Access to school facilities by non-school affiliated groups (other than those student-led groups protected by the Equal Access Act) should be restricted during all designated school hours;
- Training will be provided to administrators and secretaries on the implementation of the facilities use policy;
- A clear separation between school personnel and religious activity during the school day should be re-established and training provided and training given those deemed appropriate by Human Resources;
- All adults entering school buildings to work with students during the designated school days should follow all safety protocols for all volunteers of the district;

- The suspension of non-school affiliated groups at the secondary level will be discontinued if all requirements have been met to establish a student led group. All non-school sponsored student-led groups will be given equal treatment;
- Information will be provided to student led groups about requirements for guests, mentors or any other volunteers associated with the group.

KG-AR, Use of District Facilities was revised to include the first bulleted item. The other recommendations are either in process or completed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

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Chairman

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Superintendent