

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors- Regular Session
Tuesday, November 13, 2012- 7:00 p.m.
Toledo Jr./Sr. High School
Toledo, Oregon

Minutes

PRESIDING: Ron Beck, Chairman

Present: Ron Beck, Chairman; Jean Turner, Vice Chairman; Karen Bondley, Liz Martin, Kelley Ellis, Directors

Also Present: Tom Rinearson, Superintendent; Laurie Urquhart, Secretary; approximately 30 members of the staff, students, media and patrons

Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Beck convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:08 p.m. with a quorum of all five board members present.

Communications

No written communications or communications from the audience were presented.

Board Reports

Chairman Beck noted that Board members and the Superintendent attended the annual Oregon School Boards Association conference. Governor Kitzhaber spoke to the group about a wide variety of topics.

Student Representative, East Area

Toledo Jr./Sr. ASB President Kyle Cameron reported the school held an “athletics” day recently. Students from all grade levels were divided into six “color teams” to compete.

Homecoming was held recently and was a “huge success,” said Cameron. He also noted his appreciation of the many improvements at the school, especially the new track.

A blood drive was held the day of the board meeting, and the National Guard visited the school the same day to encourage students to make good choices.

Principal Clint Raever explained that the ‘athletics day’ mentioned by Mr. Cameron was helpful in fostering a sense of belonging by students, since they were divided into color teams rather than by grade level.

East Area Reports

Student Non-Fiction Writing- Toledo Jr./Sr. High

English teacher Sid Richardson reported the school is using “Write Tools” training to further non-fiction writing at the school. Four focus areas are emphasized: ideas/content, sentence fluency, conventions and organization. It has been helpful for all in the building to be using the same language about writing. One of the methods to accomplish this is the use of posters in each classroom describing the different focus areas of writing.

Principal Raever noted this common language is helping improve writing in all its forms.

Mr. Raever shared information on the ‘native plants’ stewardship project undertaken by junior high students at Toledo Jr./Sr. Students visited Eddyville Charter to observe their program, and will tour Oregon Coast Aquarium to see what they have done with regard to native plants there. The BLM donated plants for the school, and Dahl Disposal will donate compost. They met with a master gardener and with the OSU extension office. “The kids are highly engaged,” said Raever.

Student Non-Fiction Writing- Toledo Elementary

Principal Bob Shindelman noted the elementary school also uses “Write Tools” techniques, and said he believes the district will see a significant change over time. Examples of non-fiction writing at TOES include math/science writing, goal writing, biographies, research papers and summaries of lessons by students.

He invited all to ‘turkey bingo’ at the school on Friday, November 16th- doors open at 5:00 p.m.

Financial Reports

Business Manager Julie Baldwin presented financial reports as of October 31, 2012. Property taxes are beginning to be received.

Title fund budgets must be approved by ODE, and claims for reimbursement cannot be filed until they do so.

The remainder of the debt service fund has been transferred to the Tech fund, as approved by the Board in a previous meeting.

For capital (bond) projects, \$40 million has been spent to date, with \$25.9 million (64.6%) spent here in Lincoln County.

Achievement Compact

Achievement Compact Advisory Committee Chairman Joe Novello reported the group is tasked with four items: achievement compact outcomes; development of measures toward the outcomes; goals and targets; and method of assessment.

Co-Chair Margie Grinnell noted the group has worked extensively with Data Coordinator Mary Kelly about origins of the data. She reported the most recent meeting of the group resulted in a decision on how progress would be measured. The committee will report to the school board in January, 2013.

Chairman Beck asked how LCSD is doing with regard to achievement compacts, compared to other districts in the state. Ms. Grinnell responded that the district is doing well with the number of students here receiving college credits while still in high school.

Superintendent Rinearson reminded the Board that the work of the advisory committee is a “moving target,” and said the OEIB is still developing rules.

Grant Update- Literacy Grant (SEAL)

Media Specialist Doug Hoffman described the two-year, \$745,000 literacy grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Lincoln County’s effort is titled “Project SEAL: Students Engaged in Authentic Literacy.” The grant, developed by LCSD Community Resource Liaison Ruth McDonald, is currently being implemented.

The project will provide: •a classroom set of mobile devices for each school library (Kindle Fire, or similar); •extension of media assistant time by 1.5 hours/day; •literacy nights at each school library twice per year; •professional development for K-6 teachers and administrators this year, and for 7-12 teachers and administrators next year; •.5 additional Media Specialist.

Principals are submitting plans to Dr. Sara Johnson for their media assistants. Professional development will be supplemented by a partnership with the Pearson Foundation. The goal of the grant is to improve literacy rates for students.

Board members expressed excitement about the grant, and appreciation for all those involved with writing and implementing it.

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Rinearson recognized Colin Park and Megan Schain-Park for their presentation to the District of three framed, aerial photos of Toledo Elementary, Newport High/Prep and Oceanlake, after their improvements were complete. The pictures will be displayed in the District administration office.

The Superintendent recognized Waldport High junior Kraig Pruett for setting a **national** high school record for football, with 456 receiving yards in a recent game.

Mr. Rinearson thanked the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund for awarding the district \$5,000 toward the cost of a disaster supply cache. He also gave kudos to Safety Coordinator Sue Graves for her work in raising the \$33,289 needed. In addition to the \$5,000 from the Tribes, \$15,850 has been raised from Lincoln City, Lincoln County Commissioners, Tanger Outlets and the Historic Anchor Inn. The Bay Area Merchants Association will also donate to the project.

The Superintendent thanked the Newport Elks for their donation of over 200 dictionaries to Sam Case and Crestview Heights third grade students. The annual “dictionary project” is sponsored by the Elks Grand Lodge Activities Committee.

Superintendent Rinearson congratulated Newport Intermediate for winning the attendance flag for October. He reported all district schools will be closed the week of November 19-23, 2012, over Thanksgiving.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 12/13-7

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

- Minutes, 10/9/12 Regular Session;**
- Regular Personnel Items and Addendum;**
- May 21, 2013 as Date for First 2013-14 Budget Committee Meeting;**
- Policy LBE, Public Charter Schools;**
- Policy EEA, Student Transportation Services;**
- Policy EEAC, School Bus Safety Program;**
- Policy EEACC, Student Conduct on School Buses;**
- Policy EEACD, Use of District Activity Vehicles for Student Transportation;**
- Policy EEAE, Student Transportation in Private Vehicles.**

Approval of Resolution: American Education Week

Motion 12/13-8

On motion of Director Turner, seconded by Director Bondley, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2012/13-3 proclaiming the week of November 11-17, 2012 as American Education Week. Chairman Beck read the proclamation, which states, in part, that education is essential to our success as both a people and as a nation. He urged the community to join the Board in recognizing and supporting Lincoln County schools in their critical mission.

Budget Committee Appointment, Zone 2

Motion 12/13-9

On motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Ellis, the Board unanimously approved Gary Nees as the Zone 2 representative to the LCSD Budget Committee. Mr. Nees was appointed to a full three-year term, through June 30, 2015. (He previously served a one-year remainder term).

Budget Committee Appointment, Zone 3

Motion 12/13-10

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Martin, the Board unanimously approved Thomas Hurst as the Zone 3 representative to the LCSD Budget Committee, to serve through June 30, 2015.

The Zone 4 position is still open, and is a one-year remainder term that will expire in June, 2013. The Board will likely consider this position at the next board meeting.

Discussion on Beta Test of New Form for Evaluation of Superintendent

The Board tested a new online form they will use to evaluate the Superintendent. Chairman Beck commented that the new ratings work well, and said a “3” rating (Competent- meets performance standards) is what is expected. A “4” rating (Commendable- frequently exceeds performance standards) and “5” (Outstanding- always exceeds performance standards) are more descriptive than what was in the old form. “Past performance becomes the expectation,” said Beck.

Director Ellis suggested doing the evaluation over a school year instead of in February. Superintendent Rinearson noted that many superintendents would need to know prior to June if the Board was unhappy with their performance. Also, Mr. Rinearson’s contract requires an evaluation be done prior to March 1st each year. Ms. Ellis said she did not want to do evaluations twice per year, and said the Board Chair could meet with the superintendent in January if there were issues.

Board Secretary Laurie Urquhart will check the law regarding timing of the evaluation of the superintendent.

OSBA Resolution- Legislative Policies/ Priorities

Members of Oregon School Boards Association are once again asked to consider election materials related to OSBA governance. This year, the LCSD board will consider one resolution for proposed 2013 OSBA legislative policies and priorities.

The resolution will return for the Board’s consideration at the December board meeting.

Other

Board members discussed absentee rates as noted on the enrollment report included in the board folder. Director Ellis asked what is done district-wide to get students to come to school. Superintendent Rinearson responded that the district has two half-time truancy officers, and said each school handles absenteeism differently.

Toledo Jr./Sr. Principal Clint Raever noted the reasons for absences vary greatly between elementary and high school aged students, and said it is a complex problem. Operations Administrator Joe Novello reported the truancy officers also look for alternatives for students that may be a better fit. He said Kindergarten students are often problematic, as some parents view Kindergarten as unimportant.

Online students are counted as absent if they do not log in. Excused absences also count toward a school’s absentee rate. District nurses track patterns at schools to try to mitigate absences.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent