

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors- Regular Session
Tuesday, February 12, 2013- 7:00 p.m.
Newport High School
Newport, Oregon

Minutes

PRESIDING: Jean Turner, Vice Chairman

Present: 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

Excused: Ron Beck, Chairman

Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum

Vice Chairman Jean Turner convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum of four board members present. Chairman Beck was excused from the meeting due to illness.

Public Hearing- Lincoln City Career Tech Charter School

A public hearing was held to receive comments on the request from Lincoln City Career Tech Charter School to continue their contract with the district. The current contract (between LCSD and Community Services Consortium or CSC) will conclude June 30, 2013. The school would like to expand its enrollment by an additional 20 slots to operate a satellite campus in Newport. This satellite campus would serve students through a new YouthBuild program.

CSC Workforce and Education Director Clay Martin, Principal Sean Larsen and Education Supervisor Mark Peery presented information for the board's consideration. The school offers skills training and work experience through local employers and internships. In addition to the proposed YouthBuild program (construction), the school offers a Natural Resources option. Currently there are 40 ADM slots at the Lincoln City location, and 20 at Angell Job Corps. The target audience of the school is older youth who are not currently attached to a high school, including home schooled students. Board members expressed appreciation of the choices offered by the school.

A decision on the renewal will be considered by the board at the next meeting.

Communications

Thomas Hurst addressed the Board regarding the possible restructure of Newport Intermediate/Isaac Newton Magnet School. Noting INMS' successes, he asked Board members to consider the change carefully and to seek additional public input on the issue.

Lincoln City resident Erica Corett noted Career Tech was beneficial for her daughter, who is a high achieving student who needed a few credits to complete her diploma. She expressed her appreciation for the school.

Toledo Elementary Principal Bob Shindelman presented “scrolls” to Board members in honor of School Board Recognition Month (January). The school planned to create the scrolls during their winter festival, which was cancelled. Mr. Shindelman expressed thanks to Board members on behalf of Toledo Elementary students, staff and patrons.

West Area Report

Student Non-Fiction Writing- Newport High

Newport High Language Arts teacher Nina Fairfield and student Xavie Tryon presented information on non-fiction writing at Newport High. Ms. Tryon read an essay she wrote on her preferences in music (not jazz).

Ms. Fairfield reported she is also teaching non-fiction writing using the ocean literacy theme and by assigning research projects to her students.

Financial Reports

Business Manager Julie Baldwin presented financial reports as of January 31, 2013. She noted the recording of \$3 million under special revenue, explaining the FEMA grant funds are recorded there. (Part of the funds is held in escrow until a later date).

For capital construction, \$31.2 million has been spent in Lincoln County since passage of the bond measure. This figure represents 66% of the total bond funds spent.

Ms. Baldwin noted that securities held at Wells Fargo Bank are starting to mature.

Grants Update- FEMA

Safety Coordinator Sue Graves and Director of Support Services Rich Belloni reported the District is the recipient of a \$3 million pre-disaster mitigation grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the very first of its kind. The grant stipulates that the agency will purchase all structures and development rights on the existing Waldport High campus. The district will remove the school buildings and grandstands and will restore the site into open space. The property will be maintained in perpetuity with no future development.

Superintendent Rinearson noted the importance of acknowledging the history of the building and the generations of families who have attended there.

Discussions with city of Waldport representatives are ongoing regarding future open space uses of the property. The new Waldport High is scheduled to open in fall 2013.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Rinearson recognized Sodexo Food Services for their meal certification by ODE and the USDA. This rating signifies that Sodexo meals meet requirements of the federal Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, and results in additional meal reimbursement for the district.

Mr. Rinearson thanked parent Cait Goodwin for her extraordinary efforts (and saying she should be nominated for "sainthood") coordinating the Newport science fair held at the Hatfield Marine Science Center January 31st. About 200 student displays were presented, representing work by about 400 middle school students. Some work by younger students was also displayed. 38 scientists from several organizations (NOAA, OSU, EPA, USDA, ODFW, USFWS, HMSC, the Aquarium and DOGAMI) served as mentors.

The Superintendent recognized Crestview teacher Krista Williams for her receipt of a \$700 field trip grant from Target.

Mr. Rinearson thanked the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners for their award of emergency preparedness matching grants. Of the \$30,000 the county budgeted for this program, LCSD schools are receiving \$22,500 for disaster supply caches. OCCC, the City of Newport, Newport Fire, North Lincoln Fire, and the City of Lincoln City all contributed their awards to LCSD for this project.

The Superintendent wished Director Kelley Ellis a belated (February 2nd) "happy birthday," and wished Vice Chair Jean Turner (February 29th) and Director Karen Bondley (March 2nd) early birthday wishes.

He reminded Board members of the Presidents' Day holiday February 18th (all district facilities closed), and noted the filing window for school board candidates is now open, through March 21st.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 12/13-18

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

- Minutes, 1/15/13 Regular Session;**
- Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Rubrics;**
- Regular Personnel Items;**
- 2013-15 ESD Resolution Services- Local Service Plan.**

Admission of Non-Resident Students; Zero Students to LCSD

Motion 12/13-19

On motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Ellis, the Board unanimously voted to admit zero students under the auspices of Policy JECB, Admission of Nonresident Students. The 2011 state legislature approved a bill allowing districts to continue to enter into voluntary inter-district transfers with other districts, but also creates a new transfer process that does not require the consent of the school district in which the student lives. Last year, the Board adopted Policy JECB, Admission of Nonresident Students which describes the process to accommodate this new law.

Part of the law directs the Board to decide upon the number of students they wish to admit under this process by March 1st each year. Students must submit applications no later than April 1st in order to be considered (if the Board had chosen to admit students under this procedure, which did not occur).

Superintendent Rinearson reminded the Board that LCSD still uses inter-district transfers to allow students to “go in and out” once the window of time closes.

**Approval of Resolution for Classified Employees Week,
March 4-8, 2013**

Motion 12/13-20

On motion of Director Ellis, seconded by Director Bondley, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2012/13-6, proclaiming the week of March 4-8, 2013 as “Classified Employees Week” in LCSD. Vice Chairman Jean Turner read the proclamation to the audience, and thanked Classified employees for the important week they do.

Redesign of NIS and INMS

Newport Intermediate/Isaac Newton Magnet School Principal Majalisse Tolan presented a redesign of the two schools to combine all sixth grade students into one level at Newport Intermediate. Isaac Newton Magnet School would then have grades seven and eight only.

The primary reason for this change is the adoption of Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in Oregon, which demands increased rigor for all students. Having sixth grade students all in one level would help build their skill level using the middle school model, and would equalize the expectations for students in the same grade at the same building. Grades 7 and 8 at INMS would also see an increase in rigor. Principal Tolan noted that INMS is the only school in the district offering grades 6-7 and 8 in the same school.

The Superintendent noted that sixth grade students at the school are already combined for half of the day this year, and said Ms. Tolan has been working with INMS and other parents on the proposed change. “If we do this transition, we need to eliminate the application process and the cap,” said Mr. Rinearson. He asked Board members to forward questions on the proposal to him. This item will return for further discussion at the next board meeting.

Renewal of Licensed Personnel

Human Resources Manager Chelsi Sholty presented a list of licensed contract renewals, as required by Oregon law. Each year, districts must notify all licensed employees of their contract status no later than March 15th. Licensed staff are recommended either for renewal, non-renewal, extension or non-extension of individual contracts.

A list of licensed employees was presented to the Board, with recommendations regarding contract status. The list will return for the Board’s consideration at the next regular session. Superintendent Rinearson asked the Board to advise Ms. Sholty or him if there are any staff members they would like to discuss, as they must be given the opportunity to come before the Board in open or closed session.

Agent of Record, Other than Health Insurance

The District has been served by a local agent of record for insurance coverage other than health for over 20 years. Immediate accessibility is critical, as is having an agent familiar with coastal climate and situations.

Policy EI, Insurance Agent of Record, currently states the District will solicit requests for proposals (RFPs) from qualified agents. Current purchasing policy allows selecting an agent of record, therefore staff recommends rescinding Policy EI. The insurance agent of record will be recommended to the Board in the annual organizational resolution, done each July.

Rescission of Policy EI will be considered by the Board at the next meeting.

Budget Assumptions

Superintendent Rinearson is part of a group effort by the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators (COSA) to share information regarding how different levels of state school funding will affect LCSD. Mr. Rinearson and Business Manager Julie Baldwin presented information showing LCSD and the state funded at four different levels. The information shared was gathered quickly, but represents one snapshot of what could occur.

The funding level proposed by the Governor (\$6.15 billion for K-12 education, statewide in the next biennium), is a “crisis budget” level of funding. In LCSD, an additional five days of school would be cut (for a total of ten) for the coming year. Programs would have to be reduced, including access to college courses. Textbook adoptions would be eliminated, impacting Common Core State Standards. Staff would be reduced (two administrators, four teachers, eight classified), and all co-curricular activities would be eliminated.

At the next level of funding (\$6.550 billion), cuts to LCSD would still need to occur. Five more school days would still need to be cut (total of ten). No cash reserves would be available to spend, as was done in the current year.

At the \$6.750 billion level of state funding for K-12 (a “stability budget”), all cut days would likely be restored. This funding level could also mean improvement in student achievement.

The final funding level of \$6.895 billion is the “investment and improvement” budget. A full school year would be provided, academic counseling support would be enhanced, and targeted investments aimed at improving achievement for all students would be made. This funding level would put LCSD on a trajectory to achieve Oregon’s 40-40-20 goal.

The Superintendent reported the 2013-14 budget for LCSD will be built on an assumed state funding level of \$6.2 billion for the coming biennium, though the true amount is yet unknown. Staffing sheets will go out to principals in March. Mr. Rinearson will share more information as it is known.

Food Services Management Process

The Oregon Department of Education requires districts to solicit Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for food services every five years. (The contract is for one year, though may be renewed annually four additional years). Staff prepared the RFP which is currently awaiting ODE approval. The tentative timeline is for a recommendation to the Board at the April board meeting and final approval on May 14, 2013.

ESD Changes

Education Service Districts in Oregon will likely change due to proposals from Governor Kitzhaber. Superintendent Rinearson reported the latest thinking is that ESDs will be responsible for all professional development (K-20), mentor programs, teacher improvement centers, and early childhood councils. The Superintendent will share more information as he receives it.

Superintendent's Evaluation

Vice Chairman Jean Turner shared the results of the Board's annual evaluation of Superintendent Rinearson. As in past years, board members, principals and Learning Support Team members completed the evaluation form. Vice Chairman Turner commended the Superintendent for his "continued outstanding work with leadership/district culture, policy/governance, values/ethics of leadership and labor relations."

Ms. Turner stated the Board is prepared to offer the Superintendent a three-year contract, the longest allowed by state law. Director Bondley stated that she is lucky to work with the Superintendent, and said "our communities are, as well." Director Martin agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent