

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors- Regular Session
Tuesday, March 12, 2013- 7:00 p.m.
Toledo Elementary 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 Ron Beck convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:07 p.m. with a quorum of all five board members present.

East Area Report

Student Non-Fiction Writing- Toledo Elem.

Toledo Elementary Kindergarten students in Ms. Irish's class presented examples of their non-fiction writing. The students were tasked, using the Write Tools prompts, to select their favorite kind of weather. Three students read their writings to the Board. (All three selected snow, and hot chocolate was a part of their reasoning).

Communications

Newport resident and teacher Amanda Zerr addressed the Board regarding proposed changes at INMS/NIS. She spoke in support of the changes, saying it would provide additional opportunities for gifted students. "Although I was shocked at first, I feel really excited about it after learning more," she said.

Student Representative- Toledo Jr./Sr.

ASB President Kyle Cameron updated the Board on activities at Toledo Jr./Sr., including:

- spirit week/cancer awareness week was held, including a fund raiser for a cancer research facility;
- "brain day" included Yahtzee, chess, checkers and other games, as well as a friendly competition;
- a Sadie Hawkins dance was held close to Valentine's Day;
- fundraising for Doernbecher Children's Hospital will be held the week of March 18-21, including a kickoff assembly, a fashion show, lip sync contest and an auction.

East Area Report

Toledo Jr./Sr. High Principal Clint Raever distributed journals from the school's STEM class to demonstrate students' non-fiction writing skills. Teachers Rich Berenson and Peter Lohonyay noted students are engaging in technical writing and reading in the class, and said students were introduced to calibration. Students are also using peer review. Mr. Berenson reminded board members of their standing invitation to visit the class.

Superintendent Rinearson thanked both teachers for their work, saying it is impressive to see what is happening in the class.

Grants Update- MSP Grant

Community Curriculum Resource Liaison Ruth McDonald highlighted the U.S. Department of Education Title IIB "Math/Science Partnership" (MSP) grant. The two-year grant builds on previous "OCAMP" work, and includes several additional partners including the Tillamook School District, Willamette University and Western Oregon University. The new Oregon Coast Regional STEM Education Center will focus on teaching 18 LCSD and six Tillamook teachers to integrate science, technology, engineering and math through project/problem based learning.

In addition, the MSP project has been invited to join a National Science Foundation grant to pilot a new online professional development model to prepare for the Next Generation Science Standards.

Director Martin noted the timeliness of this work, and said LCSD is becoming a model. Chairman Beck thanked Ms. McDonald for her work; she responded that the credit goes to Superintendent Rinearson.

Financial Reports

Business Manager Julie Baldwin presented financial reports as of February 28, 2013. She noted the district will see an adjustment from ODE in May, 2014, affecting the district's ending fund balance. Higher "local income" means a reduction in State School Fund support.

For capital construction, the district has expended approximately \$50 million of the \$68.6 million total, with 66.1% spent in Lincoln County.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Rinearson recognized Toledo Jr./Sr. High's CTE Program for their donation of \$171 to Toledo Food Share from the sale of scrap metal.

Mr. Rinearson recognized Toledo Elementary sixth grade teacher Dana Spink for her receipt of a \$400 Willamette University Action Research grant. The funds will purchase supplies to support students' work on designating TOES as a "Schoolyard Habitat" through the National Wildlife Federation.

The Superintendent thanked Mid Columbia Bus Company for its continuation of a \$2,000 donation for four \$500 scholarships (one \$500 award each to graduating seniors from Taft, Newport, Toledo and Waldport High Schools).

Mr. Rinearson thanked State Farm Insurance for a grant award of \$5,720 to purchase tents for the Taft disaster supply cache project.

The superintendent reminded the Board that Friday, March 22nd is a furlough day (all schools closed). Spring Break is March 25-29, with all schools closed.

Mr. Rinearson congratulated Newport Intermediate School, attendance flag winners for the month of January.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 12/13-21

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

- **Minutes, 2/12/13 Regular Session;**
- **Cooperative Sponsorship Agreement, Eddyville Softball Player to Toledo Jr./Sr.;**
- **Regular Personnel Items and Addendum;**
- **Renewal and Non-Renewal; Extension and Non-Extension of Probationary/Permanent Licensed Employees;**
- **Contracts, Chelsi Sholty, Julie Baldwin, Rich Belloni (three years, through June 30, 2016);**
- **Rescind Policy EI, Insurance Agent of Record.**

Renewal of Charter, Lincoln City Career Tech

Motion 12/13-22

On motion of Director Bondley, seconded by Director Ellis, the Board unanimously approved renewal of the charter with Community Services Consortium for Lincoln City Career Tech Charter School. The request from the school includes an additional 20 ADM at a satellite campus in Newport that will serve students through a new YouthBuild program. The Board's decision will enable staff to negotiate a contract (charter) with CSC for the school. The contract will return for the Board's consideration at a later date.

Redesign of NIS and INMS

At the February board meeting, 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 Board continued the discussion at the March meeting.

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. "There is more student thinking and doing, as opposed to multiple choice memorization," said Tolan.

She noted that sixth grade is a critical year. Vice Chairman Turner asked if there would be opportunities for sixth grade students to take 7th grade math "if they are truly ready." Ms. Tolan replied in the affirmative. Mrs. Turner then asked if a student could have additional opportunities in other content areas if they were qualified; Ms. Tolan said there would be.

Director Ellis noted that students in other areas would also have similar opportunities. "I have asked if rigor is available at all of our schools, which it is. It will be worked through on a case by case basis to address the respective issue," said Ms. Ellis.

Ms. Tolan held a series of community meetings around the district to share information and answer questions. Superintendent Rinearson said the number of seats in INMS should not be limited. "We should open it up to everyone who wants to come," he said. This topic will return for the Board's consideration at the April board meeting.

2013/14 Budget Update

Superintendent Rinearson reported the co-chairs of the Ways and Means Committee of the state legislature released a budget plan for the 13-15 biennium. The co-chairs' budget suggests funding for K-12 education in the 2013-15 biennium be set at \$6.55 billion, with an additional \$200 million in suggested PERS reform savings. This PERS savings is not guaranteed, and would not affect LCSD as the PERS rate in this district did not increase.

The funding picture continues to change daily, as clarifications are gleaned. Mr. Rinearson noted that budgeting activities with principals have been postponed. The LCSD budget will be built on the co-chairs' budget. "The budget is about allocating money, rather than spending," he added.

Superintendent's Contract

Chairman Beck reported the Board conducted the Superintendent's annual evaluation in February, and a public statement was issued after that meeting. The Board reached consensus to offer the Superintendent a three year contract, the longest allowed by state law.

Approval of Strong Schools, Strong State Resolution

Motion 12/13-23

On motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Ellis, the Board unanimously approved a resolution in support of the "Strong Schools, Strong State" campaign.

A coalition of education leaders including the Oregon School Boards Association, the Oregon PTA, Oregon School Employees Association, Confederation of Oregon School Administrators, the Oregon Education Association and others are united in an effort to support adequate and stable funding for schools in our state.

The resolution had not been slated for a decision the evening of the Board meeting, but board members reached consensus to move it forward for a vote that evening. It will be forwarded to Rep. David Gomberg and Sen. Arnie Roblan as well as to Governor Kitzhaber.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent