

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors- Regular Session
Tuesday, September 12, 2017- 7:00 p.m.
Oceanlake Elementary School
Lincoln City, Oregon

Minutes

- PRESIDING:** Ron Beck, Chairman
- Present:** Ron Beck, Chairman; Amanda Remund, Vice Chairman; Karen Bondley, Jenny Demaris, Directors
- Also Present:** Tom Rinearson, Superintendent; Laurie Urquhart, Secretary
- Handouts:** Financial Statements as of 8/31/17; Personnel Addendum 9/12/17; Taft Elementary 2017-18 (Planned Professional Development)

Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Beck convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:01 p.m. with a quorum of four board members present. Director Martin was excused from the meeting.

Introductions

Superintendent Rinearson introduced and welcomed new Communications Specialist Kristin Bigler.

Communications

Otis resident Niki Price addressed the board regarding the removal of a student created mural at Oceanlake Elementary. (The mural was removed to improve the safety flow of students in the cafeteria and to keep the cafeteria clean.) She asked that in the future, stakeholders be involved with actions such as these before they occur, and asked that other murals in the north area be preserved. "There is a way to decommission art work," said Price. Superintendent Rinearson offered to meet with her to determine future steps.

Board Reports

Director Karen Bondley attended a community health meeting the day of the board meeting to discuss school based health centers. She noted the centers are being accessed regularly by students.

Vice Chair Amanda Remund reported Crestview Heights held an exciting back-to-school night, and noted Waldport High is off to a good start.

Chairman Beck noted the west area doing great. He talked with ESD Board member David Dunsdon, who said they are interviewing superintendent search consultants. Mr. Beck also reported he would continue as the budget committee member from this area for the ESD for the next four years.

North Area Report

Taft 7-12 Principal Majalise Tolan reported enrollment at the school is higher for the fifth consecutive year. Space at the school is limited. She noted the school held a fire drill in silence that went very well.

Staff at the school partnered with Oregon Coast Community College to invite 100 advanced students (those enrolled in dual credit courses, AP courses, etc.) the first day of school, along with new students.

Taft Elementary Principal Nick Lupo presented a handout of planned professional development activities for the year. He reported 13 teachers at Taft Elementary were trained in AVID over the summer. School wide binders and planners were purchased for every student to enhance organization. Sixth grade students participate in a modified middle school schedule.

Oceanlake Principal Sandy Mummey reported two new classrooms were added at the school, resulting in lower class sizes than in previous years. “We are continuing with mindfulness, and have been focusing on procedures and conscious discipline this first week of school.” Staff is working on connections with students.

Superintendent Rinearson noted the north area of the district has the highest need for space.

Financial Reports

Director of Business Services Julie Baldwin reported July and August information is now reflected on the financial reports. The district will receive “Measure 98” (Career Technical Education) revenue from the state this year.

She said the district gained approximately 80 students in 2015/16. The finalized number for 2016/17 will be shared later in the year when ODE does a reconciliation of that year.

Ms. Baldwin reported nothing unanticipated. Interest rates have increased.

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Rinearson recognized Roby’s in Lincoln City and Newport for gathering donations for the district Homeless program all summer long.

Mr. Rinearson thanked the many organizations and individuals who donated school supplies, including: the Newport Armory, Instant Replay Sports, TLC Credit Union, Stuff a Bus (Lincoln City and Newport), Elks of Newport, Eagles of Lincoln City, Donation Station in north county, Atonement Lutheran Church, Salvation Army, Unity Church and Toledo Foursquare. He extended sincere thanks, and said thanks to others who also donated not mentioned here.

The Superintendent reported Newport High student Rosemary Hume is taking an Independent Study science class through Oregon Coast Community College. She is completing a study on non-pharmaceutical methods to prevent delirium/using music in medicine, working with doctors from Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital. She will receive dual credit, and had to obtain Independent Review Board approval to proceed.

Superintendent Rinearson noted Newport Middle School and Sam Case Elementary are piloting the Oregon Green Schools program, focusing on recycling, reducing waste, saving energy and conserving water. The program is sponsored by Thompson Sanitary.

He wished an early 'happy birthday' to Board Vice Chairman Amanda Remund, and reported Director of Elementary and Special Education Susan Van Liew will be the guest Superintendent at the October board meeting. (Superintendent Rinearson will be on a long-planned trip.)

Mr. Rinearson reported that enrollment numbers will be shared once they are more firm.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 2017/18-6

On motion of Director Demaris, seconded by Director Remund, the Board unanimously approved Consent Calendar items, as noted in the September 12, 2017 board folder, including:

- **Minutes, August 8, 2017 Regular Session;**
- **Regular Personnel Items and Addendum;**
- **Contractor, Seismic Upgrades-Newport High School & Sam Case Elementary: DSL Builders LLC;**
- **Board/ Superintendent Working Agreements.**

Conceptual Agreement, Old Newport Pool

Motion 2017/18-7

On motion of Director Remund, seconded by Director Demaris, the Board unanimously approved the concept of the agreement with the City of Newport for the old pool facility as presented 9/12/17, to be finalized by the Superintendent and Director of Support Services.

The District would like to house certain district programs at this facility, thus making more classroom space available.

Inquiry Based Learning

Curriculum/Instruction Administrator Betsy Wilcox described the development of primary inquiry in Lincoln County schools, saying the care for small children has driven our teachers to take a hard look at their practices. She introduced Lauren Sigman, Robyn Myers, Erinne Irish, Charlotte Galen, Marcy Doyle and Kristin Becker who described their experiences with playful inquiry.

Young children learn by play. Students are encouraged to examine the world around them and ask questions. In doing so, they learn cooperation, creative thinking and problem solving. One teacher noted that "curiosity is a gateway to inquiry."

Staff began looking into this method of teaching when full day kindergarten was planned for the following year. The conversation grew and formed bridges to local preschools, Kindergarten and then to first and second grades. Inquiry based instruction is teacher guided with rich experiential learning.

The current year marks year three for inquiry in LCSD. Many K-2 teachers have visited Opal School in Portland, a public charter school in Portland guided by 'playful inquiry.' Ms. Wilcox noted the change is a learning process for all. "Inquiry is not the easy way, but it is best for kids," she added.

Overview of AVID Program

Taft 7-12 Principal Majalise Tolan provided an overview of the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program. Taft 7-12, Waldport High, Newport High, Toledo Jr./Sr. High, Newport Middle School and Taft Elementary are in various stages of AVID implementation in their buildings. She showed a video called “People Like Me,” which was motivating to her staff and others involved with AVID.

AVID’s mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college/career readiness and success in a global society. It is considered school-wide when it transforms the school’s instruction, systems, leadership and culture.

Instruction is examined through the WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, Reading) lens. The district is employing several initiatives that fit this criteria, including Balanced Math, power strategies, GLAD/SIOP, Singapore Math, Ocean Literacy, and Café/Daily Five.

Taft 7-12 is in year three of AVID implementation, with Taft Elementary and Newport High in year two. Newport Middle, Toledo Jr./Sr. High, and Waldport High are in the first year of AVID implementation.

The required implementation costs of AVID have been nearly completely grant funded through the Nike Innovation fund, Trust Management, the Behrens Foundation and the GEAR-UP grant.

Discussion on Ending Fund Balance

Policy DBDB, Fund Balance, states that a general fund cash balance of at least seven per cent be maintained, and “any amount over that 7% would be directed to special funds as directed by the board.”

Director of Business Services Julie Baldwin noted that the policy was approved after the current budget was approved and adopted. She reminded the board of the creation of the “property purchase reserve fund,” and said the conversation about this topic will continue in future board meetings.

Superintendent Succession Plan

Superintendent Rinearson reported the “story of LCSD” would continue at the October board meeting. In preparation for that, he asked that when board members consider the next superintendent, they challenge themselves to think not of what they want the superintendent do to, but how the work needs to be done. “The implementation is key,” said Rinearson.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent