

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Directors – Regular Session  
June 8, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.  
Newport High School  
Newport, Oregon

**Minutes**

- PRESIDING:** Megan Cawley, Chair.
- Present:** Megan Cawley, Chair; Liz Martin, Vice Chair; Amanda Remund, Jenny Demaris, and Ron Beck, Directors
- Also Present:** Dr. Karen Gray, Superintendent and Sheila Hagan, Secretary.
- Handouts:** Board Folder, Meeting Agenda, Personnel Addendum, ESS Contract Extension Addendum, Appropriations Transfer Resolution 2020/21-15 and May Financial Reports

**Public Hearing**

The Board recessed into the public hearing for the 2021/22 Approved Budget to hear public comments. Board Chair Cawley said that the District budget committee met on May 20, 2021 and approved the 2021-22 Adopted Budget. A Public Hearing is required in order to allow for public comment. Chair Cawley recessed into a Public Hearing to listen to public comments regarding the 2021-22 Adopted Budget.

There was no public comment on the 2021-22 Adopted Budget so the hearing was closed and the regular session began.

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

Chairman Cawley convened the meeting and called the session to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum of all Board members present.

**Introductions**

Dr. Gray introduced Lindsay DeVries (current assistant principal and athletic director for Newport HS) as the new LCSD Compass K-12 online school administrator for the 21-22 school year as well as the Alternative Education and the Newport MS Future Bound administrator.

**Communications**

*Written*

Director Cawley read a thank you letter to Superintendent Gray from the City of Newport for writing legislators in support of the Big Creek reservoir dam remediation project.

*Blue Cards (From the Audience)*

None at this time.

*Recognition*

Chair Cawley said that the first recognition tonight is for our outgoing board members, Jenny Demaris, Amanda Remund, and Ron Beck. Dr. Gray said that this is an auspicious moment in work that the superintendent and board does. She encouraged the Board and audience that if they have something they want to say, there will be time for short comments. She presented Jenny Demaris with a clock commemorating her time as an LCSD Board member. Dr. Gray spoke about Director Demaris' important

role earlier this year dealing with wildfires in her capacity as the Lincoln County emergency management director. Dr. Gray said she appreciated Jenny's level of professionalism and that she has been an amazing support. Director Martin commented that Jenny really be missed and that she appreciated her attention to detail. Director Demaris spoke about her childhood and attending 15 different schools. She said when she attended Toledo HS as a freshman she found it a joyous place. She was there for one year and then moved to Eddyville. The staff at both schools were her extended family and she believes they helped her to be who she is today. Tom Rinearson introduced himself. He was the LCSD Superintendent for many years. He shared that when Jenny joined the school board, she was much needed. He felt that she made an impact when they were going through the process to hire Karen.

Dr. Gray presented board member Amanda Remund with a clock saying Amanda is special to her heart. She said she has compassion and kindness for all people. Karen said that Amanda was the board chair who hired her and that they have had difficult things they dealt with. She also shared that Director Remund spends a lot of time in the Waldport Schools. Amanda said she joined the board because she has always been fond of our schools and that we have an amazing school district. She expressed that she has dearly enjoyed being a member of the Board. Tom Rinearson spoke about when he returned as the interim Superintendent that is was Amanda's first year as Board chair. He appreciated her care and compassion and desire to make sure that we are doing things right. He shared that he remembered a time while at a work session at OSBA when Amanda described the kind of a superintendent that she would like to hire. Amanda said that we were very lucky to get Dr. Gray and that the new Board will get to know who she is and what she is capable of doing for the district.

Dr. Gray spoke about Ron Beck saying he has spent 18 years and 11 months as a Board member. She said he has a tremendous amount of tenure and experience and presented him with a clock. She has appreciated as someone new to LCSD, all the board members and that Ron always had time to take a call from her. She valued the way he would have conversations with the Board and bring them back to center. Dr. Gray shared that she will miss Director Beck and that he has been a wonderful mentor. Ron responded that it has been a great run. He shared a story about going to Maupin when the Board hired Tom. He learned that Tom was a superintendent who gets out and talks to people at the fencepost. Ron said it is good to see others in the audience tonight who he has worked with over the years and mentioned Laurie Urquhart (former school Board secretary for many years). He said he has worked with six superintendents, one of them twice. He shared that he has had three children go through the school system and has seen many changes over the years, from budget cuts to bonding the debt to PERS. He thanked LCSD for the gift and said his roots are here so he will remain in the community.

Tom Rinearson shared that over the course of the years he really has enjoyed working with Ron. He also shared a story about his first year budget concerns. He said that as we went through budgets and tried to stabilize things that Ron was a tremendous asset to the process. Tom mentioned that a highlight was when the bond passed when Ron was Board Chair.

Megan commented that when she joined the Board, she was welcomed by all three and thanked them for their commitment. She appreciates them and hopes to work with them again.

#### Tom Moore Memorial Award

Dr. Gray asked if there is someone here tonight who knew Tom Moore. Rich Belloni shared that he was his brother in law, the president of the former National Security Bank and a former school board member. He said he made many financial donations to the community. Director Cawley read the nomination and the Tom Moore Memorial award for 2020-21 was given to Director Amanda Remund for her volunteer support to our schools in Waldport. Dr. Gray presented her with the plaque honoring her service.

#### Sodexo Employee of the Year

Greg Rodecker presented the Sodexo Employee of the year award to Crystal Ricketson who has worked for them since 2017 and is currently the lead custodian at Sam Case. Her dedication to LCSD is unparalleled to anyone else Greg knows. In addition, Jeff, Rich and Greg awarded her \$250 along with a \$250 check from Sodexo, and a \$100 certificate to the Sodexo clothing store.

### *LCEA Report*

Peter Lohonyay

Mr. Lohonyay expressed gratitude from the LCEA to the school board members who are leaving for their dedication. He said that LCSD has been a roller coaster because of what we have had to deal with, but that we have learned to work together better. Peter shared the good news that the Board will be looking at a contract agreement in the next few days. He said that he has negotiated before, but this is the first time it was done in a short amount of time and the reason for that is because of all the work done in the background. Peter expressed thanks to the Board, Susan Van Liew, Tiana Tucker and Dr. Gray for their leadership during the pandemic with an emphasis to keep LCSD healthy. They worked with the Oregon Health Authority, LC Public Health, district nurses and staff. Lincoln County was the first county to have the most vaccinated residents. He thanked the Board and says he respects them for their work.

### *West Area Reports*

*Reyna Mattson, Newport HS Principal*

Principal Mattson shared that the NHS teachers have learned how to do incredible things during Covid and have gone out of their way to support students. She said the support staff have been filling every role from monitoring and checking students in mentioning Angie Richcreek, Health Asst. Principal Mattson said the custodians have gone above and beyond, and have kept the school so clean. She shared that teacher Holly Schell has created priceless videos along with a magazine of the seniors for graduation. Reyna said the boosters raised over \$50,000 to help kids with food via gift cards. If families couldn't shop due to being in quarantine, staff used the cards to purchase and deliver groceries to them. She shared that this is the last year of 7 years for Gear Up funding. Gear Up partners awarded the school additional \$50,000 to help with anything Covid related which has really helped. Reyna said she appreciates the support of the NHS Asst. Principals, Lindsay and Adam and that it is great to have students back. She invited NHS students Jillian Thompson, Student Body President, Hannah Driebergen, Vice President and Kael Branford, incoming President to speak. Jillian said it has been a tough year but they did everything they could to make it a good year. Hannah reviewed what they have done this year saying they ordered "Go Cubs" signage for the fence, decorated bulletin boards to welcome students back and provided student designed sweatshirts. She also shared that it was great to get sports back in March. Jillian shared they were able to have the homecoming crowning in March, they made eco-friendly bags for students with hygiene supplies, food etc., and had a food and sock drive. She also shared that he 2<sup>nd</sup> annual senior drive by is happening this week and other senior events during the last week with graduation on Saturday. Kael mentioned that Piper Thompson will be the student body vice president next year. He said they plan to work hard. Director Cawley thanked them for sharing tonight.

*Shelley Moore, Sam Case Principal*

Principal Moore said that she will be sharing a video from Sam Case staff and students. She shared that they are having a virtual field trip to welcome incoming 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, a parent night this week and 5<sup>th</sup> grade drive by to Newport MS. Shelley said that as a parent of kids who have graduated from here, she thanked the Board for their tireless work. She spoke of Marty Perez, Asst. Principal who will be her replacement next year and how he has helped her grow on diversity, equity and inclusion. Ms. Moore said the point of the first part of the video is to open our minds to this and that Sam Case's key phrase this year is "All Means All". The second part of the video is around the AVID goal of increasing academic vocabulary.

Dr. Gray thanked both principals and students for their reports. She said their work this year has been heroic.

## **Consultant Reports/Staff Reports/Student Reports**

### *Financial Report*

Kim Cusick, Business Services Director updated the Board on Financial Reports as of May 31, 2021. Director Martin asked if the ending fund balance was what Kim thought it would be, to which she responded yes. The monthly comparison is up slightly because the Lincoln County taxes came in higher than anticipated and the common school fund payment was higher than projected which is good news. Transportation line includes April and May payments so is higher for this month. The charter school's rate per ADMw increased this year. Director Martin commented that it is quite an increase. Ms. Cusick replied that she thinks as enrollment normalizes across the state that it will level out. Kim reviewed special funds, bills and claims, and the investment report.

### *First Student Monthly Written Report*

Board members received a written report from First Student outlining information such as meal routes, sanitation during Covid-19, Covid cases within First Student, the status of staffing, and rules put in place for transporting students. Liz Martin commented that it was nice to see the information on Robert Wood receiving the staff of the month award. He is a former LCSD student and she applauds his efforts.

## **Charter School Reports**

Lincoln County School District three Charter Schools (Siletz Valley, Career Tech, and Eddyville Charter) gave annual reports to the Board. Annual reports covered school performance data, audit and proof of insurance, policy development issues, and student discipline information. Full reports can be found on the district website.

## **Board Reports**

School Board members shared "good news" reports for each of their respective regions. Jenny Demaris said that her daughter graduates this Friday so she is focusing on family. She said "Go Boomers!" Amanda Remund shared that Zak Holsey, WHS is a state champion in the long jump on their track team and that their Natural Resource Leaders were named state champions at the virtual convention. She also said their Natural Forestry CTE program was also named the Co-Program of the year and congratulated Jeff Skirvin the teacher and his students. She said she heard that prom was fun. The school set up different rooms for cohorts. Lastly, she gave a shout out to Eston Smith a WHS 2016 alumni who recently graduated from the West Point Military Academy.

Ron Beck mentioned that his nephew is graduating this weekend and said "Go Cubs". Liz Martin thanked Shelly and Reyna for their heartfelt reports tonight. She said she knows they pour their hearts into their schools and it shows and they are appreciated. Megan Cawley said it has been good to see things come back to life with students celebrating prom and graduation. She is looking forward to next year.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Gray introduced the new school board members. She said Mike Rawles will represent Newport, Senitila McKinley will represent Waldport and Peter Vince will represent Toledo. She said she is looking forward to working with them and thanked them for coming to this meeting.

### *School Update*

Superintendent Gray said that graduations are this Friday and Saturday, student's last day is on Tuesday and staff's is on Wednesday. She said she was glad to be part of the tentative LCEA agreement. She said that Director's Liz Martin and Megan Cawley also participated in the negotiations along with our attorney, Nancy Hungerford. The superintendent shared that Tiana Tucker and her staff did a great job. She mentioned that some of our administrators observed the process so they could see what it means to negotiate. She is now looking forward to a positive negotiation with OSEA for our classified staff. The superintendent said this has been the most difficult year in her 43 years. She is proud of the work we did

with our board and leadership in making decisions that were sometimes controversial but the goal was to keep the community and children safe and healthy. Dr. Gray said that the department of education isn't going to make a decision on what the fall will look like anytime soon but she is hopeful for a normal year.

#### *Feedback from Staff and Community Forums*

Dr. Gray shared that in April and May she met with over 225 staff and community members via zoom meetings to get their input on what worked this year and what would you want to keep. The Board has notes from those meetings in the Board folder and they are posted on our website. She shared that many said they like zooming for meetings, staff wants to keep the districtwide professional learning community (PLC) meetings, also keep Go Guardian, Flip Grid, See Saw, Google Classroom and Kami computer applications. She said that parents enjoyed zoom but not all the time. Parents also like the communication between the school district and families and want it to continue. Many appreciated their child's principals in these meetings for communicating in both English and Spanish. Lastly, she met with 45 Hispanic parents as a trilingual session in English, Spanish and Mum (Guatemalan dialogue). They appreciated the ability to meet 1:1 with principals and teachers and to have classes online. This information will help us in making decisions next year.

#### *Formative Assessment Data Review for Board/Superintendent Goals*

Dr. Gray explained that this is the final data on our 20-21 Board and Superintendent goals. We believe if you have goals, they need to be measurable and our goals are set by data. She said we use goals that are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relative and Time-based (SMART) and she is very proud of our results. We do have measurements of academic achievement and student success. We have a Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) because three years ago LCSD was identified as needing improvement. The plan has two goals which are improving the attendance and graduation rates. Due to Covid our attendance was abysmal but we have made some strides. Looking at the graduation rates, Taft HS will be at about 80%, Toledo HS around 77%, Newport HS about 94% and Waldport HS about 90%. She said that we did align K-12 math. She said that in creating an equity plan we have conducted outreach to our Hispanic community. She gave kudos to Jesus Hernandez, our community Hispanic Liaison said we will have another Hispanic Liaison next year. The superintendent said in addition, our equity team created a mission, vision and purpose statement and will be working on an equity and inclusion policy next year. The Board has begun to implement their five year strategic plan and we will continue this work with the new board. Director Demaris added that we should pay extra attention to the budget next year as things are uncertain.

#### *New Board Members Training Plan*

Dr. Gray said the new Board members will be sworn in on July 13<sup>th</sup> 2021. The Organizational Meeting will be held via Zoom starting at 5 pm with an executive session on labor and negotiations. She said they have been invited to attend a July 9<sup>th</sup> Oregon School Boards Association virtual training, and each will have a mentor assigned. Megan Cawley will mentor Peter Vince, Liz Martin with Mike Rawles, and former board member Jean Turner who is here tonight will mentor Senitila McKinley. The superintendent said there will be a training on August 17<sup>th</sup> with the Learning Support Team administrators and the new Board to hear what our Learning Support Team does. She shared they are also invited to a two hour financial/budget training on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Board Retreat at the Hallmark in Newport on August 20<sup>th</sup>, an OSBA training on September 21<sup>st</sup>, and a possible bus tour with Rich Belloni this summer.

#### *Policy First Reading*

##### IIBGA- Electronic Communications System

Superintendent Gray said that policies go to the Board for approval when revised. She said the administrative rule for this policy is huge and that the district is working on it. The revisions are to ensure that child protections are in the work that we are doing.

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

On motion of Director Demaris and seconded by Director Remund the Board unanimously approved consent calendar items as listed in the June 8, 2021, board folder:

- Minutes – May 11, Regular Session
- Minutes – May 25, Work Session
- Human Resources: Regular Personnel Items
- Final Reading:
  - a. KL –Public Complaints
  - b. CBA – Qualifications and Duties of the Superintendent

### **Action Items**

#### *Alternative Education Programs*

The current alternative education program is Edmentum which will be used in grades 7-12. The district will use its own online program for the elementary level utilizing district staff and programs.

On motion of Director Beck and seconded by Director Demaris the Board unanimously approved the Alternative Education Programs as presented at the June 8, 2021 board session.

#### *Need for Layoff*

On motion of Vice Chair Martin and seconded by Director Demaris the Board unanimously approved the Need for Layoff for the 2021/22 school year as presented at the June 8, 2021, Board session.

#### *Amendment to Assistant Superintendent Contract*

On motion of Director Remund and seconded by Vice Chair Martin the Board unanimously approved the amendment to the Assistant Superintendent's Contract as presented at the June 8, 2021 board session.

#### *ESS West, LLC Substitute Staffing Contract Extension Addendum*

On motion of Director Demaris and seconded by Director Beck the Board unanimously approved the ESS West, LLC Substitute Staffing Contract Extension Addendum as presented at the June 8, 2021 board session.

#### *Sodexo Custodial Contract Renewal*

On motion of Director Beck and seconded by Director Demaris the Board unanimously approved the contract with Sodexo as the provider for custodial services for the 2021/22 year.

#### *Extension of the Auditors contract – resolution 2020/21-12*

On motion of Director Demaris and seconded by Director Remund the Board unanimously approved the Extension of the Auditors contract – Resolution 2020/21-12 as presented at the June 8, 2021 board session.

#### *Adopting the 2021/22 Budget – Resolution 2020/21-14*

On motion of Director Beck and seconded by Vice Chair Martin the Board unanimously approved the 2021/22 Budget – Resolution 2020/21-14 as presented at the June 8, 2021 board session.

#### *Appropriations Transfer – Resolution 2020/21-15*

On motion of Vice Chair Martin and seconded by Director Demaris the Board unanimously approved the Appropriations Transfer – Resolution 2020/21-15 as presented at the June 8, 2021 board session.

#### *2021/22 Board Meeting Calendar*

On motion of Vice Chair Martin and seconded by Director Beck the Board unanimously approved the 2021/22 Board Meeting Calendar as presented at the June 8, 2021 board session.

**Items of Discussion and Information**

*Organizational Resolution 2021/22-1*

Kim Cusick, Business Director shared that this is an annual resolution to designate district officers, clerks, agents and depositories. This will be an action item at the July Board meeting.

*July 13, 2021 Organizational Meeting*

Chair Cawley said the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will start at 5:00 PM via Zoom. Senitila McKinley asked why it needs to be a Zoom meeting to which Dr. Gray said she will be out of town. She explained that the July meeting is different because once a year the school district is required to pass an organization resolution and it is a much shorter meeting. The superintendent said this is the meeting where the Board is oathed into office and picks a Chair and Vice Chair. The superintendent and Chair Cawley said that if any Board members need help, they will make sure they get help.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.

  
Chairman

*Liz Martin- Vice Chair*

  
Superintendent