

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors – Business Meeting
Tuesday, September 14th, 2021 – 6:30 PM
Via Zoom
Newport, Oregon

Minutes

PRESIDING: Megan Cawley, Chair.

Present: Megan Cawley, Chair; Mike Rawles, Peter Vince, Senitila McKinley, Liz Martin Directors.

Also Present: Dr. Karen Gray, Superintendent and Eddie Symington, Secretary.

Handouts: Board Folder, Meeting Agenda, Financial Report, Human Recourses Addendum

Call to Order-

Chair Cawley convened the meeting and called the session to order at 6:30 p.m.

Establishment of a Quorum- A quorum of five Board members present.

Recognition: None at this time.

Introductions: Guest- Florence Pourtal, Lincoln County Public Health

Communications: None

Consultant Reports/Staff Reports/Student Reports

LCEA

Peter Lohonyay- Welcome to a new and wild school year! Peter reported a lot of new teachers to LCSD. He recognizes that teachers are wearing masks, making packets for quarantine students, coaching and teaching. LCEA is working on an MOU with LCSD to make things as safe as possible for staff. Peter looks forward to the continued work with Dr. Gray and LCSD. He does have some concerns around class sizes, staffing, and transportation.

Public Health of Lincoln County

Florence Pourtal attended and Dr. Gray took time to thank Florence for her hard work and collaboration with LCSD. A few Board Members submitted question for Florence.

Florence thanked LSCD for the partnership and looks forward to a time when COVID has passed and we can partner on other work.

Question 1- Will vaccines be mandated for children in the school setting?

Answer- At this time there is no evidence that anyone in Oregon is moving in that direction.

Question 2- What are the testing options in schools for COVID?

Answer- All the options are opt in options. There is diagnostic testing which would be for staff and students to test during the day if they were not feeling well. These results would come back fairly quickly. There is also a second option, Screening Testing. This is to help screen asymptomatic students on a regular basis. This test would be sent home with students where they would test and bring samples back to school for handoff to a lab. Dr. Gray believed there was a third option for staff testing that would allow for staff to test at school weekly and send that off for results. Florence confirmed that that option is out there also.

Question 3- How soon will children be able to vaccinate?

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Answer- They are thinking October or November but that is just an estimate.

Question 4- Are there specific benchmarks set for ventilation in public spaces such as classrooms.

Answers- Florence will need to research. Director Rich Belloni was present and able to talk about the testing the District had done to make sure our ventilation systems were adequate. Our buildings are changing air every 15 minutes and even less in most classrooms. For the rooms without windows and proper ventilation, the district has purchased free standing filter systems. Maintenance is checking filters and belts every three months on the HVAC systems.

Florence said in closing that as it is well known, our area saw a surge in cases this summer and August especially. The County is catching up in the contact tracing and though they are still a bit behind, she recognizes the importance of partnerships with public health to do that tracing. Public Health is eagerly watching the numbers as school has started and is working with LCSD to set up vaccine clinics in schools to help get eligible students vaccinated.

Dr. Gray thanked Florence for coming and speaking to the Board and Community.

North Area Reports- These were not put on the agenda in error. Area Reports will resume in October.

Financial Report

Kim Cusick, Business Services Director gave the monthly financial report.

First Student Monthly Written Report

First Student written report is in the Board Folder. We are suffering from a driver shortage. Director Martin thanked First Student for their report and recognizes that people are complaining about transportation but we're getting kids home as best we can. Area Manager Darlene Van Riper said that even from the time the report was submitted, the numbers have changed and they have not improved. We continue to lose drivers for many reasons and First Student Staff is doing everything they can to make "magic happen"

Director Rawles asked what the shortage deficit is and Van Riper replied that we are short 28 drivers. Dr. Gray noted that at the state level, ODE is looking at different ways to get people licensed and also looking at possibly calling in the National Guard when they are able to leave the hospital setting. Dr. Gray thanked Board Secretary and Assistant to the Superintendent, Eddie Symington for driving in the West area of the district every day.

Public Hearing

We will now Recess into Public Hearing, the Lincoln County School District Board of Directors, acting in its capacity, as the LCSD Local Contract Review Board will now conduct a public hearing to take testimony on findings for the exemption from competitive bidding requirements of public improvement contracts for the construction of a gymnasium at Yaquina View Elementary School. -Do we have any public comment on the exemption from competitive bidding requirements of public contracts for the construction of a gymnasium at Yaquina View Elementary School?

Attorney Pete Gintner was present to answer questions and explain what CM/GC is, how it works, and what the district must do to be compliant in the process.

Board Member Vince asked if CM/GC was the best option for the District and Director Belloni answered yes and gave some examples of why.

Hearing no other comment, the Chair entertained a motion to approve the Findings of Fact for the construction of gymnasium at YV gym (for exempting from competitive bidding)

Board Member Rawles moved the above stated motion and it was seconded by Board Member Martin. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Cawley entertained a motion to approve and ratify the Request for Proposals (and all prior actions related to same) for the construction of gymnasium at YV gym.

Board Member Vince moved the above stated motion and it was seconded by Board Member Rawles. The motion passed unanimously.

We will now close this public hearing and resume into our regular session.

Board Reports

Director McKinley- She enjoyed the Board Retreat but is struggling with the book that the Board is reading together. She attended the Crestview Heights Open House and was present on the first day of school. After finding out the kitchen was short staffed, she joined the crew as a volunteer and has completed her first week there. She noted that she wants the community to know how happy kids are to be in school. She also loves how great the buildings look!

Director Rawles- He enjoyed the Board Retreat and his visit to Newport High School. He was very happy with the facility and can't wait to see other North area schools. He also looks forward to visiting with staff and students and Noted that he has heard that students don't really mind the masks, they are just happy to be back.

Director Martin- She will wait to go into schools until the second week of school.

Director Vince- Enjoyed the Board Retreat and the book that the Board is reading together. He was able to visit both Toledo Schools in the first week of school and loved what he saw. He believed the buildings look great and he is so glad to be a part of the system again.

Chair Cawley- Has not had a chance to get into schools yet but greatly enjoyed the Board Retreat and getting to know the other Board Members.

Superintendent's Report

Safety Update-

The mask mandate is in full effect and LCSD is enforcing it. We are following all safety protocols as required by the RSSL. Our work with Unions continues to establish MOU's for staff to continue working safely. Assistant Superintendent Susan Van Liew spoke about the vaccine mandate. She noted that the mandate applies to anyone working around school aged children including volunteers, outside agencies, and contractors. Assistant Superintendent Van Liew and Director Tiana Tucker are working to establish the protocols for staff to follow if they file for an exception from vaccination including but not limited to masking requirements and weekly testing.

Superintendent's Off the Record Meeting-

It was noted that the COVID numbers were not dropping as quickly as was originally thought. ODE noted a couple threats to in-person education including people that refuse to get vaccinated AND refuse to follow the vaccine exception guidelines.

School Status update-

The buildings look great! She was in all 11 schools this week and noted how great the floors look.

Director Belloni will talk later about the facilities.

Enrollment-

We are at exactly 5,300 and our Compass Online School is sitting at 250 students.

Parent Student Handbook-

The Board will need to approve only the changes to the handbook which are around fees and are published in the Board Folder.

Site Council Rosters-

The Board will need to vote on the approval of the Site Council Rosters for each school as published in the Board Folder.

AVID-

National Conference is coming up in December and urges any Board Member that wants to go to speak up right away. It will be a 4 day commitment including travel time.

2021-2022 Goals-

There will be a 100 day report out process this year. The goals have changed very little and are published in the Board Folder. These will be voted on in the next meeting.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

On motion of Director Vince and seconded by Director Rawles, the Board unanimously approved consent calendar items as listed in the September 14th, 2021, Board Folder.

Action Items

Sale of Property

Board Member McKinley asked if it was legal to accept just one offer on a piece of property. Director Belloni noted that if it was valued at more than \$25,000 they would need to take different action but the property is not valued at that number. Board Member McKinley believes we could get more money than what it is valued at. On motion of Director Rawles and seconded by Director Vince, the Board unanimously approved a motion for the sale of property in South Beach.

Contract with gLAs Architect, LLC

On motion of Director Martin and seconded by Director Vince, the Board unanimously approved a motion to approve the LCS D Contract with gLAs Architect, LLC

Student Parent Handbook

Board Member Martin asked if all fees were the same at all schools? Director Cusick said no, the fees in the handbook are maximums. Director Vine asked if students could be charged a fee for field trips and Director Cusick said yes if it was an optional field trip. It was noted that the district was covering the cost of all participation fees for athletes. On motion of Director Rawles and seconded by Director Martin, the Board unanimously approved a motion to approve the updated parent student handbook for the 2021-2022 school year as published in the September 14th Board Folder

Site Council Rosters

On motion of Director Vince and seconded by Director Martin, the Board unanimously approved a motion to approve the 2021-2022 School Site Council Rosters as published in the September 14th Board Folder

CM/GC Process

On motion of Director Vince and seconded by Director McKinley, the Board unanimously approved a motion to approve the use of the CM/GC process for the construction of the Yaquina View Gym.

Items of Discussion and Information

Teaching & Learning-

Director Majalisse Tolan spoke about athletics in LCS D. She noted how proud she is of athletes and coaches. They really are doing everything they are required to do in following the safety protocols. She reports that about 28% of enrolled High School students are participating in athletics. They were able to field all varsity sports programs. Music programs are growing in numbers as well. This Fall, Middle School sports were not being funded by the district but Director Tolan is pleased to announce that the district will be able to equitably fund some winter sports this year and some fall of 2022 sports.

Dr Gray gave a special thanks to Director Tolan for all of her hard work.

Professional Development-

Secondary- Administrators from Newport High School, Principal Mattson and Vice Principal Scarberry gave a report on what PD they are working on with all teachers. Vice Principal Scarberry noted that they have been working happily with the new social studies curriculum that the Board purchased. He noted that working with teachers from all areas has helped to align the curriculum across the District. Principal Mattson has been working with the World Language teachers in the District. She talked about how thankful she is that the whole district has received AVID PD which has flowed into the World Language PD's.

Elementary- Director Dr. Barrett talked about how Elementary staff also took that AVID PD and a half day PD on the new curriculum the district purchased. There has also been a lot of training around data and how to collect and use it.

Staffing Update-

Director Dr. Tiana Tucker talked about the staffing report that is published in the Board Folder. She noted that the district is so happy to be able to have added social workers, nurses, additional teachers, behavioral specialists, bilingual support staff, administrators and TOSA's to the district. We still have 30 open classified positions to fill. Board Member Vince asked how the rollout of Synergy is working out. Dr. Tucker said they brought all Certified Staff back a day early to train on it but it is clear that it will do so much more than we realize. Training Staff will continue to support building staff in its use and the use of the data the system contains. A presentation will be given to the board some time in 2022 as it takes time to get an information system off the ground.

Summer Projects-

Ocean Lake is almost completely finished. The work that is left to do is purely cosmetic and the maintenance staff will complete that.

Newport High School Cafeteria is complete, we are just waiting on new furniture to arrive that is backordered.

Early Childhood Center is moving along quickly. The last of the concrete is being poured and the roof will go on this coming week.

Director Belloni gave a special thanks to architect and City Council Member Dietmar Goebel for his work to get our projects done as a local, well connected member of this community

Other

Reminders:

9/21/21- Collective Commitments & Communications Agreements. OSBA Roles & Responsibilities Training – 4:30

Book Study- The Blind Spot. Have book finished by October 26th Work Session

Superintendent Gray out of office 9/27/21-10/1/21- Susan Van Liew as Designee

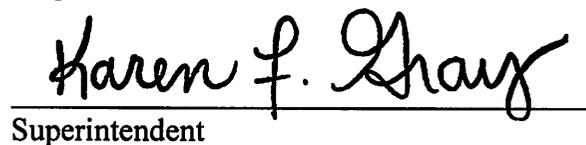
Board Member Martin gave a special thank you to all of the Administrators that stayed through this Board Meeting.

Board Member McKinley wanted to make sure that going forward we hear the area reports and any student reports.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.



Chair



Superintendent