

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J
1201 TEXAS AVENUE
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 13, 2017

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER:** A Regular Meeting of the Directors of Vernonia Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:39 p.m. by Brett Costley. This month's meeting was held at Mist Elementary School. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Brett Costley, Ernie Smith, Greg Kintz, Cari Levenseller, Susan Wagner, and Brittanie Roberts. BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** Katie Cook BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, MS/HS Principal; Marie Knight, Business Manager; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Gordon Jarman, District Athletic Director; and Joanie Jones and Jim Krahn, Licensed staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Merle Noakes, Betsy Miller, Susan Ely, Jeana Gump, Marylou Busch, Scott Laird, Shirley Kyser, Tom Jones, and Julie Ramsey. VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1 Flag Salute:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 1.3 Agenda Review:** Two items were added to the agenda. 5.4 Discussion of a Budget Committee Application and 6.5 Action to appoint to the Budget Committee. Ernie Smith moved to approve the agenda as amended. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. AGENDA REVIEW
- 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Brittanie Roberts shared that her Board position is to support Mist Improvements as noted in the upcoming Bond Election description. PUBLIC COMMENT
- 3.0 CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 3.1 Minutes of 03/09/17 Regular Meeting** MINUTES
- Ernie Smith moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Cari Levenseller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED
- 4.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION**
- 4.1 Building Reports:** BUILDING REPORTS
- Mr. Underwood shared highlights in a verbal report
- Unity Week – next week. 4/17-21st. This event is organized by the Project Based Learning Class. "Breaking Down the Walls" is directed to unify and engage students to have a positive and supportive campus.
 - Mrs. Ward's 8th graders recently completed a mini senior project. Students researched Presidents, created a Power Point slide show and made a Tri-Fold presentation board. The project overall was very successful.
 - Close Up trip is next week. There is a very small group heading to D.C. this year.
 - Band and Choir are doing well in their competitions.
 - Mrs. Allen applied for a grant with her advanced art students. The grant allows them to compete in a contest with Vans shoes where they custom design 4 pairs of shoes. VHS was selected to participate in the contest which will award a grand prize of \$50K.
- Mr. Miller shared highlights from his written report:
- Teachers are continuing to make progress on the Oregon Formative Assessment Grant for Students and Teachers (OFAST). The grant will provide one day of planning time over the summer for the Leadership team as well as time to plan on-going activities next year. It will also pay for a full day of training for all VES and VMS teachers in August.

- White River School District visitation was a huge success.
- Run for the Arts fundraiser was today. On April 26 & 27 Timberbound will be coming to perform and work with students on a music project.
- All school Field Trip to Stub Stewart State Park on April 28th. This event is sponsored by a grant from the State Park Foundation. Volunteers are needed.
- 2017-18 proposed classroom grade configurations were shared.
- A family in Mist is putting together a free library kiosk at the front steps of school.
- Mist 5th grade Leadership team has selected a mascot – Mist Mountain Lions.
- The dangerous trees on the Mist school property have come down, thanks to Ray Kyser local faller, who dropped the trees. ODOT helped haul them away. MBFD volunteer association cut up wood to donate to community members and chipped up the limbs.

4.1.1 Student Reports: None given.

STUDENTS REPORTS

4.2 Financial Report: Marie Knight explained there are no big changes in this month's report. Ending fund balance is going up due to the state school fund going up slightly. The District implemented a spending freeze last fall when the November bond election failed which has helped the ending fund balance. There were no questions from the Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT

4.3 Maintenance Report: Mark Brown's report was reviewed. Brittanie Roberts asked if food is allowed in the Vernonia Schools library? No, this is one of Mark's concerns according to Mr. Miller. It was also noted that the locker room security has been tightened up.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

4.4 Board Committee Reports: Brittanie Roberts shared that the Policy Committee is presenting policies for first reading today.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.5 Winter Sports Report: Gordon Jarman presented a written report and shared that this winter was the most successful VHS Winter sports season since he's been here. Boys' Basketball had the 2A NW League coach of the year and finished 6th in State. Girls' Basketball finished 2nd in league and made the state playoffs. Wrestlers were the Special District 1 2A champions and sent 6 wrestlers to state, and one girl to the girls' state tournament. The Wrestling coach was named coach of the year as well. This year wrestling offered special tournaments just for girls. One VHS girl was the district champ and wrestled in the boys' side of the State tournament.

WINTER SPORTS REPORT

The VMS teams had a good season as well. Boys Basketball team numbers were low (9 players) forcing both 7th and 8th to play on the same team. The team won all but two games in the 7th grade bracket. Girls' Basketball had a good season with 12 players, winning most of their games. Wrestling had 12 wrestlers with a District champion and one that qualified for the Regional meet. One wrestler qualified for the State meet but didn't make weight.

5.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION

5.1 2017-18 Instructional Calendar: The calendar was presented last month and has not changed. The proposed calendar maintains the level of standard in instructional hours and adds three days at the end of the year as snow make-up days.

BUDGET CALENDAR

5.2 Staff Resignation: Aaron Miller shared that two licensed staff have submitted their retirement resignations - Kelley Murphy-Shaw and Judy Gingerich. Both letters of resignation/retirement were read to the audience.

STAFF RESIGNATION

5.3 Policy Review: Several policies were presented for a first reading. Brittanie Roberts shared that the deletion of meals policy that addresses second servings will have the language added to the student handbook.

POLICY REVIEW

Brittanie stated that she is still confused on the policy ING -Animals in School Buildings. She questioned the liability to the District if these animals misbehave. Aaron Miller stated that he will check with OSBA and ask what happens if something goes wrong with one of those animals and what questions can we ask?

5.4 Budget Committee Applicant: Kellie Murray submitted an application. Currently we have 3

BUDGET COMMITTEE

- vacancies.
- 6.0 **ACTION ITEMS**
- 6.1 **2017-18 Instructional Calendar Approval:** Ernie Smith moved to approve the 2017-18 Instructional Calendar as presented. Cari Levenseller seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.
- 6.2 **Staff Resignation:** Greg Kintz moved to accept the resignation/retirement of Judy Gingerich and Kelley Murphy-Shaw effective June 30, 2017. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Special thanks and appreciation were noted. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.
- 6.2 **Budget Committee Appointments:** Susan Wagner moved to appoint Kellie Murray to a three year term on the Budget Committee. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.
- 7.0 **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Aaron Miller updated the board on the following:
- He has been attending the Bond Committee community forums to answer questions. They have gone well.
 - Still working on insurance deductibles. It appears to be very close on whether you would save money by decreasing deductibles.
 - The district was notified that the Workkeys Assessment Test is no longer available to become highly qualified. We have used this for our Instructional Assistants that require HQ status.
 - ODE directive was received informing the District that traditional costumes of various cultures are now being allowed in graduation ceremonies.
 - May 2nd is the first Budget Committee meeting.
- 8.0 **Other Issues:** None
- 9.0 **RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Board recessed to executive session under O.R.S. 192.660 (2) (i) at 7:44 p.m. The Board began discussions on the Superintendent annual review.
- 10.0 **RECOVENE TO REGULAR SESSION:** The Board reconvened to regular session at 7:55 p.m.
- 11.0 **ACTION ITEM:** this was not needed.
- 12.0 **MEETING ADJOURNED** at 7:55 p.m.
- APPLICANT
- 2017-18
INSTRUCTIONAL
CALENDAR
- GINGERICH AND
MURPHY-SHAW RETIRE
- MURRAY APPOINTED
TO THE BUDGET
COMMITTEE
- SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT
- OTHER ISSUES
- RECESS TO
EXE.CUTIVESESSION
- RECONVENE TO
REGULAR SESSION
- ADJOURNED

Submitted by Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant

Board Chair

District Clerk

