

**VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J**  
**1201 TEXAS AVENUE**  
**VERNONIA OR 97064**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

June 14, 2018

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER:** A Regular Meeting of the of Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Brett Costley. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**
- Board Present:** Brett Costley, Susan Wagner, Stacey Pelster, and Brittanie Roberts. Greg Kintz arrived at 6:06 p.m. **BOARD PRESENT**
- Board Absent:** Melissa Zavales and Katie Cook **BOARD ABSENT**
- Staff Present:** Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Michelle Eagleson, Elem. Vice Principal; Gordon Jarman, District Athletic Director; Marie Knight, Business Manager; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Gienah Cheney, Special Education Director; and Jim Krahn and Juliet Safier, Licensed Staff. **STAFF PRESENT**
- Visitors present:** Thomas Jones, Scott Laird, Isabella Nuefer, Bill Langmaid, Henry Langmaid, Calvin Langmaid **VISITORS PRESENT**
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2.0 AGENDA REVIEW:** Item #5.3 was removed as it was reported last month. Added to the beginning of 5.0 a check presentation by Hands On Art. Susan Wagner moved to approve the agenda as amended. Stacey Pelster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. **AGENDA REVIEW**
- 3.0 RECESS to the Budget Hearing** at 6:06 p.m. Chair Costley opened the floor to the audience to provide comments. There were none. **RECESSED TO BUDGET HEARING**
- 4.0 RECONVENED to the Regular Board Meeting:** at 6:07 p.m. **RECONVENED TO REGULAR BOARD MTG.**
- 5.0 SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS.** Representing Vernonia Hands on Art, Bill Langmaid and his two sons Henry and Calvin presented the District with two checks. Both are the result of the recently held Junior Salmon Auction. A check in the amount of \$2,000 to the Art Department for supplies and a second check in the amount of \$300 to the Music Department for Piano Tuning was received. **HANDS ON ART PRESENTS CHECKS TO ART & BAND DEPT.**
- 5.1 Student Reports:** Jim Krahn shared a report put together by his Jr/Sr Project Based Learning Class on recent school shootings. They looked at school shootings nationally and compared the common denominators in each situation. In all instances it was a male student that either had anger issues or suffered from mental illness. The students felt it would be most effective to focus on the Vernonia community as opposed to joining national movements regarding school shootings. After many hours of discussion, the following list of things they would like to see happen in Vernonia, in order of priority, is the result:
1. Have a School Resource Officer
  2. Have programs that emphasize kindness and respect
  3. Have a female counselor on staff
  4. Arming Staff
  5. Continued interaction between the City, Fire Department and the School
  6. School discipline
  7. Metal detectors
  8. Evaluation of the School, to determine concerns for violent occurrences, done by a professional.
- Mr. Krahn felt overall the students held very constructive conversations, respective of differences of opinion. Mr. Krahn further stated that the students do not feel there is an issue of bullying at VHS. It simply doesn't exist at VHS.

5.2	<b>Principal Reports:</b> Mr. Underwood was not in attendance but his written report was reviewed. There were no questions on his report.	PRINCIPAL REPORTS HIGH SCHOOL
	Mr. Miller shared his written report. With enrollment down, 4 Vernonia students that had been on the waiting list, will be granted enrollment at Mist for 2018-19. This will bring the projected enrollment at Mist to 21 for next year.	ELEMENTARY
	Kindercamp, thanks to the receipt of a \$10,500 grant from the NWRESA, will be happening again this summer. Students will attend August 13-24 and will learn the ropes of being a Kindergarten student while there are no big kids in the building.	
	Hands On Art recently sponsored the performance of an adaptation of Cinderella to our elementary students. The performance was well received by students and staff.	
	Field Day was a huge success. Great weather and volunteers contributed to that success.	
	Mrs. Eagleson shared information on RTI (Response to Instruction) and how it will be used to boost core reading. The District is hoping to agree upon a new adoption for reading that meets common core standards and provides a consistent foundation. This year's goal at K-5 was to increase phonics awareness. All staff worked on this daily. At the end of the year 79% of our K-5 students scored 100% on the phonics skills test and 91% of K-5 students scored 98%. Also many students made tremendous growth of reading 20-50 words per minute from Fall to Spring. The data clearly shows the efforts of the staff have been successful. Because of this data Ms. Eagleson is very excited to see how our reading scores will increase next year moving more and more students to the core/benchmark level. Overall in Math our K-5 students are progressing nicely. We have a consistent Math program, Engage NY, that all staff are using.	RTI DATA SHARED
	<b>5.2.1 Assessment Report:</b> Information was provided in Mr. Underwood's written Principal Report. Susan Wagner requested to have the Academic/Smarter Balance Assessment information a topic of discussion at the August meeting when Mr. Underwood is present.	ASSESSMENT REPORTS
5.3	<b>YTP Report:</b> Removed from agenda during the Agenda Review.	YTP REPORT
5.4	<b>Special Education Report:</b> Gienah Cheney shared financial information and student population for the Special Education (SpEd) Department for 2017-18. Currently the District is serving 102 SpEd students (disability that impacts education) and 22 students on a 504 Plan (disability that does not impact education).	SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT
	Funding is received from the State of Oregon as well as federal grants. Money is received to enhance classrooms and help make them better for students as well as to ensure the District is in compliance with the State. This includes professional development. Total revenue received this year was \$116,371.16.	
	Expenses include:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certified staff (4)– \$314,315.00</li> <li>• Classified staff (15 plus half time compliance secretary) - \$785,436.00</li> <li>• Transportation (out of district and midday routes) - \$242,416.32</li> <li>• ESD Staff (OT, PT, Speech, Autism, etc.)- \$122,524.78</li> <li>• School Psych Supplies (updates to testing &amp; protocols)– \$825.13</li> <li>• Out of District Tuition for 4 students - \$74,728.86</li> <li>• Early Childhood Testing - \$10,159.00</li> <li>• Supplies, Equipment, Rentals (2 large purchases this year – a wheel chair lift to get students from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> floor in an emergency and a stand lift assisting students out of a wheel chair)– \$5,856.35</li> <li>• Total expenses: - \$1,556,261.44</li> </ul>	

Ms. Cheney also stated due to a grant, they now have a library of 35-40 resource books available to all staff.

Brett Costley was curious about the amount of funding received by the District to support the SpEd program. Aaron Miller shared that the District receives funds for SpEd students up to 11% of a district's population. There is no funding available for anything above the 11%. Vernonia currently has roughly 18-19% of our population in the SpEd program. This is very common with all Districts. Behaviors in grades K-2 have become an issue everywhere.

- 5.5 Spring Sports Report:** Gordon Jarman shared his report highlighting the success of the Boys' Track team winning the District meet and sending 15 students to the State Meet. Both Baseball and Softball made it to the League playoffs but were eliminated. Middle School Track lost a few over the season due to grades but finished with 25 students competing. 10 athletes competed at the Middle School District meet at the end of the season. Coach Brown has resigned from both Cross Country and Track and Coach Fetch has resigned from Softball. The three positions are currently posted.

SPRING SPORTS  
REPORT

Mr. Jarman further reported that every 4 years OSAA realigns the leagues. Portland Christian will be back in our league for the next 4 years. Delphian and Life Christian have been removed. A new school "Open Door East" has been added although it doesn't appear they will have an athletic program. Due to declining numbers in football and the OSAA's attempts to help out they have created a special district for football. Warrenton, although a 3A school will be in our 2A league for Football.

There was a comment from the Board in appreciation of holding students accountable to their education and not allowing to participate if deficient in their grades.

- 5.6 AVID Report:** Juliet Safier and Isabella Nuefer reported on AVID. Isabella joined the AVID class last year as sophomore. She has experienced new techniques in organization and testing skills. Her GPA as a Freshman was 2.7 and now it is a 3.3. She went from being a C average student to A's and B's. She is thankful for the AVID program, and having it for freshman is important. AVID has helped her to set goals and to have dreams which she didn't have before. Thanks to the help from Ms. Willard and learning organization skills she has gone from not just being a better student but wanting to be a better student.

AVID REPORT

Juliet Safier is the Site Coordinator for AVID. Next year we will offer 4 classes for AVID and will be bringing in the 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Next year is a big year for the District as we will have to start submitting our data to show that the program is working. She will have a separate prep period next year for monitoring and helping teachers in the classroom.

- 6.0 PUBLIC COMMENT:** Thomas Jones commented that he would like the District to poll the parents and community members for their thoughts on getting a School Resource Officer (SRO). He doesn't want to see money put toward this person until student contact days are increased. Bringing in an SRO officer sends the message that you don't need to take care of yourself, someone else will do it for you. Mr. Jones further states that if he wanted to do harm to the school a SRO would not stop him.

PUBLIC COMMENT

**7.0 BUSINESS REPORTS:**

**7.1 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

- Community Chat held in May was at Black Iron Grill from 6:30-7:30 a.m. No one stopped by. The next one is scheduled at the Blue House Café on June 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon. Next year he will try adding an evening option to see if more people attend.
- The Mist south property line has been established and the owner will install a new fence on the line. The District contributed \$1500 to the expense of surveying the line.
- Enrollment held steady for the year finishing at 538.
- Summer Intern opportunities. 3 students have been placed and interviews will be conducted next week for the final 3 slots.
- New Hires for next year include Teresa Gore, Kindergarten Teacher, with 15 years of

SUPERINTENDENT  
REPORT

MIST FENCE LINE

ENROLLMENT

SUMMER INTERN JOBS  
NEW HIRES

experience. Paula Dorry, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, with 21 years of experience and Rebecca Peabody, MS/HS Art, with 6 years of experience. Next month the MS/HS Language Arts position should be finished and that person announced.

- Mr. Miller, Mr. Underwood, Josette Mitchell and two Vernonia Police Officers conducted interviews for the new SRO. A total of 5 candidates were interviewed. The most important aspect is that the person is the right fit for the job and for Vernonia Schools. Currently reference checks are being done as well as a background check. This full time position will be split half and half between the District as an SRO and the City as another officer.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

- 7.2 FINANCIAL REPORT:** Marie Knight stated that the ending fund balance is up due to the May State School Fund adjustment from prior years coming in, totaling approximately \$40,000. Also, the ESD has been working on reconciling all liabilities and this resulted in a slight increase. As the end of the year approached, spending was under control which also contributed to the ending fund balance being up. This is all important as every penny we end the year with will carry forward to next year. During the 2019-20 year the District will see large increases in PERS costs as well as the fact that this will be a negotiation year again.

FINANCIAL REPORT

**7.2.1 Resolution #1718-04 and \$1718-05:** Marie shared that these two resolutions are standard for this time of year. The first is required to transfer funds within the current year budget when spending has been greater than what was initially budgeted. This occurred this year in the support and instruction services budget lines. The second resolution is required for the Board to adopt the operating budget for the next school year.

FINANCIAL RESOLUTIONS

- 7.3 MAINTENANCE REPORT:** Mark Brown's report was reviewed. There were no comments from the Board.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

- 8.0 BOARD REPORTS/BOARD DEVELOPMENT:** Brittanie Roberts attended a PCC breakfast recently and learned more about the Scappoose Development. The first 20 acres, focusing on welding and machining, will be developed next summer with an opening date of 2020.

BOARD REPORTS

Susan Wagner attended the recent Safety Committee meeting at the school and as always she is impressed with the work this committee does.

Stacey Pelster attended a Facilities Committee meeting and shared some highlights of the bond projects. The District is seeing a substantial savings with the top soil needed for the football field. A field in Beaverton was being changed to a turf field so they sent the dirt to us. It saved them having to pay to get rid of it and it saved us getting the dirt for free and not having to haul as far as initially thought. Discussion is continuing on the metals/welding shop location and size. There is also discussion on a possibility of getting field lighting at a reduced cost.

Brett Costley shared that at the recently held Board Workshop the board self-evaluation was postponed until the July meeting due to lack of attendance.

## 9.0 OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION:

- 9.1 New Hires:** Aaron Miller shared this information in his Superintendent's Report.

NEW HIRES DISCUSSED

- 9.2 Supervisory / Confidential Contract:** Brett Costley shared that this contract impacts the Maintenance Supervisor, Food Service Supervisor, Administrative Assistant, Fiscal Assistant, and Business Manager. The negotiation team has approved the contract that was sent to all Board members. There were no comments or questions

SUPERVISORY/CONFIDENTIAL CONTRACT DISCUSSED

- 9.3 Superintendent Contract:** Brett Costley shared that he worked with Mr. Miller and had emailed a copy of the contract to all Board members for their review. He asked for comments or questions. There were none.

SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT DISCUSSED

- 9.4 Policy Updates:** Aaron Miller shared that the policies in the packet are being presented for approval. These were presented last month as a first reading. Barb Carr noted there was a typo in policy IGDJ and a revised copy was provided to them.

POLICY UPDATES

9.5	<b>Out of State Travel:</b> Aaron Miller, speaking for Mr. Underwood, shared that the AVID team is attending a training in Seattle in July. Also at a previous Board meeting the Board expressed desire in approving the two standing student trips early to accommodate fund-raising over the summer. These would be the 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Washington DC “Close-Up” trip and the Senior trip to Southern California. All three of these trips are being presented for approval.	OUT OF STATE TRAVEL DISCUSSED
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9.6	<b>Bond Projects Update:</b> Aaron Miller updated the Board on current projects. The goal and plan is to have the football field and track completed by Fall. He will be attending an upcoming costing meeting to discuss financials for the field project as well as the addition of 4 classrooms. All smaller bond projects are dependent on how costs come out for these two large projects.	BOND PROJECTS UPDATES
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Mist has completed the roof and gutters phase with siding repairs to begin soon. The siding will end up costing a bit more as there was more rot on the back side of the gym than originally thought. Once siding is done, they will move to the inside to work on flooring replacement, ceilings, and doors.

<p>Mr. Miller also requested of the Board to allow him to approve any expenditure for the football field, track, classroom construction over the summer that may come in above the \$150K limit currently in place. It would be for these projects only. He is unsure if that will happen but due to the restricted timeline to complete these projects he doesn’t want to hold anything up to get approval from the Board. Susan Wagner expressed concern from previous administration when the school was constructed. There needs to be pushback from the District on change orders and not just sign off on items that are cost related. She would be comfortable granting Mr. Miller doing this if information was shared with the Facilities Committee as well as the Board. Mr. Miller stated he would do this regardless. The Board was in consensus of this plan.</p>	EXPENDITURE LIMIT WAIVER REQUESTED FOR SUPERINTENDENT FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS
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**10.0 ACTION ITEMS**

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| 10.1 | <b>Budget Resolution #1718-05:</b> Susan Wagner moved to approve resolution #1718-05 transferring appropriations within funds in the 2017-18 budget as presented. Greg Kintz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.   | RESOLUTION #1718-05<br>APPROVED                        |
| 10.2 | <b>Budget Adoption Resolution #1718-04:</b> Susan Wagner moved to approve Resolution #1718-04 adopting the 2108-19 budget, making appropriations, and imposing and categorizing the tax as presented. Stacey Pelster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. | RESOLUTION #1718-04<br>ADOPTING THE<br>BUDGET APPROVED |
| 10.3 | <b>New Hires:</b> Brittanie Roberts moved to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to hire Teresa Gore and Paula Dorry, Elementary Teachers, and Rebecca Peabody as MS/HS Art Teacher. Greg Kintz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.               | RECOMMENDATIONS<br>TO HIRE ACCEPTED                    |
| 10.4 | <b>Supervisory Confidential Contract:</b> Stacey Pelster moved to approve the Supervisor/Confidential Contract for 2018-2021 as presented. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.  | SUPERVISORY /<br>CONFIDENTIAL<br>CONTRACT APPROVED     |
| 10.5 | <b>Superintendent Contract:</b> Susan Wagner moved to approve the Superintendent Contract for 2018-2021 as discussed. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.  | SUPERINTENDENT<br>CONTRACT APPROVED                    |
| 10.6 | <b>Policy Approval:</b> Brittanie Roberts moved to approve the policy revisions as presented (CM, GBH/JECAC, GBK/JFCG/KGC, IGAC, IBDJA, IGDJ, IKF, JHCA/JHCB, and JHHB). Stacey Pelster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.                              | POLICIES APPROVED                                      |
| 10.7 | <b>Out of State Travel:</b> Stacey Pelster moved to approve out of state travel for the AVID team to attend training in Seattle, Washington July 10-12, 2018; the 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade close Up Trip to  | OUT OF STATE TRAVEL<br>APPROVED                        |

Washington D.C. and the VHS Senior Trip to Southern California in the Spring of 2019. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

- 10.8 Bond Expenditure:** Brittanie Roberts moved to approve the Superintendent's request on bond expenditures for construction of the track, football field, and four classrooms as discussed. Stacey Pelster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. **BOND EXPENDITURE APPROVED**
- 11.0 MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE:** The Board self-evaluation will happen in July. **MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE**
- 12.0 CONSENT AGENDA**
- 12.1 Minutes of the 05/10/18 Regular Meeting.** Greg Kintz moved to approve the minutes of the 05/10/18 regular meeting as presented. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. **MINUTES APPROVED**
- 13.0 Other Issues:** Discussion was held on increasing public awareness of the Community Chat events that Mr. Miller holds by sharing the information when it is posted on the District Facebook page. **OTHER ISSUES**
- Discussion was also held on what field future homecoming games will be held on. Aaron Miller stated he and Mr. Underwood were not opposed to the idea of holding future homecoming games at Greenman Field. Gordon Jarman stated that there is a lot of work that goes in to having a games at different sites. It was suggested to ask the football team and/or students.
- 14.0 MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:06 p.m. **ADJOURNED**

Submitted by Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant

Board Chair

District Clerk