

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J  
1201 TEXAS AVENUE  
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 13, 2015

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER:** A Regular Meeting of the Board 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, Greg Kintz, Brittanie Roberts, Ernie Smith, Jim Krahn, and Katie Cook. Cari Levenseller arrived at 6:32 p.m. BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** None. BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle/High School Principal; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Dawn Plews, Business Manager; Marie Knight, Fiscal Assistant; and Juliet Safier, Licensed Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors present:** Reed Watson, Scott Laird, Jeana Gump, Kathi Leach, and Aubrey Leach. VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 1.2** Agenda Review: Added Information item 5.4 and 6.2 Action Item. Ernie Smith moved to approve the revisions to the agenda. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. AGENDA REVIEW
- 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Kathi Leach shared that her daughter has attended Connections Academy and took band at the school. She feels the recent tuition fee approved by the board is a mistake and is too high for this community. She does however appreciate Mr. Miller meeting with her and being willing to work with her on the new proposed fee. PUBLIC COMMENT
- 3.0 CONSENT AGENDA:** CONSENT AGENDA
- 3.1** Minutes of 07/09/2015 Regular Meeting Brittanie Roberts asked that the meeting minutes be amended to reflect her position against assessing fees to students taking classes that are not enrolled. MINUTES APPROVED
- Ernie Smith moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED
- 4.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION**
- 4.1 Building Report:** Nate Underwood had nothing new to add to his written report. Aaron Miller shared some staffing assignment changes. BUILDING REPORTS
- 4.2 Financial Report:** Dawn Plews shared two reports. The first is the estimate through June of 2015. The second report goes through the first month of current year. Dawn shared that next May the District will receive a large state school fund payment due to forecasting low timber revenue and the ADM adjustment between December and June. FINANCIAL REPORT
- 4.3 Maintenance Report:** The board reviewed the report and asked for further details on the heating options for the shop. Mr. Miller explained that the old brown barn never did have heat so this is being researched along with the possible option of not having to go with a closed system in the new building. It was originally planned as having a closed heating unit due to welding instruction. Going with an open heating system would be less expensive. MAINTENANCE REPORT
- 5.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION**
- 5.1 Student / Staff Handbooks:** The Student Handbook was shared with the Board. The Staff Handbook will be presented to board at the September meeting. HANDBOOKS

- 5.2 Surplus Items:** A list of recently identified items was distributed to the board. Ernie Smith asked if there was a chance the old lawn mower on the list could be retained to mow the rough patches. Ernie suggested removing this item off the list. **SURPLUS ITEMS**
- 5.3 Policy Updates:** The Policy Committee reviewed the suggested and required changes to policy that came from OSBA. They have incorporated those changes into our policies and they are on the agenda this evening merely as a first reading. Approval will take place next month. It was noted that all of the suggested changes that come from OSBA are usually the result of legal or legislative action and state statute. **POLICY UPDATES PRESENTED AS 1<sup>st</sup> READING**

Nate Underwood spoke to the adjustment to policy IKE Promotion and Retention of Students. The requested change alters the final decision of whether or not a student is retained to fail with the District. He stated that the District is better equipped to determine if a student is academically ready to advance to the next grade level. Katie Cook stated she is not in favor of this and feels this decision should be determined by the parents. Mr. Underwood compared it to graduation. Students are not allowed to graduate if they haven't met the academic requirements. Allowing a student to advance to the next grade level not properly prepared academically puts the student at a disadvantage.

It was determined that since this is a first reading, the language in the policy could be adjusted as less arbitrary and add extenuating circumstances.

Cari Levenseller arrived at 6:32 p.m.

Audience member Reed Watson asked for clarification on policy LBEA and a discussion on enrollment in Charter School vs Homeschool was held.

Policy JFG Student Searches was also discussed. Mr. Underwood explained the process and his reasonable attempts to contact a parent when a student's person or property is searched.

Aaron Miller shared IBDJA-AR. This AR is the Administrative Rule to the policy. It outlines how administration will carry out the policy. The Board does not approve these and the information is being presented as information only.

- 5.4 Food Products and Non-Food Supplies RFP Extension:** The Food Service department is part of a consortium, the Oregon Child Nutrition Coalition. The consortium does the bid process for districts on all food service contracts. ODE does however require Districts to approve the RFP process. The board will be asked later in the agenda to approve the RFP extension. **FOOD SERVICE RFP EXTENSION**

## 6.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 6.1 Surplus Items:** Ernie Smith moved to declare the list of items dated 8/13/15 minus the John Deere mower as surplus. Jim Krahn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. **ITEMS DECLARED SURPLUS**
- 6.2 RFP Extension:** Greg Kintz moved to extend the 2015-16 Food Products and Non-Food Supplies RFP award to SYSCO, Portland. Jim Krahn seconded the motion. Cari Levenseller would like to know if there are any additional fees such as transportation and membership in the consortium. Marie Knight will look into this. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. **RFP EXTENSION APPROVED**

- 7.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Aaron Miller updated the board on the following: **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**
- Updated the board on a possible request coming to approve an athletic co-op with Banks HS Soccer.
  - Custodial staff and two summer interns have done a great job cleaning the facilities
  - VSD received a final payment of \$141,000 from FEMA. This funding will go towards the debt payment.
  - The final electrical inspection of the shop will be tomorrow.
  - Final phase of the Playground is scheduled for delivery on the 18<sup>th</sup> an installation on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

- A letter to the City of Vernonia asking for an exemption to the water curtailment has been sent. This is a safety concern for our football players. Supt. Miller will attend the next City Council meeting to answer any questions. It is important to share why we are seeking the exemption.
- OSBA Board Workshop will be 8/27/15 from 5-8 pm. Dinner will be provided. This is open to the public if they wish to attend.

**Other Issues:** None at this time.

**OTHER ISSUES.**

**8.0 MEETING ADJOURNED** at 7:08 p.m.

**ADJOURNED**

Submitted by Barb Carr,  
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Directors

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Board Chair

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District Clerk

