

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J  
1201 TEXAS AVENUE  
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

August 21, 2018

**CALL TO ORDER:** A Workshop of the Board of Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Greg Kintz.

MEETING CALLED  
TO ORDER

**Board Present:** Greg Kintz, Brittanie Roberts, Susan Wagner, Stacey Pelster, Melissa Zavales

BOARD PRESENT

**Board Absent:** Katie Cook. Position #6 vacant.

BOARD ABSENT

**Staff Present:** Aaron Miller, Superintendent; and Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant

STAFF PRESENT

**Visitors Present:** None

VISITORS

**School Board Evaluation:** The board reviewed the OSBA document *Board Self-Evaluation – Oregon Board Standards for Governance*. Board members were asked to score to each standard prior to the workshop. Those scores are noted below as well as the discussion held. Scoring is as follows: 0=Unacceptable 1=Needs Improvement 3=Good 4=Excellent 5=Outstanding

BOARD SELF-  
EVALUATION  
REVIEWED and  
DISCUSSED

Standard 1 – Leadership: Mission, Vision and Goals. Scores: 2, 2, 3, 1.5, 1

- The Board does not have clear goals. Goal setting needs to occur annually.
- Have available at each meeting, perhaps in the front of the Board packet, a copy of the District’s Mission and Vision Statement. Greg suggested having information on the back of each name plate. He will confirm what OSBA uses.
- Stressed the importance of making all decisions based on what is best for the District not for personal reasons or personal preferences.

Standard 2 – Policy and Governance. Scores: 3, 3, 2, 3, 3

- Discussion on ways to involve the public in the process more. It was noted that the public does have the opportunity to make comment during the month between the policy presented as a first reading and then the approval at the next board meeting.

Standard 3 – Community Relations. Scores: 4, 2, 4, 1.5, 3

- Some felt the feedback from the community and/or audience is not positive. Resolutions are not provided to those that come to the meetings with concerns. Some members disagreed stating they felt the situations were handled properly. Decisions fall to the Superintendent not the Board. The Board’s main job is to set policy and hire the Superintendent.
- The Board has always treated individuals with respect that attend meetings.
- It was suggested that perhaps the Board Chair send out a form letter that explains the process to anyone that speaks at a meeting.
- Add language to the agenda, stating that the Board is unable to make decisions, this responsibility falls to Administration.
- Didn’t like the title of the Supt. Article in the Voice – “Chalk Talk”
- The District doesn’t utilize social media enough – feels more time needs to be spent on Facebook or Twitter to keep people’s interest.
- It was also discussed to hang a banner advertising the meetings somewhere in town.

Standard 4 – Cultural Responsiveness and Educational Equity. Scores: 3, 4, 2, 2, 2

- Discussion on staff being representative of the community. The Board feels that those that live outside of the community look at the community differently than those that live in the community.
- The Board is mindful of cultural diversity, economic and social differences, LGBTQ, non-gender binary, etc.

Standard 5 – Accountability and Performance Monitoring. Scores: 3, 3, 4, 2, 1

- The Board recognized and appreciated getting lots of student data at the meetings.
- The data is not always good.
- Felt it is important to communicate to the public how policy decisions are linked to student achievement data.
- Use the current student data to assist in setting Board goals.

Standard 6 – Board Operations: Meetings. Scores: 3, 2, 4, 3, 2

- Board meeting space is not desirable.
- Hard at times to hear – stop having side conversations during the meeting.

- Regular meeting attendance by Board members is a concern. Policy BBD was reviewed
- OSBA has a lot of information and resources available on line.

Standard 7 – Board Operations: Board Member Communications. Scores: 4, 4, 4, 4, 4

- No discussion

Standard 8 – Board Operations: Board-Staff Relations. Scores: 3, 4, 4, 4, 4

- Some felt as though they did not have enough feedback to assess adequately.

Standard 9 – Board Operations: Board-Superintendent Relations: Scores: 4,4,4,4,2.5

- Discussion was held on school support of the Red Cross. <this was unclear>

Standard 10 – Values, Ethics and Responsibility for Self: Scores: 4, 3, 4, 3, 5, 3

- Overall the Board felt good about this standard.

Standard 11 – Board Systematic Improvement: Scores: 1, 4, 2, 2.5, 0

- The Board does not feel they do this well.
- There is a great deal of disparity and individual availability for training due to busy personal lives.

**Retreat Scheduled:** The Board decided to hold a retreat type work session on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. to set goals.

RETREAT  
SCHEDULED

**Annual OSBA Convention:** Barb Carr will be sending out an email regarding attendance at the upcoming OSBA convention in November. Please respond with your intent.

OSBA ANNUAL  
CONVENTION

**ADJOURNED:** Workshop adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

ADJOURNED

Submitted by Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant

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Board Chair

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District Clerk