

ADMINISTRATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J
475 BRIDGE STREET
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

August 25, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: A Workshop of the Board of Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was convened at 6:05 p.m. by Jim Krahn.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Board present: Jim Krahn, Tim Bamburg, Greg Kintz, and Bill Langmaid. Cari Levenseller arrived at 6:20 p.m.

BOARD PRESENT

Staff present: Ken Cox, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle/High School Principal; Aaron Miller, Elementary Principal; James Brookins, Special Education Director; and Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant.

STAFF PRESENT

Visitors present: Camrin Eyrrick and John Donovan

VISITORS PRESENT

1.0 Vacant Board Position Interview: The board conducted interviews for the vacant board position.

CONSTRUCTION STATUS UPDATE

2.0 MET Group Report: John Donovan updated the board on the campaign endeavors. Total committed to date is \$31,148,105. Private donor prospects totals \$6,000,000. Pending requests to federal/state, corporate, timber campaign, individuals, foundations, etc. is \$725,000. Planned public sector funding totals \$3,450,000.

MET GROUP REPORT

Dr. Cox stated that they are going to start reaching out to National foundations this Fall.

3.0 Administration Presentations:

ADMINISTRATION PRESENTATIONS

James Brookins reported that he will be prepping to take over as A.D. in November. Gordon Jarman will be here until November 15th. SPED staffing needs and district testing have taken up a lot of his time.

Jim Krahn asked if the district is teaching to the tests? Both James and Aaron Miller said yes we recognize the state tests but our teachers do not plan every lesson plan and activity around the test.

Large districts dedicate large numbers of dollars to professional development. Our District has been doing work with state standards. The belief is we do our job well the tests will take care of themselves. Instructional teams have been working on formative assessments. After a unit has been completed a group of teachers get together and analyze how it went and what they could do to improve.

Nate Underwood indicated that the class of 2012 is the first class required to have essential reading skills. They can obtain this by passing the OAKS test or by submitted work samples. If not then the district can come up with another way to assess the student's achievement. Class of 2014 will also require writing and the class of 2015 will add math.

Jim Krahn asked out of the graduating seniors how many don't meet coming into their senior year. Nate guessed at 25%. VHS has met AYP the last 4 years, however, they are not up to 80% yet. Any student that is not reading up to par the district has a class in place to help them.

Nate also indicated the VHS updates its School Improvement Goals every two years. These don't have to be turned in to the State unless the school is on alert for not making AYP. Goals need to be done this year. Site Council members and instructional team leaders will be working on this.

Title X – Homeless is another area Mr. Underwood oversees. Title X money allows students to get an education they otherwise wouldn't have. It pays for supplies, college planning, etc. Expanded options is another way for students of poverty to get money to help provide what the district can't. A

student that wants to take German can go to PCC and have the class paid for. Alternative Ed classes are for those students that will graduate from VHS with a regular diploma. Options are independent study, virtual learning, etc. Many of these alternative ed. students would not have graduated without the alternative options we provide.

This year VHS will host 18 foreign exchange students. VHS will also offer a new Forestry program this year. Thanks to Byron Brown, Jean Riley and Aaron Miller for helping get this new program started.

VMS will go to a more self-contained 6th grade model this year. This is due to the needs of incoming kids and staffing issues. There will be less transitions than the 7th and 8th grade students have.

VHS and VMS will have a 7 period bell schedule this year. A lot of the decisions have to do with staffing availability.

Dr. Cox mentioned that students will be getting out at 1:15 each Friday this year instead of 1:30 p.m.

Aaron Miller reported that the CLASS Grant will be helpful in developing local assessment options. Teachers will be getting paid to help develop these areas.

Aaron indicated that besides being the building principal for WGS and MGS, he is responsible for Title 1, Title 2 Title 3 (ELL), Title 4 (PBIS), and Title 7 Indian Education. He is also in charge of the Instructional team leaders and professional development.

Byron Brown did a ton of work this summer for the new forestry program. Many partnerships have been formed in the creation of this program. The community garden was going to be placed on Birch Street. This ended up not being a good site and will be proposing space on the district campus behind the maintenance shop. There are also plans for a native plant nursery.

Summer lunch program was a huge success. A report will be given at the September board meeting.

There will be an article in the 8/31 issue of the Wall Street Journal on schools including our very own Mist Grade School. The Oregon Business Magazine will also have an article coming out soon on our new schools.

4.0 Board Expectations: The Board sets their expectations with the administration. Does the board want to develop expectations for themselves? This will be discussed further at the next board workshop. BOARD EXPECTATIONS

5.0 Goal Review / Focus for the Year: Current board goal expires at the end of this year. Dr. Cox feels the board needs to look at these and possibly redo. Bill Langmaid felt that the mission statement should be redone. GOAL REVIEW

The District goal would be an umbrella for the building goals. Bill would like to see a 5 year goal put into place. Building fields, getting an auto-mechanic shop, starting an FFA chapter, community partnerships with interns, etc.

Dr. Cox stated that he feels the mission statement and goals could come together in community workshops and completed by spring.

6.0 September 29th Workshop: The board agreed to have this meeting. Time will be 6:00-8:00 p.m. NEXT WORKSHOP

7.0 MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:11 p.m. ADJOURNED

Submitted by Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant

Board Chair

District Clerk