

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J
1201 TEXAS AVENUE
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 12, 2019

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: A Regular Meeting of the Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Greg Kintz. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Board Present: Greg Kintz, Susan Wagner, Steve Whiteman, Melissa Zavales, Stacey Pelster and Jeana Gump. Brittanie Roberts arrived at 6:05 pm. BOARD PRESENT

Board Absent: None BOARD ABSENT
Staff Present: Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle and High School Principal; Michelle Eagleson, Elementary Principal; Rachel Wilcoxon, K-12 Vice Principal; Marie Knight, Business Manager; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Juliet Safier, Licensed Staff; and Camrin Eyrrick, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT

Visitors present: Scott Laird and Amy Cieloha VISITORS PRESENT

1.1 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2.0 AGENDA REVIEW: Susan Wagner asked to add to the agenda – 6.0 Board Reports/Development – a discussion topic on how to address vacancies on the Board. Susan Wagner moved to approve the agenda as amended. Melissa Zavales seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. AGENDA REVIEW

Board Reflection: Melissa Zavales read a quote by John Dewey that was published in the Education Gazette.

3.0 SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS: SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS

3.1 Student Reports: No reports this month.

3.2 Principal Reports: PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Rachel Wilcoxon shared a packet of discipline information with the Board. The same information was previously shared with staff. Mr. Ward is the teacher for the MS/HS Opportunity Room this year. Discussion was held on student Dress Code. Ms. Wilcoxon stated that it is a simpler format this year. A comment from the Board regarding students wearing inappropriate clothing for school pictures. Discussion and clarification was made that when students are off school campus for school-sponsored events the dress code must be adhered to.

Michelle Eagleson highlighted her report with the following:

- Thanks to Mrs. Jones, Ms. Anderson, and Ms. Groshong, Mist Elementary Building is back together after the summer construction and is looking great.
- On Sept 5 VES held their Meet the Teacher Night and had 76% of their students' families attend.
- All schools in Vernonia K12 Campus are moving to being the Loggers and Blue & Gold. This will create consistency in the building, not individual schools and will brand our school. Sports teams will transition over time. Mist will remain the Mountain Lions.
- Teachers did a skit on 4 expectations of our school at the 1st day assembly. They are developing Houses to focus on improving school climate and culture. Today they held their sorting event to place students in Houses. Houses will work on Team Building activities. Students will stay in the same house their entire time at VES. They have to create a song and/or a chant to represent their House. House meetings are held on Thursdays from 8:00 – 8:40 a.m. The Board is welcome to attend.

Nate Underwood added to his written report the following:

- Lady Loggers have a home Volleyball Tournament on Saturday that starts at 8:00 a.m.
- Student cell phone policy is a focus this year - OFF and AWAY.
- School focus area this year is on Student Achievement, School Climate/Culture and Staff and Student Accountability

A question was asked if Spanish was still being offered. According to Nate, yes but on line courses only. The new Foreign Language teacher is teaching German.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Scott Laird commented that John Dewey, who Melissa Zavales quoted earlier in the meeting during Board Reflection, lived from 1859-1952 and was an American Philosopher on education and social reform. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

5.0 BUSINESS REPORTS:

5.1 Superintendent Report: Aaron Miller highlighted his report with the following: **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Board Questions/Correspondence:

- Mr. Miller will follow up on information regarding Active Shooter Training
- The Northwest Regional E.S.D. held their annual in-service training in our facility at the end of August. Almost 600 employees were on site. VSD Custodial staff did a great job prepping the building for this use.

Students/Classroom/Academics:

- Actual enrollment will be finalized next week. At the end of last year District enrollment was 530. It appears this year to be close to 580 but this is not firm. Current enrollment in the Vernonia Family Academy is 44. A question was asked if another teacher will be added. Not at this time as the current teacher is doing well.

Staff:

- Mr. Miller recommends the hiring of Chuck Calhoun for HS Health/PE. New instructional assistants have been hired. Depending on enrollment, there may be a need for another.

Professional Development:

- Licensed and Classified staff received several hours of training this year around Trauma Informed Care, Social/Emotional Learning, Suicide Intervention, AVID, RTI and other building level initiatives.

Bond Update:

- Mist painting, all but some trim, has been completed. Kitchen counters and flooring will be going in. The Mist Helping Circle provided the cabinets. This project is on budget and hopefully, funds will be available to purchase playground equipment.
- Field lights have been installed. The scoreboard had a misspelled word but it will be fixed
- Classroom storage will be purchased for each classroom.
- Playground equipment is on hold until the other classroom is built.

Board/Audience Comments:

- Steve Whiteman stated his concern about test scores.
- Greg Kintz asked how late start Wednesdays is going? The perception is about 50/50 support in the community. Aaron Miller stated that this model has increased both professional development and student contact time.
- Susan Wagner cautioned board members' activity on social media. Public meeting law could be violated if multiple board members are commenting.
- Brittanie Roberts requested a bond expenditure spreadsheet update
- Scott Laird asked for a tour of the Mist School at the October school board meeting.
- Susan Wagner asked for a future discussion on the current volunteer service hour requirement for graduation.

The District is eligible to receive 20% of the ESSA Federal funding initially and the remaining 80% will be available once the School Improvement Plan (SIP) is completed. Mr. Miller has met Sarah Martin from ODE. She is the reviewer of the plan and had a couple suggestions of

tying everything together however all element requirements for the plan have been received. The areas of focus were good according to Martin. Mr. Miller will provide a copy of the SIP to the Board. There is a requirement within the SIP to have community involvement. He plans to have a night for the public to hear about the plan and provide input.

- 5.2 Financial Report:** Marie Knight stated that this month's financial report is still largely based on estimates. She is still setting up new employees in the system and encumbering payroll costs. Actuals for July and August are provided in her report. Scott Laird questioned if students enrolled in the new Vernonia Family Academy are included in the ADM count. According to Marie, yes. FINANCIAL REPORT
- 5.3 Maintenance Report:** Reviewed. There were no questions from the Board. MAINTENANCE REPORT
- 6.0 BOARD REPORTS/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT:** BOARD REPORTS / BOARD DEVELOPMENT
- 6.1 Board Vacancies:** Susan Wagner shared her concerns about holding vacant director interviews and making an appointment in the same meeting. By having more time she feels there is a better opportunity to hear what applicants have to say and then have time to make a more comprehensive decision. She also stated she did not feel a Board member recusing themselves from the vote was appropriate. Those that were part of the recent process of fill the Board vacancy felt that it went well and all their questions to the applicants were answered adequately. BOARD VACANT DIRECTOR PROCESS TO APPOINT DISCUSSED
- Greg Kintz shared that the policy committee is working on policy updates. OSBA CONVENTION COMING UP in NOVEMBER
- Barb Carr shared information about the upcoming OSBA Annual Convention and asked Board members to respond to the request about registration. Discussion was held on adjusting the November board meeting to accommodate those planning to attend the convention. MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA WAS MADE AND APPROVED
- Melissa Zavales moved to amend the agenda and add discussion item 7.3 Board Meeting Date Amendment and the same under action item 8.3. Stacey Pelster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. OSBA TRAINING WORKSHOP CONFIRMED
- OSBA Workshop training on September 28th from 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. was confirmed. Steve Kelley with OSBA will provide 2 hours of training to the Board on the process of a superintendent search.
- 7.0 OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION**
- 7.1 New Hires:** Aaron Miller shared that he is recommending Chuck Calhoun to teach HS Health/P.E. NEW HIRES
- 7.2 OSBA Board Nomination:** Greg Kintz shared that his term is up in December as member of the OSBA Board of Directors. He would like to serve again and before he can submit his application there is a requirement to get the local board to nominate him. OSBA BOARD NOMINATION DISCUSSED
- 7.3 Amending Board Meeting Schedule:** Discussion held during 6.0. AMEND BOARD MTG CALENDAR DISCUSSION
- 8.0 ACTION ITEMS**
- 8.1 New Hires:** Jeana Gump moved to approve the recommendation to hire Chuck Calhoun as a high school P.E/Health. teacher. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. CALHOUN HIRED AS HIGH SCHOOL P.E. / HEALTH
- 8.2 OSBA Board Nomination:** Stacey Pelster moved that we, the Vernonia 47J School Board, nominate Greg Kintz for the OSBA Board of Director position #14 North Coast Region. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. The term is 3 years and Greg has already served for 3 terms. He feels it has been advantageous to our District. Motion passed unanimously. KINTZ RECEIVES VOTE OF SUPPORT TO RUN FOR OSBA BOARD
- 8.3 Calendar Adjustment:** Stacey Pelster moved to amend the board calendar from November 14 to November 13. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. BOARD MEETING CALENDAR AMENDED

9.0 **MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE:** Greg Kintz shared that the Board is behind in reviewing their Board Goals and he needs to get the negotiation team together to negotiate Superintendent Miller's contract. The board asked to see the previous work done on goal setting. Barb Carr will send out those minutes. BOARD PERFORMANCE

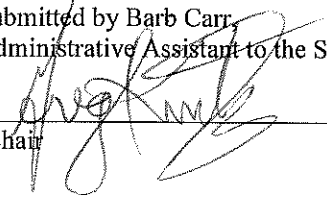
10.0 **CONSENT AGENDA:** CONSENT AGENDA
10.1 Minutes of 08/08/19 Regular Meeting. MINUTES APPROVED

Stacey Pelster moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED
Motion passed unanimously.

Other Issues: None.

11.0 **MEETING ADJOURNED** at 7:53 p.m. ADJOURNED

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



Chair



District Clerk