

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J
1201 TEXAS AVENUE
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 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 6:04 p.m. by Greg Kintz. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Steve Whiteman, Jeana Gump, Stacey Pelster, Susan Wagner, and Greg Kintz. BOARD PRESENT
Brittanie Roberts arrived at 6:29 p.m.
- Board Absent:** Melissa Zavales 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; Abbie Hanson, School Resource Officer; Kendra Schlegel and Joan Jones, Licensed Staff; and Camrin Eyrrick, Julie Ramsey, and Karen Roberts, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors present:** Leslie Woodward, Katie Busch, Doris Buchholz, Shirley Kyser, MaryLou Busch, Bill DeJager, Scott Laird, Sue Whiteman, Barbara Smith, and Thomas Jones. VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 2.0 AGENDA REVIEW:** Susan Wagner moved to approve the agenda as presented. Stacey Pelster seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. AGENDA REVIEW
- Board Reflection:** Nothing provided.
- 3.0 SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS:** SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS
- 3.1 Student Reports:** No student reports.
- 3.2 Principal Reports:** PRINCIPAL REPORTS
- Rachel Wilcoxon reported that this year the MS/HS has been split out of the existing Opportunity Room (O.R.) and have their own. O.R. #2 is an alternative educational setting and is overseen by Justin Ward. Students that are not being successful in class go to the O.R. to work and then get back in class. Mr. Ward works closely with the middle school teachers and is very good with the students. Instructional Assistants in the both O.Rs. are working on student attendance.
- Nate Underwood shared his recent edition of the Chalk Talk newsletter. Susan Wagner stated that she would like to increase the amount of required volunteer hours for graduation. By doing so, she feels it would be more meaningful. Aaron Miller explained that if the Board as a whole wishes him to work with administration to develop a proposal he will. The Board agreed and would like to discuss at the next meeting.
- Michelle Eagleson highlighted her report with the following:
- They have had a great first month of school at Vernonia and Mist Elementary. VES has 6 new teachers this year.
 - A reminder to parents that on Late Start Wednesday's VES doors will open at 9:00 a.m. and MGS doors open at 9:30 a.m. Please don't send students to school early.
 - Curriculum night was not well attended by parents. They had a great turn out at Meet the Teacher Night and perhaps this is why.
 - The first Student of the month assembly was recently held and the students were invited to have lunch with Mr. Miller and Mrs. Eagleson.
 - Elementary students were assessed in reading and math on DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) Day, held on Sept 20th at VES and Oct. 3rd at MGS.

Kendra Schlegel, Title I Teacher, reported that our reading data overall shows over ½ of our students are reading at grade level.

3.3 School Resource Officer (SRO) Report: Abbie Hanson shared that she had shoulder surgery over the summer and is not able to wear her full uniform yet. She has an open door policy for kids to stop by and visit. Her focus this year has been:

- Being present at sporting events
- Working with DHS and interviewing students
- Attendance and truancy monitoring and working with those kids that are not attending
- Will mentor a senior for their senior project
- Working on the SKID (Stop Kids Impaired Driving) program
- Included resource phone numbers on the back of student ID cards this year

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Whiteman speaking as an individual not a Board member expressed his concerns over the recent newspaper article on poor state testing. He does not feel having been through two floods is the reason our scores are low but feels our lack of school days is directly related.

Brittanie Roberts arrived at 6:29 p.m.

Stacey Pelster shared her concerns in regards to student achievement. She would like to see the Board and the Superintendent develop goals set to address this.

Jeana Gump stated she has seen how our students have been directly impacted for years due to the flood.

Greg Kintz stated his goal is to have the Board and the Superintendent establish goals. He also feel the OSBA Collaborative Government model will be beneficial to the Board's work in student achievement.

Mr. Miller asked anyone that has made public comment regarding student achievement to come in and see him to discuss further.

Marylou Busch shared information about the history and current work of the Mist Birkenfeld Helping Circle.

5.0 BUSINESS REPORTS:

5.1 Superintendent Report: Aaron Miller highlighted his report with the following:
Board Questions/Correspondence:

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

- Social Media Policy – Policies GCAB, BBF, and BG were shared and reviewed. Susan Wagner commented that when on Facebook if more than one Board member comments it becomes a serial meeting. Even if liking something it becomes a violation. Steve Whiteman asked for clarification on his personal visits to the school. Aaron Miller stated that if you are there to inspect or looking for something specific you are interested in changing then this would need to be a group decision of the Board. Greg Kintz feels it is important for the Board to continue to volunteer as a member of the community.

BOARD
CORRESPONDENCE

Students/Classroom/Academics:

STUDENT / CLASSROOM
/ ACADEMICS

- Enrollment Update: VES enrollment is down which was expected due to the MGS expansion and the Vernonia Family Academy (VFA). Budgeted enrollment for K-12 is projected at 566. Current K-12 enrollment is 572. The VFA, in it's first year, is only available to K-8 students. The District will look at expanding to grades 9-12 after more research is done in regards to credits and graduation requirements. Steve Whiteman asked what classes would be available to them. This will be determined later. These students would be eligible for athletics.
- E.S.S.A. - there are a lot of elements within ESSA. The Student Success Act will bring additional funding from the State next year.
- Consolidated Improvement Plan (CIP): A draft of the plan was shared. The goals were

E.S.S.A.

C.I. P.

used from the old Strategic Plan the District created with support from the NWRESA. This document is important for academic reasons; it is an action plan for achieving our goals of increasing student achievement and staff performance. It also impacts the District financially as the State has several pots of money that come to us from the Federal Government as well as the State. The District currently has use of only 20% of these funds. Once the CIP document is approved, the District is eligible to receive the remaining 80% of our funding. The Board was asked to review the document over the next couple of weeks and contact Mr. Miller with any questions. The CIP will be on the November agenda to discuss, make any changes if necessary, and approve.

- **Staff:** The current half-time position of Special Ed. Compliance Officer will be moved back into the classified bargaining unit pairing with a half-time instructional assistant. This position is currently paired with the fiscal assistant position in the district office. The District also has a couple of large classes that need to have instructional assistant support. This will be an additional hire in the near future.
- **Professional Development:** Teachers are currently working on their student learning goals. There will be follow-up discussions mid-year to see how those goals have been met. The staff is also working to connect every single student with a staff member and completing building specific work to address their own student needs.
- **Bond Update:**
 - Football field fencing completed – all secure and done.
 - Metal shop building structure is up with the roof going on next week.
 - Additional Classroom (designated art room) is still in the planning stages with the engineers. They are designing the classroom to be structurally sound enabling future additions either next to or on top of.
 - Mist – A lot has been completed to update this building thanks to community volunteers and staff. There is a small amount of paint touch up work to do (scheduled to be done Nov. 1) as well as some trim and baseboards. Blinds have been ordered and are on site and installation is planned for Nov. 1st. Due to the high cost of replacing the doors (they are custom size) mechanisms and crash bars will be replaced instead. Cement work to level sidewalk and connect the sidewalk to the apron of the highway won't occur until after the Metal Shop is complete at the Vernonia campus approximately mid to late November.
 - A Bond Expenditure sheet was shared and reviewed. If any funds remain after all projects are completed, they will be used as seed money for the future construction of grandstands.

STAFF UPDATES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BOND UPDATE

5.2 Financial Report: Marie Knight stated that this month's financial report reflects truer numbers as all payroll costs have been encumbered through the end of the year. Ending fund balance is at \$385,000 approximately which is comfortable. Steve Whiteman asked about fluctuation in timber revenue. According to Marie the bottom line will stay the same. If timber revenue decreases the state will give additional funds to offset the decrease. Brittanie Roberts asked for clarification on the following funds: 1190 Penalties / Interest Income – all related to property taxes along with funds 1111, 1112, and 1500. Penalties references overdue tax payments received. 1920 Donations – this is for Robotics which is funded by donations.

FINANCIAL REPORT

5.3 Maintenance Report: Mark Brown's report was reviewed. A question was asked about the replacement of soap and paper towel dispensers. According to Mr. Miller, the District is replacing current ones with those that don't require batteries to operate.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

5.4 Curls School Bus Services – There was no report given this month and will occur next month. Discussion was held on arrival time of students to Mist on Wednesdays.

TRANSPORTATION REPORT

5.5 Surplus Items: A list of items in the woodshop that Mr. Benassi has requested be designated as surplus was reviewed. Space is needed in the shop.

SURPLUS ITEM LIST REVIEWED

6.0 BOARD REPORTS/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT:

Brittanie Roberts shared that the Police Committee has worked on and is presenting a packet of updates tonight as a first reading. She also expressed interest in the OSBA scholarship with Oregon

BOARD REPORTS / BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Promise.

Greg Kintz shared that he attended the last Vernonia Education Foundation (VEF) meeting. They have finished their review of the Bylaws and will vote on adoption at their next meeting. They are looking at fundraising in the future and working towards separating from the District and standing alone.

Susan Wagner: Negotiation Committee will bring work to the next Board meeting in Executive Session.

Board Development – the Board would like to set a date at the next board meeting for a workshop.

7.0 OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION

7.1 Policy 1st Reading: Aaron Miller shared that multiple policies have been updated and reviewed by the policy committee. A second reading on this packet constitutes action which will occur at the November meeting. If you have any questions on the presented policies please contact Aaron Miller. He will share your question with the committee.

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Surplus Items: Steve Whiteman moved to approve the surplus item list as presented. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

9.0 MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE: Greg Kintz would like to get the goal-setting meeting established. Barb Carr will send out a Doodle survey for Board availability on Saturdays during December and January.

BOARD PERFORMANCE

Susan Wagner asked for the official site of the Oregon Department of Education where the District's test score data can be viewed. The Board concurred that they would like this information. Aaron will share forward this to them.

Four Board members, Greg Kintz, Jeana Gump, Brittanie Roberts, and Melissa Zavales, will attend the OSBA Annual Convention in November.

10.0 CONSENT AGENDA:

10.1 Minutes of 09/12/19 Regular Meeting and the 09/28/19 Workshop

CONSENT AGENDA
MINUTES APPROVED

Stacey Pelster moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Jeana Gump seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

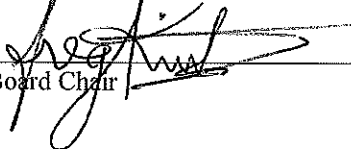
CONSENT AGENDA
APPROVED

Other Issues: None.

11.0 MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:21 p.m.

ADJOURNED

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


Board Chair


District Clerk