

ADMINISTRATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J
475 BRIDGE STREET
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 8, 2009

- 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 6:01 p.m. by Jim Krahn MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board present:** Jim Krahn, Tammy Jennings, Greg Kintz, Kim Wallace, Ernie Smith, and Tim Bamburg. Cari Levenseller arrived at 6:08 p.m. BOARD PRESENT
- Staff present:** Ken Cox, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, MS/HS Principal; Aaron Miller, Elementary Principal; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Tom Ramsey, Maintenance Supervisor; and Kathi Fetch, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors present:** VISITORS PRESENT
Rebecca McGaugh, Stephanie Castro, Makayla Fennell, Leah Rice, Dylan Vaughn, Sharon Bernal, and Cathy Ward. Laney Coulter arrived at 6:30 p.m.
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 1.2** Agenda Review: The following items were added:
4.1 Student Reports. Renumber accordingly.
5.4 Fundraising Counsel Recommendation
6.3 Fundraising Counsel Authorization
- 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None
- 3.0 CONSENT AGENDA:** CONSENT AGENDA
Tammy Jennings moved to approve and Kim Wallace seconded the consent agenda as presented.
- 4.1** Minutes of the 08/27/09 Board Retreat/Workshop and the 09/10/09 Regular Meeting. MINUTES APPROVED

Motion passed unanimously.
- 4.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION**
- Student Reports:**
- VMS Leadership report – Leah Rice, Makayla Fennell, Stephanie Castro
- 6th Grade had a good time at Outdoor School and are starting a project with Ms. Rogers simulating a voyage to the “New World”.
 - Volleyball is going strong. The 8th grade team will travel to the Coos Bay tournament this upcoming weekend. Football and cross country are also having a good season. Schedules are available at the MS office.
 - There were 4 students in the 7/8 band class that have been nominated for state.
 - PBS is a new behavior system that has been started at VMS. Good behavior is rewarded. There are weekly drawings for prizes.
 - Leadership had their first dance last week. They are currently planning the next dance which will be a Halloween costume dance. Leadership is doing the recycling for all 3 schools as well as helping out in the cafeteria/kitchen.
 - Close Up will be going to DC again in April, 2010.
- VHS Report: Dylan Vaughn.
- The student body appreciates having all staff return this school year.
 - Hit and misses in sports, FB, VB and CC trying and having fun

- Education – trying to improve test scores and GPA’s
- Behavior – has been better, less referrals
- Tobacco – small problem on campus, not as bad as years past
- Drug Use – feels it has gone down a lot. This is important for students and our school image
- Seniors taking SAT’s this weekend, filling out college applications and prepping for college.
- Homecoming coming up – good clean and competitive fun

Cari Levenseller arrived at 6:08 p.m.

4.1 Project Manager Report: Ken Cox reported on behalf of Steve Effros who was not in attendance. A time line was reviewed. Wetlands must first be delineated and then a proposed mitigation will need to be developed. The district will need to replace the wetlands determined on the new site with wetlands on the current campus. PROJECT MANAGER REPORT

4.2 Bond Committee Report: Sharon Bernal, bond committee chair, reported to the board. 12
September was a great month.

- Phone calling. 33 volunteers called all registered voters. If someone didn’t answer no message was left. They talked to a lot of people. Initial responses were 674 yes and 227 no or undecided. Of the 227 only 92 were no’s and 125 were undecided. 74% of who they called were a yes vote. The committee was very excited about this.
- Stake Out. A gathering was held to show people where the new school would sit on the sit. Leslie O’Leary, Ken Cox, Chris Linn, and Sharon Bernal were there to answer questions. Over 100 people attended. There were good questions. A group of kids that graduated last year were there supporting the idea.
- Scott Laird approached the bond committee asking to put out a special 4 page edition if the committee paid for the paper and the cost of the mailing. This special bond edition will come out the first of next week. It will be a good informational paper.

October has or will include:

- Q & A with our community Senior Citizens. 30 attended. Panel was Dr. Cox, Jim Johnson, Tony Hyde, and Bill Haack. They were there for about an hour and a half. From there the group went to a public forum held at the Scout Cabin. Approximately 25 people attended this.
- Signs will be pulled out of business windows and put out every 2 miles on Hwy 47.
- Ballots will come out on Oct. 16.
- Oct. 28th a final calling night will occur. A list from the County will let the group know who has returned their ballots. The group will be calling those that haven’t returned the ballot and offer to pick it up if needed.
- They will have a booth at the Salmon festival to answer questions.
- They are planning a celebratory party on Nov. 3rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Blue House. The County will start opening up the ballots at 8pm, run them through the counting machine and have an answer at 8:45 p.m.

Sharon also reported that it was recently approved through the stimulus to cover our interest on the \$13 million dollar loan. There is a possibility that the length of the loan will be shortened.

Tim Bamburg indicated that there are questions in the community about getting the 13 million and then stopping construction because we have no more money. Sharon indicated that this will be address in the 4 page paper coming out by The Voice.

4.3 Financial Report: Dr. Cox presented the Financial Report on behalf of Dawn Plews who was not in attendance. FINANCIAL REPORT

Jim Krahn mentioned that he has had discussions about people staying without new schools – doesn’t feel this is the case. Important to realize people will leave and our enrollment will drop.

Greg Kintz questioned the Safe Schools Grant that the District didn't get. Ken Cox indicated that no one was hired for this position. It was put in the budget but has since be removed. It changes the bottom line but doesn't affect spending. It is merely a budgeting wash.

There was a question from the board about QZAB being interest free? Dr. Cox thought this was principal only but yet it says interest. He will look into this.

4.4 Maintenance Report: Tom Ramsey reviewed his written report. MAINTENANCE REPORT

4.5 Building Reports: BUILDING REPORTS
Aaron Miller – had nothing to add to his report.
Nate Underwood - had nothing to add to his report.

4.6 Class Size Report: Ken Cox reported that the high school has only two classes with more than 30 students. Middle school has four classes with 30 or more students. Our class sizes remain within the range we want them to be. CLASS SIZE REPORT

5.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION

5.1 Staff Development Calendar: Aaron Miller reported on the current staff development calendar and plans for the next couple of years. Currently the 2nd half of this year is being developed. Starting on November 20th – WGS, VMS, and VHS will all work on different focus areas and rotate through them all. STAFF DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR

Projects currently in place include:

- WGS is now a Title I school
- VMS / VHS are implementing the PBS program. This will now be a district wide endeavor.
- Writing to Learn is a district goal. The area of writing is what we and most schools in the state have received low scores on state assessments. We have ESD folks coming in to help. Writing is a focus that is going across all curriculum to get everyone on board.
- Technology – the district is working with the ESD to help improve what we do in the classroom and how we utilize ESIS and Outlook calendars.

Kim Wallace asked what Marzano was on the staff development calendar? It is effective teaching practices that can be implemented in classrooms. Last year 5 or 6 of our teachers went to a Marzano training in Seattle. The really liked what they saw and want to implement it here.

5.2 Title I Update: Aaron TITLE I UPDATE
WGS Master Schedule was shared with the board. Title I reading instruction can now go to all students not just to identified Title I students. This is due to WGS now being a Title I school.

Kim Wallace asked if there is any pre-testing? Yes, the Dibbles test is given to all kids. The DRA testing gives more information on kids struggling. There are also individual classroom assessments.

Can kids move among reading level groups throughout year? Yes, they could move weekly if they are doing well or struggling..

5.3 SEVIS School Application: Nate Underwood shared what information he had to the board regarding a SEVIS application. Essentially it provides F-1 Visas for students coming to America to attend school. There are three or four foreign exchange organizations that SEVIS SCHOOL APPLICATION

currently place kids in our district to come for a school year and then go home. SEVIS is more of an application to get a Visa if a student is not connected with a foreign exchange agency. This puts the school as the responsible agency with the foreign country; something that normally happens between the foreign exchange company and the foreign country. OSAA and Homeland Security also have guidelines that the district would need to follow. Mr. Underwood is currently looking at the entire application to see if this is good for our district to do. Once more research has been completed a recommendation will be brought back to the board.

Would the district policy need to be changed? No. The kids would not be considered foreign exchange students.

Dr. Cox indicated that information he was able to obtain from their website indicated a more extensive program with added personnel and cost. He will find out what the requirements are and what would be expected of the district.

5.4 Fundraising Counsel Recommendation: Dr. Cox reported that the Oregon Solutions group interviewed four companies to help the district with fundraising endeavors. After the interviews it was apparent that one company was way ahead of all the others. The Oregon Solutions group recommends the district hire the Metropolitan Group out of Portland. They gave the interview committee a lot of good ideas – more than all others put together. They'd like to put together a fundraising strategy, local and national. Dr. Cox would like to begin negotiations with them and needs authorization from the board to start this process.

FUNDRAISING
COUNSEL
RECOMMENDATION

Jim Krahn noted that he feels it is imperative that the district have someone like this working on our behalf.

Tammy Jennings agrees we need help. Would like to know if it is going to be a monthly or weekly rate? They will come up with a retainer fee. The district should not pay someone without some type of guarantee. Dr. Cox indicated that they have raised \$30 to \$50 million in private funds and up to \$100 million in federal money as their average yearly take.

Ernie Smith asked if it is possible to do a fee based on whatever they collect on our behalf. Dr. Cox stated he will ask for the possibility of the first 30 days free on a trial basis and will start negotiations with board approval.

The District does have an anonymous donor that would consider donating \$10,000 towards this contract.

Jim Krahn shared that the Metropolitan Group works with legislators and obviously they want to make the people happy. The interviews were set up personally by Senator Betsy Johnson. The Metropolitan Group was initially not her first choice but after the interview her choice changed.

Tim Bamburg stated that his concern is that there is an out for the district if they aren't doing the job.

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Out of State Travel Request: Request from Kathi Fetch to attend an ESis conference in Renton Washington. Kim Wallace moved to approve to have Kathi Fetch attend the NW ESis conference in Renton, Washington. Motion seconded by Tammy Jennings. Motion passes unanimously.

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL
REQUEST APPROVED
FOR FETCH

6.2 Surplus Declaration: Mr. Miller has requested to declare math books from a previous adoption as surplus. If the books are declared as surplus he can sell to a used book company. Ken Cox is expanding the request to include all unused text books (not just Math) from previous adoptions. He is also working with Tom Ramsey, Maintenance Supervisor, to

SURPLUS
DECLARATION
APPROVED FOR ALL
PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED

inventory all unused desks. Once the inventory is developed this will also come to the board for approval. TEXTBOOKS

Ernie Smith moved to approve the surplus declaration of unused textbooks as proposed. Motion seconded by Tim Bamburg. Motion passed unanimously.

6.3 Fundraising Counsel: Ernie Smith moved to authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a contract with the Metropolitan Group. Motion seconded by Tammy Jennings. Motion passed unanimously. METROPOLITAN GROUP APPROVED AS FUNDRAISING COUNSEL

7.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Cox updated the board on the following:

- FEMA project. Jim Krahn asked if the District can get more money for the mods? No. We are already getting a year beyond their limit.
- USDA Visit to Vernonia
- District Rental property
- CLASS Grant Participation
- District Multi-Year Goal
- Policy Review Committee. Greg Kintz, Tammy Jennings and Tim Bamburg are on this committee.
- Superintendent's Personal Goals
- Correspondence
- Oregon Diploma that requires less credits – currently working with HS Principal.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

8.0 MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:32 p.m.

ADJOURNED

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

Board Chair

District Clerk