

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J
1201 TEXAS AVENUE
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 12, 2015

- 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 6:05 p.m. by Brett Costley. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Brett Costley, Ernie Smith, Brittanie Roberts, Katie Cook, and Greg Kintz. BOARD PRESENT
Board Absent: Cari Levenseller BOARD ABSENT
Staff Present: Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Marie Knight, Fiscal Assistant; and Beth Kintz, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Scott Laird, Susan Wagner, Bob Perry, Amy Cieloha, Jeana Gump, Blake Clark, Amanda Rose Sicard, Grace Coleman, Patrick Morgan, Cheyenne Farr-Smith, Tonia Clark, and Gavin Roberts. VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 1.2** Agenda Review: There were no changes to the agenda. Ernie Smith moved to approve the agenda as presented. Katie Cook seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL
- 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** PUBLIC COMMENT
Gavin Roberts wished to discuss the incident at a recent football game and the laws and regulations regarding concealed weapons and firearm carry in the state of Oregon. He felt District Administration is lacking information and recommends meeting with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office.
- 3.0 CONSENT AGENDA:** CONSENT AGENDA
3.1 Minutes of 10/08/2015 Regular Meeting.

Brittanie Roberts moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Katie Cook seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. MINUTES APPROVED
- 4.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION**
- 4.1 Student Reports:** STUDENT REPORTS
Amanda Rose Sicard from VHS Leadership provided highlights:
- Leadership recently attended the Oregon Association of Student Councils (OASC) Conference last weekend with other HS Councils from all over the State.
 - VB & FB had very successful seasons making the State Playoffs. Unfortunately both were eliminated at the 1st round of competition.
 - Winter Sports will start next Monday – Basketball and Wrestling. Cheerleaders are preparing for a competition.
 - The 1st Nine weeks just ended. Grades coming out soon.
- VHS students Patrick Morgan, Grace Coleman and Blake Clark shared their experience this summer attending the Silver Falls State Park Work Camp. They cleared trails, painted buildings and learned valuable job skills.
- 4.2 Building Reports:** BUILDING REPORTS
Mr. Underwood was not present. His written report was reviewed.
Mr. Miller added to his written report by sharing student data on reading/math skills at the elementary level. Reading scores reflect improvement through the work of the Focus School

efforts. Math scores are looking good initially however parents have expressed the need for assistance to be able to help their students at home. Parent Nights are in the early stages of planning.

There was a question from the Board as to the positive or negative aspects of the K-1-2 blended classrooms. According to Mr. Miller the K-1-2 Team is working hard to determine if the model is effective. Most definitely the blend is making the numbers work. Meeting the needs of all students in a K-1-2 blended model is a lot like a middle school set up where the students go to a different teacher for some of the core subjects.

- 4.3 Financial Report:** Dawn Plews, Business Manager was not in attendance. Aaron Miller shared that the ending fund balance has dropped from \$778K in September to \$416K in October. Enrollment is down to 545, with our budgeted estimate at 569. This will not hurt us this year as the state funds on the higher of either the current year or the previous year's enrollment numbers. We will be funded this year based on last year's enrollment numbers. However, next year our funding will be based on next year or this year. Because of this our ending fund balance will need to be maintained. FINANCIAL REPORT

A question from the board was raised regarding the percentage of students enrolled elsewhere. Mr. Miller did not have percentages on hand but he shared that we do have students enrolled in on-line programs as well as homeschooled. We also have a few attending Banks and Jewell School Districts.

- 4.4 Maintenance Report:** The Board reviewed the report. It was asked if students were ever involved in Maintenance duties. According to Mr. Miller some were yes, however they are limited in what they are allowed and can do. Mr. Brown is always looking for ways to increase student involvement. MAINTENANCE REPORT

5.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION

- 5.1 Board Member Appointment:** Board members were given a few minutes to review the applications of the two candidates and then a discussion was held. BOARD MEMBER
APPOINTMENT
DISCUSSED

Katie Cook asked what each candidate what they felt their niche would be if serving on the board. Susan Wagner felt it was that she is passionate about everything and that her fundraising and life's work would be her niche. Bob Perry expressed his desire to see our enrollment increase which in turn would increase the revenue of the community. He felt we could work together to make both stellar.

Brett Costley stated that he felt Susan's greatest strength is that she has served and worked with previous school boards. Bob has managed large companies and has a great amount of experience with financials.

Greg Kintz commented that he was pleased to see that both candidates are aware that the day to day operations of the school are not the responsibility of a school board member. He also commented that he doesn't feel there are any personal agendas and is appreciative of that.

It was the consensus of the board that both applicants were very well qualified.

Ernie Smith invited the unsuccessful board member to run in the next school board election in the Spring of 2017. He will likely not be re-running.

Ernie Smith moved to conduct a silent ballot to be shared later in the agenda. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. SILENT BALLOT
PROCESS APPROVED

- 5.2 OSBA Election Board Position #14:** It was noted at the last board meeting that the board officially nominated Greg Kintz to the vacant OSBA Board of Directors Position #14 for the North Coast Region. The board must officially cast a vote for Greg in this position. It is on the agenda under action items. OSBA ELECTION
DISCUSSED

- 5.3 Report Cards:** Mr. Miller shared drafts of the School District and School Report Cards for 2014-15. Based on the new Smarter Balance testing there is not an overall rating for the schools this year. The district will be distributing the report card to parents and guardians of all students by Jan. 15, 2016. REPORT CARDS SHARED

Amy Cieloha asked what is being done with the results and addressing individual student needs. According to Mr. Miller teachers can look at the general data to see overall trends for their classroom. The data can be difficult to use for individual student needs therefore staff meets to address the issue of students that might be struggling.

Katie Cook felt a conversation to change the words we use is needed. We should focus less on what is lacking and more on hope for all students.

- 5.4 Staff Development Calendar:** Aaron Miller shared the calendar for the upcoming Staff Development Fridays. Staff works from 8:00 a.m. until noon on these days without interruption. Data Teams and the Focus School Group have discussions that are all directly related to individual student needs. STAFF DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR SHARED

Greg Kintz asked how the first year having an Instructional Coach is going. Mr. Miller shared that this was a new role at the beginning of the year for Michelle Eagleson and for the staff as well. He feels they are finally hitting their stride. Michelle is in all classrooms at least once each week and Staff at all levels are asking for her assistance. INSTRUCTIONAL COACH POSITION GOING WELL IN THE FIRST YEAR

- 5.5 Instructional Hours:** According to Mr. Underwood's building report the middle and high school instructional hours for 2015-16 is 996.05 hours. ODE requires 996 hours for Grade 12 and 990 hours for Grades 9-11 as well as K-8. Mr. Miller shared that Elementary is at 988.33 at VES (K-5) and 936.25 at MES (K-5). All grade levels are meeting the state required hours with the Elementary substantially higher. INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS REPORTED

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 6.1 Board Member Appointment:** Board members provided Chair Costley with their silent ballot and they were read aloud. Voting in support of Susan Wagner to fill the vacancy was Greg Kintz, Katie Cook, and Brittanie Roberts. Voting in support of Bob Perry was Ernie Smith and Brett Costley. In tally, three votes for Wagner and two votes for Perry. SUSAN WAGNER APPOINTED AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brittanie Roberts moved to appoint Susan Wagner to the Board of Directors position #1 serving the remainder of the current term which expires June 30, 2017. Ernie Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

6.1.1 Oath of Office: Superintendent Miller administered the Oath of Office to Susan Wagner who then was seated as a serving member of the Board for the remainder of the meeting. WAGNER TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

- 6.2 OSBA Election Board Position #14:** Ernie Smith moved to cast a ballot in support of Greg Kintz for OSBA Board Position #14. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance with the exception of Greg Kintz who abstained from voting. VOTE CAST IN SUPPORT OF KINTZ SERVING ON OSBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS POSITION #14.

- 7.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Highlights from Mr. Miller's written report are as follows: SUPERINTENDENT REPORT
- OSBA conference tomorrow
 - Next month's Supt/Board Chair/Board Member meeting will include Katie Cook. Barb Carr will schedule this meeting during the week prior to the next board meeting.
 - Update provided on the Police Incident on Riverside Drive on October 13.

Old Business:

- The April Board Meeting will be held in Mist. It's too late to hold a Fall meeting there this year.

Students/Classrooms/Academics:

- Columbia County CTE Hub update provided
- Strategic Planning under development
- Lock-Down/Evacuation Drill held on Oct. 14 reviewed.

Facilities:

- Softball field grass is growing. A suggestion to name the Softball Field the Alumni Field has been received from the V.E.F.

Staff:

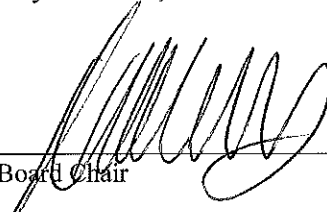
- Hayley Watson has been hired as a full time instructional assistant to fill the recent resignation of Donna Herr.

Other Issues: Greg Kintz had asked about our closed campus at a meeting earlier in the school year. OTHER ISSUES. Greg shared a copy of the letter Mr. Underwood recently sent to parents. Greg felt the outline in the letter leaves a lot of room for reasons for a student to leave. The Board mandated that campus be closed. He is concerned that this is being abused with a lot of students leaving.

8.0 MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:53 p.m.

ADJOURNED

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



Board Chair



District Clerk