

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J  
1201 TEXAS AVENUE  
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 08, 2013

- 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 6:15 p.m. by Bill Langmaid. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Bill Langmaid, Greg Kintz, Jim Krahn, and Cari Levenseller BOARD PRESENT  
**Board Absent:** Ernie Smith, Tim Bamburg, and Brett Costley.  
**Staff Present:** Ken Cox, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle/High School Principal; Aaron Miller, Elementary Schools Principal; Dawn Plews, Business Manager, and Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant.. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors present:** Cici Bell. Scott Laird arrived at 6:33 p.m. VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 1.2** Agenda Review: None AGENDA REVIEW
- 1.3** Swear in Elected Board Members: Ken Cox presented the oath of office to recently re-elected board member Cari Levenseller. OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED
- 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None PUBLIC COMMENT
- 3.0 CONSENT AGENDA:** CONSENT AGENDA MINUTES APPROVED
- 3.1** Minutes of 07/11/13 Regular Meeting.  
  
Jim Krahn moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Cari Levenseller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED
- 4.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION**
- 4.1 Financial Report:** Dawn Plews indicated that there was little activity in July to report. Ending fund balance as of June 30<sup>th</sup> was within \$,2000 of what was anticipated and reported at the June board meeting. FINANCIAL REPORT
- 4.2 Maintenance Report.** The board reviewed Mark Brown's written report. Bill Langmaid noticed that P&C hasn't come back to complete warranty work. Ken Cox stated that he has a meeting tomorrow morning at Boora's office to discuss the punch list. Cari Levenseller asked about using volunteers to help with all the mowing. Dr. Cox shared that we do have a local retired gentleman, Mr. Elton, that is helping us with this task. MAINTENANCE REPORT
- 4.3 SHaW Clinic Report:** No report provided.
- 5.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION**
- 5.1 Graduation Requirement:** Nate Underwood shared with the board that due to the limited number of election opportunities within the high school schedule it is often difficult for students to complete the full 7 elective credits required for graduation. Currently VHS requires a total of 26.5 credits to graduate. The State requirement is 24.0 credits. Mr. Underwood would like to open up discussion about the possibility of reducing our elective credits by 1 dropping our total required credits to 25.5. VHS is currently partnering with EdOptions, an on line program and this will help supplement our elective options but according to Mr. Underwood he feels there is still a need for the reduction. Also discussed was the possibility of allowing, on a case by case basis and only as a last resort, participation GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS DISCUSSED

in athletics to be used as a PE credit.

**Grading Policy:** Mr. Underwood indicated that students who get D's & F's as freshman find themselves behind as Seniors. By allowing this Mr. Underwood does not feel we are adequately preparing our students for the state benchmark testing. He would like to open the discussion of eliminating all D grades and requiring that students must receive a C or better to receive credit.

GRADING POLICY  
DISCUSSION

Athletic participation requires that a student be taking and passing at least 5 classes. They must maintain a 2.0. Discussion was held regarding sports eligibility being disrupted if D grades are considered failing.

Dr. Cox suggested having a guideline of not advancing to the next level in Core Classes until at least a C grade is received as opposed to eliminating D grades all together. Dr. Cox also felt this could be a topic of discussion at the upcoming Board retreat on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Questions should be directed to Mr. Underwood before the retreat.

UPCOMING BOARD  
RETREAT TOPICS  
DISCUSSED

Mr. Underwood will also discuss at the retreat the new attendance policy the focus group has developed as well as the issue of open campus.

**5.2 Collaboration Grant Update:** Aaron Miller reported that the Collaboration Grant report was due the end of June. Our district met the requirements and submitted on time. In the past the final year-end report has been the application for next year's grant. This changed due to ODE taking over the program from Chalk Board. The Oregon Legislature has met and approved designating funds for the grant. The actual application for the grant should be to the district by the middle of August. The district will submit the application quickly and then there should be a quick turn-around in time to find out who will receive grants and how much will be awarded.

COLLABORATION

**Evaluation Draft:** Juliet Safier will present the Licensed Evaluation next month.

EVALUATION DRAFT

Aaron Miller reviewed the Administration Evaluation with the board. The Evaluation Handbook has several requirements to meet ODE standards. Mr. Miller reviewed the handbook with the board.

After a brief discussion Bill Langmaid stated that he'd like to see the Administration and Licensed staff move forward and finalize their evaluations and then move into assisting the Classified staff develop their evaluation.

Aaron Miller complimented Donna Smith as their coach through the whole process. She has been outstanding.

## 6.0 ACTION ITEMS

### 6.1 Policy Update Approval:

POLICY UPDATES  
APPROVED

- 6.7.1 CBA – Qualifications and Duties of the Superintendent
- 6.7.2 DH – Bonded Employees and Officers
- 6.7.3 EGACA – Cell Phones
- 6.7.4 GBDA – Mother Friendly Workplace
- 6.7.5 GCA – License Requirements
- 6.7.6 GCL – Staff Development
- 6.7.7 IK – Academic Achievement
- 6.7.8 IKA – Grading System
- 6.7.9 JEA – Compulsory Attendance
- 6.7.10 JECA – Admission of Resident Students
- 6.7.11 JHCCA – Students-HIV, HBV and AIDS
- 6.7.12 JHCCB – Students-HIV,AIDS
- 6.7.13 JHFF – Reporting Requirements Regarding Sexual Conduct w/Students

6.7.14 JOB – Personally Identifiable Information

Greg Kintz moved to approve the policies as presented. Cari Levenseller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**7.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

- E Newsletter recently went out from the VEF. They hope to do another in the Fall to announce the homecoming game.
- Attended a Catalyst Campaign meeting last week. He was encouraged by seeing Betsy Johnson up and around.
- The Met Group will be offering fundraising training Sept 12 and Oct 10 from 4:30 – 6:00 pm.
- Greenhouse project is on hold waiting for some additional contractor help in making sure everything is squared up properly before turning over to volunteers to finish.
- Demolition Update – entire site should be leveled by end of next week.
- Replacement Park & Other Project Updates: five proposals have been received and a meeting with the low bidder will occur next week to ensure they can meet all the criteria for the park as specified in the RFP. Bids for the soil haul-of are due next week. Rod McDowell is managing these two projects as well as the flood mitigation changes to the stadium and the front office remodel to accommodate the SHaW clinic access.

Topics for the upcoming school board retreat.

**UPCOMING BOARD RETREAT TOPICS IDENTIFIED**

- Attendance policy
- Closed-campus issues
- Communication throughout the school as well as parent communication and student achievement.

Jim Krahn expressed concern over the condition of the landscaping that was put in. The trees were installed at the wrong time of year and the overall condition of the landscaping is poor. Dr. Cox mentioned that there will be a community work party on the 17<sup>th</sup> to help weed around the school.

**Other Issues:** Bill Langmaid shared that he is still working with Boosters to get playground equipment. Give Back Bash preliminary report shows a net profit of \$10K. There was good community support and felt the concert was a great idea. The Vernonia Health Board has received word of pending grant approval of \$300K from the Ford Family Foundation

**OTHER ISSUES.**

**8.0 MEETING ADJOURNED** at 7:35 p.m.

**ADJOURNED**

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

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Board Chair

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District Clerk