

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J  
1201 TEXAS AVENUE  
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 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 6:06 p.m. by Bill Langmaid. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Bill Langmaid, Jim Krahn, Brett Costley, Greg Kintz, and Tim Bamburg. Cari Levenseller arrived at 6:36 p.m. BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** Ernie Smith. BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Ken Cox, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle/High School Principal; Aaron Miller, Elementary Schools Principal; Dawn Plews, Business Manager. Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Juliet Safier, VEA President; and Jan Dyer, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Sarah Rossi, Bob Paleck, Mark Farmer, Dan Murphy, and David Western from WOEC; Margaret Ryan and Doug Brawley from PNGN; and Alexis Baska. VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 1.2** Agenda Review: None AGENDA REVIEW
- 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** PUBLIC COMMENT
- WOEC presented to the District a rebate check in the amount of \$95,000 for outstanding energy efficiency measures with the new school building. WOEC PRESENTS CHECK
- John Donovan, with the Met Group gave an update on the Capital Campaign. We are currently \$5 million from the finish line. John and colleagues at the Met Group are actively working with community and state leaders in an attempt to raise funds. They are also working with Wyerhaeuser and other timber affiliates. MET GROUP PROVIDES UPDATE
- 3.0 CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 3.1** Minutes of 09/12/13 Regular Meeting and Workshop. MINUTES APPROVED
- Jim Krahn moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Greg Kintz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 4.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION**
- 4.1 Student Reports:** Alexis Baska, VHS Leadership student, updated the board. STUDENT REPORTS
- Homecoming starts next week. Alexis reviewed the weeks activities and invited all to attend.
- 4.2 Building Reports:** Mr. Underwood added that the Harlem Crowns will once again be in the building on 10/19. This year the fundraiser will be supporting an elementary student who has been diagnosed with cancer. BUILDING REPORTS
- Mr. Miller added that the weather cooperated yesterday for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Salmon Watch with Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> graders paired up with 4<sup>th</sup> grade students. VHS Forestry students helped agency professionals run with the stations.
- 4.3 Financial Report:** Dawn Plews shared her report. Payroll has been encumbered for the year. Enrollment is down significantly from what was projected warranting a conversation about the bottom line and strategies. The beginning fund balance is accurate without audit journal entries being completed. The federal sequestration affects our QSCB loan – 7.2% interest is FINANCIAL REPORT

budgeted as payment. PERS reform will increase our next year general fund approximately \$80K.

**4.2 Maintenance Report.** No report provided this month. He will catch up the board next month. MAINTENANCE REPORT

**4.3 PBIS Report:** Jan Dyer shared a behavior summary from 2012-13. PBIS REPORT

- A total of 754 behavior corrections were logged involving 192 students
- Wednesday was the day most major infractions occurred
- Classroom is the #1 area of referral, hallways #2 and Cafeteria #3.
- Data showed an increase in problem behavior in February and March.

Data from September / October of this year includes:

- 15 Elem. and 13 Middle/High major referrals have been logged. Two out of school suspensions have been assigned.
- 19 Elem. and 23 Middle/High minor behavior reminders have been given. Most of these occur in the classroom.

What the PBIS Committee is currently working on:

- Student Survey – exploring school climate from students perspective (7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Anti-bullying training for all staff has started
- Classified staff training on active supervision
- All staff professional development was held in August. A second all staff professional development will be held on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> focusing on defining bullying vs. harassment and defiance vs. disruption.

This year a positive office referral has been implemented to recognize those students who exceed positive expectations.

**SBHC Report** was provided to the Board in written form. The Oversight Committee has been discussing outreach to the community via school events. The Nurse Practitioner at the clinic has been visiting high school classrooms reminding students about the clinic and services available. SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTER REPORT

Their budget has been increased by \$12,000 for this fiscal year due to the tobacco master settlement.

Utilization data was reviewed from Spring and Summer 2013 as well as the month of September. Numbers are consistent with other school based health centers in the County.

More information will be forth coming on the new position to have a Cover Oregon Health Insurance Exchange navigator in both the Spencer and Vernonia Health Centers.

## 5.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION

**5.1 VES Focus School Update:** Aaron Miller reviewed with the board: VES FOCUS SCHOOL UPDATE

- A handout was shared which mirrored the article that was published in The Voice as a way to communicate with the public.
- As a focus school the district received \$34K to help put into action our plan for improvement in student achievement.
- We are no longer just bound by how many students meet or exceed state tests. The amount of growth each student attains is now included.
- This year and next year we also will receive \$40K each year to increase reading opportunities. Three areas have been identified to receive support from the funds: 1) Extra reading time after school, 2) Increase amount of adult support, and 3) Increase technology to help students read. 35 I-Pads will be purchased to be retained in a classroom for student use.

- The Task list that has been put together on the steps towards improvement was shared with the board. The tasks highlighted by a red X have been done or are in the process of doing. Green X is in process and yellow X will happen if time allows.

Cari Levenseller arrived at 6:36 p.m.

- 5.2 Attendance Report:** Mr. Underwood shared that the school is still in the process of changing student software. Over the summer we vacated ESIS and migrated to Synergy. ATTENDANCE REPORT
- Last month the finalized Attendance Policy was shared with the Board. Since then several communications with parents has occurred. An article in The Voice also ran informing parents of the new policy. The administration is stressing the importance of having students here every possible day due to the limited days of instruction in the 2013-14 calendar.
- Our absenteeism dropped from last year (2012-13) from the previous year (2011-12) and they hope to see another drop at the end of this year.
- Currently, when a student reaches 5 days absent our attendance person sends a note to the student's teacher who in turn calls the parents. 10 days absent, a note goes to the counselor and the counselor calls the parents and the principal sends a truancy letter to the parents. 15 days absent a note goes to the principal and the principal calls the parents and the ESD truancy officer is contacted.
- There was a question as to whether or not the count of days absent will start over at the semester break. Not at the elementary level but middle and high school will reevaluate numbers at semester break.
- 5.3 Class Size Report:** Mr. Underwood explained that due to our limited schedule offerings there are a few unbalanced class numbers. One class may be low yet another high in numbers. This seems to be the only complaint at this time from staff. Most class sizes are pretty good by comparison to other districts. A handout of student numbers by teacher and class period was shared. CLASS SIZE REPORT
- 5.4 Volunteer Criminal History Matrix:** Ken Cox explained the purpose of the matrix. This will be used as information in guiding the district in granting volunteer approval status. CRIMINAL HISTORY MATRIX REVIEWED
- 5.5 2013-14 Achievement Compact Presentation:** Ken Cox shared the Achievement Compact Template with the Board. The template provides information on:
- College and Career Ready. Are students completing high school ready for college or career? Dr. Cox increased the district goal from last year to current year 1% in each area.
  - Progression. Are students making sufficient progress toward college and career readiness? Dr. Cox increased the district goal from last year to current year 1% in each area.
  - Equity: Are students succeeding across all buildings and populations?
  - Local Priorities. What other measures reflect key priorities in the district? (optional)
  - Investment: What is the public investment in the District? This lists the district's revenue through local, federal and state grants.
- Per Dr. Cox the board must approve the Achievement Compact annually by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Juliet Safier questioned why the board was approving the compact when meetings haven't occurred yet. Dr. Cox indicated this is formality and meetings will be on-going. ACHIEVEMENT COMPACT PRESENTED
- 5.6 Facilities Committee Project List:** The Facilities Committee (Tim Bamburg, Ernie Smith and Ken Cox) recently met and developed the Facilities Committee Project list. The challenge obviously comes with our inadequate budget to accomplish all tasks on the list. FACILITIES COMMITTEE PROJECTS DISCUSSED

In summary the list includes the following projects:

- Fall 2013: Provide electricity, plumbing and heating to the shop building and greenhouse.
- Spring 2014: complete Phase I construction of Spencer Park at old school site. Move the dirt pile.
- Summer 2014: Complete the softball field with volunteer help.
- Future Projects include: Baseball field, football field and track, stadium seating and lighting, shop/art/storage building and additional parking.

The Vernonia Education Foundation (VEF) approved expenditures to complete a topographical survey to know exactly how much of the dirt we need to save for the softball field.

To use the temporary shop building the Fire Marshall indicated two requirements: building must have two doors and a dust collection system. Nate Underwood stated that an insurance agent toured the building today and also has recommendations from his point of view.

- 5.7 **2014 Senior Trip Out of State:** This year's Senior Class is planning their trip to Disneyland April 25-28, 2014. Students will only miss two days of school. OUT OF STATE SENIOR TRIP APPROVED

#### 6.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 6.1 **2013-14 Achievement Compact:** Tim Bamburg moved to approve the Vernonia School District 2013-14 Achievement Compact as presented subject to future revisions. Brett Costley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. ACHIEVEMENT COMPACT APPROVED

- 6.2 **2014 Senior Trip:** Jim Krahn moved to approve the Senior Trip to Disneyland April 25-28, 2014. Motion seconded by Tim Bamburg. Motion passed unanimously. SENIOR TRIP TO DISNEYLAND APPROVED

#### 7.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Lighting schedule summary was shared for automatic lights.
- VEF newsletter distributed. The latest issue was sent out electronically to 230 email addresses as well as mail.
- My College Options survey results were handed out. The survey was done last spring.

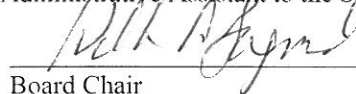
SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

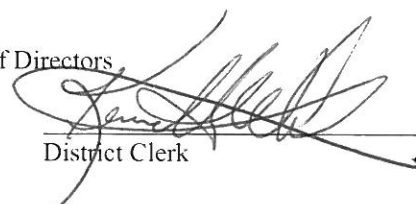
**Other Issues:** Bill Langmaid shared that the Hands on Art Board has offered to come up with a scholarship. OTHER ISSUES.

#### 8.0 MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:27 p.m.

ADJOURNED

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

  
Board Chair

  
District Clerk