

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J
1201 TEXAS AVENUE
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

April 21, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: A Workshop of the Board of Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by Bill Langmaid. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Board Present: Bill Langmaid, Cari Levenseller, Greg Kintz, and Ernie Smith. Brett Costley arrived at 6:47 p.m. BOARD PRESENT

Board Absent: Jim Krahn and Tim Bamburg BOARD ABSENT

Staff Present: Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Linda Hobart, Licensed Staff; and Jeana Gump, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT

Visitors Present: Sharon Bernal, Susan Ely, Maggie Peyton, Thomas Jones, Jason Riddell, Dan Brown, Scott Laird, and Susan Wagner. VISITORS PRESENT

- 1 Charter School Application Review and Approval:** Bill Langmaid thanked those on the Charter School Committee for putting in all the work developing and bringing the charter school application to completion. Bill shared that he as well as fellow school board members Cari Levenseller and Tim Bamburg were on the initial review committee. They reviewed the first application submitted for completeness. Bill indicated that they had initial concerns and after reviewing this application submitted for approval he noted that all the concerns have been addressed and met. CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION DISCUSSED AND APPROVED

Aaron Miller thanked the staff and patrons of the Vernonia community that worked through the process and together developed this vision and direction for the school district. He feels the work the committee completed will be helpful to our students and to our District. He recommends to the Board to move this process forward and approve the application before them.

Greg Kintz stated that the document before him is great. If funding is not available to actually put the charter in place the information contained in the document in regards to programs is important. However he feels the most important aspect to this process is the collaboration that occurred between staff, students, parents and community members.

Sharon Bernal thanked Mr. Miller for his work in tackling this project. Without the outlines he provided the deadlines would not have been met. Having the teachers on board with the process is exciting.

Ernie Smith commented that Vernonia Schools will be able to compete with other Districts offering alternatives to the standard education.

Susan Wagner shared her support of the project and was impressed with the process overall. This is a good move for our students.

There were no other comments from the board or from the audience.

Ernie Smith moved to approve the Charter School Application as presented. Cari Levenseller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

- 2 2015-16 Instructional Calendar:** Aaron Miller shared three calendar options.

2015-16
INSTRUCTIONAL
CALENDAR APPROVED

Option A & B both contain 161 student contact days which is an increase of 3 days from 2014-15. The difference between options A & B is the hours of staff professional development on Fridays. Start and stop times for the day to day school schedule is the same on both options.

Option C which is the recommendation of the Calendar Committee has 157.5 student contact days. This is a half day less than the 2014-15 year.

Mr. Miller stated that the ability to add 3 more days of student contact is important. Therefore he recommends to the board Option A.

Increasing the start and stop times of the Bill Langmaid expressed concern about lengthening the school day. It impacts our student athletes as they miss more class time when the daily schedule is lengthened.

Cari Levenseller Moved to approve the 2015-16 instructional calendar Option A as presented. Ernie Smith seconded the motion.

Brett Costly that his first priority is student contact days. He also feels the concentration of Professional Development time is important.


Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

There was a question from the audience regarding the instructional days. What is the standard number of days, how do we as a district compare and do we plan to add more. Mr. Miller explained that we are meeting the standards for instructional time but we are still down days from where we have been in the past. Adding more days to our calendar in the future is a goal to bring us back to where we have been. State funding prohibits us from adding more at this time. Comparing Oregon to other states in the nation we are near the bottom for the amount of instructional days on average we provide our students.

WORKSHOP ADJOURNED at 7:09 p.m.

ADJOURNED

Submitted by Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant



Board Chair



District Clerk

Application for the Establishment of Vernonia Schools (A Public Charter School) for 2015-16
was reviewed and approved by Vernonia School District 47J Board of Directors on this 21st Day of April,
2015.


Bill Langmaid, Chair

