

ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Executive Session and Regular Board Meeting

Vol. 1 No. 18

May 25, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS:

Rodney Cotton	X
Daniel Endicott	X
Joseph Garcia	X
Rev. Howard Johnson	X
Charles F. Lee	X
Paul E. Meyer	Excused
Steve Patterson	X

ADMINISTRATION:

Gerry C. Washburn, Superintendent	X
David W Hanson, Assistant Superintendent/HR	X
Richard Burton, Director, Student Services	X
Cheryl Northam, Chief Operations Officer	X
Jeff Plummer, Interim Director, Teaching & Learning	X
RHS Student Leadership Representative –	X
Stella Moon	

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

TIME/PLACE: A Regular Meeting of the Douglas County School District No. 4 Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, May 25, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the Winchester Elementary Library located at 217 Pioneer Way in Winchester, Oregon.

CALL TO ORDER: Board Chairman, Rodney Cotton, welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., asking Director Joe Garcia to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ATTENDANCE: All Board members with the exception of Director Meyer were present. Cabinet members were present. RHS Student Representative, Stella Moon, was in attendance. No media representatives were present.

REVIEW OF AGENDA: Superintendent Washburn noted that Item 2, Resolution 15-16-17: Authorize Signing Authority for Property Purchase and Item 5, Free Breakfast at Secondary Schools for 2016-17 have been added to the agenda. Joseph Lane Middle School Sixth Grade Math and Science Teacher, Erin Arney, has been added to the Consent Agenda employment recommendations for consideration.

CRYSTAL APPLE AWARD: We are honored this evening to present a District employees who was nominated by Nutrition Services to receive the Crystal Apple Award. Director Meyer presented the Crystal Apple Award to Joseph Lane Middle School Lead Cook, Cecelia “Sis” Heath, to honor her 24 years of dedicated service to the students and staff of Roseburg Public Schools. Always the first to volunteer for extra duties or projects, “Sis” has assisted with the beginning of the year “Kick-off” event, as well as the “Fine Dining” and “Future Chefs” events in our District as well as Winston-Dillard. Her positive energy, spirit of excellence and commitment to creating a professional atmosphere is an inspiration to others. The Board acknowledged the importance of our cafeteria staff as they impact outcomes for kids.

RHS STUDENT LEADERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Chair Cotton introduced RHS Leadership representative, Stella Moon. Stella reported that our boys’ tennis team sent six athletes to state, and the team placed fourth. The girls’ team sent Adrienne Powell to state competition. The baseball team made it to playoffs, losing in the first round to West Salem 7-2. The girls’ softball team is currently ranked 7th in the state, besting Sprague 5-2 and playing Reynolds tonight. The winner of that round meets either Jesuit or South Medford on Friday. The track team, golf team and band and choir all sent students to state competition. Current student activities include tomorrow’s Home-Going Assembly, a final good-bye to seniors; an art class fundraiser in partnership with KIVA to send cows to women in Kenya; and finals week scheduled June 6-9 with shortened class schedules. Seniors will have graduation practice on Friday, with the graduation ceremony occurring on Sunday, June 5th,

with Grad Night following that evening. Senior Sunset is next week, with Baccalaureate on June 1st. Stella shared that the 2016 Prom was a success, along with the annual Evening of Excellence. There was a final choir concert last night, and the band's final performance will be on Thursday. Student elections resulted in the selection of Bronwyn Spakousky and Lyle Lee to head up student leadership for 2016-17.

Superintendent Washburn shared that while Stella is very humble, she performed a musical piece on her piano during the recent Evening of Excellence, and has also been recognized as a National Merit Scholar.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: Superintendent Washburn reminded the Board that Director Meyer was excused this evening. He also announced receiving resignations from Joyce Russo, Joseph Lane Science Teacher after 13 years in the District, and Pat Wafer Gukeisen, Child Development Specialist at Hucrest Elementary School, who will be retiring after 17 years in the District.

CONSENT AGENDA: The Consent Agenda this evening included Minutes from the May 11th Board meeting; recommendations for employment; and a current list of Gifts to the District. The Board considered employment recommendations that included administrative staff member, Robert Freeman, as Director of Human Resources. Approved licensed staff recommendations included Erin Arney, Sixth Grade Math & Science Teacher at Jo Lane Middle School; Karma Clarke-Jung, Teacher at Creekside Learning Center; Joanne Couch, English Language Development Teacher; Lydia Gray, Melrose First Grade Teacher; Steve Kiepert, Jo Lane Sixth Grade Math & Science Teacher; Loradona May, RHS Language Arts Teacher; Megan Myers, Eastwood Fourth Grade Teacher; and Alla Rada, RHS Special Education and Math Teacher.

Director Garcia moved to approve the Consent Agenda and asked for confirmation that the HR Director position was at the same level as other Directors, and this was confirmed. Director Endicott seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M1-100 Approved the Consent Agenda

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Chair Cotton introduced Winchester Principal, Melissa Locke, and thanked her for hosting the meeting this evening, and commenting on the colorful posters created by her students. Mrs. Locke was pleased to point out the art work around the room displayed by Winchester students in honor of the Board's visit. Principal Locke noted that the school works closely with the booster club, and funds are being raised to start a food pantry, enough for 15 families to receive food for the weekend. Family events include "Read In", family game nights, etc. The Mercy Foundation will be receiving a request to fund additional nursing support, nutrition services and violence prevention to augment the dental services already being provided. Mrs. Locke was happy to report that student Dibels scores are looking amazing. To transition kids from home to school and build classroom culture, each morning includes 15 minutes to start the day. Five Winchester teachers are receiving Ford grants for summer learning, with two traveling to San Diego to see Eric Jensen, and two others going to Washington.

Heidi Kincaid, 240 Beattie Lane, Roseburg, shared that she has two children attending school in the district, with two more joining them soon. Following President Obama's transgender directive, she indicated that as a parent she finds the loss of safety and privacy of students to be alarming. She continued that his goal of providing inclusions has cast aside common sense without good merit, and eleven states have since filed legal challenges. Ms. Kincaid asked if the Board was considering this directive, and Chair Cotton responded that the Board has had a basic conversation and she will hear more from the Board later on this evening.

ADOPT 2016-2017 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING CALENDAR: Superintendent Washburn presented the proposed School Board Meeting Calendar for next school year, noting that it is very similar to this year's calendar.

Director Endicott moved to approve the proposed 2016-2017 School Board Meeting Calendar as presented. Director Patterson seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M1-101 Approved the School Board Meeting Calendar for 2016-2017

RESOLUTION 15-16-17: AUTHORIZE SIGNING AUTHORITY FOR CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER, CHERYL NORTHAM, TO PURCHASE PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 375 W. BIRCH COURT, ROSEBURG, OREGON: Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, explained that we are moving forward with the property purchase on Birch Court as discussed at the May 11th Board Meeting. The local AmeriTitle Company has requested that someone be assigned and authorized to sign for the single property.

Director Patterson moved to adopt Resolution 15-16-17: Authorize Signing Authority for Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, to purchase property commonly known as 375 W. Birch Court in Roseburg. Director Garcia seconded and the Chair called for discussion. Chair Cotton explained that many years ago the District began purchasing properties behind the high school for green space, a greenhouse, security purposes, etc., and taxpayers now own most of those properties. Many of the properties are rented with monies set aside for needed repairs and reserve for additional properties when they come available. This homeowner approached the District and the price is a little under value. No funds for the purchase are coming from the General Fund.

With discussion completed, the motion passed unanimously.

M1-102 Adopted Resolution 15-16-17 to authorize signing authority for Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, to purchase property commonly known as 375 W. Birch Court, Roseburg, Oregon

POLICY GCBDD/GDBDD: SICK TIME FOR NON-UNION EMPLOYEES, for Second Reading and Adoption: Assistant Superintendent/HR, David Hanson presented new Policy GCBDD/GDBDD: Sick Time for Non-Union Employees that was presented for First Reading at the May 11th Board Meeting. Superintendent Washburn had explained at that time that this new policy is required subsequent to legislation earlier this year. This would allow classified staff, including coaches, etc., to accumulate sick time. There have been no questions received from members of the Board related to this proposed new policy.

Director Lee moved to approve Policy GCBDD/GDBDD: Sick Time for Non-Union Employees for Second Reading and Adoption. Director Johnson seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M1-103 Approved Policy GCBDD/GDBDD: Sick Time for Non-Union Employees, for Second Reading and Adoption

POLICY LBE - AR: PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS, for Second Reading and Adoption: Student Services Director, Rick Burton, reminded the Board that this OSBA highly recommended administrative rule was discussed at the May 11th Board Meeting. Senate Bill 820 (2015) amended ORS 338.125 to allow public charter schools to select students through a weighted lottery that favors historically underserved students who are at risk because of any combination of two or more factors including race, ethnicity, English language proficiency, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, disability and geographic location.

Director Lee moved to approve Policy LBE-AR: Public Charter Schools, for Second Reading and Adoption, noting that this AR is essentially mandated. Director Endicott seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M1-104 Approved Policy LBE-AR: Public Charter Schools, for Second Reading and Adoption
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FREE BREAKFAST AT SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR 2016-2017 - Discussion: Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, explained that this proposal is for free breakfast at the secondary schools due to low participation at the secondary level, with approximately 100 students at the middle schools and 200 at RHS participating. In brainstorming ways to increase student participation, it was pointed out that kids don't like to wait in line, and many arrive just before the morning bell calling kids to class.

An idea of "Grab N Go" locations around the campuses was proposed. Foods would require minimal packaging and students would be allowed to carry their breakfast and finish up during 1st period announcements. The District would like to offer this free for all students eventually. Cheryl explained that it would only take 11 more students at the middle schools and 22 more at the high school to offset monies received from current paid students. With the high level of poverty in our schools, this is something that is needed by our students to begin to meet their "First Hour" needs.

The Board reached consensus that the secondary free breakfast proposal was good for kids.

MEAL PRICES FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR: Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, presented meal prices for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year. Lunch will increase \$.10 and adult prices will increase as well. Prices are determined utilizing a lunch pricing tool required by the Oregon Department of Education.

Director Patterson moved to approve the proposed 2016-2017 meal prices as presented. Director Endicott seconded and the floor opened for discussion. Director Endicott noted that there can be a stigma associated if others know you are on free and reduced status. With the option available to all, this could be very powerful. Sutherlin Schools offer free breakfast and the parfaits are well received.

Director Lee inquired what the meals would consist of, and Nutrition Director, Kyle Micken, explained that it can be parfaits, breakfast cookies and sandwiches, pancake sticks, etc., that are quick and convenient for kids. Studies indicate that kids eating breakfast are more successful throughout the day. Similar programs have become extremely successful in other districts. Ms. Northam shared that Winston-Dillard arranged for a nutrition break for elementary students. Mr. Micken shared that student participation increased dramatically in Winston-Dillard following implementation of the program. Student Services Director, Rick Burton, shared that aside from attendance, sleep and nutrition are essential in meeting a child's First Hour needs. Creating this avenue for nutrition removes the barrier and with nutritional needs met, kids are ready to learn. Mr. Burton suggested this is even more important at the elementary level. Ms. Northam responded that she is working on that, and Chair Cotton concurred that implementing this program in the lower grades sooner rather than later

would be one less year that kids go hungry. Superintendent Washburn shared that the idea of all grades was presented to the elementary principals on Tuesday.

With discussion concluded, the Motion passed unanimously.

M1-105 Approved the 2016-2017 Meal Prices

BOARD GUIDANCE ON EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF BOND LEVY - Discussion: Superintendent Washburn noted that there was informal discussion in a work session about the possibility of a bond levy. Monies have been set aside for polling. Facilities Manager, Tracy Grauf, is undertaking a review of all district properties to determine what kinds of improvements are needed, and shared a summary page with the Board, cautioning that these are general numbers based on square footage and year built and estimated life for systems. Most buildings are constructed to serve a 30-year lifespan and intended to be replaced. The Heritage Building at RHS, built in 1925, is approaching 100 years.

Director Endicott suggested that it would be prudent to have a new updated facility report completed that would provide more detail. Mr. Grauf commented that few buildings currently have air conditioning, even though having those systems allows us to use less fuel to heat and energy to cool. Mr. Endicott stated that we have done a great job maintaining these buildings, and Mr. Grauf noted that his department completes approximately 5,000 work orders per year.

Chair Cotton noted that the new board chair in July might consider scheduling some work sessions and drill down to essential needs for the district. Appearance is nice, but there are structural things that have to be done. Director Patterson pointed out that we are confronted not only with building maintenance, but there are curriculum and other funding needs to consider.

Superintendent Washburn explained that with this ground work completed, there are grants available to partner with someone to do facilities planning. He would be interested in polling our community to find out what information they need from us and what it would cost to do that. A work session agenda could include a discussion of how to have “pulse of community” meetings. The levies that have passed in our state have been well thought out and good communication was shared with those communities. Our community needs to know proposed tax rates and what could be done within those rates. The Board reached consensus to proceed with an updated Facilities Plan.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Superintendent Washburn shared his most recent enrollment report. To match this year’s numbers, 164 kindergarten students would need to enroll in 2016-17. Since we didn’t previously track early kindergarten enrollment, we will now be able to start tracking and projecting enrollment as we move forward.

Mr. Washburn commented that we cannot place any more out of area students at Fremont. With nearly all transfer requests being “friend requests” he expressed a need to look at how we are placing children at the middle schools. The Rose closure created split enrollment at Eastwood, Melrose and Fir Grove. We have 14 out of area students returning to middle schools, and 41 out of area to RHS.

Standards based assessment results were discussed. Language Arts reflected a disappointing 10% below state average. While we are seeing growth, it’s not translating to reach state averages. However, last year’s 3rd grade is performing better than last year’s class.

The high school Language Arts results were 11% higher than state average, reflecting tremendous growth, 15.4 over the previous year. Mr. Washburn congratulated the students and teachers at RHS for doing an exceptional job. Now we need to improve at the elementary level.

Mr. Washburn shared that the recent transgender guidance letter does not carry force of law. It basically says that if districts don't do certain things and a complaint were to be filed, this is how the Feds might rule. We are being asked to look at our policies and consider their suggested guidance. We don't anticipate having to do anything. We already have single user space at the high school and we don't let adults wander into the bathrooms. This is an extremely sensitive issue, and will work closely with individual students if and when they identify and talk to us about their needs, and address the safety of all students. It appears that the districts involved in the media did not do a good job of doing their work on the front end. We intend to make sure we take care of things as we proceed.

The superintendent updated the audience that our girls' softball team lost tonight in the 7th inning and have been eliminated. We are all very proud of them. The recent evening of Excellence was well attended, with Abby Prawitz dedicating a song to her father. The Golden Apple event honoring educators was a success as well. Approximately 34 veterans participated in the RHS Living History Day. Mr. Washburn expressed his gratitude for those individuals for taking the time to connect with our young people.

A district team will be visiting the Gladioli alternative school tomorrow.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Chief Operations Officer reviewed the most recent Financial Report for fiscal year 2015-2016, noting that school support estimates are again down a bit.

INDIVIDUAL DIRECTORS' REPORTS: Director Endicott reported attending the RHS Evening of Excellence and was pleased at the variety, noting a good balance of CTE, welding, shop, music, vocal, band, math, science, literature and other areas all well represented and honored. Mr. Endicott congratulated the teachers presenting the awards for their genuine pleasure in recognizing the students for their achievements. Living History Day provided inspired conversation for students and their families. RHS is to be congratulated on their scores, and Director Endicott ended by saying he is happy with the direction the District is heading. With controversy ahead, he stated that we will work with the community on all issues.

Director Garcia commented on ongoing issues impacting our community. A case in point is the increasing amount of negative parental involvement at athletic events. Last week in baseball, adults engaged in physical altercations after the game. He observed mothers screaming and yelling at other kids. There appears to be an increasing number of episodes in sporting venues as families become more invested in opportunities they think sports may provide their kids. This places pressure on the kids as well as a lack of focus, understanding and respect for others. This apparent sense of entitlement is very disappointing and has led to acts of violence. We don't expect to see this behavior in our community, and some appears to be the result of excessive expectations on the part of parents. Director Garcia also cautioned administration to be alert to an increasing number of families who appear to be intentionally holding kids back at the start of school specifically because of athletics.

Director Patterson and Director Endicott both had the opportunity to watch the Wind Ensemble compete at state. Our district was well represented both during performances and while spectating. The final concert is tomorrow night and will be a great chance to see some amazing performers. Mr. Patterson also attended an

Umpqua Youth Orchestra performance at the Presbyterian Church. He heard an amazingly talented Wesley Becker perform. Our RHS students are representing the school very well. With senior grad night coming up, Principal Weber confirmed that the gym floor will be past the required 30 days' rest. The students will be using the auxiliary gym and will be playing basketball and volleyball. Mr. Grauf noted that the main gym will be ready for basketball practice on the 31st.

Chair Cotton expressed that what we see happening in athletics is also seen in the classrooms. Adults need to not give up on children as they have bad things coming from a great many directions. It's deeply concerning that community activities are being canceled for lack of volunteers.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Mr. Owen Dykema, 3264 W Normandy Avenue, Roseburg, thanked the high school for hosting Living History Day. He shared that many of the Veterans in attendance reflected that it was one of the best events ever. Mr. Dykema enjoyed speaking with approximately 50 kids. One student asked him if he was ever afraid while serving his Country, and he explained to her that he was indeed very scared.

Judy Kelly, 1175 Quail Lane, Roseburg, complimented the coaching staff for her grandsons' baseball teams over the past two years. She suggested that while our three coaches are amazing, she has witnessed other coaches who need to modify their behavior. Ms. Kelly asked Superintendent Washburn if she can stop worrying about locker and rest rooms, and Mr. Washburn stated that we are not changing. Handled properly, the public doesn't need to know as these are handled on a case by case basis.

Heidi Kincaid, 240 Beattie Lane, Roseburg, asked about policy for single use facilities at RHS and Fremont Middle School. Mr. Washburn again explained that if we do our jobs well, the other kids would never know and that's how we intend to handle it. Ms. Kincaid also responded to Director Garcia, sharing that her family intends to hold their son back as they don't feel he's ready for All Day Kindergarten.

Michael Gray, 592 Quail Lane, Roseburg, shared that this is his first board meeting and concurred with Chair Cotton that big problems are facing kids today. He stated that decisions made by school boards will affect children who are now growing up. He expressed his opinion that today good people are doing nothing about immorality. He intends to pray for the Board and hope for guidance. He requested the Board to stand firm in keeping men out of women's bathrooms.

ADJOURNMENT: With regular business completed, Chair Cotton adjourned the regular meeting at 7:27 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) to discuss labor negotiations

The Board convened into an Executive Session to discuss labor negotiations at 7:34 p.m. Discussion concluded at 7:38 p.m. and with no further business, Chair Cotton adjourned the meeting.

Gerry C. Washburn, Superintendent

GCW/jlk

NEXT MEETING: The June 15th School Board meeting will be held at the administrative office board room.