

ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Regular Board Meeting

Vol. 2 No. 17

April 26, 2017

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

ADMINISTRATION:

Gerry C. Washburn, Superintendent	X
Richard Burton, Director, Student Services	X
Robert Emerson, Director, Teaching & Learning	X
Robert Freeman, Director, Human Resources	X
Cheryl Northam, Chief Operations Officer	X

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, April 26, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at Green Elementary School located at 4498 Carnes Road in Roseburg Oregon.

ATTENDANCE: Board members present included Directors Cotton, Endicott, Garcia, Lee, Meyer and Patterson. Director Johnson was excused. Cabinet members were in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER: Board Chairman, Charles Lee, welcomed attendees and called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and asked Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW OF AGENDA: Superintendent Washburn reported that the Surplus Items list in the Consent Agenda and Item 5, Chrome Books purchase, were both postponed until the next Board Meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: Superintendent Washburn announced that Director Howard Johnson was excused for his planned travel to Texas, and we look forward to a full report at the next Board meeting.

Dr. Washburn reported the notice of resignation of Nick Van Bloem, Fifth Grade Teacher at Fullerton IV Elementary School, after three years in the District, to be effective at the conclusion of the 2016-17 school year.

WELCOME TO GREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Green Elementary Principal, Amy Jo Rodriguez, asked her student counsel representatives to lead the Board and interested audience members on a tour of the facility to showcase the writing work being done by Green students this year. Principal Rodriguez was excited to report that the school will become more of a community support site next year as an expanded preschool program partners with Head Start and the Family Development Center to serve families and provide supports for children from birth to fifth grade.

The Board and audience returned at 6:55 p.m. and the meeting resumed.

STUDENT RECOGNITION: The following students were recognized as Students of the Month by their respective schools. Recipients received congratulatory letters from their principals along with McDonald's gift cards:

Green Elementary Principal, Amy Jo Rodriguez, introduced her Fifth Grade Student of the Month, Malia Narciso, sharing comments from teachers who reflected that Malia has an amazing work ethic, staying busy year around

with academics, gymnastics and other activities. A member of the Battle of the Books team, Malia was the school's spelling bee winner. She also is the student representative for the Green Student Counsel. An amazing student, athlete and individual, Malia is skilled in gymnastics, Hawaiian Hula and Filipino Folk Dance, piano, and church choir. Malia's love of horses has inspired her to pursue a career in veterinary medicine.

Hucrest Principal, Doug Freeman, introduced his Fifth Grade Student of the Month, Parker Blacketter, who was congratulated for his growth mind-set and willingness to undertake difficult tasks. Parker's teachers celebrated his ability to overcome challenges and the improvements he has demonstrated in his math, writing and communication skills. Parker models perseverance to his fellow students and enjoys shining his light on others.

Joseph Lane Middle School Assistant Principal, Scott Greenhow, introduced Eighth Grade Student of the Month, Brayden Michael, who was honored by his teachers for being a great leader by example while demonstrating an unmatched level of patience and respect for others. Brayden enjoys attending Jo Lane with his younger brother, and appreciates teachers ensuring that he is challenged and engaged. Acknowledged for having a growth mindset, Brayden has undertaken advanced math and enjoys drawing in his Fine Arts class.

SPECIAL STAFF RECOGNITION – CRYSTAL APPLE AWARD

Green Elementary Principal, Amy Jo Rodriguez, was honored to present the Crystal Apple Award to her school librarian for the past 20 years, Pattie Adams. Principal Rodriguez shared her appreciation of the long list of tasks that Ms. Adams can accomplish on any given day. Most impressive is her ability to build strong relationships with all staff members and students, while creating a wonderful atmosphere in the library. The staff at Green Elementary feel fortunate to have Pattie share her dedication and love of reading with every person she comes in contact with.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP REPORT: ASB President, Bronwyn Spakousky, shared that her fellow seniors are gearing up for graduation on June 10th. She celebrated the success of FBLA students in taking Third Place at State Conference, with some qualifying for nationals. Spring sports are in full swing. Incoming freshmen enjoyed PRIDE Night last Wednesday where numerous clubs and opportunities were spotlighted. The annual Evening of Excellence will be held on May 16th. National Honor Society members are currently spearheading a school-wide blood drive. On Saturday, this year's prom, "Enchanted Garden" takes place at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Other upcoming events include "Volley Buff" next Wednesday and the Mother-Daughter Tea on May 21st. Students are also gearing up for a number of summer camps, as well as "Home Going". Bronwyn encouraged everyone to take advantage of the RHS on-line school calendar of events to stay current on student activities.

CONSENT AGENDA: The Consent Agenda consisted of minutes from the April 12th Board Meeting, Recommendations for Employment and a Leave of Absence Request.

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, recommended the following individuals for hire, noting that four of the six had previous family ties to our area:

- Lindsey Cook, Eastwood Elementary School Kindergarten Teacher;
- Kelsey Dage, Third Grade Teacher at Green Elementary School;
- Lyn Fienhold, Fourth Grade Teacher at Winchester Elementary School;
- Wesley Rea, First Grade Teacher at Fir Grove Elementary School;
- Valerie Titus, First Grade Teacher at Fir Grove Elementary; and
- Tim Weber, Sixth Grade Math/Science Teacher at Fremont Middle School.

Director Patterson moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Garcia seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-97 Approved the Consent Agenda

Request for Leave of Absence

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, presented his recommendation to approve a request from Tessa Falk, First Grade Teacher at Winchester Elementary School, for an unpaid leave of absence for the 2017-2018 school year. The employee's request is due to an ailing parent, and Mr. Freeman recommended waiving the requirement of being employed with the District for five years prior to requesting leave.

Director Endicott made a Motion to waive the five-year requirement for this Leave of Absence Request as presented. Director Garcia seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-98 Approved Waiver of Five Year Requirement Leave of Absence Request for First Grade Teacher, Tessa Falk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There were no audience members wishing to address the Board.

POLICY JECBD: HOMELESS STUDENTS, for Second Reading and Adoption: Superintendent Washburn reflected that the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, Subtitle VII-B, reauthorized by Title IX-A of the Every Child Student Succeeds Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431—11435 (2015) with federal regulations released in March of 2016 effect policy on homeless students. The updates in the Act effecting homeless students are reflected in the revisions to the homeless student policy and administrative regulation and have been reviewed and approved by ODE.

Director Patterson moved to approve Policy JECBD: Homeless Students, for Second Reading and Adoption. Director Garcia seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-99 Approved Policy JECBD: Homeless Students, for Second Reading and Adoption

APPROVE REVISED 2017-18 SCHOOL CALENDAR: Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, explained that the Calendar Committee was presented with proposals to place both elementary and secondary students on the same schedule. Previously, secondary schools were on a semester schedule and elementary schools were on trimesters, resulting in different grading and conference schedules. Those schedules are now aligned and hopefully result in increased student attendance in the future as well as making a single schedule that is more convenient for parents. The committee also addressed the long school breaks that are not in the best interest of students. There will now be school days in the first part of Thanksgiving week. October 13th has been designated as a mandatory training day with Eric Jensen instead of a non-contract day. Superintendent Washburn added that administration is working hard to shift duties and responsibilities for the yearly closing out of classrooms. Schools will also work hard to assure that staff with their own students will have the opportunity to attend their child's conference. The process will be refined as we go forward, but this committee work provided an opportunity for the district to work collaboratively with staff from an initial proposal.

Director Patterson made a Motion to approve the revised 2017-18 school calendar. Director Garcia seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-100 Approved the Revised 2017-2018 School Calendar

APPROVE STANTON STREET EASEMENT REQUEST FROM HADCO FOR FREMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL BUS LANE:

Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, explained that the District has asked the Housing Authority of Douglas County (HADCO) for an easement which would allow for a secondary access for a bus lane at Fremont Middle School. The HADCO Board will consider the proposed easement next week at their Board meeting if it is approved by our Board. The intent of the easement would be to provide for a bus-only access lane for student drop-off and pick-up, twice a day, providing added safety and alleviating traffic congestion on Harvard Avenue in the morning.

Director Endicott made a Motion to approve the proposed Stanton Street easement request for a Fremont bus lane. Director Meyer inquired if a telephone pole would have to be relocated, and Mr. Grauf responded that i.e. Engineering has drawn up two versions that go around the pole. Director Garcia expressed concern regarding the medical park employees who regularly avoid using the cross walks and instead dart into traffic and in front of our buses. He has personally observed near misses on several occasions.

With discussion concluded, Director Garcia seconded the Motion and it passed unanimously.

M2-101 Approved the Stanton Street Easement Request from HADCO for Fremont Middle School Bus Access

ADOPT STEMSCOPES DIGITAL SCIENCE CURRICULUM, GRADES 6-8:

Teaching and Learning Director, Robert Emerson, presented his recommendation to approve the STEMscopes Digital Science Curriculum for Grades 6-8 for a subscription period of six years. Staff have been working since the start of school this year to evaluate three separate programs to replace the Carolina curriculum that has been in place for approximately 15 years. Teachers piloted three potential options, eventually selecting STEMscopes, a digital curriculum on the state adoption list, achieving the highest rating for each grade. Carolina, the updated version of our present curriculum, was not on the approved middle school list due to a missed deadline, but there is a process for districts selecting a program not on the state approved list.

Teachers involved in the pilot agreed that the STEMscopes product offered more of what the teachers requested in a science adoption. Materials can be accessed online rather than each student having a textbook.

The proposed curriculum adoption was presented to the Board Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting on April 19th. Committee members reviewed the pros and cons of the companies along with the vastly different costs. An updated Carolina adoption would cost \$132,000 while the STEMscopes would be \$79,000, with no added shipping costs. The STEMscopes company is associated with Rice University, and the product is updated continuously as new information becomes available, eliminating the need to supplement.

Mr. Emerson's suggestion would be to invest the potential savings in this lower cost adoption and put it toward

the purchase of needed Chromebooks to take full advantage of the technology component thereby improving implementation. If that is the direction the Board would like to take, the District will obtain bids for enough Chromebooks for four carts to be deployed at each middle school.

Director Garcia made a Motion to adopt the proposed STEMscopes Digital Science Curriculum for Grades 6-8 over the next six years. Director Endicott expressed concern with labor costs and costs per student. With publishers moving toward digital curriculum, it lessens the options. Director Cotton expressed doubt that any future subscription costs would trend downward over time, which they tend to do currently. Superintendent Washburn shared that some companies penalize districts who select textbooks by charging higher prices.

Director Endicott seconded and the Motion passed unanimously. Directors Cotton and Patterson thanked Mr. Emerson, the committee and the pilot teachers involved in the project for their efforts on this adoption.

M2-102 Adopted STEMscopes Digital Science Curriculum, Grades 6-8
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SCHOOLZILLA K-12 DATA PLATFORM UPDATE: Teaching and Learning Director, Robert Emerson, suggested postponing this update until the next Board meeting in order to take advantage of technology supports at the district office to better facilitate demonstration of the Schoolzilla platform.

CABINET MEMBER REPORTS:

TEACHING AND LEARNING DIRECTOR, ROBERT EMERSON, shared that a large staff contingent will be attending the Oregon RTI Conference in Eugene, many of whom will be riding a school bus. Director Patterson reflected on his recent bus trip from California as a chaperone with the band and choir, and indicated he would not recommend it for long trips.

We continue to confront a few glitches with Schoolzilla, but are getting very close to where we need to be. The next steps planned are to customize the platform specific to our district. Mr. Emerson has met with staff from the high school and middle schools and understands the components needed for the Early Warning System for students at risk. Mr. Emerson and Technology Information Specialist Katy Potter will be creating the format designed to our specific needs. They plan to have the system ready this fall.

Mr. Emerson shared that we have received official notice of the award of a \$75,000 Innovation Grant from Ford Family Foundation, and a steering committee plans to begin this week to start planning the work that will be centered on students in poverty, Trauma Informed Care and Conscious Discipline. We anticipate a gradual process over 18 months to build awareness and provide training. This grant will greatly enhance our ability to provide professional development in this critical area. CDS staff are very excited at this opportunity.

Student assessment systems at the elementary level are being evaluated as we are currently doing many different assessments. Mr. Emerson's preference would be to focus on a few key assessments and will be looking to pilot various options between now and the month of June that would meet most of our needs.

CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER, CHERYL NORTHAM, shared the most current financial statement on Page 19, along with an acceptance letter from ODE verifying that the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for

the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016 was reviewed and determined to be complete and there is no further action required of the District.

Seismic Rehabilitation Grants were submitted and granted for Fullerton IV Elementary (\$1,495,000); Hucrest Elementary (\$1,497,198); and Melrose Elementary (\$868,960). No districts were awarded more than three grant requests. While there is no way of knowing if the legislature will approve another round of seismic grants, we will be ready if and when the opportunity becomes available.

The District has also received notice of a maximum \$20,000 ODE grant to be utilized for facility technical assistance in assessing building needs.

Based on the Paid Lunch Equity Tool, the District will be asking for a \$.10 increase in paid lunches for next school year and this will be reflected on a list of recommended student fees for 2017-18 that the Board will consider at an upcoming Board Meeting. The Driver's Education Program is also proposing an increase from \$170 to \$175 per student, with reduced lunch students paying \$110 instead of the current \$100 Driver's Ed fee.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Superintendent Washburn shared that he and Cabinet members continue to work on the 2017-18 budget. With a proposed state education budget based on \$7.8 billion dollars, our District is presented with an \$800,000 deficit. Some of the larger districts in the state built their budgets anticipating \$8.1 billion in education funding. Dr. Washburn was in Eugene last Friday to attend an Off the Record Meeting where most superintendents in the state were present. He will travel to Salem tomorrow as the State Board hears the first reading of the RHS mascot agreement with the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians. We are receiving positive initial responses to the staff and community survey to gauge support for changing school start and end times, school attendance boundaries, ending Early Release, and a potential capital improvement bond. Dr. Washburn shared that both Eugene and Medford area high schools have a high school start time of 8:45 a.m. The goal is to bring resulting action items to the Board in December so there is plenty of time to schedule community meetings and implement resulting changes.

Last night Dr. Washburn spoke at evening Rotary, and he will also be co-presenting with UCC President Thatcher at the May Chamber of Commerce event. Dr. Washburn and Human Resources Director Robert Freeman have been conducting "Boots on the Ground" staff meetings at each school to provide district updates and answer any questions from staff. This has proven to be a good way to hear concerns from our employees. On April 20th, Mr. Washburn was honored to attend the annual staff appreciation event at RHS.

While we appreciate our teachers every day, in the next few weeks we will be celebrating our annual Teacher Appreciation Week, and May is "Get Caught Reading" month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION (April 19, 2017): Director Endicott noted that the committee meeting report was previously covered during the earlier STEMscopes discussion. As reported, the teachers who piloted the three potential programs and the C & I Committee concurred that the STEMscopes digital science curriculum for Grades 6-8 would be the subscription program of choice to propose for adoption, as recommended by Teacher and Learning Director, Robert Emerson.

INDIVIDUAL DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

Director Garcia reflected on the incoming freshmen activities at the high school, and shared that each time he

attends functions at RHS he gains fresh perspective along with a greater appreciation of the accomplishments of Principal Weber and her staff. Mr. Garcia also commented that streamlining the 2017-18 calendar is appreciated by families and encouraged administration to assure that staff members be provided the opportunity to attend their children's conferences.

Director Patterson made note of the transition at RHS from Artlandia to Tech Night, to PRIDE Night, which is now directed only to incoming freshmen. Principal Weber shared that the school is targeting a smaller but more directed audience while trying not to overwhelm the incoming freshmen by not having all the classes attend. Mr. Patterson encouraged parents who don't have kids involved at the school to come and see the work that RHS students are doing. Director Patterson would have liked to have attended the recent staff recognition ceremony, as one of the teachers being honored for 30 years of service taught both of his children. He wanted to publicly recognize and say congratulations to those staff members being honored for their service.

Director Cotton thanked Principal Rodriguez for hosting the Board meeting, and requested that she share with the custodial staff how amazing the buildings look considering their age. The hallways are sparkling and the school is incredibly clean. He is trying to envision the upcoming seismic upgrades.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There were again no audience members wishing to address the Board.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, Chair Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Gerry C. Washburn, Ed.D.
Superintendent

GCW/jlk

NEXT MEETING: *The May 10, 2017, School Board meeting will be held in the Central Office Board Room located at 1419 NW Valley View Drive in Roseburg, Oregon.*