

# ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Regular Board Meeting

Vol. 2 No. 11

January 11, 2017

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Rodney Cotton	X
Daniel Endicott	X
Joseph Garcia	Excused
Rev. Howard Johnson	X
Charles F. Lee	X
Paul E. Meyer	Excused
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 meeting of the Douglas County School District No. 4 Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the Administrative Office Board Room located at 1419 NW Valley View Drive in Roseburg, Oregon.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Board Chairman, Charles Lee, welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and asked Student Services Director, Rick Burton, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ATTENDANCE:** Board members and Cabinet members were in attendance, with the exception of Director Garcia and Director Meyer, who were both excused. There were no media representatives present.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA:** Superintendent Washburn announced that agenda item 6, Drug and Discipline Update, has been postponed to a future meeting to allow all Board members to be in attendance. The scheduled Executive Session to review the Superintendent's Goals was also postponed until the full Board may be present.

**COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:** Superintendent Washburn reported that Roseburg High School Guidance Counselor, Jane Docken, has submitted her resignation for the purpose of retirement effective at the conclusion of the 2016-17 school year.

**LEADERSHIP REPORT:** RHS Leadership students present included Myah Dalby, Megan Danielson and Monet Fisher. A senior at RHS, Megan announced that a "Voices" assembly is scheduled February 2-3, an event that is meant to include everyone. The purpose is to discouraging stereotyping and disrespecting others. The Arts assembly will be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, with auditions scheduled in February. The event will showcase the many talents of RHS students.

Sophomore student, Monet Fisher, announced that students are enthusiastic about a new winter dance that will be held on February 10<sup>th</sup> following a basketball game. Students appreciated the compliments that had been posted on their individual lockers during the Winter break.

Sophomore student, Myah Dalby, reported winter sports competition results. Both Girls' and Boys' basketball teams have suffered some losses, but are continuing to improve as the season progresses. The swim teams are practicing a lot after losing competition time due to adverse weather conditions. However, there is a District competition scheduled February 10<sup>th</sup> in Eugene. The JV and Varsity Wrestling teams have also missed competitions due to weather. The JV did place first during the Coast Classic in North Bend. Varsity placed 4<sup>th</sup> in Clovis, California. Impressively, the team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 80 teams during competition in Reno, Nevada.

**STUDENT RECOGNITION:** The following students were recognized as students of the month at their respective schools. Recipients received congratulatory letters from their principals along with McDonald’s gift cards:

- Melanie “Melly” Starke-Halleron, Eastwood Elementary School Fifth Grade Student, was introduced by Director Lee, who shared Principal Opp’s letter describing Melly as being hard working, insightful and kind. Melly values education and her favorite subject is science. Her inquisitive, helpful and positive attitude will serve her well in her future quests for achievement.
- Ian Williams, Winchester Elementary School Fifth Grade student, was introduced by Director Endicott, who shared Principal Locke’s letter sharing Ian’s talents including art, academics and sports. Ian excels in academics, refusing to settle for less than his best. A gifted artist, he won the recent school safety poster contest. Teachers reflected that Ian exhibits a good work ethic while always making work fun. Teachers complimented Ian’s respectful, compassionate, thoughtful and empathic demeanor.
- Rylee Juett, Jo Lane Middle School Seventh Grade student, was introduced by Director Patterson, who shared Principal Bartlett’s letter congratulating Rylee for her participation in Concert Band and Choir, along with playing the piano, violin and clarinet. She has been selected to participate in the Choral Leadership Conference as well as the All-State Middle School Honor Choir. Rylee particularly enjoys Language Arts and is a natural leader who puts the needs of others before her own.

**SPECIAL STAFF RECOGNITION – CRYSTAL APPLE AWARD**

Director Johnson presented the Crystal Apple Award to Eastwood Elementary School Food Service Lead, Theresa O’Connell. Theresa has worked in the Eastwood kitchen for 16 years, the last three serving as the Kitchen Lead. Along with two fellow staff members, she prepares 800-850 meals per day, assuring that no one leaves Eastwood without being well fed, no matter the individual circumstances. Theresa prepares meals for the Ready 4 K classes; supports the Fifth Grade Camp Eastwood event; and coordinates the Variety Show. Her contributions to the school help make Eastwood a great place for students and staff every day.

**There was a brief recess at 6:35 p.m. to allow parents, students and staff members who wished to leave to depart for the evening. The meeting resumed at 6:40 p.m.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The Consent Agenda this evening included Minutes from the December 14th Board Meeting, Gifts to the District and Surplus items.

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

M2-60 Approved the Consent Agenda
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**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There were no audience members wishing to address the Board.

**GOVERNOR’S PROCLAMATION OF SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH:** Dr. Washburn shared Oregon Governor Kate Brown’s Proclamation declaring January 2017 as School Board Recognition Month. The Superintendent expressed his appreciation to the Board for their thoughtfulness, compassion and commitment to this community, and trying to do their best for the schools. The Board was honored with cookies in appreciation for the work that they do on behalf of our students.

**APPOINTMENT OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Chairman Lee introduced Mr. Keith Cubic, whose Budget Committee term expired on June 30, 2016, and Ms. Leah Hamilton, who submitted a letter of interest to complete the term vacated by Mr. Brian Davis. Ms. Hamilton noted that she recently completed her MBA and

desires to be more active in the community. This is a prime opportunity to extend her education and experience beyond her work as a staff accountant at Umpqua Health, formerly known as Architrave.

Mr. Cubic commented that Leah would be an excellent addition to the Budget Committee. He shared that he would be honored to continue serving and assisting the Board on budget matters. He shared his respect for all the work the Board does for our community.

Superintendent Washburn noted that we will bring a work group together of community members to have discussions prior to the budget committee deliberations. Members of our union groups and principals will be reviewing financial projections prior to putting a budget document together, adding transparency to the process.

Board members completed ballots for both the Budget Committee candidates. The vote was unanimous to reappoint Keith Cubic for another term ending June 2019, and appoint Leah Treva Dee Hamilton to complete Mr. Davis' term which ends June 2018. Both committee members will be invited to attend future budget related work groups and formal meetings. Chair Lee welcomed both members and thanked them for their willingness to participate on this essential committee.

**COMMITTEE REPORT – FINANCE (DECEMBER 12, 2016):** Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, stated that Board members received copies of the annual audit at the previous Board meeting. At the December 12<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee meeting, the auditors presented the 2015-16 audit report, stating that it was a clean audit and that staff are doing a good job throughout the year, resulting in the briefest ever period of field work by the audit team. Director Cotton shared his sincere thanks, adding that we are fortunate to have the business staff that we have and they work very hard. Director Johnson received confirmation that this is the second year that districts report PERS obligations differently. Cheryl explained that we now fully recognize future liability on the balance sheet. PERS side accounts are no longer reflected as they are used to pay the entire debt of the system.

**APPROVE 2015-16 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, invited any questions regarding the annual financial statement. With none forthcoming, Chair Lee asked for a vote to approve.

Director Endicott moved to approve the 2015-2016 Audited Financial Statement as presented. Director Patterson seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-61 Approved the 2015-2016 Audited Financial Statement
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**DIVISION 22 STANDARDS – REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY:** Teaching and Learning Director, Robert Emerson, presented the Division 22 Standards Report, noting that this year, his first for preparing the report, the District is required to report on all standards rather than a select few. Mr. Emerson stated that we are compliant with all standards with the exception of No. 1310, Identification of Academically Talented and Intellectually Gifted Students, due to additional requirements last March pursuant to the state asking that districts take additional steps to identify more students. Currently students are identified based on parent and teacher identification. More training may be provided to teachers and principals to assist them in identifying students for further testing. Chair Lee noted that essentially ODE adopted a new standard without providing direction to districts regarding implementation. Director Emerson noted that it's important from an equity standpoint that these students are provided opportunities. He explained that gifted students may not be the "best" students in the traditional sense.

Director Endicott moved to approve the Division 22 Standards Report to the Community as presented. Director Johnson seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-62 Approved the Division 22 Standards Report to the Community
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**STUDENT ENROLLMENT/ATTENDANCE:** Dr. Washburn reviewed student enrollment numbers and reported chronic attendance percentages at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Our numbers are improving but attendance remains an important area of focus. The Superintendent expressed his belief that if kids learn to attend school early, they will continue to go to school. Establishing a strong foundation for elementary students will translate into positive results later on. Staff attendance is currently at 90%, and would be higher at the elementary and secondary if not for pulling out teachers for professional development.

Core student enrollment is down 51 students from the same time last year, but overall we are down 11. We currently have 40 more students in alternative education than this time last year. Student transfers are 202 out and 183 in.

**CABINET MEMBER REPORTS:**

**HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR, ROBERT FREEMAN,** reported that the Time and Attendance rollout has been positive and is now in every elementary and the high school. We are starting with small groups consisting of the principals and office managers, although RHS has a larger pilot group due to the size of the school. These individuals will become the experts in their buildings. The next step is to roll out the system to hourly employees. The middle school roll out will begin within the next few weeks.

Mr. Freeman was able to attend the COSA law conference, and commented that it is one of the best conferences they offer. He was also happy to report attending the Melrose Holiday Dinner, where he and Director Johnson shared a table. The Hungerford Law Firm presented a recent workshop regarding non renewals and dismissals of licensed staff. Unlike other states, Oregon has two systems within the non-renewal and dismissal processes. The workshop was helpful in understanding the differences and rules and regulations with those laws. Continuing contracts and non-renewals are slated for presentation at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting.

Robert has joined a county-wide recruitment team to encourage teachers to come to our area of Douglas County. North Douglas, Days Creek, Sutherlin, Camas Valley and Roseburg are all participating on this team through the Douglas ESD. Director Johnson offered his assistance with recruiting if he can be useful in promoting diversity. Mr. Freeman explained that the issue really is more that people of diversity are not pursuing careers in education.

On January 30<sup>th</sup>, Douglas ESD will also host a county-wide presentation from the “I Love U Guys” response protocol training.

**STUDENT SERVICES DIRECTOR, RICHARD BURTON,** reported that we are in the process of a Due Process Hearing. As we continue to merge programs into the district, Mr. Burton reported some changes in the Creekside and River Rock Touchstone programs. Due to program expansion, the Fowler House adjacent to the Court House will now function as a traditional housing site for males only to learn life skills and job readiness through educational tracks such as UCC. This provides an opportunity for these students to stay in the county in a livable facility while learning cooking skills that could translate into work in the food service industry. Chair Lee shared that these are students who would have been charged with a crime if they had been adults.

Creekside, located at the former police station, is now only for females within the Oregon Youth Authority program. Non-OYA students are taught in the detention center. We continue to bridge the gap in providing services for these children and plan to create a Roseburg School District certificate of graduation.

Mr. Burton was pleased to report that University of Oregon candidates have been contacting us for internship and residency opportunities. Work also continues as we work to tie in our IRRE data with student perceptions of what they are getting and teacher perceptions of SpEd and how this impacts outcomes.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Superintendent Washburn announced that the cancelled school day of January 4<sup>th</sup> will be made up on February 20<sup>th</sup>. While districts have the option of not making it up as long as they meet minimum instructional hours, with the unreliable weather we are seeing we could end up having to make up a day at the end of the school year.

The media will be reporting a fairly significant marijuana event that occurred at RHS today with approximately 24 students involved. A student brought marijuana to school for sale, and it was subsequently purchased by other students. Superintendent Washburn shared his media statement:

*"Student disciplinary issues are not open for public discourse and we will not discuss those situations specifically. Teaching healthy behaviors is always a discussion in our schools, with our students, parents, and teachers. And substances that are illegal for minors to possess or consume continue to be treated as contraband on school grounds; however, just as we deal with the differences in alcohol and cigarette use in the home versus what we teach as healthy habits at school, we have to be aware those same varying differences with regard to marijuana's newly legalized status in Oregon. And this is a difficult tightrope to walk when the research on marijuana usage impacts on developing brains and emerging evidence that enhanced and synthetic marijuana are having medical impacts on users may conflict with family attitudes. Bottom line, marijuana was not legal before this incident, it is not legal now and still has no place on our campuses."*

We are looking forward to the budget committee meetings and preliminary work groups as we strive to keep people informed of the process.

Mr. Washburn is planning to attend the OACOA Conference on January 26-27. The Washburns also plan to be out of the District on February 24<sup>th</sup> to spend time with their son before he deploys overseas.

**INDIVIDUAL DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:** Director Patterson expressed his appreciation for the "Thank You" cards that Board members received from the RHS Leadership students. Director Cotton referenced a climatologist who has reported that we are in a new 30-year cycle, similar to the 1970's, and need to be prepared for the kind of weather we have been experiencing this year. Central Oregon has been declared a state-of-emergency area to qualify for federal funding. The City of Bend, Oregon reportedly has 40 inches of snow in the downtown area. Mr. Cotton reflected that he approves of the decision to make up the snow day in February.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Lee adjourned the regular meeting at 7:20 p.m.

**Gerry C. Washburn, Superintendent**  
gcw/jlk

**NEXT MEETING:** The January 25, 2017, School Board meeting will be held in the Media Center of Hucrest Elementary School, located at 1810 Northwest Kline Street, in Roseburg, Oregon.