

ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Regular Board Meeting

Vol. 2 No. 5

September 28, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS:

Rodney Cotton	X
Daniel Endicott	X
Joseph Garcia	X
Rev. Howard Johnson	X
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 meeting of the Douglas County School District No. 4 Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, September 28, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center at Roseburg High School, located at 400 W. Harvard Avenue, Roseburg, Oregon.

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

ATTENDANCE: All Board members and Cabinet members were in attendance. No media representatives were present.

REVIEW OF AGENDA: Superintendent Washburn announced that Agenda Item 3. Volunteer Handbook, has been postponed to allow more time for the ALICE training overview. He also shared that we are pleased to include one additional employment recommendation to the Consent Agenda.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: Superintendent Washburn announced that there are no licensed resignations to report to the Board. Dr. Washburn reminded the Board of the upcoming OSBA Regional Fall Dinner and Meeting scheduled for October 18th at Umpqua Community College.

RHS STUDENT LEADERSHIP REPORT: RHS Leadership students Jacob Allen and Arianna Murray-Somirs shared the outstanding student art, drafting and metalwork on display in the media center that was greatly enjoyed by the Board. They presented a video illustrating a typical day in the life of an RHS student. Reports were given on recent sports activities and results. Jacob shared that the football team is enjoying the season and hopes to connect more on the field. Volleyball is first in their league. Soccer and Cross Country teams are doing well. The Cross Country team held a race at Stewart Park last week, enabling families and friends to come to support the team. Varsity runners will be traveling to Palo Alto this weekend to compete with 100 runners. Over 100 seniors attended the "Senior Sunrise" event. The "Senior Sunset" event will occur later in the school year. RHS students are helping with upcoming community events including book fairs, tutoring, a "Pennies for Patients" fundraiser, the Umpqua Memorial Run, and the Elks Haunted House. Homecoming preparations are continuing. Students are enjoying tailgating activities as they gather in the parking lot prior to home football games. One hundred seats have been added to the student section of the grandstands to accommodate increased student attendance. Leadership students are busy celebrating both staff and student birthdays. The welcoming assembly at RHS included how to act with PRIDE. Home room lessons have been including information on student attendance, helping students understand the impact of chronic non-attendance. Teachers have been

contacting student families to offer support in how parents can help their students be successful.

CONSENT AGENDA: The Consent Agenda this evening included Minutes from the September 14th Board meeting, Gifts to the District, and employment recommendations.

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, presented the following employment recommendations:

- Kristen Wickert, First Grade Teacher at Melrose Elementary School; and
- Valerie Titus, Kindergarten Teacher at Fir Grove Elementary School (temporary position for 2016-17)

Director Endicott moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Director Garcia seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

M2-37 Approved the Consent Agenda

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

FUND FOR TEACHERS GRANT REPORT: Teaching and Learning Administrative Coordinator, Kris Kelso, introduced Joseph Lane Middle School Math Teacher, Janelle Hubbard. Mrs. Hubbard explained that the grant program supports teachers in developing skills and knowledge to enhance student achievement. Grant recipients include K-12 teachers who have traveled to 143 countries. The local Ford Foundation is one of several organizations who support this program. Mrs. Hubbard was successful in obtaining a grant to attend a three-day “Teaching and Engaging Students with Poverty in Mind” Eric Jensen training in San Diego. She shared her learnings that children from poverty respond differently to stress, have different cognitive function, shorter working memory and different emotional responses. Janelle explained that there are no unmotivated students, but rather students in unmotivated states. Teachers have the ability to change that state and enable students to have deeper learning. Students are taught to believe that they can grow and learn and have the ability to succeed. Teachers can achieve this by building deep relationships in their classrooms. Students have to believe that their teacher believes in them and won’t allow them to fail. Mrs. Hubbard shared that grant proceeds enabled her to purchase Mr. Jensen’s power point and books that she hopes to share during PD with fellow staff members, as well as placing positive posters in the staff room.

Mrs. Hubbard thanked Dr. Washburn for sharing his “Velveteen Principle” emails encouraging teachers to help students believe in themselves.

Kris Kelso added that last year the District sent 20 plus teachers to the Jensen training, and this year will send 25 to a two-day training. Several schools are participating in book studies as well. Next year the Jensen training will be here locally. Superintendent Washburn confirmed that the Jensen work is important and is a focus at the high school. He explained that staff must believe in children’s ability to learn, as this is the first big step in encouraging a desire to learn. We must all be committed to the belief that our students are capable of achieving. Mr. Washburn shared that he is encouraged at what he is observing in the district and in the classrooms.

A.L.I.C.E. TRAINING OVERVIEW:

Transportation and Purchasing Supervisor, Denny Austin, shared details of emergency preparedness programs including “I Love U Guys”, “Run, Hide, Fight” and A.L.I.C.E. In July of 2015, the State of Oregon added A.L.I.C.E. language into statute. The program can be blended in with what we already do for emergency preparedness. Mr. Austin attended a training in 2014 and is now qualified as a trainer. He explained that we consider this an opportunity to provide new tools to our teaching and administrative staff in worst-case scenarios. Mr. Washburn reflected that we would be remiss not to have staff trained in all the things they can do given our

community experience. Director Cotton noted that some states have been utilizing the Raptor system where volunteers or visitors have their driver's licenses scanned upon entering a school. Dr. Washburn reflected that we are establishing working relationships with local law enforcement in identifying processes for reunifying kids with their families in the event of emergencies such as earthquakes, flooding, etc. Chair Lee noted the importance of agencies utilizing common vocabulary in the event of emergencies.

APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE OREGON SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, ROSEBURG CHAPTER 21, REPRESENTING OUR CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES:

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, presented the Memorandum of Understanding with the classified employee group. The agreement includes steps and columns for employees who are eligible, and an increase of \$88.00 to the insurance cap, bringing it to \$1,088. The insurance opt-out amount has been increased by \$44 to a total of \$419.00. This agreement is in line with the licensed group.

Director Patterson moved to approve the Roseburg OSEA Memorandum of Understanding. Director Endicott seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-38 Approved MOU agreement with the Oregon School Employees Association, Roseburg Chapter 21

POLICY BD/BDA: BOARD MEETINGS for Second Reading and Adoption: Superintendent Washburn reminded the Board that at the First Reading of this policy, Director Meyer led an involved discussion regarding electronic communications. Anything that could be construed as a straw poll or deliberation is not allowed. He indicated that the language in this proposed policy meets requirements of Public Meetings Law.

Director Patterson moved to approve Policy BD/BDA: BOARD MEETINGS, for Second Reading and Adoption. Director Johnson seconded for purposes of discussion. Director Meyer expressed concern with the rolling communication issue, uncertain if the document, while accurate, is complete. Superintendent Washburn reflected that administration needs to assure that communications occur in the appropriate manner.

With discussion concluded, the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-39 Approved Policy BD/BDA: BOARD MEETINGS, for Second Reading and Adoption

POLICY JFCB: ACADEMIC HONESTY, for Second Reading and Adoption: Superintendent Washburn presented Policy JFCB: Academic Honesty. RHS Principal, Jill Weber, shared that in efforts to deal with student dishonesty, expectations are shared with students at assemblies at the beginning of each school year, as well as discussing plagiarism during home room and again when students are working on writing projects. Dr. Washburn shared that the "Minimum Standards" handbook is being revised and will be called the "Responsibility and Expectations" handbook for both students and staff members, and will be incorporated into Policy JFC.

Director Endicott moved to approve Policy JFCB: ACADEMIC HONESTY, for Second Reading and Adoption. Director Patterson seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-40 Approved Policy JFCB: ACADEMIC HONESTY, for Second Reading & Adoption

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED PROPERTY PURCHASE: Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, informed that Board that the owner of 365 West Birch, Roseburg, has approached the District with a proposal to sell the property.

For purpose of discussion, Director Garcia moved to approve the proposed purchase of property known as 365 West Birch, Roseburg, Oregon. Director Cotton seconded. Mrs. Northam explained that the property is in fairly good condition and could be readily prepared for rental once needed painting is completed. Purchase of this property would result in a deficit in our rental income funds that would return to a positive position by approximately December of 2017. The seller is willing to cover realtor fees and closing costs should the Board approve the purchase. This would complete our property purchases on this street. Director Johnson asked to be provided with the map of properties behind the high school including any future plans for that vicinity.

The Motion passed with the majority voting Yes and Director Meyer voting No.

M2-41 Approved Proposed Property Purchase of 365 W Birch, Roseburg, Oregon
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CABINET MEMBER REPORTS:

CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER, CHERYL NORTHAM, provided a current financial report and noted that she will provide updates as the school year progresses.

Mrs. Northam shared that the Free Breakfast program is seeing increased student participation. Student participation is approaching 89% at schools where students are directed to the cafeteria upon arrival in the morning. Director Cotton emphasized that this is a great start for students in getting adequate nutrition to support their learning.

Districts have recently been notified that they are eligible for partial reimbursement for the mandated lead testing. Current costs are estimated to be approximately \$40,000. Applications will be accepted starting in December. Approximately five million dollars has been allocated for districts throughout the state.

The seismic grant project at Green Elementary will begin in the summer of 2017. The next round of grant awards is expected to be \$150 million, and we will submit proposals for both Fullerton IV and Hucrest Elementary Schools. Future funding will remain unknown until the legislature meets again. We have also applied for technical assistance grants through ODE, recognizing that preference will be given to districts with fewer than 2,500 students.

Official PERS rates were released yesterday, and it was noted that while they are bad, they were better than previous estimates. Our District will see an estimated \$1.2 million increase, approximately \$300,000 less than we anticipated. The rates go into effect in July of 2017 for a two year span. We should expect similar increases after that.

TEACHING AND LEARNING DIRECTOR, ROBERT EMERSON, reported that he had mentioned in July his intention to research a centralized data system to pull together testing, student, discipline, food service, transportation data, etc. Correlating the numbers requires manual work in pulling the data from different systems. The district's Instructional Team has been discussing this dilemma.

Mr. Emerson demonstrated the Schoolzilla data visualization system that creates dashboards for schools. The

software allows districts to develop early warning systems by utilizing indicators such as attendance, failing classes, GPA and discipline. It is difficult to retrieve data from our Synergy system as staff must pull the data and create spreadsheets.

Schoolzilla enables organizations to identify kids and take prompt action. Data can be customized by the district. We speculate that such a system could potentially save substantial staff time and could be used immediately at the secondary level. Meetings dependent upon separate reporting for a student could be gathered all on one screen with real time results. This would be an excellent tool for parent conferences and maintaining transparency with our community in areas such as attendance, student achievement and graduation rates. We could potentially correlate programs such as the Free Breakfast program with impacts on student achievement.

Director Meyer inquired what the cost would potentially be to implement the program, and Mr. Emerson responded that initial estimates are approximately \$12-15 thousand to install with annual per-student subscription costs expected to be about \$30,000 per year.

Schoolzilla is based on the same software used by IRRE, and this could enable us to make correlations between their data and our data. Mr. Emerson speculated that there is potential to develop staff expertise over time that could reduce subscription costs.

Mr. Emerson will continue to keep the Board apprised of his learnings in this area.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Superintendent Washburn shared that he is seeing a balance across all grade levels in the numbers of students transferring in and out of the District. He shared enrollment numbers that were encouraging compared to the previous year, and thanked schools for staying on top of the data collection efforts. He indicated that the positive things happening in our buildings will translate into students staying in the system.

Dr. Washburn was invited to speak at the Masonic Lodge this week where a number of Roseburg students were awarded scholarships, including Director Endicott's son. The Washburns also attended school open houses. Cabinet staff plan to meet on Monday with UCC President, Dr. Debra Thatcher, to enhance and build a partnership between our organizations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – BUILDING & SITES MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016.

Committee Chair, Joe Garcia, shared that Facilities Manager, Tracy Grauf, provided the committee with an update to the project list he had prepared and presented in the spring.

INDIVIDUAL DIRECTOR'S REPORTS: Director Garcia expressed his appreciation for the RHS administrative staff in dealing with recent challenges.

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

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business remaining, Board Chairman Lee adjourned the regular meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Gerry C. Washburn, Superintendent
gcw/jlk

NEXT MEETING: The October 12th School Board meeting will be held in the Administrative Office Board Room