

ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Regular Meeting

Via Zoom

1419 NW Valley View Drive
Roseburg, Oregon

Vol 2 No. 7

September 9, 2020

Board Members:

Brandon Bishop	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rodney Cotton	<input type="checkbox"/>
Micki Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Howard Johnson	Exc
Rebecca Larson, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>
Charles F. Lee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steve Patterson, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>

Administration:

Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Richard Burton, Director of Student Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Robert Freeman, Director of Human Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michelle Knee, Assistant Superintendent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cheryl Northam, Chief Operations Officer	Exc

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

TIME/PLACE: A regular meeting of the Douglas County School District No. 4 Board of Directors was held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 in the Administrative Office Board Room, located at 1419 NW Valley View Drive in Roseburg, Oregon, electronically via Zoom link.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Board Chair Rebecca Larson welcomed Zoom participants and called the Board Meeting to order, and asked Student Services Director, Richard Burton, to lead in the pledge of allegiance. Chair Larson shared her disappointment that the pandemic environment prevents the Board from appropriately honoring students and staff as they have in the past, due to social distancing. Mrs. Larson publicly thanked our teachers, reflecting that these fine craftsmen have been asked to trade out all items in their “tool belts”. Our instructors have done an amazing job, while displaying great courage and positive attitudes. Children are so excited to again be able to “see” their teachers. The Board is aware of the great things happening at the District, and even though they can’t acknowledge staff in person, they are grateful for all the hard work being done.

ATTENDANCE: Board and Cabinet members were in attendance via Zoom, with the exception of Director Howard Johnson, who was excused. Superintendent Cordon, Chair Larson and Assistant Superintendent, Michelle Knee, were on site. Education reporter, Sanne Godfrey, was also in attendance via Zoom. Roseburg High School Leadership student, Marin Gray, joined the meeting via Zoom.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD / REVIEW OF AGENDA

Superintendent Cordon noted that the Phoenix agreement had been removed from the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Superintendent Cordon presented the Consent Agenda consisting of Approval of the Consent Agenda, Minutes

from the August 26th School Board Meeting and the following employment recommendations and notices of resignation or retirement:

Recommendations for Employment:

- Kimberlee DeVries, Joseph Lane Middle School Sixth Grade Language Arts and Social Studies Teacher, a temporary position for the 2020-21 school year;
- Emily Terhune, a Learning Specialist at Fremont Middle School; and
- Peter Lindstrom, RHS Science Teacher, a PERS working retiree. This will be a temporary contract for the 2020-21 school year.

Notice of Resignations:

- Irene Goldenberg, a Learning Specialist at Fremont Middle School, after two years in the District; and
- Peter Lindstrom, RHS Science Teacher, who is retiring for PERS purposes following 17 years in the District.

Director Steve Patterson moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Brandon Bishop seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-38 Approved the Consent Agenda

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Chair Larson asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board, and there were none.

APPROVE PURCHASE OF LIVE STREAMING EQUIPMENT EXCEEDING \$50,000

District Purchasing Manager, Denny Austin, recapped the responses to an Invitation to Bid (ITB 20-687) for Video Conference / Remote Learning Tools from 8 vendors who presented 13 various options to support the District's comprehensive remote learning initiative. Once staff have had an opportunity to review available configurations, the District will move forward with purchasing televisions, web-cameras, mobile stands and accessories that can best meet our remote learning initiative requirements from the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Pacific Office Automation.

Superintendent Cordon emphasized that this investment should promote consistency in strong educational content by minimizing disruption as we transition back to in-person from the hybrid model. Students could access the same content with their teacher just as if they were in their classroom seat, consistent with our future aspirational goal of providing students with a college-level quality experience. Part of the funding for this purchase will be from the federal government to provide education during the COVID pandemic.

Director Micki Hall moved to approve the purchase of live streaming equipment pursuant to Invitation to Bid 20-687 from Pacific Office Automation. Director Steve Patterson seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously. Assistant Superintendent Michelle Knee confirmed for Director Charles Lee that the cameras will be deployed in Grades 6-12 classrooms. Michelle also confirmed for Director Micki Hall that teachers would be provided training on the equipment. Mrs. Hall reflected that when students are in the classroom, they can be helpful with technology.

M2-39 Approved proposed purchase of live streaming equipment exceeding \$50,000 from Pacific Office Automation to support remote learning

APPROVE REAL ESTATE PURCHASE

Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, was on a planned vacation, and Purchasing Supervisor Denny Austin referenced her memorandum of today stating that a property owner at 354 W. Selmar Court has approached the District with an interest in selling his property. The proposed purchase price is well within current value, and this owner is also offering to rent the property back for up to one year at \$1,200 per month.

Director Micki Hall moved to approve purchase of the home as recommended. Director Steve Patterson seconded the Motion, noting that this recommendation falls in line with our strategy to create additional space for the high school. The Motion passed unanimously.

M2-40 Approved Real Estate purchase of 354 West Selmar Court in Roseburg

POLICY GBEB: COMMUNICABLE DISEASE – STAFF, for Second Reading and Adoption

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, shared that this revised policy was reviewed by the Policy Committee on August 21st and approved for First Reading at the August 26th Board Meeting. This is highly recommended by OSBA.

Director Micki Hall moved to approve Policy GBEB: Communicable Disease - Staff, for Second Reading and Adoption. Director Brandon Bishop seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-41 Approved Policy GBEB: Communicable Disease - Staff, for Second Reading and Adoption

POLICY JHCC: COMMUNICABLE DISEASE – STUDENTS, for Second Reading and Adoption

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, reminded the Board that this policy is new for our district, and is the counterpart to Policy GBEB above, but is specific to students instead of staff. First Reading was approved at the August 26th Board Meeting after review by the Policy Committee on August 21st.

Director Steve Patterson moved to approve Policy JHCC: Communicable Disease – Students, for Second Reading and Adoption. Director Charles Lee seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M2-42 Approved Policy JHCC: Communicable Disease - Students, for Second Reading and Adoption

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Cordon echoed Chair Larson’s kudos to staff for their flexibility and professionalism, sharing that he could not express enough gratitude. He has observed the entire staff being flexible, professional, giving grace and working hard. Everyone is doing an exceptional job doing this heavy lifting. Jared also thanked the Board, noting that we wouldn’t be here without their vision.

The Superintendent stated that the Technology staff are doing an exceptional job, stepping up while we overhauled the departmental structure as we worked on the network infrastructure, overseen by Assistant

Superintendent Michelle Knee. Many districts throughout the country are reporting broken links, programs not working and network issues. This confirms that we have hired the right people.

Jared shared that the most recent health authority graph appears to reflect that the curve has been flattening over the past several days, which encourages us to start thinking about our marker dates for school reopening, but cautioned we could also see some bumps once students return. The Superintendent encouraged everyone to view the new 2020-21 Family Tool Kit link created by Communications Analyst, Chelsea Duncan. This area on our web site is intended to make information readily accessible to our student families.

The District is keeping a close eye on the wildfires and resulting smoke issues. Superintendent Cordon thanked our First Responders and everyone assisting them as they battle over 500 square miles of impacted areas. If our District moves into Level Two, we will close our schools and information will be posted on our web site. We remain hopeful that containment will begin soon. Jared confirmed for Director Lee that County Emergency Management personnel recommends that Level Two status would require individuals to remain at home to prepare for Level Three. The Board would be notified in that event.

The Superintendent encouraged the Board to carve out time at the next meeting to talk about a capital improvement bond campaign and a potential school re-boundary process.

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS BY DIRECTORS

Chair Rebecca Larson noted that she failed to mention at the start of the meeting that we are missing Director Howard Johnson and his questions and insights. The Board misses Reverend Johnson and wish him a speedy recovery, and Happy Birthday tomorrow! He will be in our thoughts.

Director Micki Hall added her appreciation for teachers and staff supporting our students. Everyone is tired and deserve our thanks. She added her suggestion that signage of “Heroes Work Here” should be posted at all of our school buildings. Mrs. Hall cautioned that while our COVID indicators look good now, everywhere that colleges have opened there have been increases in positive cases. Labor Day consequences remain unknown. She added her thanks to our local First Responders. The local air quality also reminds us that we are expecting our teachers to work in buildings where the air quality is poor. It is wonderful to be improving our infrastructure, but we have to begin taking care of our buildings as well.

Director Rod Cotton thanked staff for doing a fantastic job. He shared that children in his neighborhood were all dressed up and ready to go for school pictures. It was so nice to see those interactions.

Director Brandon Bishop shared that his family has four children at home who attend three separate schools. His youngest child is missing his friends, but overall it has been a very positive experience. The children are learning to make the best of the situation online. He and his wife are impressed with “our new normal”.

Director Steve Patterson echoed the comments of his colleagues. He noted Principal Weber on the Zoom and inquired how things were going at RHS. Principal Weber responded that everyone is working very hard with a positive attitude. She is thankful for staff who are making this happen and coming together in teamwork. Steve thanked the high school for all their efforts. On a final note, Director Patterson added his thanks to First Responders as they deal with significant challenges. It’s devastating to see videos of cities directly impacted by the fires. We will hope and pray that everything changes next week, and our thoughts are with everybody.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Chair Larson inquired if there was anyone remaining who wished to address the Board and there were none. Rebecca thanked everyone for their participation.

ADJOURNMENT: With all business before the Board concluded, Chair Larson adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent
JPC/jlk

Next Meeting: September 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administrative Office Board Room, located at 1419 NW Valley View Drive in Roseburg Oregon via Zoom link.