

## ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Time & Location:**

The March 17, 2021 School Board Meeting was held at 6 p.m. in the RHS Rose Theatre, 400 West Harvard Blvd. via live stream due to Douglas County's "extreme" risk category for COVID-19.



SUPERINTENDENT:

JARED P. CORDON

**Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent shared an inspiring recap of March 2020-March 2021, illustrating how far we have come in spite of the challenges resulting from the pandemic. Our many accomplishments included providing emergency childcare to front-line workers; 1000s of tech devices and hot spots distributed to students for distance learning; 645,105 free meals provided to children in our community; staff did 100s of home visits to connect with students and support families in crisis; an Operations Team was created to support health and safety guidelines; followed state requirements to reopen

**Next Board Meeting:**

April 14, 2021  
6:00 p.m.  
RHS Rose Theatre  
400 W. Harvard Blvd.  
Roseburg, Oregon

our schools; implemented a Learning Management System to support distance learning; and instituted vast improvements in our IT Dept. for technology access and connectivity for students and staff. RPS was the first 6A school district to reopen to in-person learning and we have managed to limit the spread of COVID-19 in our schools. RHS graduation rates are the highest ever and RPS became a resource for many districts across the state, with State officials reaching out to learn about our successful reopening strategies. Jared expressed excitement for a future of unprecedented opportunities that await students attending RPS.

**Action Items**

The Consent Agenda was approved, consisting of the approval of the Consent Agenda, Minutes from the February 24th School Board Meeting and Gifts to the District. Personnel actions were approved as follows:

**Employment Recommendation:**

- Alexis Smith, Second Grade Teacher at Green Elementary, a temporary position for the 2020-21 school year.

**Retirements:**

- Sharon Bareswill, Fourth Grade Teacher, is retiring June 11, 2021 after 34 years in education, six at Winchester Elementary.

**Resignations:**

- Cary Cermak-Rudolf is resigning after 20 years at the end of the school year to join the admin team at Sutherlin School District.

- Casey DeGroot, Fifth Grade Teacher at Sunnyslope School, will resign effective June 11, 2021 to relocate following four years in the District.
- Sarah Koens, Counselor at RHS, is resigning to relocate at the end of the school year after 15 years;
- Morgan McLain, Fifth Grade Teacher at Sunnyslope Elementary is resigning at the end of the school year following three years in the District.

**Pension Bonding**

Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam, shared both the risks and potential gains related to issuance of additional pension obligation bonds.

**2021-2022 School Year Calendar**

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, presented the proposed 2021-2022 school year calendar. District administrators, supervisors, office managers and both unions had an opportunity to review the calendar prior to submission to the Board for consideration.

**Committee Report Building & Sites**

Committee Chair, Howard Johnson, referred to the minutes of the March 1, 2021 committee meeting which consisted of a bond measure discussion, bond marketing and potential placement of an agricultural building on the Roseburg High School campus.

**Roseburg High School Student Leadership Report**

RHS students Marin Gray and Chelsea Miller appeared via video to provide an update of activities at the high school. Chelsea shared that counselors have been helping students with 2021-22 registration. The RHS Closet is opening soon as a valued resource for students. FBLA regional competitions held in February resulted in 26 placements. The virtual Brain Bowl competition is coming up. FFA students are excited to be receiving their piglets and everyone looks forward to Spring Break. All sports but X-country are being live streamed including basketball, golf, softball, lacrosse, track, tennis, football and soccer. Athletes are very happy to be outside running. Spirit Week highlights will include "Spring Training", "Spring into the Future", a "Taking Care of the Earth" contest; "Earth Day" and "Favorite Spring Outfit". The leadership students are building leadership capacity, and have finalized the ASB constitution revisions. To promote positive atmosphere at RHS, "Music in the Hall" has begun, along with individual outreach to ensure students are supported, believe they are valued and have a sense of belonging.

**School Board:**

Rebecca Larson, Chair  
Steve Patterson, Vice Chair  
Dr. Brandon Bishop  
Rod Cotton  
Micki Hall  
Rev. Howard Johnson  
Charles Lee