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Commitment, Excellence, Community

PLEASANT HILL SD #1

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES - Revised

Monday, February 22, 2021; 7:00 p.m.

Executive Session: Per ORS 192.660(2)(i)

Stream live at <https://www.pleasanthill.k12.or.us/virtual-school-board-meetings>

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Jeff Bernardo called the February 22, 2021 School Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Vice Chair John Oldham, Curt Offenbacher, Stephen Hammond, and Wylda Cafferata. Also present were Superintendent Scott Linenberger, Middle School Assistant Principal Brandon Haberly, Business Manager Sheri Longobardo, and the Pleasant Hill Middle School Student Council, led by sixth grade teacher Jeff Roberts.

Stephen Hammond read the Mission Statement.

2.0 ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 Approve February 8, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 2021.150)

The February 8, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes were approved by consensus after the following change is made: Agenda Item 7.102 currently reads “Mr. Linenberger has received equal amounts of feedback from the public...” and will be amended to read “Mr. Linenberger has received feedback from the public...”

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Resolution to Approve the Local Service Plan (Year One) (Exhibit 2021.151)

4.2 Resolution – Classified Employee Appreciation Week (Exhibit 2021.152)

4.3 Accept Monthly Financial Report – January (Exhibit 2021.153)

Wylda Cafferata moved to approve Agenda Item 4.0, Consent Agenda, in its entirety. Curt Offenbacher Seconded the motion. After Chair Jeff Bernardo read aloud Item 4.2, Classified Employee Appreciation Week Resolution, the motion passed unanimously.

5.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Discussions

5.101 Spotlight on Education (Exhibit 2021.154)

Sixth grade teacher Jeff Roberts introduced the Middle School Student Council. Student Council members include Bella, Landen, Isabel, Emily, and Claire. Each of the five student council members addressed one of the five questions submitted by the board prior to tonight’s meeting.

- Regarding the PHSD Mission Statement – What does becoming a productive, compassionate citizen mean to you? How well do you think your classes are

helping you become productive and compassionate? Bella shared that these things mean (to her) that it is important to try to make others' lives better, rather than focusing on yourself. This can be done by holding a door for someone, or even just a smile at another person. During distance learning her classes have taught perseverance, and how to be trustworthy and do your best even when nobody is watching. All of these things are contributing to growing up to be a successful adult.

- What is your favorite class and why? Student Council member Landen's favorite class is Ms. McCool's Geography and Language Arts class. The classroom activities online are helping students understand the materials at their own pace. Landen also expressed that it is more difficult to receive help online when you are stuck on an assignment, and it would help being in class to get the assistance faster.
- What can the school do to make your educational experiences more satisfying? Emily expressed that the online curriculum could be updated to make it more engaging for students. Classes like science require more hands-on education, and the basic online documents are difficult for some to learn from. Emily also shared that students tend to respond well and keep their grades up if there are incentives to do so. Students previously had end-of-the-year incentive trips planned or other small things that helped motivate them to keep their grades up. She shared that students appreciated these things and it might improve grades throughout the year. It is also very important for students to be in class on-campus. Students feel it helps them both mentally and educationally to physically be in school, and hopes that everyone can go back to in-person classes soon.
- Do you think there should be a student representative on the school board? Why or why not? Isabel says there should be a student representative on the school board. This student could be high school or middle school age. She feels that having a student representative would help the board make more informed decisions that include students' points of view. These decisions affect things like sports, education, and classroom experience. Isabel shared that students might be more inclined to participate in board meetings if they were given "extra credit," or even "Billie gear." The board likes the idea of providing students with "Billie gear."
- Give an example of how you can use something you are learning in class in your life outside school. Claire expressed that her publications class is helping to improve her "people skills" by teaching how to ask engaging questions and learning better ways to get to know people. It also encourages her meet and talk to new people she might not have connected with before. This class also helps improve different types of writing skills that might be used in the future, aside from basic essay-style writing.

The board greatly appreciates the Middle School Student Council's participation in tonight's meeting. It is understood that moments like these can feel intimidating to some, and the board is grateful that the students were willing share their thoughts.

The Middle School Student Council put together a video that reflected their thoughts on the current education situations. All students look forward to being back in class. They are thankful for the dedication of their teachers and hope to be able to interact with their teachers and fellow students in-person as soon as possible.

5.102 Budget Committee Interview (**Exhibit 2021.155**)

John Goldberg has applied to the Pleasant Hill Budget Committee. Board member Curt Offenbacher thanked Mr. Goldberg for applying for the budget committee, noting his previous budget experience at the 4j school district will be extremely helpful.

Mr. Goldberg has three young children and intends to remain in the district for a long while. He looks forward to being a part of the committee and using his skillsets within the Pleasant Hill School District.

Currently Mr. Goldberg's role is mostly involved in the operations side of budgeting (ie. transportation, facilities, technology, nutrition services, etc.). He looks forward to having input on other parts of a budget.

The board appreciates Mr. Goldberg's dedication to his community, his experience with budget processes, and his desire to be involved in his children's future.

5.103 Posting recorded board meetings

Board Chair Jeff Bernardo gave the board the opportunity to share their thoughts about posting the recorded board meetings on the district website. These recordings would be posted until the meeting minutes have been completed, approved, and signed. This topic was added to the agenda following a brief discussion at the previous meeting on February 8, 2021.

The board's consensus was to continue as it currently does, by posting the signed minutes from the previous meeting on the district website. The recorded board meetings will not be posted.

5.2 Superintendent Report

5.201 Enrollment Update (**Exhibit 2021.156**)

5.202 Cohort Projections (**Exhibit 2021.157**)

Superintendent Linenberger presented the board with current enrollment numbers (agenda item 5.201), and projected cohort numbers for the upcoming school year. The current enrollment number is different in the two exhibit numbers because the updates were gathered from the same source on different days, and enrollment is constantly changing.

The cohort target for the 2021-22 school year is 1,045. This is broken down to 70 students in the kindergarten class, 75 students each in grades 1-5, 85 students each in grades 6-8, and a total of 345 students in grades 9-12. High school grades have the ability to fluctuate because there is more flexibility with staff and class options.

The projected cohort is less than the target, taking into consideration the current Covid-19 pandemic situation, as well as inter-district transfer activity.

In regard to inter-district transfers, priority is given to applicants who have siblings currently enrolled at PHSD. If there are more applicants in a grade than target cohort availability, there will be a "lottery" for those available spaces. Parents will be notified after the process. A "lottery" has only been done a few times in the last several years, and have been primarily in the current 1st & 2nd grade cohorts. The inter-district transfer numbers are assessed in the spring, and again in the fall. The available spaces are determined early to give time for creating a master schedule. After the first round of enrollment, which ends on June 4th, 2021, the first inter-district transfers will be approved. This will happen again in the fall when staff returns to school.

In comparison to the state of Oregon, Pleasant Hill saw a 25% decrease in kindergarten class size, while the state average decrease was 28%. Overall, the elementary school saw a 4% decrease, the middle/high school dropped approximately 4.5%. State average decrease was 5-6% for elementary school and high schools dropped by 0.2%. The district enrollment as a whole decreased by 1.9%, in comparison to the state average of 3.7%.

If the current pandemic situation continues to improve, next year's first grade class could be larger than what is currently projected. The reason being students may return to in-person schooling after transferring to online charter schools or homeschooling. Superintendents in Lane County are discussing how to proceed with the possibility of an influx of kindergartners or first graders. Planning will include multiple options, taking into consideration the potential for returning to distance learning, staying in hybrid learning, or returning to campus full-time.

5.203 Legislative Overview (Exhibit 2021.158)

On February 24th, the legislature will hold the revenue forecasting session, giving districts a better ability to plan for budgeting. The Governor's Recommended Budget allots \$9.1 billion towards the State School Fund. OSBA & COSA are lobbying for the K-12 Funding Coalition number to be \$9.6 billion, to account for inflation.

5.204 Covid-19 Update

Pleasant Hill Elementary now has grades K-5 in hybrid learning. Lane County has improved to the "Yellow Zone," permitting districts to bring middle school students into a hybrid learning model. PHSD will have students in grades 6-8 in a hybrid learning model beginning on March 1st, 2021.

The current two-week reporting period shows the total case count in Lane County has decreased from 737 to 504. The county's case rate per 100,000 people has decreased from 194.5 to 133, and the overall test positivity rate went from 2.7% to 2.1%. The last five weeks have shown a continuous improvement and if the trend continues, the district hopes to bring back high school students soon.

The Governor has permitted counties in Lower and Moderate county risk levels to begin contact football practice next week. School in the High and Extreme county risk levels must be operating with Limited In-Person Instruction in order to opt-in for contact football. Lane County is currently in the "high" category, and may only continue with non-contact conditioning and training. With the county trend, students may soon be permitted to play outdoor sports as long as nasal swabs and contact tracing take place. Indoor contact sports continue to be prohibited in all counties.

Spectators will not be permitted, but the games will be live-streamed. Pleasant Hill athletic facilities will be closed to the public during practice/game times.

6.0 PUBLIC FORUM – PHSD posts the upcoming agenda on our website www.pleasanthill.k12.or.us the Friday before regularly scheduled Monday school board meetings. This will allow for public comment prior to the board meeting. Please click on the tab provided to share your comment(s) for the school board to consider at the upcoming meeting.

7.0 BOARD ACTION ITEMS

7.1 New Business

7.101 Budget Committee Appointments

Curt Offenbacher moved to accept John Goldberg’s application to the Budget Committee. John Oldham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7.102 OSAA Collective Sponsorship - Tennis

PHSD does not currently offer boys & girls tennis. Creswell School District has offered to include Pleasant Hill students in their tennis program. Creswell School District will provide coaching and facilities. Pleasant Hill student’s/parents will provide their own transportation. This opportunity requires board action for approval. Students will participate as Pleasant Hill representatives on the Creswell tennis team and will receive a varsity letter for their participation.

The board would like to thank the Creswell School District for their accepting Pleasant Hill students, and hopes to return the opportunity in the future.

Jeff Bernardo moved to approve the OSAA Collective Sponsorship – tennis, allowing PHSD student athletes to participate with the Creswell student athletes in boys and girls tennis for the next three years. Curt Offenbacher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7.103 Approve Cohort Projection

John Oldham moved to approve the cohort projection. Wylde Cafferata seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.0 FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

- Board Meeting – March 8, 2021; 7:00 p.m. – *Virtual Until Further Notice*
- Board Meeting – April 5, 2021; 7:00 p.m. – *Virtual Until Further Notice*

9.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER

9.1 Highway 58 Herald (Exhibit 2021.159a & b)

A retired University of Oregon Journalism professor reached out to Superintendent Linenberger, sharing his plans for publishing a newspaper (online) that will cover news stories from areas along the Highway 58 corridor. He invited the district to provide updates and stories to include in the publication. The Highway 58 Herald is set to go live on Sunday, February 28, 2021.

9.2 Board meeting attendance

There were 36 viewers of the last board meeting on February 8, 2021. This was a significant increase from 17 viewers at the previous meeting. Future board meeting attendance reports will be moved to the beginning of the agenda.

The Pleasant Hill SHAC Committee has applied for a grant that would provide employee wellness activities and promote employees’ mental and physical health. The grant funds, if awarded, would be available in the fall. Further details were not able to be provided.

The board intends to send a Thank You note and Billie Gear to the Middle School Student Council students who participated in the meeting.

The board recessed for Executive Session at 8:22 p.m.

Executive Session: To review and evaluate performance of the chief executive officer or any public officer employee or staff member, unless the person whose performance is being reviewed and evaluated requests an open hearing ORS 192.660(2)(i).

The board returned from Executive session at 10:06 p.m.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT – 10:06 p.m.

Signed: _____, this _____ day of _____, 2021.
Jeff Bernardo, Board Chair