

ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Time & Location:

The September 22, 2021 Work Session was held via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room, 1419 NW Valley View Drive in Roseburg



**SUPERINTENDENT
JARED P. CORDON**

Superintendent's Report

Supt. Cordon reflected that choice is a critically important ingredient in the recipe for a positive, productive learning experience. Recalling the steps taken since March 2020 in response to COVID-19 and its impact on schools, he shared that his team focused on improvements centered on choice, efficacy and access, believing that achievement gaps are essentially access and opportunity gaps.

Jared explained that elementary school years are beautifully formative and incredibly important, creating a foundation and trajectory for a student's future success and beyond. We are building elementary experiences to grow kids as readers, thinkers and problem solvers regardless of zip code, socioeconomic status, home language and/or color of their skin. Our elementary schools center on the Strategic Plan while focusing on the whole child. We want kids and staff excited to learn, contribute and explore in classrooms filled with joy.

Next Board Meeting:

October 13, 2021
via Zoom at 6:00 p.m.
Administrative Board Room
1419 NW Valley View Dr.
Roseburg, Oregon

Action Items

The School Board approved the Consent Agenda, consisting of approval of the Agenda, Minutes from the September 8, 2021 School Board Meeting, Gifts to the District and personnel actions listed below:

Licensed Recommendation —

- ◆ Cailey Powell, Agricultural Science Teacher at Roseburg High School

Licensed Staff Resignation —

- ◆ Craig Stinnett, Welding Teacher at Roseburg High School after 13 years, to take a position outside of education.

Agreement with AMN Allied Services to provide school psychologist contracted services

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, recapped the difficulties encountered over the past few years in the lack of availability of school psychologist applicants, despite multiple efforts to recruit via various platforms including outreach to various universities who offer that program.

Board members engaged in lengthy discussion, resulting in directing the district to proceed with negotiations to forge an agreement with AMN Allied Services. AMN will be charged with recruiting assistance to obtain school psychologist services on a contracted basis.

Mr. Freeman assured the Board that this is a temporary solution and we will continue our ongoing efforts to employ district staff in this specialized area.

Roseburg Virtual School Overview

RVS Principal, Dani Jardine, shared that enrollment at the new virtual school has reached 125 students and she anticipates holding at 125-130. This year is different than the remote option last year, with a common place for teachers and students at the

former Rose Elementary School. For 2021-22, we are using online asynchronous curriculum from Florida Virtual School delivered by RPS teachers in Grades K-5. Most exciting, students are provided live lessons every day and the opportunity for in-person assistance for those having difficulty with their technology or needing additional instructional support. Earlier today, our STEAM teachers were on site providing lessons in rocket construction. 40-45 students took advantage of the opportunity, preparing their rockets for launching this afternoon.

Students have the opportunity to meet with their instructor daily, and the program includes core classes in ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science. In future years, we may consider adding elective options in addition to the core curriculum.

Asst. Superintendent, Michelle Knee, presented our Grades 6-12 option utilizing Apex Learning Management System. Students participate asynchronously and can participate in sports and extra-curricular activities. Apex teachers are Oregon certified and provide feedback on assignments and are available to conference during school hours. Incredible study guides keep kids on track.

Check in with our Elementary Principals

A full complement of our elementary leadership were on line to present, including:

- Eastwood - Jennifer Thompson**
- Fir Grove - Katrina Hanson**
- Fullerton IV - Debbie Price**
- Green - Lisa Dickover**
- Hucrest - Don Schrader**
- Melrose - Tammy Rasmussen**
- Sunnyslope - Dan Endicott**
- Winchester - Rick Snyder**

This incredible elementary leadership group shared an overview of their individual school along with their specific areas of focus for the 2021-22 school year. Their enthusiasm was contagious and a welcome change from the sometimes overwhelming challenges these

professionals have bravely faced over the past several months. Their commitment to creating a positive culture for kids to attend school in-person safely, to be seen and heard, and met where they are both socially and academically is commendable.

Follow-up on TAG Identification Inquiry

Assistant Superintendent, Michelle Knee, followed up on a previous inquiry expressed during the August 25th Work Session pertaining to students enrolled in our Talented and Gifted (TAG) program. Michelle reported that currently we have 22% students who identify as students of color. The TAG program includes 23% of our students, so the percentages match up very well.

TAG students are typically range within the 98-99th percentile of intelligence scale, but can also be identified by teacher observation and standardized testing. It is interesting to note that many of these students do not necessarily excel academically, as they are very different thinkers and can be quite emotional. Michelle explained that we strive to identify the needs of all students, looking at individual supports.

Superintendent Cordon pointed out that TAG programs are not effective if not accompanied by adequate structures and supports.

Director Howard Johnson thanked Michelle for gathering information in response to his question, and encouraged the district to continue assuring that all students have appropriate access to the supports they need to succeed.

School Board:

- Rebecca Larson, Chair**
- Rev. Howard Johnson, V Chair**
- Dr. Brandon Bishop**
- Rodney Cotton**
- Ann Krimetz**
- Charles Lee**
- Andrew Shirtcliff**