

ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Meeting and Work Session Via Zoom

1419 NW Valley View Drive
Roseburg, Oregon

Vol 3 No. 7

October 27, 2021

Board Members:

Dr. Brandon Bishop	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rodney Cotton	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Howard Johnson, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ann Krimetz	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rebecca Larson, Chair	Exc
Charles F. Lee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Andrew Shirtcliff	<input type="checkbox"/>

Administration:

Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent	<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
Melissa Roberts, Director of Student Services	<input type="checkbox"/>

BRIEF REGULAR SESSION

TIME/PLACE: A business meeting of the Douglas County School District No. 4 Board of Directors was convened at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, 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 Vice-Chair Howard Johnson called the meeting to order promptly at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed attendees and asked Director Brandon Bishop to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE: Board members were in attendance via Zoom. Superintendent Cordon and Assistant Superintendent, Michelle Knee were on site, along with Vice-Chair Johnson and Director Bishop.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD / REVIEW OF AGENDA

Superintendent Cordon announced that Board Chair Rebecca Larson and Chief Operations Officer, Cheryl Northam were excused this evening. There has also been additional information included within the recommendations for hire.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Vice-Chair Johnson asked attendees to join him in observing a moment of silence in acknowledgement of the recent loss of Roseburg High School student, Wyatt Olinghouse.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Consent Agenda was presented for consideration, including approval of the Consent Agenda, Minutes from the September 22 School Board Meeting, Gifts to the District, and recommendations for employment and notices of resignation. Personnel actions included:

Recommendations for Hire:

Licensed Staff:

- Sunnyslope Elementary School
 - Michelle Meyer, Third Grade Teacher, a temporary position for the 2021-22 school year;
- Joseph Lane Middle School
 - Kevin Murphy, Secondary Substitute (Roving Teacher), a temporary position for the 2021-22 school year;
- District Wide
 - Terri Richey, Elementary Substitute (Roving Teacher), a temporary position for the 2021-22 school year; and
- Roseburg High School
 - Aaron Eubank, Manufacturing Technology – Welding Teacher

Resignation:

Licensed:

- Alexandra “Marie” Leary, TAP Teacher at Fullerton IV Elementary, has submitted her resignation after nine years in the district.

Director Charles Lee moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Director Ann Krimetz seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

M3-23 Approved the Consent Agenda

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BOND UPDATE

Superintendent Cordon welcomed Ben Patinkin of Patinkin Research Strategies and expressed that he is looking forward to his presentation of the polling results. Jared shared a document depicting the bond development timeline and explained that for the last several months community members, including three of our Board Members, along with individuals who were appointed, and others who answered a call via a press release, have met four times to date. The committee has been discussing the information provided in the long-range facility planning document, the most recent bond effort and prioritizing projects. The most recent meeting, held October 20, 2021, provided committee members with the results of the initial polling. Jared noted that the packages tested out in that polling are not reflective of the full need for projects, but rather represent percentages of need.

The committee is scheduled for two more meetings where they will develop the package that will be presented to the Board during the December 15, 2021, Board Meeting. In January, the Board will consider approval of the language for a second round of polling, to test the exact language and price point of the proposed package. Results will then be reviewed at the second meeting and potentially determine the final scope of the bond measure and make a decision on filing for the May 2022 ballot.

Superintendent Cordon opened the floor up to questions and hearing none, turned things over to Ben Patinkin and Jeremy Wright to share their presentation.

POLLING PRESENTATION

Ben Patinkin of Patinkin Research Strategies and Jeremy Wright of Wright Public Affairs presented results of the recently conducted poll to the Board. Mr. Patinkin opened his presentation by explaining that preliminary

poll results show that there is definitely a path that we can follow, but there is work to be done.

Ben explained the following details about the poll:

- 400 in-district voters were chosen from a sample file, with voters representing those likely to vote in May 2022;
- Interviews were conducted from October 6-10, 2021;

Respondents were asked about the following subjects:

- Facility Conditions
 - 48% believe the district buildings are in poor/fair condition;
 - 36% believe they are in good/excellent condition; and
 - 17% don't know or are not sure.
- Education Quality
 - 66% of those polled are very/somewhat satisfied with the quality of education being provided;
 - 17% polled are not too/not at all satisfied; and
 - 18% don't know or are not sure.
- Bond Packages
 - \$154 million
 - 50% In favor (30% strongly and 20% not strongly);
 - 39% Not in favor (21% strongly and 18% not strongly); and
 - 12% Unsure.
 - \$136 million
 - 46% In favor (20% strongly and 28% not strongly)
 - 44% Not in favor (20% strongly and 28% not strongly)
 - \$109 million
 - 46% In favor (24% strongly and 24% not strongly)
 - 44% Not in favor (24% strongly and 24% not strongly)
- Reasons for Voting in Favor
 - Age and condition of buildings;
 - Being supportive of teachers, kids, education and schools in general; and
 - Work needs to be done.
- Reasons for Voting Opposed
 - It is not the right time/not a priority;
 - The amount is too much; and
 - Do not want an increase in taxes.
- Voter Priorities
 - Increasing student & staff safety – 39% strongly;
 - Updating fire safety features – 41% strongly;
 - Adding/upgrading security features - 38% strongly;
 - Updating learning spaces – 36% strongly;
 - Energy efficient upgrades; put more money to the classroom – 37% strongly;
 - Accessibility upgrades – 36% strongly;
 - Replace/upgrade heating and air quality systems to save money – 38% strongly; and
 - Complete earthquake structural/safety upgrades – 37% strongly.

- Additional Items Voters Would Like to See Addressed (job training, safety, updates and new facilities)
 - Improve job training facilities and develop local business partnerships – 35% strongly;
 - Improve playgrounds, making them safer and more accessible – 32% strongly;
 - Update the technology infrastructure, allowing students more access to technology and modern learning – 32% strongly;
 - Construct new elementary gyms to serve as emergency community shelters – 32% strongly;
 - Build a new elementary school to replace an outdated existing site – 30% strongly; and
 - Upgrade the athletic facilities, district-wide – 32% strongly.
- Repair or Replace Old Main/Heritage Building
 - 40% of those polled prefer renovation; and
 - 34% polled prefer replacing the building
- New Elementary School – should we build a new elementary school or renovate an existing one
 - 52% favor building a new elementary school to replace an outdated, existing one
 - 51% favor renovating and expanding an existing site
- Changing a vote from a No to a Yes...
 - Accessibility: making upgrades to improve ADA accessibility; ensuring that all people have equal access to buildings; and
 - Efficiency and Health/Safety Updates: replacing outdated, inefficient boilers with modern heating/ventilation systems and upgrading air quality systems intended to save taxpayer money and ensure healthier air in classrooms

Following their presentation, Ben and Jeremy looked to the Board for feedback and questions.

Director Lee asked about the cross-section of voters, Republican versus Democrat, and what exactly the difference in numbers were. Jeremy explained that there were significantly more Republicans (56%) surveyed.

Director Krimetz inquired about building versus renovating as it pertained to an elementary school site and what site were we considering. Jeremy explained that this question derived from the Community Bond Development Committee meetings, this was one of the items the committee members rated as highly needed.

Director Krimetz also asked about the ADA accessibility upgrades, and if there were specific subjects presented to those polled. Jeremy explained that for this round, the questions asked were very general, but there would definitely be a more specific line of questioning in a second polling.

Director Shirtcliff asked whether the pollsters provided figures when asking for an opinion on the renovation/replacement of Old Main/Heritage Building and whether this was provided in the past and if it would make a difference. Ben shared that this line of questioning it is usually kept vague and Jeremy noted that they would in fact like to include hard numbers in the next poll and make sure people understand the financial aspects and trade-offs. Superintendent Cordon expressed his concern that asking about renovating or replacing this building misses the mark as it does not take into consideration the reason why this is being undertaken. Director Lee noted that on the last bond, consideration of this particular item was handled at an emotional level as opposed to weighing the benefits.

Director Lee shared that he appreciates the positive outlook of the results presented. Jeremy noted that there is definitely a clear path forward with a good amount of support from the community, 30% of those polled would vote strongly in favor and 20% also yes, just not strongly. Jared noted that Mr. Wright has reminded him that if there is not community support, we should not continue at this time.

Vice-Chair Johnson thanked both Ben and Jeremy for their presentation and noted that with his former line of work, he always looks for a return on investment and this bond measure is about investing in our students and future and will ultimately make our community much stronger. Vice-Chair Johnson expressed his kudos for a job well done by the bond committee for their efforts to develop a product that can be marketed to the community.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business remaining before the Board, Vice-Chair Howard Johnson reminded all those in attendance that there is only one meeting scheduled in November and it will be held via Zoom on November 17, 2021. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m. by Vice-Chair Johnson.

Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent

JPC/sdt

Next Meeting: November 17, 2021, 6:00 p.m. in the Administrative Office Board Room via Zoom