

ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**School Board Meeting
Electronic Link Available
Eastwood Elementary School
2550 SE Waldon Avenue
Roseburg, Oregon 97470**

Vol 3 No. 15

April 13, 2022

Board Members:

Dr. Brandon Bishop
Rodney Cotton
Rev. Howard Johnson, Vice Chair
Ann Krimetz
Rebecca Larson, Chair
Charles F. Lee
Andrew Shirtcliff

Administration:

Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent
Robert Freeman, Director of Human Resources
Michelle Knee, Assistant Superintendent
Cheryl Northam, Director of Finance and Operations
Melissa Roberts, Director of Student Services

REGULAR SESSION

TIME/PLACE: A regular meeting of the Douglas County School District No. 4 Board of Directors was convened at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, in the multi-purpose room of Eastwood Elementary School located at 2550 SE Waldon Avenue in Roseburg, Oregon, in person with an electronic link available.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Board Chair Rebecca Larson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and invited Student Services Director, Melissa Roberts, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE: Board members were in attendance, along with Superintendent Cordon and Cabinet members. RHS leadership student, Marin Gray was present, with Emma Kahler excused.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD / REVIEW OF AGENDA

Superintendent Cordon welcomed everyone here in person, as well as those joining the meeting remotely. He offered congratulations to student representative, Marin Gray, on her acceptance this fall to Harvard University. In reviewing the agenda, Jared announced that the administrative working retired recommendation is now included within the Consent Agenda.

WELCOME TO EASTWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Chair Larson thanked Principal Thompson and the Eastwood staff for hosting this evening and acknowledged the fabulous artwork on the walls courtesy of the talented students of Eastwood Elementary.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: RHS leadership student, Marin Gray, reported all the current and upcoming activities at the high school. In honor of Staff Appreciation Week beginning April 18th, FFA students potted flowers for staff district-wide in partnership with the Wellness Crew. She added that Assistant principals were honored recently during national Vice Principal week. FBLA competition resulted in 9 first place finishes. Aiyana Brown received a \$2,000 scholarship, and 22 students qualified for the national competition to be held in Chicago! Middle and high school bands performed Monday and the concert choir qualified for state. The recent PRIDE Night was deemed a success. Student Voice participants had lunch with administrators on April 21st and 22nd to enjoy a sharing of ideas. CTE and Special Education are partnering in

launching a new RHS coffee shop that will be open before school and during lunches. RHS Yearbook was recently honored by Jostens for their work in 2021. And the performances of *Sense and Sensibility* is garnering glowing reviews, and everyone is encouraged to attend one of the upcoming performances. Student athletes are sporting very commendable GPAs this year. Still to come as the school year grows shorter is the RHS Prom on April 23; Mr. RHS, to be held May 6th; Home-going Week during May 23-27, and the Mother-Daughter Tea scheduled for May 15th.

STUDENT / STAFF RECOGNITION

Chair Larson had the honor and pleasure of sharing highlights of the letters of recognition that the schools will be presenting to the following outstanding students and staff:

Ea Watkins-Mock, Fifth Grade Student at Roseburg Virtual School (RVS)

Fifth Grade student Ea Watkins Mock is tonight's Exceptional Student from Roseburg Virtual School. Since the outset of her time at RVS, Ea has been a standout student. She is so hard-working, diligent, and always strives to do her best on every assignment. What really sets Ea apart from other great students is her independent nature, internal drive, and her true enjoyment in pushing herself to new heights.

Perhaps her most impressive trait is her perseverance when things are not easy. Her perseverance is the character trait that will make her excel in any pursuit she chooses to take on in life. Ea is truly an inspiration, and there are few students more deserving of such recognition for academic excellence.

Congratulations, Ea!

Henry Anderson, Eighth Grade Student at Fremont Middle School

Eighth-grader Henry Anderson is tonight's Exceptional Student from Fremont Middle School. Teachers say Henry is a terrific leader and role model to fellow students. He frequently goes above and beyond on assignments and sets high expectations for himself while showing an enthusiasm for learning. Henry demonstrates Fremont's EPIC core values of Empathy, Perseverance, Integrity and Community.

He takes the initiative to help others when he can see them struggling, and his positive mindset is contagious. Henry is also a talented Euphonium player in band and likes to share his great sense of humor daily with his wide selection of holiday socks.

Congratulations, Henry!

Arlie Aasen, Ninth Grade Student at Roseburg High School

Ninth-grader Arlie Aasen is tonight's Exceptional Student from Roseburg High School. Teachers describe Arlie as the quiet over-achiever who always has a smile on her face. She demonstrates a strong work ethic and is a leader of other students. Her caring nature and personality allow her to work well with others, as she always respects others' opinions even when they differ from her own. She regularly completes all activities and assignments with outstanding results. Arlie's favorite class is English, and she participates in basketball and volleyball. Also described as a rockstar student,

Arlie is planning for a future in business.

Congratulations, Arlie!

Special staff members were also recognized and honored with Crystal Apple Awards this evening:

Meaghan Pirtle, Title 1 Learning Specialist Teacher at Winchester Elementary School

Meaghan Pirtle was presented with a Crystal Apple inscribed with,
"Thank you for your exceptional leadership, service, and dedication to Winchester School."

Meghan Pirtle is an exceptional teacher at Winchester. She is intelligent, organized, hardworking, insightful, and caring. As a Learning Specialist, she skillfully works with students, delivering specifically designed instruction to them. She wears many other hats as well, including being a leader on the school's IPBIS team, a member of the 5-D Instructional Framework Committee, organizer of grade level intervention meetings, Chair of the Social Committee, school test coordinator, and author of the weekly staff newsletter. Meghan is well respected by students and staff, and is genuinely dedicated to the success of her school.

Congratulations, Meaghan!

Sue Sterling, Instructional Assistant at Winchester Elementary School

Winchester Elementary Instructional Assistant, Sue Sterling, was presented with a Crystal Apple inscribed with, "Thank you for your exceptional dedication to the students at Winchester School."

Sue was chosen by the staff at Winchester to be tonight's classified recipient, an obvious choice because she is a dedicated, much loved, highly skilled Instructional Assistant. Sue is known to be gentle, kind, and an incredibly giving person. She excels at helping students learn both academically and behaviorally, and is able to reach students who are struggling. This year she has been a tremendous support with a group of highly energetic kindergarteners. Sue's giving personality consistently spreads good cheer throughout the campus.

Congratulations, Sue!

The Board also took the opportunity to express congratulations to the following two individuals for achieving their National Board Certifications:

**Jayde Walkup, Roseburg High School Counselor
and**

Tim Weber, Math and Science Teacher at Fremont Middle School

Chair Larson shared that Jayde is an excellent counselor, and Tim is an outstanding teacher. The students being honored tonight will receive McDonald's gift cards along with presentation letters from their principals.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was presented for consideration, including approval of the Consent Agenda, Minutes from the March 15th Board Meeting, and Gifts to the District. Personnel actions included recommendations for hire and acceptance of resignations as follows:

Recommendations for Hire:

Licensed Staff:

- Eastwood Elementary
 - **Yumi Yi-Houston, First Grade Teacher**
 - **Allison Swearingen, Fifth Grade Teacher**

- Green Elementary
 - **Libby Fregoso, Fifth Grade Teacher**
 - **Madison Knox, Kindergarten Teacher**
 - **Kaylie Leonard, Third Grade Teacher**

- Fremont Middle School
 - **Cayla Russell, Language Arts Teacher**
- Sunnyslope Elementary School
 - **Karen Sinclair, Fifth Grade Teacher**

Temporary – Returning in 2022-2023:

- Department of Student Services
 - **Jennifer Myers, Home Instruction**
- Eastwood Elementary School
 - **Terri Richey, Special Education Teacher**
- Fullerton IV Elementary School
 - **Megan Driver, Child Development Specialist**
- Green Elementary School
 - **Marlo O'Connor, Pre-Kindergarten Job Share – Temporary for 2022-2023**
- Hucrest Elementary School
 - **Gretchen Lake, Physical Education Job Share, Temporary for 2022-2023**
- Sunnyslope Elementary School
 - **Amy Cunningham, Second Grade Job Share, Temporary for 2022-2023**
 - **Timothy Sinclair, Second Grade Teacher**
- Fremont Middle School
 - **Joanna Johnson, Sixth Grade Language Arts & Social Studies Teacher**
 - **Ella Taggart, Language Arts Teacher**
- Joseph Lane Middle School
 - **Kevin Murphy, Roving Teacher, Temporary for 2022-2023**
 - **Alexa Scroggins, Sixth Grade Math & Science**
- Roseburg High School
 - **Deborah Lander, World Languages-Spanish**
 - **Gary “Andy” Wyatt, Roving Teacher, Temporary for 2022-2023**

Retiree Administrator Hire Recommendations, Temporary for 2022-2023

- Department of Human Resources
 - **Robert Freeman, Director**
- Hucrest Elementary School
 - **Don Schrader, Principal**

Retirees Returning Temporary 2022-2023

- Department of Student Services
 - **Brenda Cunningham, Behavior Specialist**
 - **Kathy Mitchell, School Psychologist**
- Hucrest Elementary School
 - **Michele Weaver, Fourth Grade Teacher**
- Melrose Elementary School
 - **Vikki Pennington, Teaching & Learning Support Specialist**
- Fremont Middle School
 - **Michael Hoque, Social Studies Teacher**
- Joseph Lane Middle School
 - **Kimberlee DeVries, Sixth Grade Language Arts & Social Studies Teacher**
 - **Allison Gowey, Science Teacher**

Resignations:

- Kyle Dever, RHS Drafting Teacher, is resigning in June after eight years in the District, to take a position outside of education;
- Allison Gowey, Science Teacher at Joseph Lane Middle School, is retiring for PERS purposes after 32 years in the District, and would like to continue working in the 2022-2023 school year;
- Lindsay Kraft, School Psychologist, is resigning in June after three years, to take a position in another district;
- Dani Schroeder, School Psychologist, is resigning in June after one year in the District;
- Tim Sensabaugh, Math and Science Teacher at Fremont Middle School, is resigning in June after six years in the District, to take a position in another district; and
- Ellie Zignego, Science Teacher at RHS, is resigning in June after one year in the District, to move closer to family.

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

M3-47 Approved the Consent Agenda

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Chair Rebecca Larson opened Public Participation and asked Assistant Superintendent Michelle Knee to explain the process for the “raise your hand” feature in Zoom for those attending remotely and explained that she would advise speakers as their two-minute limit approached.

Linda Snyder, Roseburg resident, expressed her concern about kids wearing masks for six months, stating it is very bad for their health and mental state. The requirement was controlled by the state, not locally, and she believes it is a permanent mask mandate. Her research leads her to believe that masks are not effective on viruses and referenced statistics from New York and Florida. In her view, this is a control issue, and she thinks they are planning on masking again if the CDC has their way.

Chair Larson announced that with public participation concluded, those individuals present for the student and staff awards were welcome to remain, but we understand if they preferred to go celebrate. The attendees were given a few minutes to make their departure.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT (copy attached)

Superintendent Cordon noted that some items were previously covered during Marin’s report. We are accelerating our work around the school bond campaign. Jared took the opportunity to express thanks to Communications Coordinator, Chelsea Duncan, and the Board for getting the message out. A bond tour is scheduled at RHS on April 26th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Patrons may have seen the Board Chair presenting at the Roseburg City Council meeting where the council unanimously approved support of the bond. Additional information can be found at www.RoseburgSchoolBond.org.

In honor of our amazing students, Jared noted that RHS and Fremont students who competed at the state FBLA competition resulted in more than two dozen qualifying to attend the National Leadership Conference this summer in Chicago. Fremont and Jo Lane middle school students joined with homeschool students in the musical performance of “Frozen Jr.” RHS drama’s “Sense & Sensibility” had additional performances this weekend.

Jared shared the exciting results of varsity student-athletes achieving GPA results as follows:

- Fall Sports: 3.55
- Winter Sports: 3.41
- Spring Sports: 3.43

The overall GPA for RHS sports for 2021-2022 is 3.46. Jared reflected that as we think about our democracy and country, because of our kids, we are in great hands.

The superintendent pointed out that our teachers are continuing to do amazing work in inspiring our students to grow and think for themselves by providing meaningful experiences and opportunities.

At the April 27th Board Work Session, the Board will engage in conversation regarding our Strategic Plan that will drive the joint Board and Superintendent goals as we work together over the next 3-5 years. Jared also shared that he and UCC President, Dr. Rachel Pokrandt, are working to forge a closer partnership for developing programs for kids and illuminating pathways to career opportunities, including welding, science, and medicine. They presented some ideas during a presentation at the Chamber of Commerce for developing strong partnerships with our middle schools, high school and the college. We look forward to sharing more information in the future.

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS BY DIRECTORS

Director Charles Lee noted how happy he was to see everyone tonight in person.

Director Ann Krimetz shared that she had a nice time working with RVS Principal, Dani Jardine and Assistant Superintendent, Michelle Knee, on curriculum development, including the new health curriculum being considered for our elementary students. Staff are doing a good job in piloting the options. She provided assurance that the district strives to be transparent with parents, and inclusive, noting that this is not always the case in other parts of the country. We are committed to keeping our doors open for parents, who will have the opportunity later this month to come in and view the proposed curriculum at the district office. She offered that most parents will be satisfied when they are looking at some really exciting parts of the

curriculum. Director Krimetz is also looking forward to the May bond. An acquaintance purchased a headboard for her Airbnb from an RHS woodworking student and plans to purchase additional pieces. Our students are learning marketable skills!

Director Howard Johnson took the opportunity to share that he attended the City Council Meeting remotely. He was quite proud of the job our Board Chair did in presenting and answering questions, observing that the information was well presented and received. Good job!

Director Rod Cotton shared that he also observed the City Council Meeting via Zoom, and agreed that Chair Larson and committee representative, Lance Colley, did a great job. He appreciated their work very much. The testimonies and letters to the editor in the local paper have been spot on and well-thought out. In particular, the teachers at RHS who live in that building every day have just been great. He encouraged everyone to attend the bond open house on the 26th. Again, he is just really impressed with the letters and comments and hope it works out well.

Chair Rebecca Larson shared how wonderful it was to see Director Krimetz enjoying herself at the high school play. She expressed gratitude for the support staff have shown for the bond, and for our dedicated teachers. She noted that the play was put on by one of our first-year teachers, and she understands how much time and effort goes into one of these productions. It's wonderful to see expanded opportunities extended to homeschooled students. Teacher Appreciation Week is coming up soon, and she acknowledged the work done by our teachers and staff this time of year as the weather improves and kids get antsy.

ADJOURNMENT: With all regular business before the Board completed, Chair Larson adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent
JPC/jlk

Next Meeting: April 27, 2022, 6:00 p.m. in the district office administrative Board Room located at 1419 NW Valley View Drive in Roseburg, Oregon, and also accessible via Zoom