



Santiam Travel Station

750 S. Third Street, Lebanon, OR 97355

MEETING MINUTES

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| <u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</u> | <u>EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT:</u> |
| Tom Oliver, Chair Mike Martin, Vice Chair Richard Borden Absent: Todd Gestrin Tammy Schilling | Bo Yates, Superintendent Jennifer Meckley, Assistant Superintendent William Lewis, Business Director Kim Grousbeck, Director of HR |

The meeting minutes were recorded by Executive Secretary Ruth Hopkins.

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Tom Oliver called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was one public comment submitted regarding the district's policy on the sex education program. That comment is attached to these minutes.

3. COVID-19 UPDATE

Superintendent Yates provided the COVID update. All elementary students are back in school five days a week, and middle school students are back five days a week as well. Next week the high school students will be in-person on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and will have Wednesdays off for support and asynchronous learning. They will not be in cohorts any longer. Teachers will have office hours on Wednesdays, and credit recovery will also be available on Wednesdays.

The county metrics are currently moving up, but there is some flexibility within the school district and as long as we do not have an outbreak in the school, we should be able to continue.

Transportation continues to be a challenge. Currently, busses are doing three runs and the busses have to be sanitized in between, so at this point the district is not able to increase the times at the elementary level because of the time involved with the sanitation process.

Superintendent Yates is proud of the work that has been accomplished with both unions as they have come together with an agreement for opening and moving forward.

4. POOL REPAIR AND BOND DISCUSSION

Superintendent Yates shared that he has previously brought information forward on the long-range facility repairs, and the pool repairs have been a part of that discussion. Given the amount of time it takes to run a bond program and also the fact that the district does not have hard numbers on the work needing to be done, there have been discussions regarding moving the bond project back a year.

He then presented a plan put together by BLRB Architects for the pool repair project that was provided by the Lebanon Aquatic District, as well as their expansion plan. It was stated that the presented renovation plan would give the district another 50 years of life out of the pool. He also provided a budget for the repairs listed.

There was a discussion around the plan for the pool and the different items included, as well as the differences between the existing and proposed areas.

The evaluation for the pool repairs and upgrade is over \$9 million. If the district passed a bond, it could potentially be \$2 per thousand in tax assessment, which would generate approximately \$16.1 million, plus the possibility of an additional \$4 to \$8 million in matching funds from the state.

Vice Chair Mike Martin requested that the Board hear from the Aquatic District regarding their plans for the upgrade. Chair Oliver added that the Board would also like to hear from the architect that worked with the LAD (Lebanon Aquatic District) in regards to what their plan is for the upgrade.

Superintendent Yates asked for direction on whether or not the Board would like to move forward on pursuing the bond topic further and look at getting more specific numbers. The Board responded that they would like to hear from the architects and the LAD in regards to their plans for repairs and upgrades. The Board would like to continue to move forward with the bond/pool discussions at this time.

5. DISTRICT CONTRACT FOR AUDIT SERVICES

Business Director William Lewis presented the RFP for audit services and the recommendation that he has before the Board. He shared the process that he went through in deciding on the recommendation of Pauly Rogers and Co. to be the district auditors. They currently audit 62 other school districts in the state. There was one other firm that met the same criteria, but there is a \$7,000 difference in the cost for services between the two firms. Pauly Rogers is the less expensive of the two and both firms meet all of the criteria required.

Upon motion made by Vice Chair Mike Martin, duly seconded by Member Richard Borden, the Board voted unanimously to approve the granting of the audit services contract for LCSD to Pauly Rogers and Company as presented.

6. 2021-22 CERTIFIED CALENDAR

Upon motion made by Vice Chair Mike Martin, duly seconded by Member Richard Borden, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2021-22 certified calendar as presented.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. March 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Mike Martin indicated a grammatical error in the March minutes and indicated that it needed to be fixed.

Upon motion made by Vice Chair Martin, and duly seconded by Member Richard Borden, the Board voted unanimously to approve the March 11, 2021 minutes as presented, with the one error being corrected.

B. Hiring

Upon motion made by Member Richard Borden, dully seconded by Vice Chair Mike Martin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the hiring of Sara Ainsworth, Rachel Brandt, Joshua Buras, James Forcier, Sarah Johnson, Christopher Luckman and Myah Rabourn as presented.

8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Operations

Superintendent Yates did not have anything to share for operation, other than he as been working with the transportation department to work out the district transportation plans.

B. Human Resources

Human Resources Director Kim Grousbeck presented the department report for HR. She shared that the district has had their first virtual job fair this past week, which is a new process for the district. She mentioned that they have 37 candidates, most of which they will interview again. HR will also be able to use the same platform for a classified job fair in the future.

C. Finance

William Lewis presented the financial report. He mentioned there will be a supplemental budget that he will bring to the Board. The reason for this is that with the additional ESSER funds, it is over the threshold of allowable increases and therefore requires a supplemental budget. He will bring that back to the Board for approval. He added that at some point in the future there will be an ESSER III, and when those funds are received there will be the need for an additional supplemental budget.

9. COMMUNICATION

A. Board

Vice Chair Martin mentioned that the OSBA has a presentation for the process of performing a superintendent evaluation that goes through the nine standards and helps to give the Board guidelines for writing up the standards. He indicated that he is going to attend.

Superintendent Yates added that he has been working on his self evaluation and will have that to the Board next month.

Chair Oliver added that over the last year there have been different staff groups that have done a lot of work. The food service group has stepped up and worked very hard throughout the last year and he feels they deserve some extra recognition and would like the Board to think about doing something for that group in particular and recognize them for their hard work.

B. Superintendent

Assistant Superintendent Meckley shared that will be some administrative changes in the next couple of months. Jan Sansom and Tami Volz are both retiring at the end of the school year, and Rachel Cannon will be relocating to New Mexico. This will be a huge loss for our district. Tami's position has not been posted yet as they are looking to distribute some of her duties. The district has hired Brandon Weist from Lacombe as a replacement for Rachel's position, and feel that his character and skills make him a good fit for that position.

Jan Sansom will be working with Steve Woodcock, who will be coming on board at the end of April.

Tami Volz is working with the admin team and going over her responsibilities to see how they can be split up.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM.



Tom Oliver, Chair



Bo Yates, Superintendent



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DATE: March 31, 2021

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Tom Taetz

RE: Public Comment to the Board

Can the board please revisit the district policy on sex education?

Linn county clearly suffers with rates of teen pregnancy and teens being screened with STIs. At this point, it is clear that the district cares more about self serving religious doctrine than helping the students of their community. Community resources are not enough. It is time for the schools to update their practices and values to match the times we are in.

Thank you, and I hope for the children's sake, the board will consider putting aside their personal beliefs for this issue.