



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 Tammy Schilling Todd Gestrin | Bo Yates, Superintendent Jennifer Meckley, Assistant Superintendent William Lewis, Business Director Kim Grousbeck, Human Resources Director Tami Volz, Director of School Improvement Rachel Cannon, Director of Alternative Education |

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 6:38 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. BOARD REORGANIZATION

A. Election of Board Chair for 2020-21

Mike Martin made a motion to elect Tom Oliver as Board Chair for 2020-21. Member Tammy Schilling seconded the motion. The motion carried by majority vote, and Tom Oliver abstained.

B. Election of Board Vice Chair for 2020-21

Tom Oliver made a motion to elect Mike Martin as Vice Chair for 2020-21. Member Richard Borden seconded the motion. The motion carried by majority vote, and Mike Martin abstained.

C. Board Meeting Schedule for 2020-21

Chair Tom Oliver indicated that he would like the August 13 meeting to be held as a Zoom meeting, but then he would like to be in-person or have a hybrid meeting after August.

Upon a motion made by Vice Chair Mike Martin, and duly seconded by Member Todd Gestrin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2020-21 Board Meeting Schedule as presented.

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no public comments submitted to the Board.

4. FALL 2020-21 PLAN

Superintendent Bo Yates shared the fall startup plan with the Board. He indicated that it was a fluid plan because of the ongoing changes with Covid-19. He said that we were currently looking at a blended model and went over the priorities for the district, which were student and staff safety, state guidelines, operational capacity and educational effectiveness. He then reviewed Option 1 for the elementary and K-8 schools, which has grades K-1 attending school a half-day every day. Students will be divided into a morning and afternoon class. This age group has a harder time learning online and this will allow them more opportunities to be in front of a teacher. Grades 2-8 will either attend school on Monday and Tuesday or Thursday and Friday. Wednesday will be for online support and development, and a deep sterilization.

Option 2 is an online only option. Superintendent Yates indicated that the district has upgraded the online platform from last spring and the district will be using Canvas for online learning this year.

For Seven Oak and the high school, they will have the same options for either a hybrid (option 1) or online only (option 2).

Superintendent Yates added that as things develop, a lot of districts are looking at being even more conservative than originally planned and maybe our district should look at doing that and going online only, with the exception of grades K-2. He feels it is important to have grades K-2 in classrooms and work on reading skills.

He is recommending that grades K-2 start in classrooms on a rotation basis for AM and PM, and then the rest of the grades be online to start. Then have points where we look at adding back classes as Covid-19 becomes more controllable and we know how to control our environment better.

Member Mike Martin said that he liked the recommendation and having the online learning to start. He would like to add the third grade to the group that will be in person, to help solidify their education foundation. The feedback that he has received from the community members and staff indicates that as much as people would like to go back to normal, that starting online might be best.

Superintendent Yates added that the district is looking at student support at each school with childcare, et cetera, so that kids are not home alone.

Chair Tom Oliver added that it makes sense to talk about it by grade level. He did not think there was any other way than having kids in a classroom for the early grades, that they needed that connection and that time. Superintendent Yates responded that we needed to look at effectiveness and also risk management. He said we would learn as we go through that, keep evolving and then bring more kids back as we can as we figure out how to navigate this environment.

Chair Tom Oliver added that we could plan and come up with different scenarios, but ultimately when the ODE releases guidance on August 11th, that is what we need to go by. He added that the only way we would be effective for grades K-2 is by having in-person learning. Superintendent Yates agreed to this.

Vice Chair Mike Martin asked about safety protocols. Superintendent Yates responded that we have masks, we have purchased thermometers, and we have communication protocols for at-risk students and staff members and ways to trace exposures. We are working to make it safe for staff and students. He added that he has talked to a lot of people that say kids are not at risk, but they can be carriers, and then they go home and share with high risk people.

Member Tammy Schilling asked about the survey results and indicated she would like to see the feedback from that. She would like information on what level of risk parents are willing to have to return to school and would like to hear how we can make school happen. She added that we are supposed to be educating kids and that was the goal, and wondered how it was going to be different from the online learning in the spring. She has concerns about getting students caught up.

There was a discussion regarding the state guidelines and mandates for reopening this fall.

Member Tammy Schilling was not in favor of starting online. Member Todd Gestrin shared that he did not think as negatively as others as far as going online. His daughter had two years of online classes, which was a good experience for her, then had to finish two years at the high school and that was not as productive for her. Chair Tom Oliver added that if we did online, he felt it was imperative to have an in-person alternative for the students that need it and for the families that need it. He feels it would be different than the hybrid model that was presented, with some sort of childcare and support with Canvas. Superintendent Yates added that we wanted to establish some sort of interaction with teachers that will provide students with more face-to-face contact with teachers for support. He said we could go to a more blended model to have more kids in school, if that was what the Board would like to do. His concern was for the safety of his staff. His position was that he wanted kids in school, but he wanted it in a safe environment for everyone.

There was an extensive discussion around what it would take to go back to school in person and the risks involved for different scenarios.

Chair Oliver asked if we have the authority to make a decision that is different than the guidance that the state gives. If the district does not have the authority to do anything different, then it is a moot point. Superintendent Yates indicated that there was some flexibility to make some local decisions with what we are able to do. He will check with ODE to see if we can work around the guidelines and if we would be penalized if we did. Chair Oliver added that it would be helpful to know what authority, if any, we have to make decisions. Vice Chair Martin added that we needed to make sure the district is held harmless as well.

There was more discussion regarding scenarios and options available to the district.

Member Tammy Schilling asked about the Canvas program and how it is different than what we had in the spring for distance learning. Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Meckley provided information regarding the Canvas platform. She shared that it will be more vigorous, more engaging, more consistent across grade levels and easier to access for students and parents. Canvas is a great learning management program that provides more interaction between students and teachers. There are 55 to 60 teachers currently working to learn how to use Canvas and working to develop curriculum and courses to be able to provide a more rigorous, robust and engaging platform for students. She added that this was a new way for teaching and learning for

everyone, but what they are learning about Canvas is that it is an absolutely better platform than what we ended with in the spring. Member Tammy Schilling asked what the program would look like when students log on. Assistant Superintendent Meckley answered that sometimes it will be a video, sometimes it will be with the classroom and sometimes there will be tests. She will provide a sample of Canvas to Member Tammy Schilling for her to review.

There was more discussion regarding what Canvas will look like for students.

Superintendent Yates' recommendation is that we move forward and have distance learning for grades 4-12, and have grades K-3 in person at the schools. He said that he needed to move forward and submit a plan to ODE. He added that he does not need Board approval, but he would like Board support for his plan.

Chair Oliver clarified that there was still an option for online only, if that was the parent's choice, and Superintendent Yates indicated that was correct.

Superintendent Yates also asked the Board for support in changing the start of the year schedule. Currently, teachers come back on August 23rd and students come back on September 1st. He would like to have the first week be a soft start, allowing students to come in and conference with teachers to get technology issues taken care of, as well as have more professional development for teachers to be more aligned in what we are doing. Member Tammy Schilling asked how many days would be the soft opening and Superintendent Yates clarified that it would be first week, so students would start school right after Labor Day, on September 8th.

The Board verbally agreed to make this change to the calendar and allow for the soft start for the school year for the first week of school, August 31 to September 3, with the first day of classes to be on September 8.

Superintendent Yates asked about moving forward and how the Board would like this brought back to them. He is meeting with the leadership team and will take into consideration all of the things that the Board has voiced, and then put forth a plan and move forward. He will send it out to the Board tomorrow.

Member Todd Gestrin asked if teachers would be teaching the same subjects. Superintendent Yates answered that they will be teaching the same subject, but that there might be fewer subjects taught. Member Tammy Schilling asked what we would be losing, to which Superintendent Yates answered that it would probably be electives at the high school level. The priority is for core classes for graduation. There is an opportunity in Canvas to see what other schools are doing for supporting electives.

Chair Tom Oliver asked about childcare programs being offered to support at the schools to help families that need that as an option. Superintendent Yates said they would look to see what types of programs they could support within each of the schools, as well as working with the Boys and Girls Club.

5. CIA UPDATE

Tami Volz shared information on curriculum, instruction and assessment. She reviewed the information that is available online. She shared that Freckle is the new resource to support our

existing assessment, which is STAR. The big change is the district is piloting Amplify for English Language Arts.

For math, the district has purchased Zearn, which is the online partner to Eureka Math. The district will continue with CPM math.

AVID will continue to be a priority for the district as well. A lot of staff will be participating with the virtual summer institute with AVID, which is next week.

Our assessment program, which is STAR, will continue. There is a new assessment tool called ESGI, which will support our kindergarten students. This is a platform that gets the data into a system, rather than on paper.

She then provided some summer school data. There were 95 high school students who enrolled in summer school. There were only six students who have earned credit so far.

Member Tammy Schilling asked if we will know the final number of students who earned credit at the next Board meeting and Tami Volz said she would provide that.

6. RESOLUTION 2020-21 REPRESENTATION AND AUTHORIZATIONS

Upon motion made by Member Richard Borden, duly seconded by Member Todd Gestrin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Resolution 2021-1 as presented.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. June 25, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Upon motion made by Member Richard Borden, duly seconded by Member Tammy Schilling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes from June 25, 2020 as presented.

B. Policies – Second Reading

Upon motion made by Member Todd Gestrin, duly seconded by Member Richard Borden, the Board voted unanimously to approve policies JHH, GBL, GBLA, GBN/JBA, GBN/JBA-AR, JBA/GBN, JBA/GBN-AR and IGBAH-AR upon second reading as presented.

C. Hiring

Upon motion made by Member Richard Borden, duly seconded by Member Tammy Schilling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the hiring of Kacie Bell, Jenna Broadhurst, Kelli Conraads, Sandi Cox, Marissa Eng, Jacob Johnson, Kristina Kinney, Lisa Kuenzi, Tayo Mulholland, Caitlin Sherburne, Dylan Taylor, Miranda Treadway, Candace VanPatten, Kayla Marshall and Madison Shryock as presented.

8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Operations

Superintendent Yates said that the district is going through all of the protocols for cleaning, reporting and sterilizing in all departments, from transportation to custodial, so that we are ready to go in all eventualities. He said we are currently working on expanding the freezer for food services and that should be operational in the next month or so. This will allow us to centralize our operations and allow the nutrition department to buy more in bulk.

B. Human Resources

Kim Grousbeck gave an update on the Work Share status. She shared that employees still have not received any funds from the Work Share program. She has been in contact with them and she said that three weeks ago they were working on the May 10th applicants and we were on May 18th. She said they have also learned that Albany has received theirs last week and they were right before us. She added that Salem-Keizer has also started receiving theirs. She is hopeful that we will receive ours soon as well.

C. Finance

William Lewis presented the information for the finance department. He said they are working on completing 19-20 and rolling everything over into 20-21. They are working on strategies for 20-21 for putting their best foot forward with the best information we have on the funding.

9. COMMUNICATION

A. Board

There were no Board communications.

B. Superintendent

Superintendent Yates shared that Eric Frazier was finishing up the duplex that they have built. The district is looking at rolling some of those funds into a preschool to support early learning.

Member Todd Gestrin asked about the funds to continue the program if we use the funds to build a preschool. He also asked if we had talked to Headstart regarding their building.

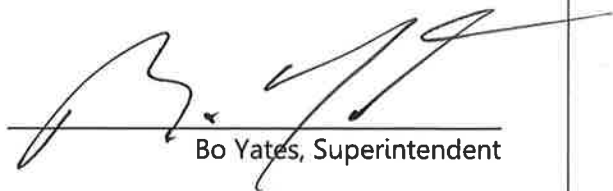
Superintendent Yates said the intent was to do this without taking all of the money from the duplex. He is hoping to have the community help to support the project as well. They will use some district funds, but he is hoping to keep that at a minimum. He added that he had looked at the Headstart building and the way it was constructed, but he thought this would be a good opportunity to utilize our students and the program.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.



Tom Oliver, Board Chair



Bo Yates, Superintendent