

# ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## School Board Regular Meeting and Executive Session

Electronic Link Available

Joseph Lane Middle School Library

2153 NE Vine Street

Roseburg, Oregon 97470

Vol 4 No. 5

October 12, 2022

### Board Members:

Dr. Brandon Bishop	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rodney Cotton	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Howard Johnson, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ann Krimetz	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rebecca Larson, Vice Chair	Exc
Charles F. Lee	Exc
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, Director of Finance and Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Melissa Roberts, Director of Student Services	<input type="checkbox"/>

## REGULAR SESSION – SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

**TIME/PLACE:** A regular meeting of the Douglas County School District No. 4 Board of Directors was convened on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, in the Library of Joseph Lane Middle School, located at 2153 NE Vine Street in Roseburg, Oregon, in person with an electronic link available.

**CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Board Chair Howard Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ATTENDANCE:** Board members attended in person, with Vice Chair Rebecca Larson and Director Charles Lee both excused. Superintendent Cordon and Cabinet members were present. No media representatives were in attendance.

### COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD / REVIEW OF AGENDA

Superintendent Cordon welcomed everyone present in person, as well as those who were joining the meeting remotely. In reviewing the agenda, Jared noted that the RHS student being recognized, Charlize Dela Cruz, was participating in the Powder Puff game tonight, and will be rescheduled for a later date.

### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

RHS Leadership Students, Kristen Ramirez and Elizabeth Wilson were unable to attend.

### STUDENT / STAFF RECOGNITION

Chair Howard Johnson stated that it is greatest honor as Board Chair to present awards and recognition to deserving students and staff, who are all very much appreciated. Honorees this evening included:

#### **Drew Hubbard, Eighth Grade Student at Joseph Lane Middle School**

Eighth-grader Drew Hubbard is known as a hardworking, respectful, and enthusiastic learner. He shows up each day with a positive attitude and remains engaged in class activities. When faced with a challenge or new concept, Drew is never afraid to ask questions or to get help. When he does understand a concept, he will try to help others understand that concept too. In his creative writing class, Drew is described as an insightful and wonderfully imaginative writer who understands how to create narratives that

come to life. As an eighth grader taking advanced ninth-grade honors math at RHS, Drew routinely does work that places him in the top of the class. The future is bright for Drew, and he will be successful in whatever path he chooses with his enthusiasm for learning.

Congratulations, Drew!

**Maryann Sweger, Fifth Grade Student at Fullerton IV Elementary School**

Fifth-grader Maryann Sweger was chosen as her school’s first student of the month because she has shown nothing but kindness to her teachers and peers since the start of the school year. Maryann is known as an exceptionally bright young lady who never ceases to work hard and to always do her best. She is always engaged in classroom discussions, happy to show off her smarts, but always humble. Even in the face of hardship, Maryann’s energy is described as gentle and open, allowing everyone to have a place at the table, so to speak. She is exactly the type of young person who we adults should wish one day inherit the world and help lead it to a better place.

Congratulations, Maryann!

A special staff member was also recognized and honored with a Crystal Apple Award this evening:

**Shannon Short, Turnaround Program Teacher at Joseph Lane Middle School**

Joseph Lane MS Turnaround Program Teacher Shannon Short is the deserving recipient of a Crystal Apple Award inscribed with, “Patience of a Saint. Eighth Grade Boys Arm Wrestling Champion, 2022.”

Shannon not only goes above and beyond for her students in the TAP room, she always goes out of her way to help any student on campus who needs extra help and support both academically and emotionally. She strives to keep her students engaged and appropriate in classes. Shannon also has taken the role as coach for multiple sports at Jo Lane. She is always willing to do more than what is expected of her.

Last year was, by far, one of the hardest years, and she still decided to return this year.

Shannon is the perfect candidate to represent Jo Lane and receive the Crystal Apple Award.

Congratulations, Shannon!

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Consent Agenda was presented for consideration, including approval of the Consent Agenda, Minutes from the September 21 meeting, Surplus Items and Gifts to the District. Personnel actions included recommendations for hire and acceptance of resignations as listed below:

Recommendations for Hire:

- Fremont Middle School –
  - Brandon Haberly, Sixth Grade Language Arts and Social Studies Teacher; and
- Roseburg High School –
  - Jennifer Higgins, Re-Hire: Retired Teacher (2013), PERS Working Retiree

Licensed and Administrative Resignations:

- Russ Bolin, Athletic Director, has submitted his resignation for PERS Retirement purposes after 33 years in the District, as of December 31, 2022, and would like to continue in his position through the 2022-2023 school year;
- Ruth Dixon, Special Education Teacher at Hucrest Elementary School, has submitted her resignation, effective September 23, 2022.

Director Rodney Cotton moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Director Brandon Bishop seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M4-021 Approved the Consent Agenda
------------------------------------

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Chair Johnson invited Public Participation, explaining that the 20 minutes allotted is limited to two-minutes per person, and participants would be advised by Assistant Superintendent Michelle Knee when their time was up.

District Safety Coordinator, Ed Villarreal, introduced our new security officer, Ryan Laney. Mr. Laney was a Deputy Sheriff for Coos County, and relocated to Roseburg in 2021 with his wife Brook, who also works for the District. Welcome to the District!

Mrs. Sara Cowie, 1756 NW Beaumont Ave., Roseburg, shared that her property is one of the neighbors adjacent to Hucrest Elementary School. She has spoken with district staff members and understands school safety. She has two children attending Hucrest and one attending RHS. The family purchased their home appreciating the charm and the school environment. She proposed a compromise to the planned fencing, with the added fencing being installed at a height of 6 feet instead of 7 feet, and requested that it not include the recommended slats. She explained that portions of the school field are higher than neighboring properties, potentially resulting in 12 foot fencing.

Mr. Stuart Cowie, also of 1756 NW Beaumont Ave., thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak, as well as the staff members who have been very kind and helpful through this process. Mr. Cowie shared photos of their property, explaining that their children use the gate between their home and the school daily and is one of the features the owners love best about their home. The Cowies do understand the district's concerns regarding security but would like to maintain the sense of community their property currently provides. He indicated it would be nice not to have new fencing installed next to existing fencing. He also shared that slatted fencing would reduce the ability of neighboring homeowners to observe activities at the school. Mr. Cowie requested the Board reconsider the use of slats in fencing.

Nutrition Services Director, Kyle Micken, cordially invited the Board of Directors to attend the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Winchester Fifth Grade Fine Dining event occurring November 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Winchester Elementary School. This event provides our students the opportunity to learn about the finer points of dining etiquette while enjoying a four-course dinner. The students are encouraged to dress up for the event.

Assistant Superintendent Michelle Knee confirmed that there were no individuals attending via Zoom who wished to address the Board. Chair Johnson thanked each of the participants for their input.

**DIVISION 22 STANDARDS: REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC SCHOOL STANDARDS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR**

Assistant Superintendent Michelle Knee provided an overview of this annual requirement for Oregon schools. The rules contained within ORS Chapter 581, Division 22 are educational standards the State Board of Education adopts and sets before districts to comply with for every student attending Oregon public schools. Each year we are provided with a baseline level of service, and each year districts report at a local level prior to submitting their district's report to the Oregon Department of Education no later than November 1st. This practice assures that Roseburg Public Schools provides a high-quality public education for students in our care. This compliance report will be posted on the district's website for public access. Mrs. Knee reported that Roseburg Public Schools is following all standards for the 2021-2022 school year.

Director Howard Johnson expressed appreciation for the diligence in reporting and effort needed to get this compliance reporting completed. Kudos to Assistant Superintendent Knee for a job well done!

**RESOLUTION 22-23-10: AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK – NOVEMBER 15-19, 2021**

Superintendent Cordon presented Resolution 22-23-10 dedicating the week of November 14-18, 2022 as American Education Week. Jared noted that he missed our resident historian, Director Charles Lee as we reflect on the history behind American Education Week. In 1919, representatives of the American Legion and National Education Association began to seek ways to generate public support for education, recognizing that a quarter of the population was illiterate and approximately 10% was physically unfit. In 1921, the NEA assembly in Des Moines, Iowa called for designation of one week each year to spotlight education for the purpose of informing the public of the accomplishments and needs of the public schools and to secure the cooperation and support of the public in meeting those needs. The first observation of American Education Week occurred December of 1921. It is now celebrated annually the week prior to the week of Thanksgiving.

Director Brandon Bishop moved to adopt Resolution 22-23-10 recognizing American Education Week. Director Andrew Shirtcliff seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M4-022 Adopted Resolution 22-23-10

**BOARD POLICY SECTION “J” FOR FIRST READING**

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, shared that the Policy Committee completed a review of this Section J with assistance from OSBA Policy Services Specialist, Rick Stucky, and is prepared for First Reading. Director Ann Krimetz moved to approve Board Policy Section “J” for First Reading. Director Rodney Cotton seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

As the Chair of the Policy Committee, Director Rodney Cotton shared that the committee has been representing the Board very well and expects to complete their task of reviewing and updating board policies by the end of 2022. He added that the existing policies were very good, mostly needing updating pursuant to legislative changes or elimination of policies outdated and no longer relevant. He expressed thanks to fellow committee members, Directors Ann Krimetz and Charles Lee. He noted that Mr. Stucky has also been a great resource during the process and we appreciate his expertise.

M4-023 Approved Board Policy Section “J” for First Reading

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** (slide-deck attached)

Superintendent Cordon joined the board in sharing his appreciation for the work being accomplished by our Policy Committee, Directors Rodney Cotton, Ann Krimetz and Charles Lee, adding that this has indeed been a heavy lift. He also expressed gratitude to the entire board for directing appropriations needed to complete safety projects. Jared acknowledged the concerns expressed by some community members with respect to how safety measures might impact them but emphasized that our North Star is the safety of kids. Processes will be changing with the installation of single points of entry to our schools and an emphasis on perimeter fencing to ensure kids are safe, while striving to maintain a welcoming environment. Some projects are taking longer than hoped as we wait for materials to arrive, such as safety windows that are highly sought after nationwide.

Conceptual drawings of proposed vestibules at both RHS and Winchester were shared.

New book vending machines are being installed at all schools to engage students in reading and help kids build their at-home libraries.

Independent Reading Level Assessment adoption continues at all elementary schools. We are receiving great feedback from staff, parents and students regarding the recent adoption of Grades 6-12 English Language (ELA) curriculum materials. We continue moving forward with other academics including:

- K-5 Ready Math professional learning and instruction;
- Preparations for our District Math Project Team using the 2+1 Model; and
- Accelerating Grades K-12 alignment work to increase both articulation and rigor.

Our Roseburg High School student athletes have a combined GPA of 3.64 (ranging from 3.33-3.97) and this week we are celebrating National School Lunch Week!

Chair Johnson thanked Superintendent Cordon for the timeliness and clarity of his report.

### **INDIVIDUAL REPORTS BY DIRECTORS**

Director Ann Krimetz reported that she and Director Andrew Shirtcliff visited Phoenix Charter School and had a good meeting with Principal Kat Bierkens and Executive Director Thomas McGregor. They were able to gauge the atmosphere and observe the student body and it was a positive experience. Director Krimetz also shared that she is pleased with the progress being made by the Policy Committee, feeling comfortable in policies we have approved to date, with the knowledge that changes can be made as needed.

Chair Howard Johnson shared his appreciation for our patrons who had generously contributed gifts to the district.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With business before the Board concluded, Chair Johnson stated that the Board would be reconvening after a short recess to enter Executive Session. He announced that the next meeting will be held October 26 at 6:00 p.m. Chair Johnson adjourned this regular meeting at 6:54 p.m.

### **Executive Session**

Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i)

Chairman Johnson convened Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i) at 7:01 p.m. Once discussion was concluded, the Executive Session was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

**Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent**

JPC/jlk

**Next Meeting:** School Board Work Session, October 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the administrative office Board Room, located at 1419 W Valley View Drive in Roseburg. Zoom link will be available.