

ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Regular Meeting & Executive Session

Electronic Link Available

Fir Grove Elementary School Library

1360 W. Harvard Blvd.

Roseburg, Oregon 97471

Vol 4 No. 8

December 14, 2022

Board Members:

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed findings supporting an exemption from competitive bidding requirements and use of the CM/GC method of procurement for the Eastwood Elementary School Multipurpose Gym and classroom wing area Seismic Rehabilitation

Pursuant to publication of public notice, a Public Hearing was held both in person and via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. on December 14, 2022, to review proposed findings supporting an exemption from competitive bidding requirements and use of the CM/GC method of procurement for the Eastwood Elementary School multi-purpose room/gym and classroom wing area seismic rehabilitation. Cheryl Northam, Director of Finance and Operations, explained that the School Board, acting as the Roseburg School District Local Contract Review Board, in accordance with ORS 279C.335(2) has contract review authority to grant specific exemptions from the requirement for competitive bidding upon approval of specific findings.

Roseburg Public Schools has received a \$2,497,894 grant through the Oregon Seismic Rehabilitation Grant program to seismically retrofit the multi-purpose room/gym and classroom wing area of Eastwood Elementary School to meet or exceed the code requirements outlined in ACSE41-06 "Seismic Rehabilitation of Existing Buildings".

The CM/GC contract allows the district to bring a general contractor on board during the initial design phase, providing engineering services and a Guaranteed Maximum Price in lieu of during the bid phase after full design documents have been established. The Roseburg School District proposes utilizing the CM/GC contract delivery methodology to obtain proposals for this project. Director Northam confirmed that the district has previously used this method for all seismic rehabilitation projects undertaken to date, reporting that it worked well for projects in the past, such as Hucrest and Melrose Elementary Schools. The findings supporting the exemption have been reviewed by legal counsel as required by Oregon statute.

Public Participation

Chairman Johnson offered the opportunity for any interested party to comment on the proposed findings. Hearing none, the Chair asked for a Motion to Approve the Findings as reviewed by Legal Counsel, Cadence Whiteley of Dole Coalwell Attorneys in Roseburg.

Director Charles Lee moved to approve the Findings supporting an Exemption from competitive bidding requirements and Use of the CM/GC Method of Procurement for the Eastwood Elementary School Multipurpose Gym and classroom wing area as proposed. Director Rodney Cotton seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M4-29 Approved Findings Supporting Exemption from competitive bidding and Use of the CM/GC Method of Procurement for the Eastwood Elementary School Multipurpose Gym and classroom wing area Seismic Rehabilitation

Adjournment: With no further business before the Local Review Board, Chairman Johnson adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:09 p.m.

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, December 14, 2022, immediately following the Public Hearing, in the Library of Fir Grove Elementary School, 1360 W Harvard Blvd., 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 6:09 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE: Board members attended in person, and Superintendent Cordon and Cabinet members were present. Directors Brandon Bishop and Ann Krimetz, as well as Assistant Superintendent Michelle Knee were excused. 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, Mr. Cordon noted the addition of Agenda Item 6: Consideration of 2023-2024 school year calendar and the postponement of one of our students being recognized, Dexter Gray, who will be honored in January 2023.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

RHS Leadership Students, Emma Kahler and Ally Negrin shared that the *Murder on the Orient Express* performances were great, and the student birthday card project is going really well. After much preparation, many students participated in Winter Week, decorating the school, engaging in lunchtime activities and dress up days. Google forms are being readied for nominations of students for L.E.A.D. awards. Link Crew is continuing with outreach to the middle schools to further students understanding of what leadership is all about. The Orange R has begun a new broadcast outreach. Band and choir performances were on tap this week, along with basketball games. Swimming, wrestling, and basketball are all off to a great start. Students are getting excited for the upcoming break and will be gearing up for finals week in January.

Chair Johnson thanked the students for their extra efforts in updating the Board, acknowledging that speaking in front of a crowd tends to make people very nervous, but the student reps are doing a great job.

STUDENT / STAFF RECOGNITION

With Vice Chair Larson performing official timing duties at the swim meet, Chair Howard Johnson had the honor of presenting awards and McDonald's gift cards to staff and students. The honorees this evening included:

Blayden Balfour, Fifth Grade Student at Fir Grove Elementary School

Fir Grove is honored to announce Blayden Balfour as the recognized Student of the Month. Blayden has impressed those who know him with his work ethic, honesty, compassion, and his empathy toward others. He has been a quiet leader in the Fir Grove community and brings joy to others with a great sense of humor, thoughtful contributions to class discussions, and a genuine kindness that is shared with everyone around him.

Fir Grove is so proud of Blayden.

Congratulations, Blayden!

Symone Rust, Eleventh Grade Student at Roseburg High School

Symone is a 4.0 student known for being positive in her approach to learning and her interactions with her peers. Determined to be successful, Symone asks clarifying questions, shares accurate answers, communicates well with her peers and works diligently on the assignments at hand. She encourages others to be successful, too, and can often be heard helping students when they get stuck on a problem. Symone has taken many advanced classes while also participating in athletics. Her plans for the future include attending college and majoring in business. Symone is well deserving of this award.

Congratulations, Symone!

Special staff members were also recognized and honored with a **Crystal Apple Award** this evening:

Jill Clark, Skills Trainer at Eastwood Elementary School

"Wit and sass and the patience of a saint!"

Jill is an amazing member of the Eastwood staff, whether she is helping out with children or being a great friend to confide in. She works diligently to help with all children and starts every behavioral situation with grace.

Jill will help with any kid at any time, and at the end of the day, she's also up for a funny prank or lively chat. Jill helps make Eastwood a happy, fun, and enjoyable place to be.

Congratulations, Jill!

Wanda Harris, DLC Instructional Assistant and Paperwork Manager at Fir Grove Elementary School

"Your compassion, patience, consistently calm demeanor, and tender heart are appreciated at Fir Grove!"

Wanda's compassion, patience, consistently calm demeanor, and tender heart area appreciated at Fir Grove. Her daily presence in the classroom helps to maintain consistency for the students and the staff as well. Wanda's calm demeanor, even in times of great stress, helps to keep those in the classroom calm and focused. She always has time for a hug, and the tenderness with which she treats her students does not go unnoticed, nor does her unlimited supply of patience. Fir Grove and Wanda's students are very lucky to have her.

Congratulations, Wanda!

Nancy Neal, Third Grade Teacher at Eastwood Elementary School

"Loves all of her students and teaches from the heart!"

Nancy is always working hard to build positive relationships with staff, students, and families. She has a growth mindset and is always looking for ways to continue to grow and learn as an educator. Her positive impact on students makes them feel like they belong and leave her classroom stronger than when they came.

Congratulations, Nancy!

Kristin Schriener, DLC Teacher at Fir Grove Elementary School

“Your Fir Grove Family sees your love, devotion, patience, and determination, and we love you for it!”

The Fir Grove family sees Kristin’s love, devotion, patience, and determination, and loves her for it. Each day she arrives early with a smile and an attitude that is positive and contagious to those around her. There have been a few obstacles the last two years with consistent staffing in Kristin’s classroom, but she has never sacrificed the quality of what she does for her students. Kristin has earned the trust and respect of her colleagues, and more importantly, the parents of her students. Kristin is a very important part of the Fir Grove family.
Congratulations, Kristin!

BRIEF RECESS: On behalf of the Board, Chair Johnson thanked the attendees for coming tonight to support the honorees and offered a brief break to allow an opportunity to depart for the evening. The meeting was reconvened at 6:25 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Consent Agenda was presented for consideration, including approval of the Consent Agenda, Minutes from the November 16 Board Meeting, Surplus Items Listing and Gifts to the District. Personnel actions included recommendations for hire and acceptance of resignation as listed below:

Recommendation for Hire:

- Fremont Middle School –
 - Alesha Hunt, Technology Teacher, a temporary position for the 2022-23 school year

Licensed Resignations:

- Steven Kiepert, Woodshop Teacher at Joseph Lane Middle School, has submitted his resignation after 24 years in the district, for PERS retirement purposes effective November 30, 2022, and would like to continue in his position for the remainder of the school year;
- Lisa Pardon, Teaching & Learning Support Specialist at Fir Grove and Hucrest Elementary Schools, has submitted her resignation after 33 years in the district, for PERS retirement purposes, effective February 29, 2023, and would like to continue in her position for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year;
- Joni Sherman, School Counselor with the Dept. of Student Services, is resigning after one year in the district effective January 31, 2023; and
- Madeline Weiss, Technology Teacher at Fremont Middle School since August, has submitted her resignation effective November 22, 2022.

Director Rodney Cotton moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Director Andrew Shirtcliff seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously with Vice Chair Larson now present.

M4-30 Approved the Consent Agenda

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Chair Johnson opened the floor to Public Participation, explaining that the 20 minutes allotted is limited to two-minutes per person, and participants would be advised by Superintendent Cordon once their time was up and how to use the Raise Your Hand feature within Zoom.

Charles Pritchard of Days Creek shared that with five grandchildren at RHS, he is concerned with discipline in the classroom, noting that disruptive behavior causes instruction to cease to move forward.

John Pritchard of Roseburg expressed concern over the schools allowed to observe holidays, stating that his family does not participate in celebration of holidays including Veterans Day, Halloween and Christmas, etc., and believes they take away from the curriculum. He advised we should consider that their origins could be fairy tales, pagan holidays and evil in nature.

Superintendent Cordon confirmed that there were no individuals attending via Zoom who wished to address the Board. Chair Johnson thanked participants for sharing their thoughts.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2021-2022 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Finance and Operations Director, Cheryl Northam, introduced Aria Bettinger, CPA/Partner and Ben Cohn, CPA/Sr. Manager with accounting firm KDP CPAs LLP. Subsequent to the completion of the 2021-2022 fiscal year audit, Ms. Bettinger and Mr. Cohn shared required communications to the School Board including:

- Summary of Auditor’s Results;
- Independent Auditor’s Report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards;
- Independent Auditor’s Report on compliance for each major federal program and on internal control over compliance in accordance with the uniform guidance;
- Summary Schedule of prior year audit findings;
- Independent Auditor’s Report required by Oregon State regulations; and
- Notes to basic financial statements year ended June 30, 2022

Following review of the above-noted main focus areas, Ms. Bettinger advised the Board that the audit had been awarded an “unmodified opinion”, explaining that this is the highest level of assurance attainable. She also thanked Cheryl and her staff for all of their hard work and for the opportunity to be the school district’s audit team. On behalf of the Board, Chair Howard Johnson expressed appreciation to Ms. Bettinger for the service they provide in sharing information on a timely basis as well as for confirming that Director Northam and her team are doing a great job.

PHOENIX CHARTER SCHOOL CHECK-IN

Chairman Johnson welcomed Phoenix Charter School representatives, Thomas McGregor, Executive Director and Principal Kat Bierkens.

Mr. McGregor shared general updates including:

- Continued implementation of the district’s 5D instructional framework model for improving instruction and coordinating leadership from faculty to meet school-wide goals.
- Hired a wellness coordinator to help implement the Commercial Tobacco Prevention Program from Oregon Health Authority. Phoenix is working with RPS secondary administrators on the development of anti-vape strategies for all district students. They have appreciated the warm welcome from RPS administrators at the secondary administrator meetings and being a part of the great conversations as they address issues faces by all students. It’s also exciting to be a part of the partnership between ADAPT and the middle schools.

Attendance and engagement updates were presented, along with High School Success and academic achievement updates. ELA and math support and intervention courses have been added in the new trimester.

Principal Bierkens touched on the new 5-5-5 Plan supporting attendance and the associated interventions. She was pleased to report that their student testing rates have increased to 78 percent with students working with the pathways teachers.

The Academic Objectives Data Dashboard was provided, illustrating that so far in the 2022-2023 school year, 28% of students grades 8-12 are attending less than 50% of the time; 51% of all students are on track for graduation; and 30.2% of students are at or above benchmark for ELA, and 23.8% of students are at or above benchmark in math.

Vice-Chair Larson assured Principal Bierkens that the Board will review the information provided independently. Director Shirtcliff expressed appreciation for the organized information, especially the 5-5-5 Plan created to attack the attendance problem. Vice-Chair Larson concurred that it's a great start.

Chair Johnson thanked both Principal Bierkens and Mr. McGregor, noting that he is looking forward to the next report in February of 2023. Executive Director McGregor extended a Happy Holiday wish to the Board and administration.

AWARD DESIGN AND ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE EASTWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SEISMIC UPGRADE

Director of Finance and Operations, Cheryl Northam, explained that following notification of the award of a seismic rehabilitation grant for Eastwood Elementary School in the amount of \$2,497,894 RFP 22-722 was published seeking proposals from vendors interested in providing Douglas County School District 4 with Engineering Services for Seismic Rehabilitation at Eastwood Elementary School. As outlined in the memorandum from Purchasing Supervisor, Denny Austin, it is the recommendation of the Purchasing Department, that the Board, acting as the Local Contract Review Board, approve the proposal and direct the Business Office to negotiate a contract with a contract with ZCS Engineering and Architecture for engineering services to perform the scope of work for the project at a proposed fee of \$255,200.

Director Charles Lee moved to approve the proposal and direct the business office as outlined above with ZCS Engineering and Architecture for engineering services at the proposed fee of \$255,200. Director Rodney Cotton seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M4-031 Approved ZCS Engineering and Architecture for engineering services for the Eastwood Elementary Seismic Rehabilitation Upgrade
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RESOLUTION 22-23-11: ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING THE FARM TO SCHOOL EDUCATION GRANT

Director of Finance and Operations, Cheryl Northam, presented Resolution 22-23-11 accepting and appropriating the Farm to School Education Grant in the amount of 98,320 from the Oregon Department of Education. Four schools applied jointly for this grant, including Fir Grove, Fullerton IV, Melrose and Winchester Elementaries. Fullerton IV Elementary Principal Debbie Price introduced teacher Kevin South and Erin Maidlow of Oregon Farm to School, who shared their excitement about the opportunity to educate, love and care for the students and families that we serve. This particular grant will be used for garden revitalization and improvement, growing produce, agricultural field trips, fruit and veggie tastings, and other education

opportunities for students. Principal Price thanked Ms. Maidlow for attending and Mr. South for the hard work put forth in pursuing this grant.

Vice-Chair Rebecca Larson moved to adopt Resolution 22-23-11: Accepting and Appropriating the Farm to School Grant in the amount of \$98,320 as presented. Director Rodney Cotton seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M4-032 Adopted Resolution 22-23-11
Accepting and Appropriating the Farm to
School Grant

BOARD POLICY SECTION K/L: DISTRICT/COMMUNITY RELATIONS, for SECOND READING AND ADOPTION

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, shared that the Policy Committee had completed a review of Section “K/L” District/Community Relations, and it was approved for First Reading at the November 16 Board Meeting, and is now being presented for Second Reading and Adoption.

Director Andrew Shirtcliff moved to approve Board Policy Section “K/L” District/Community Relations for Second Reading and Adoption. Vice-Chair Rebecca Larson seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M4-033 Approved Board Policy Section
“K/L” District/Community Relations, for
Second Reading and Adoption

CONSIDER SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2023-2024

Human Resources Director, Robert Freeman, shared that the Calendar Committee met this week and reviewed two different calendars, one starting the school year before and one after Labor Day. Both meet our contractual obligations for all four of our employee groups. He further explained that on both versions, the Wednesday before the Thanksgiving holiday indicates a non-contract day. For some employees, this is a workday, and they would have the option of working or taking available leave on that day in order to satisfy the 260-day work-day contract. The Board heard the pros and cons of both proposed calendars.

Vice-Chair Larson shared that she had a conversation with Director Bishop earlier today, and as both of them have students attending secondary, they both favor the earlier start. She explained that OSAA allows athletes and musicians to practice, and those kids and their families are already tied to school by the second week in August, and it’s nice to have kids out earlier in June. With regard to the heat index, we track that and act accordingly. She shared her hope that our bond measure is successful and air conditioning could be used in improving air quality so that we can support our kids that way. Director Rodney Cotton suggested waiting a month longer to adopt a calendar if there are upcoming changes to the PD calendar. Superintendent Cordon indicated that it was not problematic to move forward for next year.

As the resident traditionalist, Director Lee thinks of summer ending on Labor Day, and many divorce and child planning documents rest on the assumption that school begins after Labor Day. His long-term hope is to find a way to provide longer years for more schooling while balancing the same number of days. He favors the later start. Vice-Chair Larson added that as a teacher, she believes that August or September instructional days have a higher value than a June instructional day. Kids typically learn more earlier in the school year. She further

added that we can believe differently and still get along. Director Shirtcliff received confirmation that the earlier start is consistent with what we have been doing in the past few years.

Chair Johnson asked the Board for their preference of the two proposed calendars and observed that the majority preferred the earlier start date, with Director Lee indicating preference for the post Labor Day version.

M4-034 Approved 2023-2024 School Year Calendar starting before Labor Day

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: (slide-deck attached)

Superintendent Cordon shared that as a community member who lives here, it's important to take a few moments to thank the Board. He would characterize this Board as consistent, reliable, thoughtful and focused. While much of our country struggled with differences of thought and opinion, we dealt with the mascot, curriculum, professional learning, mandated school closure and the worldwide pandemic. Much of our community struggled immensely if our schools weren't open to provide care, food, and a warm predictable space for youth. We were the first 6A district in the state to reopen. This reflects on this Board's responsibility and reliability. Even though our bond effort was not successful, we still need to improve safety, and have added a district security team, visitor management and school vestibules. We are moving staff out of buildings and into safer areas. We are updating curriculum and our strategic planning.

The Board of Education has a thankless job, and these individuals take a lot of heat for many things. We thank them for their steady, consistent hand in guiding the district over the past several years and willingness to continue to do so. We wish you a restful, joyous holiday season, spending time with those you love, and wish the same for those in our own organization.

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS BY DIRECTORS

Vice-Chair Rebecca Larson apologized for arriving late due to scoring duties at the swim meet, where our athletes swam to success. She asked to share a sweet experience this morning when her son offered the daily prayer, praying for his teachers, recognizing the importance of that relationship. Director Larson expressed gratitude for the people who spend their days blessing the lives of children and their families. She is also grateful for the opportunity to serve on this Board and for her fellow Board members, noting that it's an honor to work with them. She wished everyone a restful holiday, adding that her college student will be flying home this week.

Director Charles Lee shared the community excitement evidenced by the full parking lot at RHS due to the scheduled band concert and the basketball game. It's wonderful to see our citizens out supporting our kids.

Director Rod Cotton wished everyone a Happy Holiday, adding that it's been an amazing 29 years to serve as a Board member. He considers it in the top 3-4 honors alongside his marriage and children. He shared that while not always perfect, board members are not the enemy and want to work with staff and students. It's been fun and after retiring almost two years ago, he is now embarking on to work with Young Life. He and Claire missed the band concert, but encouraged everyone to attend the UACT Charlie Brown play, as the young voices are beautiful. He shared that there is so much good going on in our community, and there are such talented people

Chair Johnson shared a reminder that Jesus is the reason for the season and wished everyone a great holiday and New Year.

ADJOURNMENT: With regular 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 January 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Chair Johnson adjourned this regular meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Executive Session

Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i)

Chairman Johnson convened Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i) at 7:25 p.m. to continue the annual process of evaluating the superintendent's performance and board expectations. Directors Brandon Bishop and Ann Krimetz were again excused. With no further business before the board, the Executive Session was recessed at 8:05 p.m.

Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent

JPC/jlk

Next Meeting: School Board Regular Session, January 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Library of Hucrest Elementary School, located at 1810 NW Kline Street, Roseburg, Oregon and available via Zoom.