

### WORK SESSION MINUTES

9/ The Springfield Board of Education held a work session/training with Mike Dugas, Vision Creation Consulting, around strategic thinking and future planning on December 14, 2015.

Board Chair Jonathan Light welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 3:42 pm, in the First Floor Conference Room, of the District Administration Center, 525 Mill Street, Springfield.

#### **Attendance**

Board members present included Chair Light, Laurie Adams, Erik Bishoff, and Tina DeHaven. Sandra Boyst was excused from the meeting.

Others in attendance included Superintendent Sue Rieke-Smith, Kevin Ricker, Suzy Price, Brian Megert, Michael Henry, Karen Lewis, Linda Henry, Yvonne Atteberry, Anne Goff, Linda Henry, David Collins, Greg James, Brett Yancey, Jenna McCulley, Tom Lindly, and Mike Dugas of Vision Creating Consulting.

Dr. Rieke-Smith introduced Mike Dugas and explained she had worked with him in conjunction with Connected Lane County and the Lane Education Service District (ESD). The goal tonight was to have a conversation about what it might be, as a district, to engage the community back into what was the next chapter for Springfield. It was important for the District to hear from the community, staff and principals, and community partners around what the next steps might be and ways to take Springfield into the future. She had asked Mr. Dugas to share what the community process would look like and asked the Board for guidance and direction for a larger community process. She planned to retain Mr. Dugas to provide training for the cabinet, principals and SAAC (Springfield Association of Administrators and Confidential employees). She would look to the Board for guidance and direction.

Mr. Dugas offered a PowerPoint presentation entitled *Creating a Vision, Unifying a Community and Transforming Learning—Dr. John Hayes, Dr. Yvonne Curtis and Mike Dugas—OSBA Annual Conference—November 15, 2013*. Mr. Dugas distributed copies of the PowerPoint presentation. He said he loved working with education and helping communities get behind their school districts to support the students. He asked Board members to be thinking about decisions they needed to make regarding who would be part of the team. After the team met initially, it would show a broader group of people what it had been doing, solicit feedback and bring that feedback into the next step of the process. At the end of the process, the team would identify the key learnings from the District's history that would inform its future vision. The team would identify five bold steps it would address over the next 18 months.

Ms. Adams said the Board had seen significant changes over the last few months, and was struggling with setting goals, which was difficult for the staff.

In response to Mr. Light, Mr. Dugas said the base for the process could be as broad as the Board wanted it to be. Some groups did community assessments and some groups conducted extensive research, which was presented in the Context Map. He suggested providing a brief summary and allowing people to provide input.

Mr. Dugas reviewed the work of the Forest Grove School Board. Their themes included: close the achievement gap; develop the whole child; bilingual pathways; project based learning and STEM; advocate for increased stable funding; and, application based learning throughout the curriculum. The bold steps they developed were: academic achievement; the District pathway; implementing cultural proficient practices; staff effectiveness; STEM implementation; and, instructional strategies aligned with application based

learning. Staff reviewed the goals several times a year and they often found that good progress was made with several of the goals, but zero progress was made with many of the goals. They decided to postpone work on the goals with zero progress for a year, and focus on the three goals where progress had begun. This enabled the District to have good conversations and use resources efficiently. Currently, the superintendent gave quarterly reports to the Board on the goals. The district also developed an effective plan for engaging with district parents. The district had a plan it could review and about which it could have meaningful conversations, enabling it to make meaningful decisions on resources.

Mr. Dugas reviewed the work of the Gresham Barlow School District. The district prepared a package for their administrators to take to the schools to engage the teams at each school. Their strategic themes were: teaching and learning; balanced assessment; accomplished educators; learning opportunities; community engagement and partnerships; and, planning and resource management. The district took advantage of good, established communication channels to get information out and solicit feedback from the community.

In response to Ms. Adams, Mr. Dugas said most people welcomed student participation on the teams. Gresham Barlow had a high school team that worked on history and context, and provided suggestions for where the vision should go. The other teams were pleased to see the high school team so excited about the work. He noted the stakeholder groups had the same priorities as the overall group. The overall themes for the district were: teaching and learning; growth and achievement for all; community investment; college and career readiness; close the achievement gap using equitable practices; early learning; class size and learning environments; and, community partnerships. As part of the school engagement process, the principals shared the themes with their schools and solicited feedback on the themes. The district and its stakeholder groups then thought about what the vision themes would look like in one, two, and five years, and define success at their level, which made the process personal for each person who participated.

Responding to Dr. Rieke-Smith, Mr. Dugas said the Hillsboro School District had developed a college and career ready vision for which they were seeking grant funding. They had reached out to the businesses in the community to provide internships for the kids. People in local government, the Chamber of Commerce and several businesses offered internships and mentorships for kids in the trades and in the professions to provide them experience.

Ms. DeHaven emphasized the importance of having transparency in building credibility in the process, to ensure it was not a message of flavor of the month or flavor of the year.

Dr. Rieke-Smith stated it was the superintendent's responsibility to ensure the outcomes matched the district's goals, and to provide a monthly update to the Board. The success and effectiveness of the goals should be included in the superintendent's annual evaluation. Every school and department should have metrics by which it would measure their progress.

Mr. Light thanked Mr. Dugas for his presentation. He suggested the Board could route additional questions for Mr. Dugas through Dr. Rieke-Smith.

Mr. Dugas explained he had given a proposal for his work for the District to Dr. Rieke-Smith.

Beginning at 5:05 pm, the Board met with representatives from BBT Architects and Hamlin Middle School (HMS) Design Team. Mr. Yancey introduced Renee Alexander of BBT Architects, who introduced project manager Kevin Shaver, interior designer Sherry Jako, and project architect Matthew Guthrie.

Those joining the work session included John Saraceno, Chris Reiersgaard, Brenda Holt, Yvonne Atteberry, Kevin Wright, and Alisha Roemling of the Register Guard.

Ms. Alexander said the last time she met with the Board, the thematic designs had been completed, and the Board reviewed floor plans, sites plans, and some design images. At that meeting, her team learned that the site plan and floor plan were on the right track but the design needed work. Since that Board meeting, her team had prepared cost estimates on the design to include everything it heard about the Ed Specs, and where the District wanted to go with Hamlin Middle School (HMS), especially with the STEM plus arts program. Tonight her team would present a proposal that she hoped would resonate with the Board.

Ms. Alexander and her team had met with District staff to review the cost estimate and identified some changes that did not impact the school, bringing the cost estimate to slightly more than five percent over budget. Her team had been charged with looking at the floor plan to identify additional ways to reduce the cost without impacting function too heavily. The site plan and floor plan had been further developed since the last meeting with the Board. Ms. Alexander reviewed the site plan that had been distributed to Board members and responded to their questions.

Mr. Guthrie reviewed the floor plan that had been distributed to Board members and responded to their questions.

Board members requested that Ms. Alexander and her team prepare a revised floor plan to reflect the concerns expressed this evening, and bring the revised plan to a future Board meeting.

Ms. Alexander explained it was important for the Board to approve a specific set of plans shortly after January 1, 2016 for the project to continue on schedule.

Ms. Jako reviewed the three color and materials schemes that had been prepared.

Ms. Alexander noted the Board preferred color and materials scheme option 1 with some modifications to reflect the Board's input.

Ms. Jako reviewed the exterior panels.

Ms. Alexander said the site and floor plans, color and materials schemes would be presented to the Design Team on January 11, 2016 and to the Board on January 12, 2016.

Mr. Yancey agreed to send revised renderings to Board members as soon as possible to enable Board members to review them prior to the January 12, 2016 Board meeting.

The work session was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

A Regular Meeting of the Lane County School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on December 14, 2015.

### **1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Board Chair Jonathan Light called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order in the boardroom of the District Administration Center at 7:03 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Attendance**

Board Members present included Chair Jonathan Light, Laurie Adams, Erik Bishoff, and Tina DeHaven. Sandra Boyst was excused from the meeting.

District staff, students and community members identified included Superintendent Sue Rieke-Smith, Brett Yancey, Michael Henry, Jenna McCulley, Karen Lewis, Tom Lindly, Brian Megert, Kevin Ricker, Suzy Price, Yvonne Atteberry, Anne Goff, Ronnel Curry, Brandi Starck, James Moore, Cindy Bonar, Rhiannon Kerr, Clifton Lyddane, Paul Weill, Ronnel Curry, Joan Bolls, Kenny Allen of Pauly Rogers and Co., PC, George Russell, Colleen Hunter, Brenda Holt, Chris Reiersgaard, Darcy Wallace of the *Springfield Times*, and Alisha Roemeling of *The Register Guard*.

Student Board Representatives present included Nick Romig/Thurston High School (THS) and Stevie Poole/Gateways High School (GHS).

## **2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Board Chair Jonathan Light asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. Mr. Light said Ronnel Curry would make a presentation on behalf of the Springfield Education Foundation (SEF).

## **3. SCHOOL PRESENTATION – THURSTON MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Principal Brandi Starck introduced James Moore, Assistant Principal; Clifton Lyddane, Special Education teacher; Cindy Bonar and Rhiannon Kerr, WEB Coordinators; and Thurston Middle School WEB students. Ms. Stark offered a PowerPoint presentation entitled *Thurston Middle School—Board Presentation*. She explained the TMS vision was *All students contribute to the global economy and are prepared for future learning opportunities*. The TMS mission was *We dedicate ourselves to create a collaborative and supportive learning environment that fosters relationships, celebrates diversity, and inspires lifelong growth and learning*. The vision and mission were achieved through:

- Collaboration time focused on curriculum content, student support, professional development and other opportunities.
- Establishing relationships through PBIS practices, WEB events, Family Night, Multicultural Club Dinner, the TMS Facebook page and a variety of school clubs.
- Diversity through the Multicultural Club, the GSA Club, and the University of Oregon Teach Out.
- Growth and Learning: TMS focused on math acceleration and also offered Outdoor School for 6<sup>th</sup> graders in the spring. Eighth grade teachers were focusing on Growth Mindset to enable students to persevere and be resilient, and to know they could improve and grow.
- Support: TMS partnered with Thurston High School and collected 1225 canned food items, which they donated, to the Thurston High School food bank.

Ms. Stark introduced Ms. Bonar, Ms. Kerr and TMS WEB Students, who explained what WEB was and what it did to make TMS great. Ms. Bonar acknowledged the parents in the audience who brought their kids to tonight's meeting.

Mr. Light thanked the TMS staff, students and parents for their hard work.

## **4. WORK SESSION SUMMARY**

Ms. Adams provided an overview of the work session/training with Mike Dugas, Vision Creation Consulting, around strategic thinking and future planning held earlier in the afternoon.

Mr. Bishoff provided an overview of the work session with representatives from BBT Architects and HMS Design Team who had provided an update on the new Hamlin Middle School (HMS).

Mr. Light noted Mr. Bishoff and Ms. Boyst were members of the HMS Design Team.

## **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ronnel Curry, Springfield Education Foundation Executive Director, reported that the SEF awarded 24 Innovative Education Grants to 14 schools impacting 6,618 students, in the amount of \$49,060, for the current school year. The grants funded purchases of iPad Minis, Chromebooks, sewing machines, goldfish, copper wire, and other supplies. Since the program was started in 2004, SEF had awarded 246 grants for a total of \$308,887. She reminded Board members that the *Night of 11,000 Stars* would be held in October 2016.

**George Russell** said Oregon House Bill (HB) 2016 had passed during the 2015 Legislative Session. He had served as an advocate for the bill and had been asked by the Governor's office to serve on the advisory group for HB 2016. The bill was sponsored by several representatives including House Speaker Tina Kotek, Representative Phil Barnhart, Representative John Lively, and Representative Nancy Nathanson, from the Eugene/Springfield area, as well as legislators from other parts of the state. The bill directed the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop and implement statewide education plans for early childhood through post-secondary education students who were black or African-American or not covered by existing statewide education plans and who had experienced disproportionate educational results. The bill cited statistics related to black and African-American student achievement and performance, and identified appointing a group to advise the State Superintendent of Public Instruction on developing a plan with strategies and approaches to address some of the achievement issues and concerns related to black and African-American students. The ODE would award grants to early learning hubs and service providers, school districts, post-secondary institutions and community based organizations to implement strategies that would be developed as part of the plan. Mr. Russell invited Board members to encourage students, staff and community members, to participate in the community meeting scheduled for January 11, 2016 at the University of Oregon Ford Alumni Center. He asked Board members to encourage and support development of the plan, provide input and feedback on elements of the plan, so that it could move forward in 2016. He left flyers with Ms. Lewis for distribution to Board members.

**Colleen Hunter** was a teacher at Mt. Vernon Elementary School who had spoken to the Board last spring when it discussed the state assessment, which was mandated at the time and the sanctions if the District did not participate. Recently the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) was passed to replace the federal law known as No Child Left Behind. She questioned the validity of Smarter Balanced testing and was opposed to testing.

## **6. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **A. November 9, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes**

### **B. Financial Statement**

### **C. Technology Bond Update**

### **D. Integrated Pest Management Report**

### **E. Board Policies Approval, Resolution #15-16.017**

Jenna McCulley recommended that the Board of Directors approve the following board policies and administrative regulation, as presented:

- IB Freedom of Expression
- IBDG Student Publications
- IBDG-AR Student Publications

### **F. Personnel Report, Resolution #15-16.018**

Michael Henry recommended that the Board of Directors approve the personnel action for licensed employees as reflected below:

#### **New Hires**

Eugene Chism

Paul Griffith

Kelli Martin

#### **Retirements**

Sue Burden-Dickman

Shari Furtwangler

Diane Mattison-Nottage

Gladys Campbell

Dulcie Kneen

#### **Change of**

**Contract Status**

Sue Burden-Dickman  
Gladys Campbell

Shari Furtwangler  
Dulcie Kneen

Diane Mattison-Nottage

**G. Lane ESD Transit Dollar Request 2015-2016, Res #15-16.019**

Brett Yancey recommended that the Board of Directors approve the Lane Education Service District – School District Transit Request for Fiscal Year 2015-16. Specifically, it is recommended that the Board of Directors request not more than 50% of the Transit Dollars pursuant to ORS 334.177.

**Motion:** Ms. Adams moved, seconded by Ms. DeHaven, to approve the Consent Agenda.  
The motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

**7. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and 2014-2015 Audit, Resolution #15-16.020**

Brett Yancey recommended that the Board of Directors accept the audited financial reports for 2014-2015 as presented by the firm of Pauly, Rogers and Co., PC.

Joan Bolls commended Business Operations and Print Services staff for their efforts in preparing the Annual Financial Report. She directed Board members to the document and provided an overview of the report.

In response to Mr. Light, Mr. Yancey said during the recession, the District cut \$35 million from the budget while inflation continued. The Quality Education Model (QEM) was significantly underfunded across school districts statewide. Finance officers were frustrated by the actions of the State of Oregon related to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) that resulted in the District having a deficit on its balance sheet. He asserted this was not a SPS retirement program, but a State of Oregon retirement program that the SPS participated in.

Mr. Yancey introduced Kenny Allen from the Pauly, Rogers and Co., PC.

Mr. Allen noted SPS had received the prestigious GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. He directed Board members to the Audit Opinion on page 1 of the document, which stated “The financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Springfield School District, as of June 30, 2015, and the respective changes in financial position, where applicable cash flows and budgetary comparisons for the general fund and grants and contracts fund, thereof for the year when ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.” He directed Board members to the Independent Auditor’s Report Required by Oregon State Regulations page 143 which stated “...nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe the Springfield School District was not in substantial compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants, including the provisions of Oregon Revised Statutes as specified in Oregon Administrative Rules 162-10-000 through 162-10-320 of the Minimum Standards for Audits of Oregon Municipal Corporations, except the district had two over-appropriations as discussed in the notes to the financial statements.” He reviewed the District’s PERS liability and the Morrow Decision.

Mr. Yancey thanked Ms. Bolls for her efforts on behalf of SPS in preparation of the audit and the annual financial report.

Ms. Adams expressed appreciation for the work of the Budget Operations staff and Mr. Allen.

**Motion:** Ms. Adams moved, seconded by Mr. Bishoff, that the Board of Directors accept the audited financial reports for 2014-2015 as presented by the firm of Pauly, Rogers and Co., PC. The motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

## **B. OSBA Elections, Resolution #15-16.021**

Superintendent Sue Rieke-Smith presented her recommendations for Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) Position 6 and for Legislative Policy Committee Position 6.

**Motion:** Ms. Adams moved, seconded by Mr. Light, that the Springfield Board of Directors approve the election of Sherry Duerst-Higgins, South Lane School District 45J/Lane ESD, to the Oregon School Board Association. The motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

Mr. Light stated he had known Jim Chapman for many years as a teacher in the Lowell School District. Both he and Ms. Wilde were good candidates.

Ms. Adams stated she knew Ms. Wilde through her position on the ESD Board.

**Motion:** Ms. Adams moved that the Springfield Board of Directors approve the election of Rose Wilde, Lane ESD, to Legislative Policy Committee Position 6, and direct the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote at OSBA's E-Voting Center no later than midnight on December 18, 2015. The motion died for lack of a second.

Ms. DeHaven said she was neutral on who should serve on the Legislative Policy Committee.

Mr. Bishoff said he had spoken with Mr. Chapman at the recent OSBA conference, but he had not spoken with Ms. Wilde.

**Motion:** Mr. Bishoff moved, seconded by Ms. Adams, that the Board of Directors approve the election of Jim Chapman, Lowell School District 71, to serve on the Legislative Policy Committee Position 6 and direct the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote at OSBA's E-Voting Center no later than midnight on December 18, 2015. The motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

## **8. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **A. Student Communication**

Gateways High School (GHS): Stevie Poole reported GHS recently had an ALICE training. Dr. Rieke-Smith and Mr. Ricker had talked with the Leadership Class about the good and bad things that were happening at GHS. Ms. Poole invited everyone to the GHS holiday lunch, which would be catered by Texas Road House, on December 17, 2015. The students had participated in a work sample boot camp, which students could use to replace the OAKS test. Students who had completed their work samples worked on Naviance projects. She completed her Naviance on December 18 and had completed her graduation requirements. Phoenix Friday was scheduled for December 18, 2015. Students participated in a Lane Community College (LCC) trip where they learned about college and career opportunities. The scholarship book, which provided information on college scholarships, was available at the GHS front office

Thurston High School (THS): Nick Romig reported THS had also completed an ALICE training. The school had been moved to the Oregon Schools Activities Association (OSAA) 5A athletic conference. Students were participating in the Tree of Joy and were collecting money for presents for children in need. Students collected almost 1400 cans of food to stock the THS food pantry. The THS Associated Student Body (ASB) recently met with Springfield High School's (SHS) ASB to discuss conflict and rivalry issues between some students. The ASBs discussed collaborating on hosting an event to bring the students together in a positive environment.

Mr. Light commended the THS and SHS leadership teams to address the conflict between students in a positive manner.

## **B. Superintendent Communication**

Superintendent Sue Rieke-Smith said the annual awards and installation banquet that celebrated outstanding businesses and individuals who made contributions to Springfield and the metro area was scheduled for January 15, 2016 at LCC. She encouraged Board members to attend. Dr. Rieke-Smith said while most people were heading into a wonderful holiday season, that was not true for everyone. She continued to be proud of SPS and its service mentality. As she continued to do half day visits to District schools, she observed the excellence of the District's teachers that went beyond teaching academics, by teaching the good citizenship the District wants to see in the students. Many District schools provided meal boxes for families in need. She had been impressed by Stacy Swartout's students who passed the hat during the Winter Choral Concert at SHS. The students had put forth a genuine sense of service through their efforts. She looked forward to continuing to update the Board on the great work students would continue doing in 2016. She encouraged Board members to attend the Martin Luther King (MLK) Celebration scheduled for January 18, 2016.

## **C. Board Communications**

Mr. Bishoff said through conversations with teachers and parents at his kids' school, he sensed that people felt optimistic. He encouraged people to attend the Sit with Sue events.

In response to Ms. DeHaven, Dr. Rieke-Smith said the Board would receive a curriculum update in January 2016. Ms. DeHaven noted the Budget Committee had met on December 10, 2015, where they received an overview of the District's budget. She suggested a joint meeting with the Board and Budget Committee would be helpful in providing clarification on the Board's decision on the new administration building.

Mr. Yancey understood the Budget Committee sought to clarify its role, which was a policy level board. He thought a meeting with the Board and the Budget Committee would be a healthy conversation.

Mr. Light proposed including the role of the Budget Committee as an agenda item at the next Board meeting. He thought the intent of Budget Committee was similar to the intent of the Board which was to reflect the community values and community sentiment.

Ms. Adams said she had met with Mr. Light and Joy Marshall about a ballot measure that Stand for Children was bringing forward which would address technical professional CTE funding in the schools. Ms. Marshall offered to provide information to the Board at the January 12, 2016 meeting. Ms. Adams asked the Board to find a way to have a person to direct CTE included in the budget process. It was important for students who did not attend college after high school to have adequate technical skills to be successful regardless of what careers they pursued. She enjoyed attending a student led play at SHS and encouraged Board members to attend student performances. The SHS Winter Choral Concert was a wonderful event.

Mr. Light said the SHS Choir, which was a college level program, had performed at the Music Educators Conference. He apologized for not attending the December 10, 2015 Budget Committee meeting, but he had a concert with the Swing Shift Band at the Wildish Theater. He also attended the Academy of Arts and Academics confluence on December 10. He asked that a thank you from the Board be sent to the Shedd Institute and the Ralphs for their support through a music grant. The Wildish Theater had a new theater manager. He asked if the Board members could support the Theater's efforts to be financially stable by attending events and donating funds. The goal of the Theater was to continue to offer the facility as a community theater with rates commensurate with the local area. Mr. Light recently attended the Western International Band Clinic, which generally featured middle and high school bands from the mid-west, where the programs were outstanding. He suggested the District may want to consider participating in the program. Mr. Light explained United Front was a lobbying group consisting of representatives from the City of Eugene, the City of Springfield, Lane County, Lane Transit District, Willamalane Park and Recreation District, the Springfield Utility Board and local school districts. The District paid \$25,000 annually to be part of the

United Front. Representatives from the group traveled annually to Washington, D.C. to lobby members of Congress. Dr. Rieke-Smith, Ms. McCulley and Mr. Light would represent SPS in February 2016 at the United Front events. The District and the community had reaped significant benefits through participation with United Front. He would be happy to carry forward any proposals from Board members for the United Front.

Mr. Light said he wanted more information about Mike Dugas' before the Board made a decision on whether or not to hire Mr. Dugas to help the Board develop its goals. He wanted the Board to continue to move forward with its own conversations and processes related to developing Board goals and then see where there was interplay between the goals developed by the Board and Mr. Dugas' recommendations.

Dr. Rieke-Smith said it would be up to the Board to determine if it wanted to work with Mr. Dugas on a large community process. She planned to have him do some work with alignment and visioning with the Cabinet regardless of the Board's decision. She had a proposed contract she could forward to Board members tomorrow.

Mr. Light said he and Dr. Rieke-Smith had met with the Springfield Education Association (SEA). He thanked SEA for being willing to continue the valuable meetings. Mr. Light noted during Dr. Nancy Golden's tenure as SPS superintendent, listening groups were set up to bring people in to listen to what others had to say. He had proposed to SEA that the listening groups be reestablished to provide feedback to the Board. SEA was receptive to reestablishing the listening groups. He proposed that the first meeting, where the listening group process could be designed, be scheduled in January 2016.

Ms. Adams supported reestablishing listening groups.

Mr. Light noted he had proposed a moratorium on Smarter Balanced testing in February 2015, to provide the District some breathing space to have a conversation around Common Core and Smarter Balanced. The moratorium did not take place but he did want to have the conversation around Common Core and Smarter Balanced. He wanted to move forward with the conversation and allow people to provide feedback. The expertise to have that conversation was within SPS and the Board did not need to go outside the District for those resources.

Ms. DeHaven expressed interest in hearing from people who were more ingrained in understanding that process. She could not make a decision now on whether or not the District should make a change.

Mr. Light said the intent of having a conversation on Common Core and Smarter Balanced was to gather information. Student time was valuable and he hated spending student time on anything that did not directly impact the students. He did not believe that Smarter Balanced was designed to do that. There were currently mechanisms in place or could be put in place that would serve two purposes: inform students and help with teaching the students; and, provide information the state was looking for. With the reauthorization of the ESEA, the responsibility was pushed to the state. He questioned whether ODE would develop a meaningful process. He was not suggesting that the Board would develop a process in isolation to an ODE process, but he thought it would be valuable for the District to know where it stood on Common Core and Smarter Balanced. Perhaps the District could have an influence at the state level in designing something that was good for kids.

In response to Mr. Bishoff, Mr. Light said the next steps would be to put together a committee that represented both sides of the issue, so that the Board was informed as it moved forward. The Board's responsibility was to do what was best for kids. The need for assessment and accountability would continue, and he felt the responsibility as a gatekeeper for kids to ensure the District stayed on target in determining how the kids spent their time.

Dr. Rieke-Smith answered a question raised earlier tonight by Ms. Hunter. The Students' Right Bill, which allowed families the opportunity to opt children out of the Smarter Balanced assessment, would go live on January 1, 2016. The District would notify parents advising them that that option was available to them. Information on opting out would be made available to families at the schools and on the District's website. There was nothing in the law, as there was previously with OAKS testing, where District staff were precluded from encouraging families to opt out of Smarter Balanced testing. She asserted District staff would follow the law. She added with the ESEA reauthorization, the shift had come back towards the states, but the requirement to test grades 3 through 8, and grade 11 was still within the law. ODE would attempt to determine how best to meet that requirement. She had already talked with Colt Gill, superintendent of the Bethel School District and Dr. Gustavo Balderas, superintendent of the Eugene School District. They were leading the conversations at Lane ESD and engaging state legislators that this was a good time to have a conversation. The ESEA reauthorization did not take effect until 2017, so there was one year remaining for Smarter Balanced testing. She anticipated there would be changes beginning with the 2016-2017 school year.

Mr. Light said the Board had a responsibility to look at what the changes meant to the District and asked Dr. Rieke-Smith to provide more information to the Board.

- **Bond Oversight Committee Appointment**

Mr. Yancey noted one member of the Bond Oversight Committee, Jim Balumus, had resigned from the committee. Ms. DeHaven and Mr. Bishoff had been appointed to the committee as Board members. The committee now consisted of five individuals, and it was the Board's discretion to determine how many people should be on the committee.

Ms. DeHaven recommended that Matt Miller, who had three children in District schools, be appointed to serve on the committee. Mr. Miller was a past president in local youth organizations and he had a technology background, which would bring good insight to the committee.

Ms. Adams wanted to appoint two people to replace the two people who left the committee because the committee's work would take time. She was concerned that it would be difficult for the committee to meet its role to oversee the bond expenditures if it fell below five people. She suggested that Royd Arch and Matt Miller be considered for the Bond Oversight Committee.

Mr. Light said the Board could appoint new members to the Bond Oversight Committee at the Board's January 12, 2016 meeting.

## **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board had no other business.

## **10. NEXT MEETING**

Chair Light said the next Business Meeting would be held on **Tuesday**, January 12, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, Chair Light adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm.

*(Minutes recorded by Linda Henry)*