

## MINUTES

6/ Board Members met in a work session on October 12, 2015 to interview applicants to fill Board Position 3, as a result of long-standing Board Member Al King stepping down as of noon, October 12, 2015, having served the Springfield community as a board member since being elected in 2002.

Chair Nancy Bigley called the work session to order at 3:50 pm, in the First Floor Conference Room of the District Administration Center, 525 Mill Street, in Springfield.

Board members present included Chair Nancy Bigley, Laurie Adams, Sandra Boyst, and Jonathan Light. Others in attendance included Superintendent Sue Rieke-Smith, Anne Goff, Kira Fee, Brooke Wagner, Brett Yancey, Tom Lindly, Greg James, Jim Crist, Alisha Roemeling, Yvonne Atteberry, Jen McCulley, Bonnie Williams, and Karen Lewis.

Applicants interviewed for Position 3 included:

- Royd Arch
- Tina DeHaven
- Doug Keeler
- Naomi Raven
- Erik Bishoff

Chair Bigley shared that the Board would appoint a new member at the Regular Board Meeting, later in the evening, to serve out the remainder of the current term. The person appointed will then run for re-election at the end of the current term. The term for this position expires June 30, 2017.

The work session was adjourned at 5:31 pm.

## RECEPTION FOR AL KING

A reception was held beginning at 6:00 pm to honor the service of Al King, who served on the Board of Education since 2002. Former board members, staff, students, family and community members celebrated Mr. King's valuable service to Springfield Public Schools during the reception.

## BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

A Regular Meeting of the Lane County School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on October 12, 2015.

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Board Chair Nancy Bigley called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order in the boardroom of the District Administration Center at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Bigley called for changes to the agenda.

Mr. Yancey added Action Item, Purchase of Property, to the agenda.

Chair Bigley revised the agenda and moved agenda item 8. Reports and Discussions B. Student Communication ahead of A. Full Day Kindergarten Report.

### **Attendance**

Board Members present included Chair Nancy Bigley, Laurie Adams, Sandra Boyst, Al King, and Jonathan Light.

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, Linda Henry, Erik Bishoff, Tina DeHaven, Naomi Raven, José da Silva, Janet Wells, David Schull, Stacey Whaley, Jeremy Hugo, Hanalei Rozen, Jim Crist, Colleen Hunter, Maria Sayre, Steven Fleissner, Terrisa Cook, Lesa Haley, Clint and Shelli Wolford, and Carrie Brown.

Chair Bigley welcomed Student Board Members to the Board.

Student Board Representatives present included Blake McKay/Thurston High School (THS); Sabrina Grass/Academy of Arts and Academics (A3); Sydney Guthrie-Baker/Springfield High School (SHS); Natasha Persinger, Stevie Poole/Gateways High School (GHS). There were no Student Board Representatives from Willamette Leadership Academy (WLA) present.

## **2. BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENT**

Board Chair Nancy Bigley shared that the board had interviewed five candidates to consider for appointment to serve out the remainder of the term for Board Position 3, as a result of long-standing Board Member Al King stepping down as of noon today, after serving the Springfield community since 2002.

Chair Bigley announced with sadness that she was resigning from the Board effectively immediately and asked the Board to appoint two new Board members tonight. She thanked Karen Lewis for Ms. Lewis' support during her tenure as Board Chair. She thanked the Board for working with her and supporting her for eight years. She was proud of the work the Board had done.

Mr. Light thanked Chair Bigley for her tremendous and courageous leadership, and for her admirable service to the District.

Candidates included:

- Royd Arch
- Tina DeHaven
- Doug Keeler
- Naomi Raven
- Erik Bishoff

**Motion:** Mr. Light, seconded by Ms. Boyst, moved to accept Chair Bigley's resignation, with regret.

The motion carried, 3-0-1, with Ms. Adams, Ms. Boyst and Mr. Light voting in favor of the motion and Chair Bigley abstaining.

**Motion:** Mr. Light, seconded by Ms. Boyst, moved to appoint Erik Bishoff for Board Position 3, term to expire on June 30, 2017.

The motion carried, 3-0.

**Motion:** Ms. Boyst, seconded by Mr. Light, moved to appoint Tina DeHaven for Board Position 5, term to expire on June 30, 2017.

The motion carried, 3-0.

Vice Chair Adams said the pool of candidates was strong and it would have been great to serve with all of the candidates.

Mr. Light concurred the pool of candidates was rich.

Vice Chair Adams introduced Erik Bishoff and Tina DeHaven and invited them to be seated with the Board.

**• Oath of Office**

Vice Board Chair Adams administered the Oath of Office to Erik Bishoff and Tina DeHaven as follows:

I, Tina DeHaven, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the state of Oregon and the laws thereof, and the policies of Springfield Public Schools.

During my term, I will faithfully and impartially discharge the responsibilities of the Office of Board Member to the best of my ability.

Dated and signed by Tina DeHaven and Vice Chair Adams, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2015.

I, Erik Bishoff, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the state of Oregon and the laws thereof, and the policies of Springfield Public Schools.

During my term, I will faithfully and impartially discharge the responsibilities of the Office of Board Member to the best of my ability.

Dated and signed by Mr. Bishoff and Vice Chair Adams, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2015.

**3. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS**

Deferred to a future meeting.

**4. RECOGNITION**

**• International Alpha Delta Kappa Month Proclamation**

Vice Chair Adams invited Board Member Jonathan Light to read the following proclamation in recognition of International Alpha Delta Kappa Month:

WHEREAS: Women in education constitute a great portion of the nation's working force, and are constantly striving to serve their communities and nations in education, civic, cultural, and charitable programs leading to harmony, happiness, and peace among all people, and

WHEREAS: Major goals of Alpha Delta Kappa, an international honorary sorority for women educators, were:

- to give recognition to outstanding educators
- to build a fraternal fellowship among educators adding to their effectiveness in the promoting of excellence in education
- to establish high standards of education
- to promote educational and charitable projects and activities enriching the lives of individuals

everywhere and assisting these individuals into a happy, constructive, and fulfilling life.

NOW, THEREFORE: We, elected board members of the Springfield Public Schools, of Springfield, Oregon, by the authority vested in us, do hereby proclaim the month of October as

#### INTERNATIONAL ALPHA DELTA KAPPA MONTH

IN WITNESS THEREOF: In accordance with Springfield Public Schools, as board members we have hereunto set our hands and caused the official signatures of the school district of the City of Springfield, State of Oregon, to be affixed this 12th day of October 2015.

Alpha Delta Kappa (ADK) local chapter member Carolyn Batsch accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Iota Chapter. Board members and staff were invited to the upcoming ADK Tea on Wednesday, October 28, 2015, 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building.

#### 5. SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Principal José da Silva offered a PowerPoint presentation entitled *Springfield High School—School Board Presentation—October 12, 2015*. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to share the exciting initiatives that were happening at Springfield High School (SHS). Mr. da Silva noted *The Millers' History of Springfield High School* was published in 1989 to celebrate the centennial anniversary of SHS. In the 1950's, the school administrator, Dale Parnell, worked diligently with staff to address the fact that only 20 percent of the students graduated and pursued post-secondary education at a four year college. They felt it was important to address the reason for 80 percent of the students not pursuing post high school opportunities. Lane Community College (LCC) was in the planning stages at the time, and the discussions at SHS contributed to the establishment of LCC as a post high school option for students. Mr. Parnell became the first president of LCC in 1965. SHS continued to build on the legacy documented in *The Millers' History of Springfield High School*. A new edition of the book was scheduled for publication this fall.

Mr. Light thanked Mr. da Silva for his vision in moving SHS forward.

Mr. da Silva said SHS students had earned approximately \$4 million in scholarships during the last couple of years and students had earned approximately 4,000 college credits through 28 courses in collaboration with LCC. He added it was also important to pay attention to students who were not pursuing a college education.

#### 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

**Stephen Fleissner**, a SHS parent and teacher, shared concerns about crowded classrooms at Springfield High School. He commented that the inability of the District to provide appropriate FTE was setting the school up for failure. He opined staff was suffering from the stress and the District's failure to help teachers who were trying to maintain enrichment opportunities and create students who were ready for the bright future for every student.

Mr. Light encouraged speakers to forward their comments to Ms. Lewis who would forward them to the Board.

**Janet Wells** had taught English at SHS since 1998. She commented on the District's decision to not hire more teachers to alleviate the overcrowding problem at Springfield High despite increased enrollment. She felt the problem was the District office was sticking with its projected enrollment numbers from last spring and staffing numbers for the school, which were significantly off balance when compared to other high schools in the District.

**Stacey Whaley**, a special education teacher at SHS, commended the SHS administration for advocating regularly with the District leadership for the SHS students and the wonderful things that were going on at

SHS. She implored the Board and administrators to hear the stories, visit SHS and see what was going on at the school. She asked the Board to find some funds to support additional FTE at SHS so the programs built so passionately would continue.

**Hanalei Rozen** invited Board members to visit the garden. Though she did not attend Board meetings often, and as a community member who did not have children in the schools, it was important for community members to know what was happening. She felt it was time to have community forums to determine how to create ecological networks where, parents, teachers, the Board and those who lived in the community shared resources.

**Maria Sayre**, a SHS math teacher, a Springfield parent with two children at Yolanda Elementary School, a SHS graduate, and her mom had been a SPS student who had worked for the District. She was appalled with the class sizes at Springfield High. She asked the Board to help SHS to continue to be the best school.

**David Schull**, a SHS math teacher, shared that he had between 39 and 43 kids in his classes, and it was difficult to teach. He spoke about the lack of desks, chairs and textbooks for the classes. It was disheartening to think the District could build something as desirable as SHS and not be able to keep it going through the lack of FTE. He encouraged the Board to seek the teachers out and ask about the school.

**Colleen Hunter** shared information about Ballot Measure 28 and the attempt to get it on the November 2016 ballot to increase the minimum corporate tax on corporations that made over \$25 million in Oregon.

**Clint Wolford** said he and his wife, Shelli, were parents of two SHS students, and had learned that the class sizes were egregious and unacceptable. He had spent many years coaching youth sports and said that he and Shelli were committed to their own children and their family of children. He implored the Board to get involved in the situation and find funding at the Legislature. He encouraged the Board to get parents as well as people in the community who did not have kids involved in the schools. He and his wife were committed to the children, the school and the community at large. He hoped the Board was committed to helping resolve the problem.

**Carrie Brown**, an English Language Development (ELD) teacher at SHS, was responsible for clustering ELD students into content area classes to make best use of the bilingual EA resources at SHS. She shared the challenges when class sizes were so large, and she was moving students from a biology class without a bilingual EA into a biology class with a bilingual EA. She understood moving students into an over crowded class was not beneficial for them or for other students.

Vice Chair Adams thanked the speakers, many of whom were teachers. Staff would be asked to report back to the Board on the SHS situation. She was glad so many teachers and parents were at tonight's meeting. She planned to visit SHS this week.

Superintendent Rieke-Smith thanked everyone for speaking tonight. Staff had been tracking student enrollment throughout the District and had identified several bulges that had not been anticipated. The District continued to work on the problem and acknowledged that the work was not progressing fast enough. Resource allocation was a broader conversation for the District and the issue had the District's full attention. Mr. Ricker was reviewing master schedules in the schools, and working to preserve the good work that had been done relative to the value of cooperation and holding on to students at the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade, which was key to moving them towards graduation.

Mr. Light appreciated the passion of tonight's speakers, who were here for the kids. As Mr. Wolford noted, it was the 30 percent of the kids who were leaving the schools, and they were the kids the District wanted to focus on. He added the District could also use the speakers' help. The District needed a bigger presence of

parents and teachers in Salem when school funding was discussed. The Legislature controlled the purse strings and it had never given the schools in the state the funding the schools needed to move forward as an educational system. Great education was not cheap, and some people thought an efficiency model could be used with the kids. The data did not support that theory was effective if the goal was that all students graduated, were excited about learning and moving forward.

Ms. Boyst said the community was fortunate that there were two representatives from Springfield in Salem, John Lively and Lee Beyer, who had open doors and were always willing to listen to people. The community let the Legislature know that Springfield was not funded sufficiently to adequately support students and school staff. She encouraged community members to write to and talk with Mr. Lively and Mr. Beyer.

Superintendent Rieke-Smith asserted the District heard loud and clear from the teachers on staffing concerns, was monitoring hot spots in the District and was trying to remedy the problems. Her goal was for the District to be more transparent in its efforts to remedy the problems raised this evening.

Vice Chair Adams invited comments from the Student Board members.

Sydney Guthrie-Baker said the teachers at SHS were amazing and they had made an impact on her, regardless of whether or not she had been in their classes. The teachers at SHS had mastered their profession, with textbooks and presentations, but also with communication, relating to students and understanding their backgrounds. She thanked the teachers for all the work they did. They inspired her to be the student she was. She had taken classes with lower numbers of students because they were advanced classes, but she also served as a TA in the Career Center at SHS. She often visited classrooms where she observed students who did not have enough space to allow them to take advantage of the benefits offered at SHS. During her sophomore year, she was in an English 10 class, and she remembered being late one time and she had to use a different setting in the back of the room.

## **7. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **A. September 12, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes**

### **B. Financial Statement**

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

### **D. Board Policies, First Reading**

Jenna McCulley recommended that the Board of Directors review, as a first reading, the following board policies:

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|------------------|--|
| • GBDA           | Mother-Friendly Workplace  |
| • GBK/ JECG/ KGC | Prohibited Use, Possession, Distribution or Sale of Tobacco Products and Inhalant Delivery Systems |
| • GBM            | Staff Complaints   |
| • JFCG/ KGC/ GBK | Prohibited Use, Possession, Distribution or Sale of Tobacco Products and Inhalant Delivery Systems |
| • KGC/ GBK/ JFCG | Prohibited Use, Possession, Distribution or Sale of Tobacco Products and Inhalant Delivery Systems |

### **E. Enrollment Update**

**Motion:** Mr. Light moved, seconded by Ms. Adams, to approve the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

## **7.1 PURCHASE OF PROPERTY**

Mr. Yancey recommended that the Springfield School District Board of Directors approve the purchase of property located at 640 A Street in Springfield, Oregon, for a total amount of \$2,400,000. The District began

working with a real estate agent, John Brown, with Evans, Elder & Brown, Inc., a commercial real estate company, in April 2015, following reports about the current seismic challenges the Administration Building faced. The District considered several options. Costs for retrofitting the current building to make it seismically sound ranged from \$6 to \$8 million. At the direction of the Board, staff initiated due diligence related to the current building and an alternate building located in Springfield. The building being considered was built in 1973, to the building codes in place at that time, and was adjacent to Springfield City Hall. The building was of adequate size and met the requirements of the District office, located in the downtown core of Springfield, which had some advantages. The building was owned by the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), which had been trying to sell the building since 2014. The building was initially listed at \$3.5 million, lowered to \$3.1 million, and currently listed at \$2.45 million. Contingent upon Board approval, staff had offered LCOG \$2.4 million, which LCOG had accepted. LCOG understood the Board needed to take action in a public forum. He opened the floor to questions.

Vice Chair Adams said she and Ms. Bigley had toured the LCOG building, and they thought the building would work for the District.

Mr. Yancey said the money for purchasing the building was not currently included in the District's operating budget. The District would fund the purchase through competitive financing, which would be brought to the Board for approval. The purchase would be financed over a period of time rather than financed directly from the District's operating budget. In response to Vice Chair Adams, Mr. Yancey confirmed the District could use the proceeds from the sale of the current site to pay down the debt if it sold the building. It was common for the District to use resources from property it sold for investment in property it was purchasing or for future property acquisition.

Vice Chair Adams said it was important for the community to understand that funds from the recently approved bond sale could not be used for acquisition of an administration building because the administration building had not been part of the request the voters approved in November 2014.

Mr. Yancey said the District had requested and LCOG had performed Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 seismic evaluations of the building. The District had received the reports and there were some issues that needed to be addressed. Some portions of the building needed to be retrofitted and some areas would be remodeled. He estimated that it would cost approximately \$3.5 million to complete the retrofitting and remodeling that would provide a building that would serve the needs of the District. The Board would eventually need to determine what it wanted to do with the current administration building.

In response to Mr. Bishoff, Mr. Yancey explained the retrofitting and remodeling that would need to be completed to meet the District's needs. The Administration staff would move to the new location at the end of the current school year.

Responding to Mr. Light, Mr. Yancey leasing the LCOG building was not an option. He said there were 38 parking spaces that came with the purchase of the building and there were contiguous parking lots managed by a private parking vendor. Sixty to 80 people, some who were itinerant, worked at the Administration Building and the EMC facility. Staff was talking with the City of Springfield about additional parking options in downtown Springfield. Mr. Yancey noted the Superintendent and staff did not consider the LCOG building to be a temporary site for the District administration functions.

Mr. Yancey said the LCOG building was approximately 30,000 square feet and had a full sized board room. The current Administration Building was approximately 40,000 square feet, but much of the space was unusable or unsuitable for District needs. Mr. Yancey added the District had identified programs currently held at the Brattain House, and at space at both the EMC with the thought to tying those programs with the nutrition services program and the homeless liaisons. The Brattain House provided efficiencies for services being on the bus lines, providing a one stop opportunity for families and the community.

Mr. Light did not want visitors to the District searching for parking in downtown Springfield. He wanted to ensure there was sufficient parking for students, employees and visitors. He emphasized the importance of keeping the financing for the building separate from the operating budget, which funded students.

Mr. Yancey said the intent was to provide employee parking in designated lots and structures, so that the two hour free parking would be available for District visitors. He added a challenge for the District was that overall enrollment was down approximately 0.6 percent, and the District needed to look at enrollment data for each school. While hiring staff was relative easy, shifting staff was a more challenging issue. He did want to keep financing for the building purchase separate from operating budget. While a loan could not be repaid with bond funds, the District needed to review other capital holdings as potential funding sources.

In response to Mr. Bishoff, Mr. Yancey said there was an opportunity to expand the LCOG building in three areas in the future. He noted any expansion of the building would bring additional parking challenges.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Brett Yancey recommended that the Springfield School District Board of Directors approve the purchase of property located at 640 A Street, Springfield, Oregon, for a total amount of \$2,400,000.

**Motion:** Ms. Boyst moved, seconded by Ms. Adams, to approve.

The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

## **8. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **B. Student Communication**

**Thurston High School:** Ms. McKay reported the Homecoming game against Roseburg High School was scheduled for October 16, 2015. THS students were making green and gold bows in support of Umpqua Community College (UCC), and a giant poster in support of Roseburg High School. THS recently received ten Lane Transit District (LTD) bus passes that were being distributed monthly through THS' counselors to students. THS had a scholarship account for students if they needed financial assistance for school events so all students had an opportunity to be involved in school activities. Several activities were scheduled as part of suicide prevention week. Sophomores in the leadership class were sponsoring a canned food drive to support families in the community and the THS food pantry. THS would be notified on November 16, 2015 if it would receive a grant from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) for capital improvements for the CTE department. The Drama and Thespians Department at THS would produce *Alice in Wonderland*, November 12 to November 14, 2015. Members of the Gay, Straight Alliance Club (GSA) attended the Oregon Nike Youth Sports Summit. Students had been drawing compliment cards and giving kids incentives for being good students. Leadership and Theater students had worked to prepare a Haunted House at the theater.

**Gateways High School:** Ms. Poole reported Gateways High School English teacher, Janet Nelson, recently won a grant for 25 ukuleles for a song writing class. Ms. Nelson sent thanks to the Board for its support. Ms. Poole invited Board members to join GHS students at the ropes course at Spencer Butte Park in Eugene on October 15 and 16, 2015. She invited Board members to the GHS Latino Celebration was scheduled for October 29, 2015 which would feature activities for families and kids, dancing and free food. Parking continued to be an issue for GHS students.

Mr. Bishoff encouraged students to use the LTD EmX.

Springfield High School: Ms. Guthrie-Baker reported this was Spirit Week at SHS, which featured several activities: Students dressed like their favorite movie character on Movie Monday; Tuesday was Twin Day;

Wednesday was Miller Pride; Thursday was the Decades, where students would wear clothing from earlier decades; Friday was Pajama Day because Homecoming was a pajamas event. A movie night was scheduled immediately after the football game. The theme of Homecoming this weekend was Hollywood on the Red Carpet. The Homecoming pep rally featuring food and games was scheduled for October 14, 2015. The rally would also feature a light show to which people would be invited to dance. The SHS would play Ashland High School at the Homecoming game on Friday, October 16, 2015. She reported that parking was being enforced at SHS and student drivers had received parking passes.

**Academy of Arts and Academic:** Ms. Gross reported Ed Mendelssohn recently joined A3 as the Managing Director. A3 recently held a peace rally at Day Island Park, which included a peace poetry slam, a banned book reading at the Springfield Library, and various other activities. Students felt these activities were important for the community in raising awareness for important issues in the world. The play, *33 Variations*, was scheduled for October 29 and 31, and November 1, 2015 at the Wildish Community Theater. The A3 Masquerade Ball was scheduled at the Memorial Building. Students would begin interviewing for their January 2016 internships. Parking continued to be a problem for A3 students. Many students drove to school because they needed cars to drive to work and they could not afford to pay for the parking passes.

Mr. Yancey said parking was an ongoing conversation with the District's partners at the City of Springfield. Parking was a big challenge for GHS and A3 students. With work and school schedules, GHS and A3 students faced challenges that THS and SHS students did not face. The District may want to turn to TEAM Springfield to resolve the issue.

Paul Weill, GHS principal, said parking at Key Bank was no longer available to GHS students and staff.

#### **A. Full Day Kindergarten Report**

Director of Elementary Education Suzanne Price provided a report on Full Day Kindergarten (FDK). She provided updates on the work of the FDK Task Force last year. The Task Force had met monthly for over a year to prepare for FDK. She distributed a handout entitled *Full Day Kindergarten Board Update—10.12.15* and offered a PowerPoint presentation entitled *SPS First Year of Full Day Kindergarten*. Kindergarten enrollment totaled 778 students, in 35 sections, with an average class size of 22.

In response to Mr. Light, Mr. Yancey said kindergarten enrollment was approximately 820 students last year. He said 10 of the incoming kindergarten students the District had expected to enroll in District schools were enrolled in online learning. The District continued to see an increase in online learning across all grades. He was meeting with Ms. Price and Mr. Ricker to formulate a plan to reach out to those students to let them know the District offered an online education program.

Responding to Mr. Light, Ms. Price said kindergarten class size ranged from 17 to 25. The District had adjusted educational assistants and adult support to ensure the children had the support they needed. Mr. Light said the Board needed to have a conversation on class size for all grades and schools. He added what the Board wanted to do and knew it should do for kids did not always line up with financial resources allocated by the Oregon Legislature. The Board needed to bring itself up to speed so that when it had conversations with elected officials, with the help of District staff, it could clearly articulate the needs of the District.

Ms. Boyst asked how FDK would affect 1st and 2nd grade curriculum, since students would be more prepared as they left FDK.

Ms. Price said the building level teams, which included 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers, were having conversations about curriculum changes due to FDK.

Mr. Yancey said the Board would have a conversation about curriculum and instructional materials during budget discussions. The District continued to receive feedback from staff about the lack of materials.

Mr. Light asked where the District stood with the unfunded portion of the FDK mandate on the operating budget.

Mr. Yancey said the District had set aside \$7 million for new buildings to support FDK that was not funded by the State. The District also had a budget for curriculum materials. The staff size almost doubled and additional furniture, fixtures and materials were sizable increases. He would bring information back to the Board at a future meeting.

Mr. Light asserted that Salem promised it would hold harmless districts' general funds when it mandated FDK, and he was not sure that had happened.

### **C. Superintendent Communication**

Superintendent Sue Rieke-Smith reported that she continued the Sit with Sue events. She met with staff at GHS today, and listened to the ongoing work they were doing with drop out students, and what was driving that. She continued to be impressed with the depth, skill, intelligence and reflectiveness of staff as they thought through the problems. The prevailing themes were curriculum materials and concerns about the mental health supports because the teachers were the first responders in the District. SPS was one of 197 districts statewide that were first responders. Schools no longer just educated, but now fed, found housing and other social resources. Mental health continued to be a major component. The staff would continue to keep the Board abreast of assessment practices. She and Mr. Light had discussed an inter-district committee, and she had asked for feedback from staff regarding reinvigorating the level leadership communications teams from every school to help think through the priorities for budget and instruction.

### **D. Board Communication**

Ms. Boyst said tickets were still available for the Springfield Education Foundation's (SEF) annual fundraising gala, *Night of 11,000 Stars*, scheduled for October 15, 2015. She attended an OSBA regional event.

Mr. Light thought the intent of today's work session was to discuss Smarter Balanced and Common Core State Standards. The Board did discuss assessment and what the State had been working on prior to Dr. Nancy Golden's retirement as Executive of the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB). He felt frustrated because it was not a discussion around Common Core, and something that encompassing needed a robust conversation from people involved. He asked if Smarter Balanced testing was something that served students. He suggested that the Board form an in-district committee to look at Common Core and Smarter Balanced, since the broader group, which included other districts, may not be ready for that conversation. He proposed having a Board work session to inform the new Board members about this topic. The good news coming out of the inter-district meeting was not many bad things came out of the 2015 Legislative session, and some good things did come out the session. He commended the OSBA lobbyist for keeping informed about education issues before the Legislature. As the Board representative for the Wildish Community Theater, he invited Board members to attend *Divas at the Wildish*, which featured amazing women in the arts, including the SHS girls' choir, Divisi from the University of Oregon, Chamber Music Amici, and others, which would be performed on October 23, 2015.

Ms. Boyst inquired if the Board needed to hold elections for Chair and Vice Chair in light of Ms. Bigley's resignation.

Ms. Lewis said Board Chair and Vice Chair elections were scheduled for the November 9, 2015 Board meeting.

**• 2015-2016 Board Committee Assignments and Reports**

Vice Chair Adams said the Board would need to identify representatives to the LCOG Board, the Lane ESD Advisory Board, the Oregon Leadership Network, the Ministerial Group, and the Wellness Committee, to replace Mr. King and Ms. Bigley.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**10. NEXT MEETINGS**

Vice Chair Adams said the Board would hold a Fall Planning Meeting on October 26, 2015 at 4:00 pm, and the next Business Meeting would be held on November 9, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, Vice Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 9:35 pm.

*(Minutes recorded by Linda Henry)*