

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Board members met in a work session on October 28, 2019.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Zach Bessett welcomed those in attendance and called the Fall Planning Session to order in the Board Room of the District Administration Center at 6:01 p.m., and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Board members present included Board Chair Zach Bessett, Vice Chair Naomi Raven, Lisa Barrager and Todd Mann. Dr. Emilio Hernandez was absent.

Others in attendance included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Brett Yancey, Brian Megert, Jeff Michna, Jenna McCulley, Dustin Reese, Judy Bowden, Anne Goff, Victoria Stephens from the *Chronicle* and minutes recorder Jack Moran.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

There were no changes made to the agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Mann moved, seconded by Ms. Raven to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion passed: 4-0

3. REVIEW OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Superintendent Todd Hamilton and Assistant Superintendent David Collins led a review of the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP).

Superintendent Hamilton shared a PowerPoint presentation and spoke of the Student Success Act, which the state Legislature approved during its most recent session. He said the act includes 28 different programs focused on student outcomes. The school district has concentrated on one of those programs - the Student Investment Account (SIA) - which seeks to meet students' psychological and behavioral needs and increase academic achievements, especially for children with hurdles to success. Superintendent Hamilton shared a SIA "roadmap" for the 2019-20 school year that includes a calendar of key program dates leading up to an anticipated SIA grant agreement with the Oregon Department of Education in July 2020.

Superintendent Hamilton said state law requires districts to conduct self-evaluations and update individual district CIPs once every three years. Each plan contains 15 essential components. Hamilton and Assistant Superintendent Collins then discussed CIP preparation and participation and reviewed the district's strategic goals and priorities. Those include third-grade reading/elementary literacy; ninth-grade on-track and graduation; and regular attenders/chronic absenteeism. Board members were provided handouts, including one titled "Oregon District Continuous Improvement Plan Template."

In response to questions from the board, Assistant Superintendent Collins said district officials have access to up-to-date metrics and will be able to share that data with the board. Board members asked additional questions regarding their interest in high-school graduation/dropout data.

On the topic of defining success, Superintendent Hamilton mentioned obtaining online input through ThoughtExchange which allows the district to engage the broader community while developing the plan. He reviewed with the board a handout detailing the SIA calendar for the 2019-20 school year, and said the district will submit its plan to ODE by Dec. 6. By February, district officials will bring the plan to

the board for approval. The board will approve a final grant agreement in June 2020, and SIA plans are scheduled to go into action in July 2020.

Hamilton invited the board to forward him any questions they have regarding the plan.

4. SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD WORKING AGREEMENTS

Superintendent Hamilton and Chair Bessett led a conversation with the Board around the Board Working Agreements and the Superintendent and Board Working Agreements. The discussion served as a follow-up to information received during the board's Oct. 23 work session.

Board members had been asked in the previous session if they would consider updating board-superintendent working agreements while using a different format from the one currently in place. Chair Bessett said he felt additional discussion on the topic was needed. Board members provided comment on whether one or two documents are necessary; and indicated in response to a question from Superintendent Hamilton that the district's existing agreement should serve as a guiding document as updates are considered.

The board then recessed at 6:39 p.m. to allow individual members time to review relevant documents. The meeting resumed at 6:49 p.m.

Board members suggested a number of specific changes to each section of the existing board-superintendent working agreements, and asked questions of Superintendent Hamilton and district staff. A handout with written comments from Dr. Hernandez was provided.

Superintendent Hamilton provided his own suggested changes, specifically pertaining to board member-superintendent communications. He emphasized individual board members may ask specific questions in advance of meetings, so that district staff can be prepared to provide accurate information during regular meetings.

After additional conversation, Hamilton encouraged board members to review the existing agreements and move toward adding language they feel may be missing. He said board members may make further updates to the agreements at a later date.

Hamilton suggested he work with Chair Bessett and Vice Chair Raven to formulate a proposal for reorganizing the agreements. The board will consider the proposal at a meeting in November, Hamilton said.

Board members then continued to discuss potential updates to portions of the agreements. Topics of discussion with Superintendent Hamilton and staff included potential conflicts of interest; and official board communication with other parties, including members of the public and district staff members.

5. NEXT STEPS

Superintendent Hamilton led a conversation with the Board around future topics for work sessions for the remainder of the year. He presented a list of topics compiled during prior discussions that could be undertaken by the board during the next 18 to 24 months. Hamilton reviewed with board members several items including a potential work session topic that would include an Oregon School Boards Association-led conversation/training regarding board goals and evaluation. Board members expressed interest in other topics including a district assessment overview; and a dual-immersion program update.

6. NEXT MEETING

Mr. Bessett said the next Board meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2019 to be held at the District Office in the Board Room. The regular business meeting is scheduled for Tuesday because Veteran's Day falls on Monday this year.

5. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Chair Bessett adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

(Minutes recorded by Jack Moran)

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