

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

8/A Regular Meeting of the Lane County School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on December 10, 2018.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

Attendance

Board Members present included Board Chair Zach Bessett, Board Vice Chair Michelle Webber, Laurie Adams, Dr. Emilio Hernandez and Naomi Raven.

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Bruce Smolnisky, David Collins, Brett Yancey, Judy Bowden, Jenna McCulley, Dustin Reese, Ian Kerr, Sonny Molinori, Cadence Rose, Amber Mitchell, Nicole Norris, José da Silva, Carla Smith, Nicole Nakayama, Jessica Haney, Colleen Hunter, Heidi VanBrunt, Jayne Hulse, Tamra Gilman, Jessica Nevin, Stefani Myers, Rob Horner, John DeWenter, Mike Eyster, Kevin Ricker, Jeff Butler, Kenny Allen, Ame Beard, Amanda Rosenfelt, Chad Towe, Kate Lode, Anne Goff and Tiffany Boss.

2. PBIS REPORT

Dr. Brian Megert and Dr. Nicole Nakayama shared their involvement in the Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports program (PBIS). They shared the history and implementation of the concept of Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) and the educational community support at the district level. The program offers unique support to students and families.

The District partnered with Rob Horner and the University of Oregon to begin the implementation of PBIS in five elementary schools. The goal was to be able to implement all three tiers with a 70% success rate. The District has been able to grow and expand the program to all of our schools and we are now moving forward with implementation at Gateways High School. Dr. Nakayama added that the majority of students respond positively to this support. We have 80-85% of students who respond positively to PBIS systems. There are still 15-20% who need targeted individualized supports.

We currently have five coaches in the District who have this as part of their regular workload. This past fall, Dr. Nakayama worked with our trainers to increase their capacity. She also implemented a workshop for staff to specifically target kindergartners and help them adjust to school routines.

The next steps for this year include:

- Offer targeted support to key roles to sustain fidelity for the implemented tiers;
- Invite teams to two trainings per year and provide time to work on their school plans following the training sessions;
- Provide coaching support for each school;
- Meet monthly as a leadership team to sustain district capacity and to be responsive to the needs of the buildings;
- Connect with community services as needed for additional support.

Ms. Adams asked if other School Districts in the area were participating? Dr. Megert responded that many districts in Oregon and thousands across the nation participate in this system. Dr. Nakayama shared the goal of the project was to implement PBIS at all three tiers in the district. The University of Oregon was the main support in the first year.

Dr. Hernandez asked what would be necessary to meet the needs of the Tier III 15%-20%. She responded that it was a significant challenge, but they have individuals in training. There were a lot of students in need. Something they have added is Mental Health Partnership. Ms. Adams asked if there was a commonality among Tier III students? Dr. Nakayama replied they need more adult support, more involvement and additional layers for classroom support. Ms. Raven shared she has observed this program in schools and it has been very effective for children.

Dr. Hernandez suggested a fourth level, for parents, how can they be assisted? Could we support the household, holistically? Dr. Megert responded that all of the agencies have an understanding that the need is often for the entire family and it will be long and intentional work to support students and their families. Ms. Raven added that she appreciates the support for teachers.

3. SCHOOL PRESENTATION: GUY LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal Amber Mitchell introduced Instructional Coach Kristen Noor and Behavior Support Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) Dan Courtney. She shared that Guy Lee's team was hardworking and students are the goal of every decision. Bilingual classrooms have increased over the school year. Programs offered include, Dual Immersion, Title, ELD, Special Education and Life Skills. Dual Immersion will be offered K-5th at the beginning of next school year. Guy Lee offered resources and supports to families in partnership with First Baptist Church, Rack Room Shoes, Snack program, Tiger Closet, food boxes and other systems to help provide needs for families. The continued partnership with the Child Center provided support as well.

Ms. Adams asked if children come to school without shoes? Principle Mitchell responded that students arrive with shoes that are in such poor condition, but the school has a supply of new shoes available for any student in need. The school also promoted and facilitated many family and community events to help families stay connected.

Kristen Noor shared her experience as an instructional coach to support teachers. She meets twice a month with the leadership team and conducts building wide professional development. On a weekly rotation, she meets with the teams to ensure all students needs are met. She also worked with individual teachers on the Impact Cycle, which was to identify, learn, improve and explore resources.

Dan Courtney shared that every Monday morning they have a Tiger Rally to give morale boosters to students. They use Booster Bucks to encourage behavioral improvement, which seems to be effective. Each month they have a different social skills focus, and the activities are implemented according to grade level.

Tier 2 strategies include data based planning using Check In, Check Out, breaks, point cards help decrease undesirable behavior and increase student efficiency, classroom strategies and interventions.

Tier 3 is designed for individualized support plans which include weekly meetings for specialists, administration, Child Center Counselors and District PBIS Coach. Principle Mitchell closed the presentation with a summary of Guy Lee's focus to make every student the goal, every day.

Dr. Hernandez asked if parents are involved at the school. Ms. Mitchell responded that there were various meetings scheduled throughout the year where translators, free childcare and food were provided. The

monthly events are free and specifically designed to get parents involved and get information about activities and support services.

Ms. Raven added that she loved the point card concept and the student recognition they provide. Ms. Webber shared her appreciation for the continued progress and dedication to families. Ms. Adams shared she appreciated information for the community provided by the reader board located at the front of the school.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Bessett read the following statement:

This is the portion of our agenda for public comment. I want to remind those members of the public who have indicated a desire to make comments that our policy provides for a limitation of three (3) minutes per person.

Those wishing to make public comments must complete a "request to speak" form and speakers will be called upon in the order in which they are received. Audience members who wish to make public comments must state their name and address for the record.

We encourage groups with a common purpose to designate a spokesperson. If your comments will be covered by a group spokesperson, please indicate so when your name is called.

The Board will not hear personal complaints concerning school personnel or against any person connected with the school system. Any complaints regarding a particular employee must be processed through the procedure set forth in policy, which requires that complaints be submitted in writing to the Superintendent. This procedure must be followed before there is any Board involvement with such issues.

Speakers are reminded that their public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.

Jessica Haney, 2423 19th Street in Springfield, has a 1st grade child at Yolanda. She shared that she has an educational background, and she feels that she would like to see more programs at Yolanda, especially better parental involvement and access. She noticed that the PTO fundraiser had a lot of religious items. The students were given these items to sell and she expressed her concerns and disagreement with the religious items. She asked for other ways to raise funds because she did not want to sell the items available. She has since been told she cannot be involved in the PTO. She would like to know how parents could be more involved.

Jessica Neven, 2739 23rd Street in Springfield, is the PTO President at Yolanda Elementary. She has been involved with the PTO and Booster Club at SHS and she has children in both of these schools. She shared that the Yolanda PTO works for the majority, not the minority. The PTO provides funds for field trips, library books, teacher supplies, classroom libraries for teachers and more. This particular fundraiser is used by many schools throughout the nation and is a 60-page catalog of many different items. There are a few pages of items that include Christmas wrapping paper and Biblical scripture references. All faiths are welcome, and no one faith is above any other or declared as the faith at Yolanda. She shared that children should be able to learn about all faiths. She stated her belief that it would be terrible for one family of one faith to determine how the entire school was represented.

Jayne Hulse, 2087 Bonnie Lane in Springfield said she was very involved in the PTO and spoke highly of Principal Butler and his involvement with parents and students. The PTO was open to all volunteers. She shared her passion for her children and that this issue was very important to her. Every parent that wished to be involved in the PTO was wanted and welcomed.

Colleen Hunter, 4921 Glacier Drive in Springfield was speaking as a member of the Community Alliance for Public Education (CAPE). She said that the Student Assessment Bill of Rights makes it possible for parents to have the right to opt out their children from state assessments. She would like to make a request to the Board that notification to students and parents be made in a timely manner, per the new ORS.

Mike Eyster, 825 Willacade Court in Springfield, shared the following statement with the Board:

My name is Mike Eyster and I'm here to commend the board and administration on your recent work.

District 19 is at an inflection point. We appear to be turning a corner in improving graduation rates and 9th graders on track to graduate. We have a new contemporary exciting website. We have a strategic plan that sets aspirational goals for the District and we are well into a selection process for a new superintendent.

Indeed, this is an exciting time for the District, Springfield and our students.

I appreciate that these outcomes are the result of hard work over time. Graduation rates and on track to graduation rates don't just jump over night. They happen as a result of strategic interventions and informed, persistent effort. You are building on a foundation that has been in the making for some time and your work is designed to continue to the trend of improvements. I'm encouraged that you are challenging yourselves, the new superintendent and our students to aspire to achieve excellence.

Once again, I commend your commitment to a bold aspirational target, setting metrics to measure your progress toward reaching that target and in so doing, holding yourselves accountable.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy set a north star goal for the country to land a man on the moon and return him safely to Earth.

Kennedy recognized the importance of stating an aspirational goal.

In 1962, Kennedy further inspired the county by stating, "We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard."

What you are doing is hard – but it is worthy. Our district will be better as a result, our community will be better as a result and most importantly, it will change the lives of our students and generations to come.

Please continue the work, please continue to be bold and set aspirational goals for the District and insist on excellence. Don't be hesitant to rely on the community to support you in your effort. You deserve it and we are here to provide it.

Thank you for your service to our community and our students.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. November 1, 2018 Special Work Session Minutes

B. November 13, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

C. Financial Statement

D. Personnel Action, Resolution #18-19.020

Motion: Ms. Adams moved, Ms. Webber seconded for approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously, 5:0.

6. ACTION ITEMS

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A. Consolidated Annual Financial Report and 2017-2018 Audit, Resolution #18-19.021

Brett Yancey introduced Kenny Allen from Pauly, Rogers and Co., PC who shared that Springfield Public Schools had been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2017. He said this is a very prestigious award because those who create the report have to go above and beyond and include many additional items that would not normally be included in this type of report. He added that it is very difficult to receive this award year after year as the district does. He noted one issue that was an over-expenditure, but all funds had a positive fund balance at June 30, 2018. There were no other issues with the audit or management issues. He asked the Board for questions, but none were offered.

Mr. Yancey shared that Joan Bolls, the CPA on his staff, could not be present because she was attending a training with another staff member, but he credited her with putting this together. He added that she has done an amazing job. He addressed the comment about over expenditures. He said there were two areas in which the District over-expended the budget. In both cases, money was available, but he didn't get the transfer request made in time. The first area was in the capital projects fund which was used for renovations on this building. The other area was in our self-insurance fund. We had greater expenses than anticipated last year. He concluded by saying that this would be addressed and the mistake should not happen again.

Motion: Ms. Adams moved and Ms. Webber seconded that the Board of Directors accept the audited financial reports for 2017-2018 as presented by the firm of Pauly, Rogers and Co., PC. The motion carried unanimously, 5:0.

7. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

A. District Goals Update

Superintendent Bruce Smolnisky asked the Board to remember that this is a draft of the updated Board goals. He shared that the goals provide a compass and they show how far we have come and how far we have to go. The document identifies timelines for strategies designed to meet the goals. There will be additional more in depth discussion about the goals at the January Mid-Year Planning Meeting. He added that he would also bring a report about the school report card, student outcomes and the graduation rate at that meeting.

Dr. Hernandez shared that he had recently visited Douglas Gardens Elementary school and was interested to learn about their progress in meeting the needs of their students and families and how that aligned with the Board goals. He added that equity plays out differently in each building depending on the specific needs. He is happy to hear that the District is moving in the right direction.

Mr. Bessett thanked the Cabinet for doing a great job supporting the Districts efforts to aligned the work with the Board goals.

B. Student Communication

The student representative from Thurston High School was unable to attend the meeting.

Ian Kerr from Springfield High School shared about upcoming athletic events including a wrestling meet against Crater Lake and Ashland. They also hosted a Wrestling Tournament at Springfield High School on Saturday December 8th. The Leadership team has started a Holiday Trivia Game Show as well as a holiday door decorating contest. Ian also shared a video presentation about "Staying Sharp", their school slogan.

Sonny Molinori from Gateways High School wished the Springfield High School athletic teams good luck in all their competitions. He shared that several representatives from Lane Community College (LCC) came to visit students on campus to share with them about attending LCC next year to continue their education and to talk about skill sets that are needed for classes at LCC. He was excited to share that three more students have completed their requirements for graduation this year. Senior meetings were taking place to ensure that all

seniors are on track to graduate. Jimmy Jennett, motivational speaker, came to visit and talk about the dangers of drug involvement and street crime and how important it is to stay in school and complete your education. The Annual Christmas luncheon was scheduled for Friday, December 21st from 12:00-12:45 in the Memorial Building. He invited the Board to attend if they are available. Mathematics teacher Russell Hunt was conducting a Stock Market game for the students. Art teacher, Janet Nelson was teaching the students how to make snowflakes, which is much harder than it looks. Social Studies teacher, Fred Merwin held a debate about the events of 911. Science teacher Holly Ellingson was working with students to raise salmon and release them into their natural habitat.

Cadence Rose from Academy of Arts and Academics (A3) shared they held Night of the Arts, which was attended by about 250 people. Last month's student attendance rate was over 90%, which was an increase from October. Congratulations to teachers Rebecca Krop and Robyn Loudon who won a Springfield Education Foundation Innovative Educator Grant for \$3,000. The money would be used for their J Term class, "Get Outside." Also teacher Andy Hock received nearly \$8,000 in CTE funds to use for various projects. All students are working to complete their presentations for Confluence which would begin Wednesday, December 12th. Presentations would include Ed Talks on how engineering is changing the work one problem at a time, the American Revolution, celebrating the Civil Rights movement and how dams heal and destroy life on the Columbia River.

The student representative from Willamette Leadership Academy (WLA) was not present.

C. Superintendent Communication

Bruce Smolnisky shared that the first Budget Committee Work Session would be held on December 13th beginning at 6:00 in the Board Room. Tim Duey, Economics professor from the University of Oregon, would be sharing the budget forecast. He also shared an update from the Instruction department. Elementary schools Parent Teacher Conferences were last week and there were over 4,400 elementary conferences attended by parents around the district. This represented over 91% of parents having an elementary-aged student. Mr. Smolnisky also mentioned the passing of long time staff member Yvonne Atteberry. Her memorial was scheduled for Sunday, December 16th at 1:00 in the afternoon at Maple Elementary School.

D. Board Communication

Michelle Webber shared she had been very busy working with the Springfield Education Foundation handing out 28 grants at 16 schools. It was an honor to be a part of the celebration. She also attended a Growth Mindset breakfast at Hamlin Middle School to see their student recognition. She and Ms. Raven intend to continue to visit all of the schools. She also attended the THS Pep Rally with Ms. Raven and was impressed by the great performances from many of the students.

Laurie Adams shared she was sad to hear that Yvonne Atteberry had passed and she hoped many would attend the memorial. She commended Jenna McCulley for the article about Ms. Atteberry. She was saddened by the news of the student who committed suicide in Jefferson. Many condolences to their families.

Dr. Emilio Hernandez shared that he wanted to see the schools continue to do what worked for them and meet the needs for their students and families. It is a good thing that buildings have programs in place which reflect the needs of their students and families, while still using the Board goals as reminder for which programs they support.

Naomi Raven shared she has enjoyed being in the schools. She greatly enjoyed the THS state championship football game and rally. She also attended the Night of the Arts. She noted that the Jazz choir was especially good. Also, the Hamlin Growth Mindset breakfast was very special. She had a meaningful conversation with a student who received an award. She was grateful they are addressing all students and all needs, district wide.

Mr. Bessett shared that he also enjoyed the growth Mindset Breakfast at Hamlin. The personal attention to each student was a meaningful moment. He added that he was pleased to see lots of community members attending the various focus group meetings to share feedback regarding what characteristics are important for a new superintendent. He said the online survey would remain open until December 15th for those people who were unable to attend a focus group, but would still like to add their comments.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

9. NEXT MEETING

Mr. Bessett shared the Board would hold a business meeting on January 14, 2019 at 7:00pm

10. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Chair Bessett adjourned the meeting at 8:43pm.

(Minutes recorded by Tiffany Boss)