

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

4/ A regular meeting of the Lane County School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on September 11, 2017.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Board Chair Erik Bishoff called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order in the Board Room at the District Administration Center at 7:00 p.m. After a moment of silence in recognition of the anniversary of September 11, 2001, Mr. Bishoff read the following statement:

As we prepare to recite the pledge, in the midst of this solemn day and the discourse across the nation and our community that seems increasingly to divide us, let us remember the many things such as public education that serve to bring us together and strengthen our resolve for a future where differences can be discussed in a manner that reflects the respect for others that we wish to see in our children.

He then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

When Mr. Bishoff asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. No one suggested any changes.

Attendance

Board Members present included Chair Erik Bishoff, Laurie Adams, Zach Bessett and Dr. Emilio Hernandez.

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Sue Rieke-Smith, Kristen Denmark, David Collins, Brett Yancey, Tom Lindly, Bruce Smolnisky, Jenna McCulley, Brian Megert, Kevin Ricker, Suzy Price, Judy Bowden, Anne Goff, Tim Stephens, Kim Donaghe, Brenda Holt, Andy Price, Amber Mitchell, Brandi Starck, José da Silva, Chad Towe, Colleen Hunter, Whitney McKinley, Jesse Cox, Brady Spear, Cody Dean, and Beth Bridges.

2. RECOGNITION: CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

Ms. Adams congratulated Springfield Public Schools staff for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada. The Certificate of Achievement was the highest form of recognition in government accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represented a significant accomplishment.

Chief Operations Officer Brett Yancey introduced staff members: Joan Bolls, internal auditor; Brenda Holt, budget manager, and Melissa Stalder, grant accountant. The District had received the award for twelve consecutive years.

3. INTRODUCTION OF NEW ADMINISTRATOR

Brandi Starck, Principal of Thurston Middle School, introduced Andrew Price, the new Assistant Principal at Thurston Middle School. She noted he had attended and previously taught in Springfield Public Schools and welcomed his return to the District.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bishoff read the following statement concerning public comment:

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.

Jesse Cox, 217 Olympia Street, Springfield, commended the Board for providing parents with information on how to opt out of standardized testing. He distributed copies of the 2016 *Springfield Board of Education Statement Supporting the Opt-Out Option for Smarter Balance Testing* and another document entitled *Applauding the passage of HB2655*. Mr. Cox, a member of the Community Alliance for Public Education (CAPE), offered to assist in any way possible to inform parents of their rights to opt out of the standardized test. Mr. Cox advocated that the current Board affirm the previously adopted position.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. August 14, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

B. August 28, 2017 Summer Planning Meeting Minutes

C. Personnel Action, Resolution #117-18.007

Bruce Smolnisky recommended the Board of Directors approve the personnel action for licensed employees as reflected below:

New Hires

Erin Allman
Ashley Banks
Colin Farnsworth
Laura Farrelly
Jan Hampton
Melissa Miles
Kim Thompson

Resignations

Eugene Chism
Carissa Gordon
Lizbeth Ramirez
Nicola Shaddon
William Wagner

Change in Contract Status

Michael Klindt
Michael D Smith

When Mr. Bishoff asked for clarification regarding the amount of the Budget Allocation Considerations listed (Page 5 of the August 28, 2017 minutes), Mr. Yancey explained the \$880,000 restoration was the sum of the line items listed below (VER contribution, discretionary supplies, curriculum materials, and Human Resources Tech position). Mr. Bishoff also noted 2.0 Certified Reserve positions had been added back to the 2017-18 Budget, but the change was not reflected in the Budget Allocation Considerations.

Mr. Yancey explained they had been able to move two Certified Reserve positions out of the General Fund, hence the Adopted Budget Reduction of 2.0 positions instead of the 4.0 positions originally discussed. The Supplemental Budget included restoration of all 4.0 positions in the General Fund.

Motion: Dr. Hernandez moved, seconded by Ms. Adams, to approve the Consent Agenda. The vote carried 4:0.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Strategic Plan and Board Goals, Resolution #17-18.008

The Springfield School Board along with District and association leadership participated in a facilitated process to develop new goals to guide the district into the future.

The Board met on multiple occasions to discuss and refine a vision forward for the Springfield School District. On Monday, August 28, during the public summer planning meeting of the Board, members reached consensus on the following goals:

- *Provide personalized learning opportunities for every student*
- *Support the needs of families so that every student is ready to learn*
- *Create future ready facilities that inspire learning*
- *Promote growth and success for every student*
- *Engage students in a technology rich environment that enhances teaching and learning*
- *Advocate for funding and policies that support education*

Furthermore, the Board of Directors identified the need to provide clarity, pursuant to the Superintendent's employment contract, on the priority goals for which they will evaluate and provide feedback to the Superintendent through an annual evaluation. The priority focus measures selected were:

- *Provide personalized learning opportunities for every student*
- *Support the needs of families so that every student is ready to learn*
- *Promote growth and success for every student*

Jenna McCulley recommended the Board of Directors formally approve the above listed goals.

Motion: Ms. Adams moved, seconded by Mr. Bessett, to approve the above as the Board Goals for 2017-2022. The vote carried 4:0.

7. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Budget Reinvestment

Mr. Yancey said the State of Oregon had allocated \$5 million more than anticipated to the Springfield Public Schools. He anticipated bringing a Supplemental Budget for Board action to the September 25, 2017 meeting. Mr. Yancey had e-mailed staff's recommendations for the Supplemental Budget to Budget Committee members and had invited them to attend the Board meeting.

B. Superintendent Communication

Superintendent Rieke-Smith read the following statement:

Tonight I share but a few thoughts as we begin the new school year. National events over the summer months as well as the federal DACA decision this past week present challenges for many of our students and their families. Theologian Dietrich Bonhoffer reminds us that silence in the face of evil is evil itself; that not to speak is to speak, not to act is to act. As we witnessed in the days following last November's election, some

members of the extended Eugene-Springfield community may see the latest action as license to make our students and families feel unwanted. On this point, let me be clear: Discrimination in any form WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Springfield Public Schools believes in an inclusive culture that draws on the assets of our students, staff, families and community members. In my monthly blog to staff and our community, I reminded staff, if they see discriminatory acts or hear discriminatory speech, they are to address them with confidence that the Board, District and I stand with them. Our schools are safe, healthy and engaging climates for everyone, regardless of their citizenship status. The gift of public education is to teach our students how to engage with others of differing viewpoints in a peaceful, tolerant and respectful manner. Our students come to us emotionally risking everything in the hope we will engage them, not reject them, and fulfill our promise that every student, no matter their circumstance will learn, grow and ultimately experience success.

To that point, I am pleased to share our schools lived up to this expectation beginning with the very first day of school. As the Cabinet team and I rode buses, greeted students and families, visited classrooms and departments, we witnessed staff eagerly welcoming students and their families with “It’s so good to see you. We’ve missed you!” and “We’re so glad you are here!”. We repeatedly heard from staff this was the best start for the year yet, this in the midst of federal, community and significant weather and air quality challenges. Spirits are high as we begin our work anew this year. I am grateful to all our District staff for their grit and perseverance as we soldier through to better air quality days, never missing a beat in establishing critical first week classroom and instructional routines for the year and to you, Board, for your leadership and service on behalf of 11,000 precious, precocious and creative students, Springfield’s future. Thank you.

C. Board Communication

Mr. Bishoff thanked the Superintendent and her staff for putting students’ health and safety first during the recent dangerous air quality incidents. He encouraged Board members to reach out in the community to encourage others to apply for the vacant Board member position. Mr. Bishoff recognized the current Board members for their service. Mr. Bishoff also asked how the District determined where to place the additional staff proposed in the Supplemental Budget.

Mr. Collins explained staff collected data on actual versus projected enrollment at all schools. One option was to assign the additional staff to schools with over-enrollment. The District preferred not to transfer staff once the school year had begun.

Dr. Emilio Hernandez asked when the student representatives joined the Board and what plans were in place to reach Spanish-speaking families were a natural disaster to occur in the area.

Superintendent Rieke-Smith said the student representatives would join the Board in October, after the student council elections had occurred and the councils had selected their representatives.

Mr. Yancey described the incident command structure used for any emergency. He noted schools equipped with emergency generators had been designated by the Red Cross as potential shelters. When Mr. Yancey said the Springfield Schools’ new website provided for translation of public communication messages into Spanish, Ms. McCulley added the software was able to support a number of different languages.

Mr. Yancey also cited a number of drills done to prepare for emergencies, including earthquake preparedness, fire drills, and lock-down drills.

Mr. Lindly noted bus evaluation drills were required by the end of September.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Bishoff said the October 23rd Fall Planning meeting had been cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. Instead, the Fall Planning meeting was to be held as a work session prior to the regular business meeting scheduled for November 13, 2017.

9. NEXT MEETINGS: September 25, 2017, 4:00 p.m., Board Work Session
 October 9, 2017, 7:00 p.m., Business Meeting

10. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Mr. Bishoff adjourned the meeting at 7:39 pm.

(Minutes recorded by Beth Bridges)