



**LEBANON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 10, 2023, 6:00 PM**

Santiam Travel Station

750 S. Third Street, Lebanon, OR 97355

MEETING MINUTES

<u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</u> Tom Oliver, Chair Clyde Rood, Member Melissa Baurer, Member Nichole Piland, Member	<u>EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT:</u> Jennifer Meckley, Superintendent William Lewis, Chief Operations Officer Kim Grousbeck, HR Director
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The meeting minutes were recorded by Executive Secretary Jessica Woody.

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Tom Oliver called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and led the flag salute.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

3. FOCUS AREAS / GOALS

Jennifer speaks to the board regarding the district focus areas / goals, and the how the district is starting the year, and framing the work being done. She explains that she would like to be able to show how all of the different pieces work together and how they ultimately come back to the district motto of, pursuing excellence for every student, every day.

Jennifer notes the five focus areas consisting of academic achievement, safety and belonging, effective facilities, financial integrity, and community connections. Within each area the district will define what excellence looks like and will have strategies, goals, and measurements regarding this. She notes that this process will take time to define and it is important to include the district's stakeholders in the process as well.

Between Jennifer and the board, it is agreed that the district will bring each focus area individually to the board, one month at a time, to review and discuss. The group also discusses the opportunity for a potential board work session at some point if they see fit.

William speaks to the board regarding facilities specifically and explains that he and the facilities director, Bryan, have been visiting each of the buildings to perform a thorough assessment of each site. Looking at everything from roof, carpet, siding, design, ect. He explains that it has been an awesome process to review and see where improvements can be made.

4. PRESCHOOL

Jennifer also speaks to the board about preschool. She explains that there is a preschool promise grant that the district will hope to be funded by in the next biennium. The district has received a donation from the Heatherington Foundation, which has funded a preschool class at Cascades school, which the principal at Cascades is very much looking forward to, and there is already a space available that does not require any renovation to do so. She also notes the benefit of the preschool being located so close to the High School, as LHS is beginning their early childhood development program, which will create the perfect partnership between the program and the preschool.

Tom asks how this aligns with what the boys and girls club currently offers for preschool. Jennifer explains that the boys and girls club currently has a class of preschool in Pioneer school, part time, orienting students and preparing them for school. There is also an additional program offered at the boys and girls club facilities, punkin seed, which has a cost associated. It is reiterated that the preschool offered at Pioneer from the boys and girls club, and the new preschool at Cascades, is a free service. Jennifer notes that the preschool at Cascades will be full day.

Melissa asks if the Cascades preschool will be available for all students in the district, and Jennifer explains that currently it is prioritized for four-year old Cascades boundary students, and if there are any open spots other students may be considered.

It is asked whether the donation covers only this year or further on, Jennifer explains that it will cover staffing for this year for sure, and the district hopes to receive more funding in the coming years which will help to expand the program. She notes there will be 18-20 students in the class.

Tom talks about the Heatherington foundation for those that are not aware, which is a foundation from Jeff Heatherington, that has been fairly quietly funding and supporting academic youth services directly with the district and the boys and girls club. He notes that the district is very fortunate to have them engaged and how phenomenal the opportunity is to work with the foundation.

Melissa notes her positive experience with the preschool promise grant, and Nichole adds that it would be great data to follow these students as a cohort and see the results and strengths from this preschool opportunity.

5. MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Jennifer speaks to the board regarding the mental health program, which she explains is a high need in the current society. She also explains that there are many students with mental health needs and there are not enough resources to support them.

Jennifer also explains that part of the SIA, student success act, grant dollars are specifically to address mental and behavioral health. The district hired 2 mental health therapists three years ago, and partners with Linn County Mental Health to address the needs of the students. She notes the high need that is still present, as Linn County also struggles to find practitioners. The district is always looking for more ways to support, which led to the district's decision to create the Mental Health Coordinator position, which will oversee the mental health program so that it be grown and

developed over time. Sandi Cox was hired into this role and Jennifer feels very confident that she will do a great job, and already has great connections in the community.

Jennifer also notes that Corvallis School District is one that Lebanon is modeling after in their Mental Health program, and half of their funding for their program is funded by Medicaid reimbursement dollars. Sandi will help to facilitate this similarly in our district, which will eventually help to fund more mental health therapists.

Tom confirms with Jennifer that the idea is to be able to fund this program without impacting the general fund.

Melissa proposes a potential partnership opportunity with Portland State University master of social work.

Discussion takes place between the board members regarding HIPAA, and liability insurance for the mental health therapists, which is confirmed to be included overall in the district's policy.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Nicole motions to approve and Clyde seconds the motion. All in favor with a unanimous vote, the consent agenda made up of the July 13, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes, First Reading Policy Update CC-AR, and 2023-24 new hires Rachel Brandt, Kaitlen Brice, Timothy Hammett, Susan Kropp, Paige Uhlemeyer, and Steven Prosocki is approved in its entirety.

7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Operations

William speaks to the board and provides an operations update including information on the updated construction excise tax schedule from the Department of Revenue. The department of Revenue has requested information on a periodic basis if there is anything that the district would like to adjust. He explains that the tax was developed for new residential and commercial properties, associated with their building permits. He also explains that in 2021 the board approved the district to begin this tax program. William provides information to the board including the dollar amounts over the recent years regarding the rates. William proposes this idea of additional funding, which ends up going into the capital fund for the district, which for example funds items on the buildings like roofs, ect.

Tom confirms that this is a one-time tax, not an ongoing tax and can only be used for projects that have been identified in an assessment or capital projects plan. It does not go to the district's general fund. He reiterates how important this is for the district to be able to maintain their facilities. Tom feels that it is appropriate to adjust the rate at this point.

William notes that he has provided the recommendation to go to 1.56 for the residential rate and .78 for the non-residential rate.

Clyde questions what will be done with these funds if these numbers are increased. William explains the next steps and how these funds could be spent in the coming time, with Lacombe and Seven Oak roofs as a priority. William also notes the district is looking at a seismic grant as well which can help to fund the roofs as well.

Nichole motions to approve the 1.56 residential and .78 non-residential rates. Melissa seconds the motion, and all in favor with a unanimous vote, the new rates are approved by the board.

William also speaks to the board regarding the board ad hoc or advisory committee opportunities. These committees address facilities assessment and assist in making the boundaries. The community would come together to review these items and develop recommendations for the school board. William notes the four items that are needed in either committee which would be school board charge/expectations, clear committee direction, member selection with a minimum and maximum, and a committee timeline.

Tom notes that he feels that the needs of this falls closer under the ad hoc committee than an advisory committee. Tom and Will reiterate that this committee would consist of planning at a larger scale and looking into the next 20-30 years of growth, with the City's involvement as well.

William notes that he can bring recommendations back to the board, and shares that the City has already committed to the process as well. The overall consensus of the members would be to support an ad hoc committee.

B. Human Resources

Kim provides information to the board regarding hiring, transfers, lay-offs, and trainings that are taking place at this time. She also notes that the district is having their "welcome back" on the 28th where all staff will gather together in the auditorium, which is very exciting for the district.

C. Finance

Nothing to report.

8. COMMUNICATION

A. Board

Nichole and Tom welcome Melissa and Clyde to the board.

Melissa asks whether there is a celebration that takes place within the board welcoming students and families back to school, and if she can lead this.

It is noted that the OSBA summer conference is this week which Melissa and Clyde have planned to attend.

B. Superintendent

Jennifer provides the Jen's Zens updates to the board members. These updates include nutrition services who served breakfast, lunch, and supper with a total of 7,764 meals in June and July. As well as a shout out to Nutrition's Director Angie Gorman and her amazing staff for receiving 100% on both health inspections this year.

The updates also include Ralston Academy's capture the king (and credits) elective which was offered over the summer. 17 students earned a total together of 32.25 credits during the summer while attending summer school at Ralston.

Jennifer also provides an update on the instructional mentor program and how much of an impact this has made in empowering and encouraging teachers for a strong start. She shares positive quotes from new teachers, and shares appreciation for the federal funding for this program, the appreciation of those that choose to work for the district, as well as the thankfulness for Tina who leads this program.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.



Tom Oliver, Board Chair



Jennifer Meckley, Superintendent

LEBANON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Meeting
August 10, 2023
6:00 PM

ATTENDEE SIGN-IN

(This sheet will become part of public record)

NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION (Phone and/or Email)
Rose Haled	541-619-6770

BOARD MEMORANDUM



To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Lebanon Community School District Board of Directors

From: William H. Lewis III, Chief Operation Officer

Date: August 10, 2023 **Meeting Date:** August 10, 2023

Re: Update Construction Excise Tax Rate

Construction Excise Tax-The Lebanon school board

The Oregon Department of Revenue sets the residential and non-residential Construction Excise Tax (CET) rate limits by fiscal year. In 2023-24 the Residential rate will increase to 1.56 and the non-residential rate will increase to .78.

The Lebanon Community School District #9 School Board approves the school district 2023-24 Construction Excise Tax limit to be 1.56 for residential and .78 non-residential rate.

Approved: 8/10/23
Date

Signed: [Signature]
Board Chair

Approved: 8/10/23
Date

Signed: Jennifer Meckley
Superintendent

Jen's Zens

A Few Happy Stories from LCSD





**Nutrition Services
Gets an A+**

Ralston Students Capture the King (and Credits)



meet COLBY WOOTEN

LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER | SEVEN OAK MIDDLE SCHOOL

"I am excited about meeting my students and introducing them to wonderful and impactful skills, practices, and authors who will change their lives."



LEBANON
Community Schools

Instructional Mentorship is Making a Difference

Thank you.

