

PHOENIX-TALENT SCHOOLS
Regular School Board Meeting
Thursday, March 3, 2022
6:00 p.m. – PHS & Virtual via ZOOM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dawn Watson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Other Board Members present: Vice Chair Michael Campbell, Directors Sara Crawford, Rick Nagel, Rebecca Weathers, Nancy McKinnis and Polly Farrimond. Student Representatives: Cedahlia Gorman, Joseph Hiatt and Ruby Rector. Also present: Aaron Santi, Shawna Schleif, Curt Shenk, Heather Lowe-Rogers, Kent Vallier, Lisa Rullman, Randy Waite, Joe Zavala, Jon McCalip, Tiffanie Lambert, and Denise Skinner.

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE

- **PHS Asst. Principal Randy Waite** spoke on behalf of Principal Toby Walker and shared the following on his behalf:
 - PHS is in the early stages of promoting and planning our first annual Pirate Care Day, which is April 16 from 7:30-1ish.
 - Last Thursday, we held our first in-person **Latino Parent Night** in two years. We had over 45 parents that showed up. Special thanks to Angelica Mendoza, Yaneth Garcia, Mayra Silva, and Liana Sandoval for putting together a fantastic event.
 - We are looking forward to holding a couple more Parent Night Events for our Spanish-speaking and English-speaking families.
 - Next week is Classified Appreciation Week. It is a beautiful opportunity for us to take time and recognize the fantastic staff working directly with students and those working behind the scenes to make PHS such a great place.
 - Winter sports finished last week. We have about 150 students out for spring sports, which started this week.
- **TMS Principal Kent Vallier** shared the following:
 - Mr. Vallier thanked the Board and Supt. Barry for supporting TMS's band program. Our district has invested money in the middle school band and it has paid off in about 100 days of school. The return on the investment includes over eighty middle school students in band. The addition of two great employees to PTS – band teacher Bret Eason, and band assistant Jayme Dittburner and community pride.
 - Mr. Vallier thanked Jackie Webber and Felipe Reyes for their work in inclusive practices at TMS and helping to make all of our families feel welcome. Mr. Vallier read an email he received from parent Rosario Medina. Rosario was so grateful that TMS provided a Spanish translator at the band concert and she hopes that will continue at all events.
 - Mr. Vallier thanked Jen Bakker and Julie Ponder for being TMS student Leadership advisors. We are having a school social that will be on Wednesday, March 16. It will be our first one in two years.

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE (cont.)

- **OHES Principal Curt Shenk** gave a summary of what each Leadership team is doing.
 - Academic team - as part of our midyear CORE review, did some student perception interviews called empathy interviews with all different age groups in our school.
 - Staff Wellness team - Have been organizing monthly challenges. Last month was a Kindness challenge and this month will be a walking/steps challenge.
 - Social Emotional team - Started a Hawk Token initiative to help recognize students and classes for doing the right thing and making good decisions
 - Family Engagement team - They are preparing and organizing positive post cards. Teachers and staff will be filling these out, sending them to families, and celebrating some of the great things happening at Orchard Hill.
- Mr. Shenk thanked the PTA for sponsoring another round of Candy grams in honor of St. Patrick's Day.
- **TES Principal Heather Lowe-Rogers** shared the following
 - TES hosted the Black Youth Summit for elementary students and it turned out really well.
 - Our Kind Campaign for our third through fifth grade girls allowed us to have some great conversations.
 - Mrs. Lowe-Rogers had her first Coffee with the Principal at Sweet Beet Station yesterday. We had great conversation with some parents, which we were able to translate into some SIA feedback.
 - Next week we have the OBOB competition-taking place on Thursday.
 - Mrs. Lowe-Rogers gave a shout out to all of their classified staff, which we appreciate and adore. They are the glue that holds us together and we depend on them so much.
 - Mrs. Lowe-Rogers thanked media specialist Kim Saurman. Kim has done a great job this year and has made our library a wonderful space for kids to explore different topics.
 - Mrs. Lowe-Rogers gave thanks to the Special Education team for all their work in conducting IEP meetings and pushing through some final requests for evaluation. Thank you to Leonore Bugarin, Carmen Edwards-Henry, Kristen Zehren, and Rene Caberra.
 - Mrs. Lowe-Rogers thanked Asst. Supt. Jessica Hamlin. She has been a phenomenal addition to the district office. Jessica has taken on an amazing leadership role with instructional coaching, updating our evaluation process and documents, and leading our bargaining.
- **PES Principal Shawna Schleif** shared the following:
 - Mrs. Schleif gave a shout out to Annalee Head, Jennifer Hawkins, Amy Hartley, Estrella Medrano, Brenda Bazan-Madera, and Allison Bailey. We are at the tail end of gathering our mid-year data, and the growth that our students are making under their leadership is tremendous.

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE (cont.)

- Mrs. Schleif recognized two new teachers from TES, Miguel Gutierrez and McKenzie Stewart, for the growth that they have made with the iReady and Ready Curriculum and their students.
- Mrs. Schleif gave a shout out to all the teachers for their flexibility this year. There have been so many challenges with staffing, substitutes, and student attendance issues and they have managed it all so well.
- When we were chosen by Venafi to have our “Day to Remember” event, it could not have come at a better time. Mrs. Schleif thanked Venafi and Geoff Rhodes, the director of fun, for hosting such an amazing event. Everyone was able to enjoy each other, have fun, and laugh. We were awarded many monetary prizes in the amount of \$3,000 in the form of gift cards from local businesses and the prizes from raffles that were given to us will go right back into the school.
- **PTRA Principal Aaron Santi** shared the following:
 - Mr. Santi honored his classified staff of one, Deni Goodwin. Deni is our office manager, our registrar, our instructional assistant, media manager and more. Deni is one but she does the work of many.
 - We will be partnering with Talent Maker City and their “Rise Up and Rebuild” program to offer an in-person, hands-on elective for fourth quarter. This will give our students some amazing opportunities to learn carpentry skills, do some applied math, and help their community at the same time.
 - The Bug Guy came and did a presentation last month for the K-5 kids on spiders and scorpions and they loved it. We had kids attend in-person and virtually.
- **Amy Honts-Stark from Sodexo** said that they have been trying to find new ways to bring fun menu days and themes back into the program. For Valentine’s Day, we brought in sugar cookies, and the other day we had green eggs and ham for Dr. Seuss day in the elementary schools. We have grown our average daily participation by 4%. Mrs. Honts-Stark gave a shout out to her food service team. Tomorrow is employee appreciation day and they will all get to start their day in the kitchen with some treats from Sodexo.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- **Student Representative Joseph Hiatt** said that PHS has a great future planning center where students can get help with college applications, job opportunities, and volunteer opportunities to help get pirate points. They do an amazing job of reaching out to students to make sure we have the resources we need to graduate. One of the teachers and some students have decided to start an American Sign Language club, which should be starting soon.
- **Student Representative Ruby Rector** said that Leadership is making a snack buffet for the classified staff next week. Tomorrow is wear the color blue day.

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVE
REPORT** (cont.)

- **Student Representative Cedahlia Gorman** said that progress reports are being sent today. Cedahlia has heard many mixed feelings about the mask mandate being lifted. Some of the students are scared; some are hoping for normality; and some are worried about bullying based on choice to wear masks or not. Now is the time for juniors to start looking at colleges and then applying next year. Color Guard performed last week for the last time during the middle school band concert. We are now starting to practice and plan for the parade season. The band concert that had been planned for mid-March will be moved to sometime after spring break. Adriana Hays will be playing baritone at the SOU solo contest. Adriana Hays and Angelina Kylmala will be playing a trombone for the duet contest.

**CITIZEN
COMMENTS**

Chair Watson reminded citizens that rather than emailing comments to the Supt. and/or board directly, that all public comments need to be submitted on line through our website so that they could be tracked and documented correctly.

- Alicia and Jeff Cool provided in person comments and Chris Luz provided a comment online.

**SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT**

- Supt. Barry thanked Tiffanie Lambert for filling in for him at the last board meeting.
- HB 4026 for ADM security passed the House and the Senate, and that is something to celebrate.
- We do have an FAQ on our website to help answer questions from citizen comments, specifically those that address our agenda items and public comments.
- The seismic grant applications for TES and TMS have been submitted. Regardless of the outcome, the work will be completed summer of 2023.
- As we resume in-person board meetings, they could be a great way to celebrate our migrant education students; 100% of our migrant education students graduated last year. We are looking forward to a day in the spring where we can celebrate with our families and students, because that is a first ever for Phoenix-Talent Schools.
- Many thanks go to our partnerships with Maria Lee, who runs our Migrant Ed program in the district in conjunction with Southern Oregon ESD, as well as Southern Oregon University with our Pirates to Raider program.
- Supt. Barry said that Classified appreciation week is next week. It is a great way to recognize all of the hard work of our support staff.
- We felt that it would be nice if our community members who recently gave donations receive a hand written note from one of our board members. We have provided those for you. We have supporters locally and all throughout the world that continue to donate to our cause and our mission, and support all things that we are doing here at Phoenix-Talent Schools.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT (cont.)

- Supt. Barry referred to a letter in their blue folders stating that adult meal prices need adjusted for the remainder of this school year and this will be an action item at the next meeting.
- Supt. Barry is doing a series of State of the District tours in our schools. This is something that was established in our district years ago and continues to this day. We have a lot going on and we have had some good news as far as the budget goes, so we want to share that with all of the staff. We had the first one at PES today and it went very well.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of Revised Agenda
- Approval of Minutes from 2/17/22
- Personnel Report

- Chair Dawn Watson presented the Consent Agenda for review which included the following:
 - Approval of Revised Agenda
 - Approval of Minutes of 2/17/22 Regular Board Meeting
 - Personnel Report

On motion by Vice Chair Michael Campbell, seconded by Director Nancy McKinnis, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

- Chair Watson shared her evaluation summary with the Board.
- On motion by Director Rick Nagel, seconded by Director Sara Crawford to approve the evaluation summary for Supt. Barry as presented, was approved as per the following vote:

Ayes: Farrimond, Weathers, Nagel, Campbell, Crawford, McKinnis, Watson

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

TEACHER & ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT RENEWALS

- Supt. Barry referred to the teacher and administrator listing in their blue folders and said that annual notice is required to be sent by March 15 for those whose contracts will be renewed.
- On motion by Director Sara Crawford, seconded by Director Rick Nagel, to approve the teacher and administrator contract renewals as presented, was approved as per the following vote:

Ayes: Farrimond, Crawford, Nagel, Campbell, McKinnis, Weathers, Watson

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**DECLARATION OF
SURPLUS ITEMS**

- Chair Dawn Watson referred to the list of surplus items and asked for comments.
- On motion by Director Nancy McKinnis, seconded by Director Sara Crawford, to approve the listing of items to be declared as surplus as presented, was approved as per the following vote:

Ayes: Farrimond, Weathers, Nagel, Campbell, Crawford, McKinnis, Watson
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

**RESOLUTION
21-10
(LISTING FOR SALE
OF REAL ESTATE
PROPERTY)**

- A motion was made during information and discussion to suspend the rules and move item #11 – Resolution 21-10 to action item #4. Vice Chair Michael Campbell read the resolution in its entirety.
- On motion by Director Rick Nagel, seconded by Vice Chair Michael Campbell, to approve Resolution 21-10 as presented.

Ayes: Farrimond, Weathers, Nagel, Campbell, Crawford, McKinnis, Watson
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

RECESS

- 7:00 p.m. – 7:10 p.m.

**FACILITIES/BOND
UPDATE**

- Jon McCalip said the TMS & TES seismic grant applications have been mailed. We are hopeful for good news soon.
With the upcoming masking changes, we have brought in extra help for our custodians for additional sanitizing. Our new HVAC systems exchange the air in our buildings 8 to 10 times per hour.

**FINANCIAL
UPDATE**

- Supt. Barry said that Yazmin would adjust the financials to reflect the ADM security. We will have a financial report the second meeting in April. We are currently working on the 22-23 budget and there are still decisions that need to be made on ESSER and SIA funds.

**LEGISLATIVE /
OSBA UPDATE**

- Supt. Barry was delighted to know both the House and Senate passed the ADM security bill unanimously. It will be a tremendous relief and removes a barrier, especially one with a tremendous amount of emotion that could have re-traumatized our community with the lack of funding.
- Director Sara Crawford said that it has been a fast session and we will be having our final phone call tomorrow with Richard Donovan, who is an OSBA legislative services specialist. OSBA has been watching several bills. One is on mandatory board training and the other is on superintendent protection. The bill for superintendent protection passed

**LEGISLATIVE /
OSBA UPDATE**
(cont.)

but the mandatory board training did not. The bill for defunding the Elliott State Forest passed, and the remaining funds will be directed back to the general school fund.

- Chair Watson said that there are conversations about having a stronger rural vote in OSBA but they are in the beginning stages.
- Chair Watson will be attending an Agency for Government Risk Insurance Pool meeting in Louisiana.
- OSBA board meeting is this Saturday and she will be attending several other virtual meetings as well.
- Vice Chair Michael Campbell said that he would never support our district leaving OSBA.

**ALMEDA FIRE
UPDATE**

- Director Polly Farrimond said the rents for the FEMA trailers would be based on income.
- Hotel rooms that are still being occupied because of the fire is 161 rooms with 273 people; 21 RV spots are still occupied. The Jackson has 84 rooms that are available, 17 are occupied and 17 applications are in process. Royal Oaks is opening with 130 units. A private party is looking at developing affordable housing consisting of 160-165 units in Phoenix.

**DIVERSITY,
EQUITY, &
INCLUSION**

- Director Nancy McKinnis said that the DEI Committee met yesterday. The elementary schools are having a book study with the book "Leading for All". There are 10-15 participants.
- TES had a Black Youth Leadership Summit. The youth had a great time and they felt comfortable seeing other youth that look like them.
- There was a discussion about how to make the ODP program more equitable, more diverse, and more inclusive.
- Supt. Barry said that if the board is interested in attending the restorative justice trainings that is offered to our staff, there are still spots available. It is for four days, which is difficult to do, but its April 13 & 14, the 20 & 21.
- Asst. Supt. Tiffanie Lambert thanked Will Young, who works for United Way, for helping to facilitate the Black Youth Leadership Summit. Mrs. Lambert also thanked Dale Richardson and his team at ESD, and SOU for putting on the event. We had twenty-five students participate.

**2022-2023
ACADEMIC
CALENDAR**

- Supt. Barry referred to the draft 22-23 academic calendar and shared some of the changes. Although it is similar to last year and we still have a post Labor Day start, we will have an additional three days of inservice, which will be prior to school starting. This will allow an opportunity to have some additional professional development.

**DEBRIEF
LISTENING
SESSIONS & SIA
TEAM MEETING**

- Supt. Barry thanked Tiffanie Lambert for leading the listening sessions. Although this is a requirement of SIA, I cannot imagine ever going back to not doing these engagement activities.

**DEBRIEF
LISTENING
SESSIONS & SIA
TEAM MEETING**

(cont.)

- Asst. Tiffanie Lambert thanked her assistant Blancaluz Brossard for being at every listening session and taking good notes. She is also bilingual so that is extremely helpful; Maria Lee, who is our Migrant Education and Title III coordinator for her help with the listening sessions; and Rosa Belem Ochoa, a parent who helped with the listening session for parents with disabilities; and Chair Watson and Director McKinnis for being on the SIA committee.
- Mrs. Lambert is very proud that our district goes beyond just getting survey data. Stakeholder input to take a survey takes access to that and you do not always hear from voices of people and community members that are traditionally under heard. When we have our listening sessions, we specifically target people that we want to hear from.
- We did our listening sessions with students from the high school. We specifically choose high school because they are mature enough to talk about their feelings in a safe space.
- We had listening sessions for our Black and Indigenous people of color, for students with disabilities, for LGBTQ students, and our talented and gifted students. We received some very valuable input from the sessions.
- Today our task with the SIA committee was to take all the comments received and put them in buckets for SIA. The number one priority was safety and mental health, the second is a well-rounded education, the third extended learning opportunities, and fourth is reduced class size.
- We will look at what we want to continue that we funded with SIA, what we want to improve on, and what we feel we do not need anymore.

**INDOOR MASKING
UPDATE/PLANS**

- Supt. Barry shared the most recent guidance from ODE regarding the masking mandates. The updated Ready Schools, Safe Learners' released Wednesday includes timely information for when masks become optional, which is March 12 and the same time the statewide and school mask mandates end. We are making sure that everyone understands masks are optional for both staff and students.

**BUDGET
COMMITTEE
APPLICATIONS**

- Supt. Barry said that we had expected to receive an application or two before the meeting, however we did not. We anticipate receiving some in the next few days and we will get those out to the board right away as the Budget Committee appointment is an action item at the next meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS
FOR FAMILIES AT
SCHOOL EVENTS &
MEETINGS**

- Supt. Barry said that we added interpretation requests to the agenda with prior notification. Having the migrant education students come to a board meeting for graduation rate recognition will hopefully help families feel more comfortable coming to the meetings. We usually have one program report a month for our families and the board.
- Supt. Barry said that it might be time to consider doing a road show with our board meetings to go to the different schools. Getting back into the libraries in the different communities would be more accessible to our families.

**COMMUNICATIONS
FOR FAMILIES AT
SCHOOL EVENTS &
MEETINGS** (cont.)

- Chair Dawn Watson asked how we could make sure we have interpretation at events for families. Supt. Barry said that we have a number of people trained in interpretation in our district; it can just be difficult to have them available.
- Director Nancy McKinnis would like to see us expand our interpretation and language access to be available for all student and family events.

**RESOLUTION 21-
10 (LISTING FOR
SALE OF REAL
ESTATE PROPERTY)**

- Supt. Barry said that we have tried to sell the Coal Mine Road property ourselves for over a year and have had a couple potential buyers but those did not go through. The board has expressed their desire to list the property so this resolution would give the Supt. the authority to engage into a contract with this property.
- Vice Chair Michael Campbell made a motion to suspend the rules and move information and discussion item #11 to an action item #4. Director Rick Nagel seconded the motion.
- On motion by Vice Chair Michael Campbell, seconded by Director Nagel, to suspend the rules and move information and discussion item #11, Resolution 21-10, to an action item #4.

Ayes: Farrimond, Weathers, Nagel, Campbell, Crawford, McKinnis, Watson
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

**REVIEW OF NEXT
MEETING**

- Chair Dawn Watson reviewed the draft agenda for the meeting on Thursday, April 7, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Brent Barry, Clerk of the Board

Dawn Watson, Board Chair

Recording Secretary: Denise Skinner
Board Secretary/Executive Assistant