

PHOENIX-TALENT SCHOOLS
Regular School Board Meeting
Thursday, February 17, 2022
6:00 p.m. – PHS & Virtual Google Meet

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dawn Watson called the meeting to order at 6:04 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, Toby Walker, Shawna Schleif, Curt Shenk, Heather Lowe-Rogers, Kent Vallier, Randy Waite, Dave Ehrhardt, Joe Zavala, Tiffanie Lambert, and Denise Skinner.

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE

- **PTRA Principal Aaron Santi** shared the following:
 - Mr. Santi said last week in our K-5th grade classes only one student missed one day of school. All other students had perfect attendance. The entire 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classes have attained perfect attendance for the past 4 weeks.
 - The older student's class at the Outdoor Discovery Program (ODP) is in the process of participating in the NPR Student Podcast Challenge. The fifth graders will be submitting a podcast to NPR and the third and fourth graders will be recording theirs for themselves and their parents. The topic is "Being a kid in the times of Covid and Fires." Their teacher, Mrs. Ward, will be editing each podcast and providing an intro for each.
 - We have officially entered testing season. All schools will begin ELPA administration this week or next. Smarter Balanced testing will begin at all schools after spring break.
- **PES Principal Shawna Schleif** shared the following:
 - Tuesday was parent-teacher conferences. Mrs. Schleif gave a shout out to all of the teachers and families. It was great to make connections with some of our families.
 - We have a Kindness Campaign going on at PES. Today was tie-dye day and tomorrow is superhero day. Mrs. Schleif gave a shout out to Katie McCormick for her time and effort into creating things like coloring contests, dress up days, and secret pals for the staff. Kate has helped bring up the energy at our school.
 - Mrs. Schleif gave a shout out to Jeff Westergaard for encouraging us to listen to a program this week about grading. It was a remarkable take on what children's perspectives are about grading.
 - Mrs. Schleif also gave a shout out to Katie McCormick and Rheana Knapp, our childhood development specialist, for working hard and helping both students and our classrooms with social-emotional learning. It has made a big impact on our school this year.
 - Mrs. Schleif also recognized front office staff members Lori Delgado and Wendy Duffie. They have been doing a lot of nursing-related care due to an uptick in allergies and sickness, and they have done a great job handling that.

**ACCENTUATE THE
POSITIVE** (cont.)

- Lastly, we had our Core Review meeting last week and we looked at our school wide data. We have decided to do a school wide focus on fluency. Shawn Spillane, our Title teacher, and Pam Ward, our Instructional Coach, led our school in adopting a practice that will use a school wide fluency routine and imbed science and reading into our school.
- **TES Principal Heather Lowe-Rogers** shared the following:
 - Mrs. Lowe-Rogers said that next Thursday morning TES has the privilege of hosting students in the elementary schools in our district for the Black Youth Leadership Summit. Participants will view the conference and have an opportunity to learn about the unique and impressive history of African Americans in our country.
 - Mrs. Lowe-Rogers gave a shout out to Heather Wulff, one of our fourth grade teachers, who has organized a Be Kind campaign targeted for girls in grades three through five.
 - We have forged a new partnership with the OSU extension office and 4H youth programs. Next week we will have our first Electricity Spin Club session exploring electricity and it is for students in grades one through three.
 - Mrs. Lowe-Rogers will be starting a new monthly tradition of Coffee with the Principal once a month. It will be time for the community to come together and chat over a casual cup of coffee.
- **OHES Principal Curt Shenk** shared the following:
 - Mr. Shenk thanked their PTA for putting on the Parent Night Out event last Saturday. We had 26 students who showed up. Mr. Shenk thanked Board Director Sara Crawford for volunteering to help for the evening.
 - Mr. Shenk thanked all the teachers for their efforts to connect and support our families during Tuesday's conferences. The teachers went above and beyond to reach out and make connections. Participation was high and teachers felt that the conferences were very positive and collaborative.
 - Mr. Shenk gave a shout out to Ronda Scoggins for organizing the February Letter writing that is taking place this month. Students throughout the school are writing letters to each other and Mrs. Scoggins' fifth graders are being the mail service and delivering the letters. It is a wonderful activity and great to see hand written letters being exchanged.
- **TMS Principal Kent Vallier** shared the following:
 - Mr. Vallier said that TMS was selected nationally to participate in the NAEP testing. The NAEP coordinator was very complimentary of our kid's attendance and cooperation. Because our attendance was over 90%, they will not have to come back.
 - Mr. Vallier thanked the first grade teachers at TES. They have partnered with some of our students at the middle school as a pen pal and exchanged letters today.

**ACCENTUATE THE
POSITIVE** (cont.)

- Mr. Vallier thanked Felipe Reyes for organizing a Pirates to Raiders event the other night. There were almost 75 parents attending to help support their kids.
- Last week was National School Counselor's Week. Mr. Vallier thanked Derek Rodman and Jordan Ruiz for their great commitment to our kids and our systems at TMS.
- Mr. Vallier also thanked our partners from LaClinica, Kaitlyn Bishop and Carol Schoger who is our new RN. They are very valuable and we thank them for their partnership.
- **PHS Principal Toby Walker** shared the following:
 - Mr. Walker said we had parent conferences last week and the turnout was phenomenal. It was great to see families walk into our building and admire our beautiful facility.
 - National School Counselor Week was last week. We have a phenomenal group of counselors at PHS and Mr. Walker thanked Michelle House, Tami Ingwersen, Angelica Mendoza, Quinn Lyding and Victoria Bencomo. The work they do with students and families connecting them with supports that we cannot provide is crucial to student's attendance and academic success.
 - Tuesday was National SRO day. Mr. Walker gave a shout out to Aaron Hull who is a phenomenal SRO. We are extremely grateful to have Aaron working with our school community. Mr. Walker has worked with several SRO's in his time at PHS and he has never seen someone as well as Aaron is at connecting with students, staff, and parents.
- **Asst. Principal & Athletics Director Dave Ehrhardt** shared the following:
 - We have had several students who have recently competed and earned opportunities to advance to state competitions in the near future.
 - Five girls qualified for this weekend's state swimming meet in Portland. They include Heidi Taylor, Sophia Stubblefield, Aariah Potts, Jaxon Moser and Laurelin Jensen.
 - Two Pirates will represent PHS in the state wrestling tournament in Salem on February 26 and they are Joey Baynard and Marcelo Camargo. Both won district championships in Klamath Falls last weekend.
 - The new facility continues to be used a lot and we are very happy about that. We are hosting volleyball tournaments regularly, and JPAL sports finished last night with 90 little soccer players and families. This spring we will have our own school play right here in the theater and will host a youth ballet.
 - The last of our basketball games is Tuesday night. It is tropical night and senior night. Color guard and pep band will perform and we will have our middle school basketball teams in the crowd.
 - All of our varsity teams are live streamed by our sports media team.

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE (cont.)

- **Director Polly Farrimond** said that the gifts on their tables are from ATI. Polly and Sara Crawford attended the lunch provided by the facilities department so we could all tour their newly remodeled building. Mrs. Farrimond was able to attend and help judge the Speech and Debate tournament that was held at Crater this past weekend. This was the first one in two and half years to be in person. Some Decca competitors are heading to nationals in April. Mrs. Farrimond heard from Ryan Robin, who works at ESD, today and there are some CTE Revitalization grants that have been approved and will affect our schools.
- **Director Sara Crawford** said that Jon McCalip found some historical photos of Phoenix Elementary and Talent High School that are on the wall in the facilities conference room. There is also an old map and it is fun to see some history of the district. Mrs. Crawford gave kudos to ORW and Adroit for joining us at the luncheon and continuing to help us enjoy some great spaces in our district.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- **Student Representative Cedahlia Gorman** shared that Valentine's Day was fun and it was nice to see the students give kindness between friends. We are looking forward to a three-day weekend for Presidents day on Monday. Tomorrow band will be playing pep band music for the last time at the basketball game at 6pm. Color guard will also be performing for their last time tomorrow during half time at the basketball game as well. We are still considering dates for a band concert in March, either the 10th or the 15th. We have two students who are participating in a solo contest and they are Kile Holland and Adriana Hays. Drum line is now up for middle school and high school students to learn drumming and percussion skills.
- **Student Representative Ruby Rector** shared that Leadership just finished passing out suckers for every student at PHS for Valentine's Day. Leadership is starting prom preparations and the plan is to have it at Ashland Springs Hotel. DECA did just finish their competition and three boys and one girl will be going to the National Competition in April.
- **Student Representative Joseph Hiett** said that he is part of the Brain Bowl Club. We are preparing to go to the Brain Bowl Competition at SOU in a couple of weeks. Joseph is taking the school's new financial literacy class. It has been very helpful and the school has done a good job with the curriculum.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

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

- Zac Moody and Mark Laughlin provided in person comments and Lindsey Rusher provided a comment online.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Asst. Supt. Tiffanie Lambert spoke on behalf of Supt. Barry in his absence. As you know, the major topic of conversation is the lifting of the indoor mask mandate in the state of Oregon. Our district team is beginning to plan for the transition. We are gathering information from staff and our families. We have sent out surveys to both families and staff. We know that lifting the indoor mask mandate will create some anxiety, no matter what your feelings are on masks and mandates, but we will do our best to ease the angst and have a safe environment for our students and staff. We will be sure to keep our board and community updated on the progress and transition plan as we near spring break.
- We continue to work with our licensed association through Interest Based Bargaining and we hope to come to agreements prior to leaving for spring break, in time for hiring season so we are in a position to share with potential employees that we have a solid contract in place for the years to come. This is another recruiting and retention tool that we both feel is important.
- HB 4026, ADM security bill, is moving quickly through this session and should be with Ways and Means this week. We will keep you updated on the hearing and how to continue to advocate for this bill.
- Mrs. Lambert referenced policy IIA-AR in their blue folders that clarifies the process if there is a challenge to any instructional material. Our current AR is from 1999 and is a lengthy and cumbersome process that is not very accessible. This new AR is simple, clear and follows reasonable steps. As you know, most AR's do not need formal approval but need to be shared with the board and this is one of those AR's.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes from 2/07/22
- Personnel Report
- Board Policy Rewrite Sections C & D

- Chair Dawn Watson presented the Consent Agenda for review which included the following:
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Minutes of 2/07/22 Regular Board Meeting
 - Personnel Report
 - Board Policy Rewrite Sections C & D

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

**SOESD LOCAL
SERVICES PLAN
FOR 22-23**

- Chair Watson referred to the SOESD Local Service Plan and asked for comment. Asst. Supt. Tiffany Lambert said that we do feel this plan meets the District's needs.
- On motion by Director Rick Nagel, seconded by Director Polly Farrimond, to approve the 22-23 SOESD Local Service Plan and Student Success Act Comprehensive Support Plan as presented, was approved as per the following vote:

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

RECESS

- 6:47 p.m. – 6:54 p.m.

**FACILITIES/BOND
UPDATE**

- Asst. Supt. Tiffanie Lambert referred to the memo from Jon McCalip regarding surplus items. This will be an action item at the next meeting. If the board does agree to declare the items as surplus, they will go to auction.

**FINANCIAL
UPDATE**

- Yazmin Karabinas, Director of Accounting referred to the financial report as of 1/31/22 and gave a brief summary.

**LEGISLATIVE /
OSBA UPDATE**

- Chair Watson said that tomorrow the Ways and Means Subcommittee should pass HB 4026.
- Barbara Smith Warner has asked for a budget note to invest in a literacy-training program. Our District has three elementary schools that would receive funding if it passes.
- OSBA has a video for their new slogan, which is 'We're here for you'.
- Legislation policy has changed the way we format our goals for the next legislative session. We want to hear from all boards in the region and make sure they feel they have a voice.
- Director Sara Crawford said that there is a legislative call on Fridays with updates on bills. One is on mandatory board training on what members can and cannot do, and there is a bill regarding protection for Superintendents so that they cannot be fired for following state law. Since the state budget is doing really well, there are many legacy projects proposed.
- Chair Watson said that the school board mandatory training will be about what you can and cannot do in the beginning, but they are trying to make it flexible to cover board requested topics such as DEI or budgeting.

ALMEDA FIRE UPDATE

- Asst. Supt. Tiffanie Lambert said that the last she heard, there were ten trailers that were still available but are quickly filling up at Gateway.
- Director Sara Crawford said that on this evening's news, they mentioned that the families in the FEMA trailers will have to start paying rent as of April 1 and the proposed rents are very high.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

- Chair Dawn Watson said that she would present a summary of his evaluation at the next board meeting. During the evaluation, there were several good conversations; but, due to the format of the evaluation, the whole board did not have an opportunity to weigh in with their comments. Chair Watson feels that some of the things discussed would be good topics to include as future information and discussion items on the agenda for clarification.

TEACHER & ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT RENEWALS

- Chair Dawn Watson asked Asst. Supt. Tiffanie Lambert for comment. Asst. Supt. Tiffanie Lambert said that the annual notice to give staff for their renewals is March 15. There will be a recommendation to the board at the next meeting.

SIA UPDATE

- Asst. Supt. Tiffanie Lambert referenced a document in their blue folders. This document contains slides of the presentation that will be presented to the community during the Community Listening Sessions. February 24 will be a session for parents of students with disabilities, and on February 28 there will be for a general session. The meeting for our English speaking families is from 5:00-5:45 and for our Spanish speaking families from 5:45-6:30. Information shared in the document included the following:
- Funds from **SIA 2021-2022** were spent on:
 - Instructional assistants for all kindergarten and first grade classrooms
 - La Clinica and Family Solutions to provide mental health professionals in every building
 - SOESD to support a school counselor fluent in ASL for our Deaf students
 - Talent School Resource Officer
 - Bilingual aides
 - Speech-Language Pathologist
 - Elementary Music Teachers
- Funds from **ESSER 2021-2022** were spent on:
 - School nursing through Asante
 - HVAC Upgrades
 - Talent Middle School counselor
 - School psychologist intern
 - Alternative education teacher
 - Phoenix-Talent Rising Academy
 - Family Engagement and Homeless Specialist
 - Safety road signs/flashers in Phoenix

- Instructional coaches
- New Chromebook filters
- TMS Music Teacher
- Vape sensors in restrooms

**REVIEW OF NEXT
MEETING**

- Chair Dawn Watson reviewed the draft agenda for the meeting on Thursday, March 3, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Brent Barry, Clerk of the Board

Dawn Watson, Board Chair

Recording Secretary: Denise Skinner
Board Secretary/Executive Assistant