

# ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## School Board Meeting and Executive Session

Fullerton IV Elementary School

2560 W Bradford Court

Roseburg, Oregon 97471

Available via Zoom

Vol 5 No. 13

February 7, 2024

### Board Members:

Rodney D. Cotton, Chair

Steve Hammerson

Rev. Howard Johnson, Vice-Chair

Ann Krimetz

Michael Leone

Andrea Miner

Andrew Shirtcliff

### Administration:

Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent

Michelle Knee, Assistant Superintendent

Cheryl Northam, Director of Finance and Operations

Melissa Roberts, Director of Student Services

Jill Weber, Director of Teaching and Learning

## SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

**TIME/PLACE:** A meeting of the Douglas County School District No. 4 Board of Directors was convened on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fullerton IV Elementary School multi-purpose room, 2560 W Bradford Drive, Roseburg, Oregon, in person and available via Zoom link.

**CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Board Chair, Rodney D. Cotton, called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and invited Director Ann Krimetz to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Cotton also advised the audience that Board meetings are recorded for future viewing and to please silence their cell phones. Anyone wishing to be part of Public Participation was asked to complete a card at the entrance to the room and cards will be collected prior to Public Participation. Our Zoom link is available for family and friends unable to attend the student and staff recognitions. No media representatives announced themselves.

Chair Cotton thanked Principal Russ Bolin and the Sunnyslope staff for preparing this space for us tonight.

### **PRINCIPAL REPORT – FULLERTON IV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

*Home of the Panthers!*

*Our Mission: To provide all children at Fullerton IV School with a positive, secure, and uniquely structured environment in which to learn and to recognize that all children are capable of learning.*

**School Principal, Russ Bolin**

Members of the Fullerton IV student council shared a warm welcome to the Board, parents, students and community members before introducing their Principal, Russ Bolin. During a school tour this afternoon, Mr. Bolin had expressed his appreciation for the security fencing on the campus. The school will be included in the next phase of security fencing installation and the main office area will be expanded to accommodate the security vestibule. Russ also pointed out the moment beams installed during the seismic rehabilitation project to enhance stability of the structures in the event of an earthquake. The current school site is actually the fourth ideation of the school, with the first having been the Humanities Building on the RHS campus. The second was the KPIC building. The third was the current Fremont Middle School constructed after the Roseburg blast. It was pointed out that residents adjacent to the school have proven to be good stewards of the school, and staff

work with them to accommodate requests to utilize outdoor areas when school is not in session. Modularity installed in recent years help to assure students receive services within their own building. Separate recess areas group children by grade levels K-1, 2-3 and 4-5. Russ emphasized the positive impact of Fullerton IV's culture in helping students learn the value of "Respect, Love, Integrity & being Connected." A shared vision for student learning strives to create a positive, engaging learning environment that promotes a positive mindset to support students in feeling connected, safe, confident, and challenged. To assist students in their academic growth, a vision for teacher learning emphasizes a clear purpose to improve academic and SEL instruction, immediately actionable and relevant. Student assessment data was shared along with school goals supported by Fullerton's Continuous Plan of Improvement. Steps being taken to pursue aggressive academic goals were presented as well. Principal Bolin pointed out that student assessment percentages don't reflect just numbers, as these are our kids. Every day, staff work to make sure that every kid is growing, loved, cared for and pushed to succeed. He summed it up by sharing that *Kid by Kid*, the team at Fullerton IV Elementary is doing the work!

Principal Bolin also shared that it has been a pleasure to do this job and be with this staff. Reflecting on his history with the district over the past 34 years, 2023-24 has been a blessing and highlight of his career. He previously was involved with many state championships, but nothing has compared to his time at Fullerton IV.

Chair Cotton thanked Principal Bolin, adding that they have had many great years of working together!

#### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

Leadership students Hannah Heuberger and Apollonia Heap celebrated the new level of safety afforded by the new vestibule system in place at the school entrance. The 2024 RHS yearbook will be the largest ever with 316 pages! The local courthouse recently hosted 75 students in a mock trial competition. ASTRA Club is creating Valentine cards for local veterans. Recent fundraisers were held to benefit the band and theater departments. Cheer competes at state this Saturday. Unified basketball plays Feb. 21 at 6:00 p.m. Our swim team competes at districts this Friday and Saturday in Eugene. The last home dual meet for wrestling happens tonight. Boys and girls soccer hosts a Monday kick-around at 5:30 p.m. on Finlay Field. Asher Vredenburg was selected WaFed Bank's Oregon Boys Basketball player of the week with over 16,000 votes. Spring sport registration has begun and will be completed by February 21st. Auditions were held for the Arts Assembly scheduled for Feb. 23rd. Video messages mirroring morning announcements are getting information to as many students as possible. Leadership students are busy working on the Arts Assembly, Kindness Week, Senior Family Brunch, publicity, and Prom. A second round of club grants will be awarded to help fund extracurriculars popular at the school.

#### **STUDENT / STAFF RECOGNITION**

Director Michael Leone had the honor and privilege of recognizing worthy students this evening. Recipients received certificates and McDonald's gift cards. Honorees this evening included:

#### ***Scarlett Brown, Fifth Grade Student at Fullerton IV Elementary School***

Scarlett Brown is, quite literally, every teacher's dream. Scarlett spends her time always trying to be her best. And she takes pride in doing so. In the classroom, she competes only with herself and uses her mad skills and quick mind to empower others around her. She works hard and produces work of the highest quality every single time. She applies this same mentality to her athleticism, and she shines on the court and as a teammate, as well. Although Fullerton staff say they have no doubt that Scarlett can achieve anything she desires, it would not be surprising to someday find her pacing the floors of her very own classroom, getting down where her students

are to guide and help them up. There will truly be a hole to fill when she leaves Fullerton and starts her adventures in middle school next year.

**Congratulations, Scarlett!**

***Cayde Baumgartner, Sixth Grade Student at Joseph Lane Middle School***

Cayde puts forth 100% effort into everything he does. He consistently exhibits a strong work ethic and actively contributes valuable insights during class discussion. On a daily basis, you can observe the high level of respect and empathy that Cayde shows toward his peers and teachers. He shows a willingness to help and even mentor other students. Cayde is someone who uses good judgement and does the right things when he thinks no one is looking.

He is a joy to have in all his classes, and Joseph Lane staff are so proud to have him represent the school.

**Congratulations, Cayde!**

***August Hastings, Eleventh Grade Student at Roseburg High School***

August is an exemplary student, characterized by his inquisitive and unwavering approach to learning. August is unafraid to grapple with complex questions and problems that lack clear solutions, showcasing a relentless determination to grow and develop. Beyond intellectual prowess, August has also exhibited compassion and empathy toward peers and the wider community. Notably, August extended a helping hand to a struggling student earlier this year despite not having any personal connection with them, revealing exceptional character beyond academic excellence. RHS firmly believes that August is a deserving candidate for this recognition.

**Congratulations, August!**

Vice-Chair Johnson expressed that it was his honor and extreme privilege to present Crystal Apple Awards to the following staff members:

***Brea Lollar, Skills Trainer at Fullerton IV Elementary School***

You don't have to spend a long time at Fullerton to experience the magic that is Brea Lollar. She is equal parts assertive and loving, logical and passionate, empathetic, just and kind. Her presence alone provides peace and calm for students and staff. There is no call that needs answering, no student who needs comforting, no problem that needs solving that Brea cannot handle. She is the person you want in your corner on any given day. Brea is consistent, dependable, and loyal. And she can always tell you when the next full moon is happening. With nearly 20 years of experience in education, Fullerton is fortunate that she has spent her last 13 years making the school her home. From working in the Learning Resource Center, to the Turn-Around Program, and now as a Skills Trainer, Brea has become an integral part of the culture and ethos that make Fullerton unique. Brea makes a difference, every day, one kid at a time.

**Congratulations, Brea!**

***Crystal Apple: "Unwavering, consistent, calm, caring and compassionate. The Best!"***

*Kevin South, Third Grade Teacher at Fullerton IV Elementary School*

The moment you meet Mr. South, you can instantly tell that some of his biggest influences are Mr. Rogers, Patch Adams, and all the doctors from Dr. Who. He is generous and empathetic, he is humorous and silly, he always tries to be nice and never fails to be kind. Everything Mr. South does is with kids in mind. He has organized the school garden, started a Bananagrams club at lunch, he teaches kids to knit, and invites members of the community to be guest speakers in his class. At recess you can often find him walking the track with kids who are having a hard day and talking them through it. As teachers, we call the students in our class “our kids”, but Mr. South doesn’t just do that with his class, he does it with ALL students at Fullerton. Once you’ve had Mr. South as a teacher, or been a student at Fullerton, you are one of his kids. He truly believes and lives the phrase: *“It takes a village.”*

**Congratulations, Kevin!**

***Crystal Apple: “Unwavering, patience, love, loyalty, empathy and just a great human.”***

**BRIEF RECESS:** On behalf of the Board, Chair Cotton thanked the attendees for coming tonight to support the honorees and offered a brief break to allow an opportunity for those who wished to depart for the evening. The meeting was recessed at 6:35 p.m. and reconvened at 6:40 p.m.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Asst. Superintendent Michelle Knee asked for any cards to be submitted from anyone interested in addressing the Board. Mr. Jeff Paschall, local resident, and pastor of Journey Roseburg, announced a seminar/workshop “Screen Strong” taking place this Friday. He thanked Directors Krimetz and Miner for their support for this effort addressing social impacts of screen addiction and the suspected social, emotional, and psychological impact to our culture. He suggested that too much screen time affects those with attention deficit disorder, diminishes authority of teachers and administrators and is becoming a big issue. The event is free Friday evening at 6 p.m. in the Rose Theatre and again Saturday at 11 a.m. for parents, families, and children of all ages.

**ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**ATTENDANCE:** Board members and Cabinet members attended in person. No media representatives were in attendance.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA / COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

Superintendent Cordon welcomed everyone present in person, as well as those who were joining the meeting remotely. He further noted that since initial publication, no changes to the agenda have been made.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Consent Agenda was presented for consideration, including approval of the Consent Agenda, Minutes from the January 10 and 24 Board meetings; Minutes from the January 17<sup>th</sup> Curriculum & Instruction Committee meeting; Listing of Surplus Items and Gifts to the District, as well as personnel actions listed below:

**Recommendation for Employment:**

- Roseburg High School
  - Michael Pardon, Social Science Teacher (a temporary position for 2023-2024)  
PERS working retired

**Notices of Resignation:**

**Licensed Staff:**

- Roseburg High School
  - Corrie Bernard, Math Teacher, effective March 31, 2024
- Fullerton IV Elementary School
  - Crystal Loftin, TAP Teacher, effective at the end of the school year
  - Susan Prouty, TAP Teacher, effective January 31, 2024
- Hucrest Elementary School
  - Tammi Hausman, LRC Teacher, effective January 31, 2024

Director Steve Hammerson moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Andrew Shirtcliff seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M5-045 Approved the Consent Agenda

**RESOLUTION 23-24-10: CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION WEEK: March 4-8, 2024**

Classified School Employee Week is celebrated every year during the first full week of March. Classified school employees go above and beyond for Oregon schools every day. They keep Oregon students healthy, nourished and learning, no matter what. While their work is often unrecognized, these dedicated civil servants do important jobs that are essential to our schools. This Classified School Employees Week, we would like to share our heartfelt gratitude with all of our hardworking classified staff members. These individuals work in our following areas:

- Library
- Maintenance
- Office
- Security
- Warehouse
- Computer/Technical
- Custodial
- Educational Support
- Food Service

After reading the Resolution designating March 4-8, 2024, as Classified School Employees Week, Chair Cotton shared a memory of being taken care of by the custodian and office folks one day when he ended up in a puddle. Mrs. Gordon got him cleaned up and dry. He further recalled his mother working in school kitchens for 35 years before retiring. Chair Cotton thanked all classified employees, and Director Ann Krimetz shared her strong belief that they need to be acknowledged as she deeply appreciates the work that they do. She encouraged employees to keep working to make a difference in our kids' lives. We know how very important you are!

Director Steve Hammerson moved to approve Resolution 23-24-10: Classified Employee Appreciation Week. Director Andrea Miner seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M5-046 Approved Resolution 23-24-10:  
Classified Employee Week - March 4-8, 2024

## REPORTS

### PHOENIX CHARTER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE ANNUAL REVIEW

Phoenix Executive Director, Thomas McGregor, presented data related to student academic objectives and standards, sharing that multiple performance standards were not being met.

For the 2022-2023 reporting year, Oregon Dept. of Education data showed that 28 of 165 Phoenix students met the 90% attendance threshold. Twenty-nine of 67 students in the four-year cohort completed with a standard diploma, GED or modified diploma, not meeting the standard. The five-year cohort included 32 of 68 students as completers, not meeting the standard.

Fifty-five percent of students demonstrated one year or more grade level improvement in English Language Arts (ELA), and 60% demonstrated one year or more grade level improvement in mathematics.

The Phoenix School Improvement Plan includes:

- System implementation
- Engagement and Re-engagement plans
- Increased club activities and employment opportunities
- Curriculum and Assessment Inventory
- Student Engagement
- Technology Integration
- Parent Engagement
- Professional Development
- Regular Monitoring
- Invest in Technology
- Enhance in Communication Strategies

Executive Director McGregor shared that community households continue to choose Phoenix for students with complex barriers (economically disadvantaged, homelessness, mental health challenges, disabilities, etc.) to further explore routes and obtain academic success of their student.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** *(slide deck follows)*

Superintendent Cordon shared his celebration of the super, awesome and amazing kids, staff and community we have in Roseburg. In CTE, our RHS woodshop students created Lego trays for elementary students. Eastwood students were treated to a fishing and jet boat trip as part of the 2024 Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby; and our middle school students are practicing math skills with the Cribbage Club with the help of community members.

In celebration of Career and Technical Education Month, students who earned at least one credit in a CTE program in 2023 graduated at a rate of more than 95% in 2023. Kudos to RHS CTE Instructors. You Rock!

Superintendent Cordon announced that OSAA has approved a temporary realignment of our football conference for the next two seasons. The 5A conference is strong with teams including Churchill, North and South Eugene, Willamette, Thurston, Springfield, Crater and Eagle Point High Schools. Please join us in welcoming Matt Watson as our new RHS Head Football Coach!

The sports complex at RHS is expected to be ready for the spring season softball opener on March 13th. To support this generational investment, we have begun soliciting for a potential corporate sponsor.

The district currently has three vacant positions on the Budget Committee. We have received inquiries from five individuals willing to serve, and we are excited to bring those names forward to the board on March 13<sup>th</sup>. It will be exciting to have a full budget committee to begin that critical work.

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS**

Director Andrea Miner shared how impressed she is with the kids. Huge thank you cards were prepared by the Fremont leadership students for the Board, and it was clear they did their homework. The Fullerton IV students presenting tonight was the cherry on top! We are raising leaders, such as the leadership students from the high school who present to the Board. She recalled doing the same thing while attending high school in Eugene, and look where we are now! These students will have an impact on their communities.

Director Steve Hammerson announced that he would be scheduling a Building & Sites Committee meeting within the next few weeks. He asked Supt. Cordon if our football team would be competitive in the 5A division of OSAA. Mr. Cordon shared that it depends, but if we grow this program into what we hope it can be, the goal would be for athletes to have a fantastic experience on the field, grow a love for the game and learn the skills they need to be competitive. It will be exciting to play new teams as some of them have great athletes. Hopefully it will build momentum of a rebuild, with our student athletes growing and achieving and more of them being interested in playing. Vice-Chair Johnson noted that both Willamette and South Eugene are playing down. Jared added that when he recently attended a basketball ball game playing a school from 4J, the gym was packed and parents didn't care who won. We want kids to go out, compete, and play well. He explained that this adjustment was something he and then Athletic Director Bolen had talked about 3-4 years ago. The timing is now right; the momentum at RHS is right; and we hope to win a state championship at 5A.

Director Ann Krimetz shared her love of football. She wonders if this change will open the door for other kids who didn't think they were super skilled, to join in and get great. She believes we have to support kids completely, their whole being. The Student Services Committee accompanied Director Melissa Roberts in visiting some of our schools that include special needs programs to learn what's available to our students. In some ways, these programs are growing and we must keep that in mind as we make decisions regarding space and funding. She was pleased to see that such solid services for our kids in Douglas County. Thank you, Melissa!

Director Michael Leone shared a wondering that if we do well in football, do we think Taylor Swift would come here?!

Chair Cotton heard that CBS will cover the Superbowl. He expects half of the game and half Taylor Swift. He echoed Directors Minor and Krimetz in praising the tour of programs located at Hucrest, Fir Grove and Melrose, adding that it was one of his favorite tours ever as they observed staff who were fantastic and amazing. Our general population doesn't see that. He became emotional when he returned to his car, thinking about what some of the children will be like later on. He would like to see more board members have the same opportunity to tour. The staff they came in contact with are angels in his opinion.

**ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR SESSION:** With regular business before the Board concluded, and with no objections, Chair Cotton announced that the next meeting will take place at the central office on February 21,



2024, at 6:00 p.m. He then adjourned the regular meeting at 8:00 p.m. and announced the board would take a brief recess and reconvene in Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i) and (d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations and for the board and superintendent to continue their evaluation check in process.

The next board meeting, a work session, is scheduled for February 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the central office Board Room located at 1419 NW Valley View Drive in Roseburg, Oregon, and available by Zoom. We will be hearing about Oregon State Assessment Data for Roseburg Public Schools and Director Howard Johnson will be sharing insights on the topic of racism and cultural manifestations impacting our kids and community.

### **Executive Session**

Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d)

Chairman Cotton convened Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) at 8:05 p.m. All Board members were present. Superintendent Cordon and his Cabinet were present, along with Budget and Accounting Manager, Danielle Littlefield.

With negotiations concluded, Board Chair Cotton excused Cabinet and budget members and continued Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2)(i) to continue the board/superintendent evaluation check-in process.

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** With discussion concluded, the Executive Session was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

**Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent**

JPC/jlk

**Next Meeting:** Board Meeting, February 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the central office Board Room located at 1419 NW Valley View Drive in Roseburg, Oregon and available via Zoom.