

# ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## School Board Regular Meeting

Roseburg High School  
400 W Harvard Avenue  
Roseburg, Oregon 97470

Available via Zoom

Vol 5 No. 17

April 10, 2024

### Board Members:

Rodney D. Cotton, Chair   
Steve Hammerson   
Rev. Howard Johnson, Vice-Chair  Zoom  
Ann Krimetz   
Michael Leone   
Andrea Miner   
Andrew Shirtcliff

### Administration:

Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent   
Michelle Knee, Assistant Superintendent  Exc.  
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, April 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Roseburg High School Media Center, 400 W Harvard Blvd, Roseburg, Oregon, in person and available via Zoom link.

**ATTENDANCE:** Board members and Cabinet members attended in person, with Rev. Johnson intending to attend via Zoom. No media representatives announced themselves.

**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. Patrons may also contact board members via email.

Chair Cotton thanked Principal Dave Vickery and his team for setting up the space tonight, central office staff and Technology Coordinator Matt Hill for taking care of the technical pieces. Principal Vickery earlier led the Board on a tour of the campus, spending time in the CTE building.

### ***PRINCIPAL REPORT – Roseburg High School***

***Mission Statement: Roseburg High School is a place of opportunity to attain knowledge and become productive, independent citizens who live PRIDE!***

Principal David Vickery led a tour of RHS and reviewed student assessment data. He shared details of comprehensive action plans within specific areas being addressed in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade on Track, Language Arts, Math and Graduation rates that are being monitored throughout this year. He also publicly thanked the elementary and middle schools for preparing students for high school, where his staff is ready to take it from there! He reminded everyone to remember that children are all human beings and staff are doing their best to help them succeed in accordance with our Strategic Plan, which grounds their work moving forward. Dave shared the RHS vision for student learning experience:

**RHS students experience a safe, equitable and positive environment where students belong, take risks, collaborate, persevere, and engage in meaningful, relevant learning in order to meet their personal potential. Students are empowered, curious learners, effective problem solvers, and critical thinkers who achieve their goals, strive for excellence, celebrate success and are prepared to contribute to their communities throughout their lives.**

RHS prioritizes a Professional Learning Theory of Action. Dave pointed out that by prioritizing learning opportunities, providing support and feedback, and fostering meaningful discourse among teachers, we can create an environment that encourages substantive student conversations and intellectual engagement that increases opportunities for students to self-assess and take ownership of all phases of their own learning throughout the school. With 40 advanced placement and dual credit classes, he shared that staff are preparing to increase that to over 50 classes being offered for the 2024-25 school year. He gave kudos to P-20 Coordinator, Brett Steinacher, for his efforts in making this happen for our students. CTE programs in business and marketing, health occupations, hospitality, tourism & recreation, carpentry, early childhood education, manufacturing, agriculture and resources, automotive and drafting are providing awe-inspiring opportunities for kids to work on areas they will want to continue to pursue. Along with CTE, athletic and club activities involved students outside the classroom as we strive to have something to offer every student. When asked about student assessment data, Principal Vickery confirmed that he would not be satisfied with anything under 99.9% but was quick to point out that with his front row seat, he gets to see first-hand how hard students are working and how much they want to improve. He is very proud of what we are doing to support these kids.

Chair Cotton thanked Principal Vickery for hosting tonight and sharing highlights of the RHS experience.

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

Leadership students Hannah Heuberger and Sylvia Eckman shared that students are applying for leadership positions for next year. Prom planning is in full swing, along with homecoming activities including Volleybuff. Recent results of lacrosse, softball, baseball, tennis, and track were reported. Next year's incoming freshman class was invited to campus last week for the annual PRIDE Night. They learned about electives and opportunities available to RHS students. This weekend, over 1600 track and field athletes will participate in the Jim Robinson Twilight Invitational, while the baseball team hosts a double-header on Saturday. For the 14th year, RHS band has qualified for competition at state. The band program collaborated in a concert with our middle school programs this week. Four staff members were each awarded Fund for Teachers Grants from Ford Family Foundation to enhance curriculum experiences.

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

Director Andrew Shirtcliff had the pleasure of presenting honorary certificates and McDonald's gift cards to worthy students this evening. Honorees this evening included:

##### ***Henry Anderson, Tenth Grade Student at Roseburg High School***

Henry is a remarkable student who is hardworking, compassionate, and bright. His classmates enjoy working with him because he listens to their ideas and provides his own insights in a gentle and non-threatening manner, without any ego involved. Henry has a love for learning, he strives to enhance his knowledge for his own sake, rather than just for the sake of achieving an "A" on his report card. He is considerate, conscientious, and focused on his studies and cares about his learning because he sees it as an investment in himself, not merely a means to an end. Henry makes learning enjoyable for everyone.

**Congratulations, Henry!**

***Alex VanGordon, Eleventh Grade Student at Roseburg High School***

Alex is truly a remarkable person. He is always wearing a bright smile on his face and has an incredible ability to treat others with kindness and generosity. He is an active member of the marching band's color guard, which is an incredibly demanding activity that requires a lot of skill and dedication. However, Alex has tackled this new challenge with a great deal of perseverance and hard work, and he has become an integral part of the team. Alex is equally impressive as a student. He is diligent, well-liked by his classmates and isn't afraid to ask for help when he needs it. Everyone admires his eagerness to learn and willingness to seek clarification when needed. What makes Alex truly exceptional is his positive attitude, and his willingness to lend a hand to others and participate in activities that benefit the community. Alex is a role model for his peers, and everyone looks up to him for his remarkable determination and unyielding spirit.

**Congratulations, Alex!**

With Vice-Chair Johnson participating via Zoom this evening, Director Andrea Miner expressed that it was her honor and extreme privilege to present Crystal Apple Awards to the following staff members:

***Kristin Brooks, Science Teacher at Roseburg High School***

When you think of the “do everything teacher”, the person who comes to mind is Kristin Brooks. Not only does she engage with energy to lead her students toward success, but she also uses her vast knowledge and expertise to guide them toward achieving their goals. She is compassionate and genuinely cares about the well-being of all her students. Kristin is also an exceptional and effective division leader. She stays on top of relevant communication with her teacher team and with leadership, ensuring that everyone is on the same page and working toward a common goal. Additionally, she is a mentor for teachers on her team and provides guidance and support as needed. She is active in a variety of non-academic school activities as well. She represents RHS teachers in the Roseburg Education Association, sponsors campus clubs, and has held leadership positions in school functions like Link Crew. Overall, Kristen is an exceptional teacher-leader who is dedicated, hardworking, and passionate about her work.

**Congratulations, Kristin!**

***Crystal Apple: “Enthusiastically Reliable, Builder of Relationships, Do It All Leader”***

***Joni Carlson, Data Support Specialist, Roseburg High School***

Joni is an exceptional individual who consistently goes above and beyond to help others. Her expertise, skills, and talents are vast, and she is always willing to share them with anyone who requires her assistance. Whether it be working on the RHS website, working with students to improve behavior, or her main job of State Testing, Joni's unwavering dedication to her work is evident and remarkable. Whenever faced with a difficulty, Joni is always there to provide a solution. Joni has consistently demonstrated exemplary work habits, maintaining a high standard of quality in her work. Her positive work relationships and professionalism contribute significantly to the positive atmosphere within the various departments she supports, Joni's commitment to excellence and collaborative spirit make her a valuable asset to the RHS community.

**Congratulations, Joni!**

***Crystal Apple: “Positive, Fun, Professional, Committed, Helpful and Relationship Builder”***

Congratulations to each of tonight's recipients!

**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 6:30 p.m. and reconvened at 6:39 p.m.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There was no one wishing to address the board this evening.

## **ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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

Superintendent Cordon welcomed everyone present in person, as well as those who were joining the meeting remotely. One additional retirement notice was added to the Consent Agenda. He noted that Assistant Superintendent Knee is excused as she is attending a job-fair in Portland. Roseburg Education Association (REA) President David Morrocco is participating in that recruiting event as well.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Board approved the Consent Agenda, including approval of the Agenda; Minutes from the February 21st and March 5th Board meetings; Committee minutes; Curriculum & Instruction (Feb. 28 and March 20); Building & Sites (March 6) Surplus items; Gifts to the district; and the following personnel actions:

#### Licensed Hire Recommendation for 2023-24:

Casey Hart, Math Teacher at RHS (temporary position)

#### Administration

Russell Bolin, Principal of Fullerton IV Elementary School

#### Licensed Hire Recommendations for 2024-25 school year:

- Dean Friesen, Ed Center Teacher \*\*
- Jennifer Higgins, Language Arts Teacher at Roseburg High School\*\*
- Kristina Kelso, PE Teacher at Sunnyslope\*\*
- Jill Kraack, PE Job-Share at Hucrest Elementary School (was a temporary position)
- Joannie McLain, Second Grade Teacher at Melrose\*\*

\*\* PERS Working Retired

#### Notices of Resignation:

- Rachel Adkins, First Grade Teacher – Fullerton IV, resigning after starting this year with the district;
- Michele Bain, Fifth Grade Teacher – Hucrest, after nine years in the district;
- Julie Cherry, Choir Teacher – Roseburg High School, after six years in the district;
- James Early, Career Center Counselor – Roseburg High School, retiring after 25 years in the district;
- Stephanie Hutchins, SpEd Teacher – Joseph Lane MS, after 30 years in education, 17 of them with the district (will be working retired next year);
- Adam Kopf, Social Studies Teacher - Fremont MS, resigning after starting in August of this school year;
- Theresa Lindstrom, Third Grade Teacher – Sunnyslope, retiring after 31 years of teaching, 19 of them with the district;
- Patricia “Trish” McCracken, retiring after 28 years in education, 18 of them with the district;
- Jennifer Morrow, Fifth Grade Teacher – Melrose, retiring after 34 years of teaching with the district;
- Kathryn Spears, Third Grade Teacher – Melrose, retiring after 40 years of teaching in the district;
- Allison Swearingen, Fifth Grade Teacher – Eastwood, resigning after two years with the district;
- Michele Weaver, Fourth Grade Teacher – Hucrest, retiring after 35 years with the district; and
- Donald Zell, Automotive Teacher – RHS, resigning after six years with the district.

Unless otherwise noted, resignations are effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Director Steve Hammerson moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Andrea Miner seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M5-056 Approved the Consent Agenda

### **RESOLUTION 23-24-11: NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**

Chairman Rodney Cotton read Resolution 23-24-11: National Teacher Appreciation Week aloud acknowledging the critical role our educators play in improving the lives of the children we serve.

Director Andrea Miner moved to approve Resolution 23-24-11: National Teacher Appreciation Week, May 6-10, 2024. Director Michael Leone seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M5-057 Approved Resolution 23-24-11  
National Teacher Appreciation Week

### **INTRODUCTION OF S+B JAMES CONSTRUCTION COMPANY VICE PRESIDENT, TERRY MACKEY**

Superintendent Cordon introduced Terry Mackey, a Vice-President for S+B James, noting that they have been voted one of the top 100 Oregon businesses. Mr. Mackey has proven to be a problem-solver with direct and transparent communication skills. Our Building & Sites Committee had requested that Mr. Mackey attend a board meeting, providing them with an opportunity to meet and ask any questions. The firm will be involved with upcoming construction projects including security vestibules, the RHS Arts storage facility, and Hucrest restroom. Mr. Mackey expressed excitement for the RHS CTE programs, noting that construction is an aging industry, and if students can master a trade, they can go anywhere and get a job. He further assured the Board that S+B prides itself on finishing projects on time and hopes to continue to partner with the district and support our local community. Superintendent Cordon gave a shout out to district administrators Cheryl Northam and Tracy Grauf as well as S+B's team for meeting our expectations of completing projects on time and on budget.

### **REPLACEMENT OF RHS FIELD LIGHTING**

With existing outdoor field lighting no longer meeting the needs of our student athletes, the Board was asked to approve a request to purchase lights and installation from Musco Sports Lighting at a cost of \$300,500 made possible through Energy Trust of Oregon incentives and grant funds through Senate Bill 1149 and SIA.

Director Steve Hammerson moved to approve the purchase of replacement field lighting for RHS as presented. Director Andrea Miner seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously. Director Miner received confirmation that no funding will be required from our General Fund.

M5-058 Approved purchase of replacement  
field lighting at Roseburg High School

### **POLICY DID: CAPITAL ASSET INVENTORIES, for First Reading**

Director of Finance and Operations, Cheryl Northam, shared that during an ESSER review, it was pointed out that we lack a current Fixed Asset Policy. During our OSBA policy review process, that policy was not required, but we now are recommending moving forward with Policy DID.

Director Andrea Miner moved to approve Policy DID: CAPITAL ASSET INVENTORIES, for First Reading. Director Ann Krimetz seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M5-059 Approved Policy DID: Capital Asset  
Inventories, for First Reading

## **POLICY EFA: LOCAL WELLNESS, for First Reading**

During a Nutrition Services review, it was recommended that the Board take action to approve new language within Policy EFA to bring us into compliance with federal and state legislation.

Director Andra Miner moved to approve Policy EFA: LOCAL WELLNESS, for First Reading. Director Ann Krimetz seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M5-060	Approved Policy EFA: Local Wellness, for First Reading
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## **REPORTS**

### **CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION – March 20, 2024**

Committee Chairman, Michael Leone, reported that the committee met March 20 to discuss reading and math data at the middle and high school level. Dr. Jill Weber provided an explanation of the numbers, and Mr. Leone shared that, as Principal Vickery mentioned earlier, while the numbers aren't where we want to be (here or nationally), there is a plan for improvement and Dr. Weber is on it! Committee members were informed that data is used by teachers to develop lessons and meet the learning needs of individual students. Administrators use data to review grade level and systems growth. The goal is always to ensure our students graduate with a plan for their most successful future. Assessment requirements at all levels were discussed. Remaining state assessments will be taking place following spring break. Next year, formative math assessments for high school students will be added to better focus instruction.

The state's Early Literacy Grant will support summer learning for elementary students who need additional literacy support during summer months. And our science teachers are in the process of piloting the three selected options as we look to maintain consistency throughout the K-12 student experience.

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

Leaders from the Oregon Dept. of Education recently toured some of our classrooms and the CTE building at RHS to learn more about our incredible programs, hoping to replicate their success in other districts. Superintendent Cordon shared exciting events and experiences being enjoyed by our amazing students. RHS FCCLA and FBLA students competed at state, with some qualifying for national competitions. Sunnyslope School hosted Family Literacy/STEAM Night featuring community partners. And our middle schools are partnering in "The Little Mermaid Jr." production this month. RHS students learned about timber industry careers during a tour of the Swanson Group facility. On April 17, our Budget Committee begins meeting to review the proposed 2024-25 budget reflecting fiscal responsibility of "living within our means," prioritizing student learning while chipping away at our long-term facility's needs.

Parents have communicated frustration with our main communication platform, so District Communications Coordinator Chelsea Duncan will assist us as we transition from OneCall Now and Remind for mass alerts and notifications and direct messages between school staff and families, to our new main communication platform, ParentSquare in 2024-25. Messaging will begin this month and continue into Fall. Jared also gave a shout out to board members who were involved in the process of adopting new employee agreements beginning with the 2024-25 school year. These new contracts are resulting in increasing interest from prospective hires.

On May 8, the RPS and UCC Board will meet in a first-ever Joint Work Session at UCC. A new committee will be searching for solutions to prevent racist incidents in our schools. However, our entire community will need to join in this effort in order to be successful.

In May, the Board will meet with a Woolpert Group representative to begin working toward an updated long-range facilities plan. We will also receive an update from Phoenix Charter School. Open enrollment for the upcoming school year begins April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The board was reminded of upcoming middle school student performances of the Little Mermaid happening April 25-27. And the RHS theatre presents The Addams Family performances April 18-26. Get out and see the amazing things our students are doing!

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS**

Director Steve Hammerson shared that it made his son's day when the STEAM robot visited Hucrest and actually danced. He also gave credit and thanks to the Fir Grove librarian who organized a recent student appreciation luncheon. It was amazing talking with the kids, and the visit was a joy.

Director Andrew Shirtcliff extended thanks to the RHS students and staff for the recent PRIDE Night held at the high school. He is the father of an incoming freshman, and it was really fun. His daughter enjoyed seeing the excitement in other students who took advantage of the event.

Director Andrea Miner thanked Russ Bolin for coming out of retirement and taking the principal position at Fullerton IV Elementary and continuing in this position next school year.

Director Ann Krimetz thanked Principal Vickery for inviting us to tour his school. She enjoyed the student artwork on display, sharing her amazement at how talented they are! She also applauded the hard work happening in Curriculum and Instruction, and also for staff wanting what is best for the kids. It's reassuring to see the care taken in selections to assure content is engaging and factual.

Director Michael Leone announced that there is a softball double-header this weekend!

Chair Rodney Cotton wondered if there is a centralized calendar that could be created so that we don't miss out on the activities happening around the district. He noted how creative our STEAM Team is. The district does have web sites for each school, but we will continue to work to keep everyone in the loop on what is happening. He also pointed out that just being around our students tends to make you feel younger and more optimistic. Mr. Cotton shared his celebration of his fifth-grade teacher, Mrs. Dorothy Wilson, who he credits for saving him. He reflected that each of us have had teachers who made an impact on our lives, and we honor them on National Teacher Appreciation Week!

**ADJOURNMENT:** With regular business before the Board concluded, and with no objections, Chair Cotton adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m. The next meeting will take place at Umpqua Community College, 1140 Umpqua College Road at 5:00 p.m. and will also be available via zoom link.

**Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent**  
JPC/jlk

**Next Meeting:** Board Meeting and Jt. Work Session with UCC, May 8, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at UCC Taph'òyt'ha' Hall (TAP), Roseburg located at 1140 Umpqua College Road in Roseburg, Oregon and available via Zoom.