

ROSEBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Regular School Board Meeting & Executive Session

Sunnyslope Elementary School Library

2230 Cannon Avenue

Roseburg, Oregon 97471

Available via Zoom

Vol 5 No. 11

January 10, 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

Chelsea Duncan, Communications Coordinator

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

January is School Board Recognition Month!

Please join us in honoring Roseburg Public Schools' Board of Education during the month of January— School Board Recognition Month - as we celebrate each of these dedicated volunteers.

TIME/PLACE: A meeting of the Douglas County School District No. 4 Board of Directors was convened on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Sunnyslope Elementary School Library, located at 2230 Cannon Avenue in 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 Dan Endicott and the Sunnyslope staff for preparing this space for us tonight.

PRINCIPAL REPORT – SUNNYSLOPE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Sunnyslope Elementary School Principal, Dan Endicott

Sunnyslope Elementary School
Welcome to the Slope!

Principal Dan Endicott led a tour of the school prior to the meeting, highlighting the areas of support dedicated to the individualized needs of students. In line with the District's Strategic Plan, emphasis has been placed on increasing attendance by 10%, English Language Arts by 10% and math benchmarks by 6%. Numerous engaging

activities including a Fun Run, Reading Under the Lights and a Makerspace Cart have already happened this year, with others planned such as “Bus School Redu”, Book Fair with Parent Engagement Week, Winter and Spring assessments, STEAM Night, 5th Grade Play, Forestry Tour, 4th Grade Science Fair, 3rd Grade Nature Days, and the 5th Grade Outdoor trip, to enhance the student experience. Principal Endicott suggested that as adults, these kids may not recall a particular math lesson, but they will remember sports, field trips, bus rides and all the special activities available to them during their time at Sunnyslope.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

Leadership student Hannah Heuberger announced that both band and choir will be representing RHS at All State tomorrow. Drama is partnering with Umpqua Community College to present “Magic of Reading” to elementary students. Auditions will be taking place January 31st and February 1st for the Spring musical, “*The Addams Family*”. RHS Cheer is one of 50 teams competing in Sweet Home. Wrestling competes this week in Redmond; Swim competes here at home on January 17th and basketball games are currently underway. Leadership has welcomed two new advisors, Kristen Miller and Janelle Hubbard. The next round of club grant applications are due this Friday for consideration. Planning is well underway for the Arts Assembly which returned last year after COVID. Auditions are scheduled on the 29th and we hope for a great turnout!

STUDENT / STAFF RECOGNITION

Director Steve Hammerson had the honor and privilege of recognizing worthy students this evening. Recipients received certificates and McDonald’s gift cards. Honorees this evening included:

Kameryn Frye, Fifth Grade Student at Sunnyslope Elementary School

Kameryn is an outstanding student who is always hardworking and responsible inside and outside of school. He cares about his fellow students and is a natural leader. Kameryn follows the directions he is given to his absolute best and tries very hard to overcome frustrations. Kameryn brings a smile and a positive attitude to school each day, along with tons of energy and enthusiasm. Teachers say that Kameryn is kind and respectful and a wonderful role model. He has been an outstanding student for his entire career at Sunnyslope. He is always helpful with students and staff members and will be missed at Sunnyslope next year!

Congratulations, Kameryn!

Emmalyn Hurley, Seventh Grade Student at Fremont Middle School

Emmalyn is an outstanding Fremont student who excels in many areas. She consistently models the work habits, integrity and positivity that any teacher would want from a student. She often seeks out opportunities to challenge herself, and she embraces those challenges with grace. Emmalyn is not only a superstar student, but she is also a kind, compassionate, and thoughtful leader. She treats others with kindness, warmth, and patience beyond her years. She is always looking for ways to make a positive impact on others, and she does it with a smile on her face. Emmalyn goes above and beyond what is asked of her in all of her classes, and serves as an excellent role model for her peers.

Fremont Middle School is lucky to have her.

Congratulations, Emmalyn!

Jack Anderson, Seventh Grade Student at Joseph Lane Middle School

A pioneer is a person who goes before others and opens the way for them to follow. Jack Anderson is this year's passionate paramount pioneer. His authenticity, his insight, his earnestness, and innate kind spirit are a few of many highlighted traits that Jack's seventh-grade team observes on the daily. Each class period, it has been confirmed, there is ALWAYS a greeting and farewell from Mr. Anderson. He takes academic risks, constantly reflecting or seeking out clarification to summit each task. Jack is also pragmatic, something we generally see later in students' academic careers; however, he is attuned to his abilities. Jack leads with integrity, and students trust that they will have success when directed and encouraged by this young leader.

Thank you for your leadership; you exemplify the definition of a Joseph Lane pioneer.

Congratulations, Jack!

Nicolas Combs, Senior at Roseburg High School

Nicolas is simply outstanding! His positive attitude, respect for others, and eagerness to seek help when needed are truly remarkable traits for any high school student. With a 4.0 GPA, Nicolas has consistently challenged himself by taking up Honors, Advanced Placement, and College Credit courses. More than half of his senior year schedule is packed with such advanced courses. Nicolas is also a member of the National Honor Society and serves his community through his volunteerism. Nicolas is not only highly intelligent, but he also has an insatiable thirst for knowledge, continually challenging himself to grow as an individual, develop premier leadership skills, and strive for career success in all his endeavors.

RHS is thrilled to have the opportunity to teach such a remarkable young man.

Congratulations, Nicolas!

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

Tracy Grauer, Woodshop Teacher, Fremont Middle School

Tracy has the unique ability to connect with many students who feel lost in school. She has built a strong woodshop program that kids enjoy and feel proud of. Tracy's class helps open students' minds to all the possibilities of job opportunities using the skills she teaches and provides students with a healthy outlet and hobby. Her woodshop curriculum allows students to work at their own pace, gradually building their skills. Once students have mastered the basic skills, they are able to move on to an advanced class where they can choose their own projects or work on projects for our school. Tracy is also a strong supporter of other activities going on at Fremont. She is frequently at band and choir concerts, has championed the school's cribbage club for several years, and advocates for students to do their best in every subject. Tracy builds strong connections with students and goes out of her way to help them succeed.

Congratulations, Tracy!

Crystal Apple: "Helping students build projects and relationships, one nail at a time"

Theresa Lindstrom, Third Grade Teacher at Sunnyslope Elementary School

Theresa goes above and beyond for her students. She is an excellent mentor, willing to share ideas and materials. Theresa is described as a wonderful educator with a wealth of knowledge and skill and is

willing to share with anyone needing help. She is a teacher who has had great results and deserves for her efforts and her great student growth to be recognized. She has been a mentor to several newer teachers in the building and serves as the calm in the eye of the storm. Theresa is retiring this year, and staff are grateful for her years of help, support and talent.

Congratulations, Theresa!

Crystal Apple: "Mentor, knowledge, work ethic, dedicated, caring and compassionate"

Olivia Purdy, Instructional Assistant at Sunnyslope Elementary School

Olivia is a go-getter who can go with the flow. She is an amazing worker and loves the kids. She is always going above and beyond for the staff and kids, and finds solutions to problems even when nobody asks her. Olivia cares about the students' education, supports in any way she can, and has the patience to work with students based on their needs. She is a positive staff member always ready to jump in where needed, is never negative and tries her best. She is also described as flexible and selfless.

She makes Sunnyslope a little brighter just by being there.

Congratulations, Olivia!

Crystal Apple: "Fast learner, integrity, team player, loves kids, problem solver"

Kelly Lucido, Office Manager, Fremont Middle School

Kelly is so welcoming and kind to everyone. Her colleagues say she is knowledgeable, versatile and irreplaceable within the Fremont community. Kelly helps keep things all together even on the most chaotic mornings. She always makes sure things get done on time and is always willing to help anyone and everyone. She has a calm, cool-as-a-cucumber exterior. If she does have any internal panic buttons, they are never written on her face. She brings the right vibe to the school atmosphere, and her follow-through is commendable. Fremont is blessed to have Kelly at the helm of Ship Fremont, as she will always be alert to any icebergs ahead. Kelly is also kind to students and families. She is great at problem solving and her friendly, easy-going demeanor makes the office a welcoming place to be.

Congratulations, Kelly!

Crystal Apple: "Cool and collective while serving passionately and gracefully"

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 6:38 p.m. and reconvened at 6:45 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Asst. Superintendent Michelle Knee asked for any cards to be submitted from anyone interested in addressing the Board. Mr. Yuri Vincent, a resident of Roseburg, wished to extend his appreciation for the Board, indicating that he previously shared a concern with the Board. Since then, Dr. Jill Weber responded to his unease and he was very appreciative of her professionalism and willingness to get to the bottom of his concerns and answer his questions. He thanked the board for the work they put in, as well as voluntarily attending evening meetings.

ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

ATTENDANCE: Board members were present as well as cabinet members. No media representatives were in attendance.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

January is School Board Recognition Month!

We hope you will join us in honoring Roseburg Public Schools' Board of Education during the month of January—School Board Recognition Month. We celebrate each of our seven dedicated volunteers!

Mayor Larry Rich normally attends and reads a proclamation from the City of Roseburg recognizing School Board Recognition Month. He is currently convalescing following a medical emergency. His office is asking that we postpone the reading of the annual proclamation until our January 24th meeting. We appreciate the support that the Mayor's office has always shown for our Board of Education and wish Larry a swift recovery!

Superintendent Cordon welcomed everyone present in person, as well as those who were joining the meeting via Zoom. He echoed the sentiments of Mr. Vincent, adding how much he enjoys student and staff recognition and that it's lovely to have members of the community attend to rally around these individuals. He also acknowledged the presence of Mr. Keith Cubic, Roseburg resident and former board member as well as current Budget Committee member. He also acknowledged the presence of our Technology Coordinator, Matt Hill, who is present to assure that all things technology work as intended. Thank you, Matt.

REVIEW OF AGENDA There were no changes or additions to the agenda. An Executive Session will immediately follow the regular board meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Consent Agenda was presented for consideration, including approval of the Consent Agenda, Minutes from the December 13th Board Meeting; Listing of Gifts to the District, as well as a single personnel action listed below:

Licensed Resignation:

- Joseph Ausdemore, LRC Teacher at Sunnyslope Elementary School, effective at the end of the school year.

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

M5-041 Approved the Consent Agenda

EARLY LITERACY SUCCESS SCHOOL DISTRICT GRANT – APPLICATION FOR THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM

Assistant Superintendent Michelle Knee presented the 2023-2025 Early Literacy Grant Application for approval. Teaching and Learning Director Dr. Jill Weber joined her in sharing a review of core & supplemental programs, and interventions and assessments. They detailed district professional development and coaching, extended learning programs, high dosage tutoring, research aligned curriculum, communication plans, student growth assessment, matching funds, along with the 2023-24 and 2024-25 budgets.

Director Steve Hammerson moved to approve the Early Literacy Grant Application as presented. Director Michael Leone seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

M5-042 Approved Early Literacy Grant Application for the 2023-2025 Biennium.

2024 BUDGET CALENDAR

Director of Finance & Operations, Cheryl Northam, presented the proposed 2024 Budget Calendar in preparation for the 2024-25 Budget process. The first Budget Committee Meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2024 with potential additional meeting dates identified for May 1 and more to be suggested between May 2-28 if needed. The Budget Hearing and Adoption are proposed for June 5, 2024, in time for the July 15 deadline to file Form ED-50 to the Douglas County Assessor's Office in accordance with Oregon Budget Law.

Vice-Chair Johnson advised that vacancies exist on this committee. Residents interested in serving on this committee are encouraged to communicate their interest in writing or email to Superintendent Cordon.

Director Steve Hammerson moved to adopt the 2024 Budget Calendar as proposed. Director Ann Krimetz seconded, and the Motion was unanimously approved.

M5-43 Approved the 2024 Budget Calendar as proposed.
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SUPERINTENDENT REPORT *(slide deck follows)*

Superintendent Cordon celebrated that each January is School Board Recognition Month, and shared his immense appreciation for our seven-member Board of Directors who volunteer their time to help children maximize their potential. Two Board bargaining teams are now working to create employee contracts honoring the work of staff while prioritizing student learning and balancing the district's financial health.

Mr. Cordon was pleased to share that while construction continues for fencing, concrete, bleachers and dugouts, etc., the new softball field at RHS is expected to reach completion in February.

Upcoming topics for Board Work Sessions will include a discussion with Douglas ESD Superintendent Analicia Nicholson to evaluate services and return on investment; a discussion on racism in our schools and community; mid-year student assessment data and progress updates, and long-range facility planning.

Efforts continue to secure a potential sponsor for the RHS sports complex consisting of Finlay Field and the new softball field. With no capital improvement bond, alternative revenue sources must be pursued to allow for major maintenance projects to keep schools operating and respond to emergency needs and repairs. We are working with OSAA to explore a change in conferences (from 6A to 5A) for the RHS football team.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

Director Andrea Miner shared that she felt very appreciated and thanked the Nutrition Services staff for treats provided to the Board tonight.

Director Steve Hammerson offered a suggestion to proceed gingerly with the proposed athletic realignment with OSAA.

Director Ann Krimetz shared her appreciation for Sunnyslope and Principal Endicott for showing us around tonight. She was struck by the tremendous amount of fun activities being offered to students. Encouraging children to go to school and learn is critical to their success. She can see that Sunnyslope is doing a good job and is a positive ingredient in continuing success for students.

Director Michael Leone shared a conversation with a friend who disclosed their intention to remove their children from public schools. He pointed out that the things happening and what you hear in the news is not happening here in the northwest. Being a new member of this board and having served over this past year, he has learned. He thanked Teaching and Learning Director, Dr. Jill Weber, for her work with curriculum. He also thanked patron Yuri Vincent for acknowledging that Dr. Weber reached out and met with him to help clarify his areas of concern. Director Leone noted his intent to encourage his friends to reconsider public education. While he is not against home schooling, he pointed out the artwork posted on the walls and the learning tools in the library. All of these are good things kids may not get at home. We have something good happening here at RPS and he appreciates what he is seeing and is excited to serve on this Board.

Chairman Rodney Cotton commented that the microphone system was not behaving this evening, but acknowledged the assistance of Technology Coordinator Matt Hill who was here to support us. It is School Board Recognition Month. Members of this Board do this job because of the kids. He also acknowledged Board Secretary Janet Kischel and Stephanie Taylor, Administrative Assistant, for their hard work behind the scenes in supporting this Board. Chair Cotton went on to thank Sunnyslope Elementary, explaining that we have been in four buildings so far this year and they have really enjoyed seeing the uniqueness of the schools. They all share the main focus of taking care of kids. This is his 60th year with Roseburg Public Schools, 30 years as a board member. He advocated that we have a great district and schools here, and sometimes you have to point that out to members of the community. Chair Cotton also acknowledged the letters and email the board receives, and really appreciates everyone involved from the wonderful leadership to the classrooms.

ADJOURNMENT: 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 January 14, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. He then adjourned the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. and announced the board would take a brief recess and reconvene in Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d).

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d)

Chair Rodney Cotton convened an Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) at 7:37 p.m. to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations. The executive session was concluded and adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Jared P. Cordon, Superintendent
JPC/jlk

Next Meeting: Board Meeting and Executive Session, January 24, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at central office, located at 1419 NW Valley View Drive in Roseburg, Oregon and available via Zoom.