

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors- Regular Session
Tuesday, October 13, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
Waldport High School
Waldport, Oregon

Minutes

PRESIDING: Liz Martin, Chairman

Present: Liz Martin, Chairman; Karen Bondley, Vice Chairman; Ron Beck, Amanda Remund, Directors

Also Present: Steve Boynton, Superintendent; Laurie Urquhart, Secretary

Excused: Kelley Ellis, Director

Handouts: Financial Reports, 9/30/15; Capital Construction Financial Report, 6/30/15; Crestview Heights 2015-16 School Improvement Action Plan; Custodial Services Newsletter, October 2015; North Area Bus Routes; Personnel Addendum 10/13/15

Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Liz Martin convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum of four board members present. Director Ellis was excused from the meeting.

Communications

Sodexo Custodial Manager Bill Hemphill distributed a newsletter with picture of custodial staff around the district.

Several teachers addressed the Board about their desire for a contract settlement. A summarization of their statements follows.

Randy Wiese relayed statements from his wife, also a teacher, that health care options were handled poorly. He also mentioned contentious negotiations of many years ago, and said it would “be nice to see a pay raise.”

Amanda Middlebrooks said she supports her LCEA bargaining team, that it is expensive living in Lincoln County, and that she would like to see an equitable increase. She asked that the contract be settled soon, as the hard feelings from bargaining many years ago “lasted for years.” Director Ron Beck asked her what she would consider “equitable;” Superintendent Boynton suggested that Ms. Middlebrooks was referring to the proposed salary schedule, rather than proposed increases.

Faith Forshee said she came to teaching later in life, after spending time in business and in child welfare. She said that “each year we try different things,” and said she does not always feel successful as she did

in previous roles. She noted she “wants academic freedom to make choices for our kids,” and urged the Board to settle the contract as soon as possible.

Ingrid Olson said she has been teaching in LCSD for a long time and remembers the tough negotiations from years ago. “It was really terrible after that contract; I don’t want that to happen again.”

Alexandra Browne said one of the most difficult things about living in Lincoln County was adjusting to the cost of living and job opportunities for her spouse. She asked that the teachers receive “at least 2% plus COLA.”

Dominic Scharp said he loves teaching at Waldport High and does not want to leave the district to pursue more pay someplace else. “I will reach the top of my pay scale next year. I would like to thank LCEA, and say 2% if it’s a math question.”

Kara Allan noted there has been much turnover in her building, and noted the value of teaching with “veteran teachers who are there for the long haul.” She said she supports LCEA and felt they are advocating fair increases and COLA.

Peter Lohonyay read letters from teachers Brian Hanna and Karen Backman asking for a quick and reasonable settlement.

Chairman Martin commented the board would also like to settle the contract fairly and soon. The Lincoln County Education Association (LCEA) and the district will meet in a mediation session regarding the contract next month.

Board Reports

Director Remund noted Waldport sports teams are doing well. She reported the CEP program that provides breakfast and lunch at no charge for students is making a positive difference both at Crestview Heights and Waldport High.

Ms. Remund reported that Waldport High had jumped 32 spots on an online school rating site, and noted that Crestview Heights will hold a book fair from October 26th to 30th.

Chairman Liz Martin said she is continuing to mentor students at Newport High as part of the ASPIRE program.

Student Representatives

Waldport High students Nick Grant-Grierson, Ian Frame, Chloe Beyerlein and Kaden Pruett updated the board on the ‘Oregon Outdoors’ course now offered at their school. The students experience coastal opportunities, including boating education, kayaking, swimming, first aid, and learning to be stewards of the environment.

The students demonstrated the proper way to don a life jacket, which they then asked board members to do. Teacher Mike Moser reported (after the current trimester), they will take the middle trimester off due

to weather. They will resume the class in the spring. Principals MacKenzie commented that, along with their focus on academics, “we have fun here too.”

South Area Reports

Crestview Heights Principal Kelly Beaudry distributed a condensed version of the school’s School Improvement Action Plan, explaining much thought and effort had gone into the Vision and Mission statements. “We have a more distributed leadership process to build the capacity of others in the school,” said Beaudry. All teachers serve on one of three teams: School Culture, Family Involvement, and Community Outreach; Curriculum and Instructional Frameworks; and Authentic Learning & Student Engagement.

The school also uses a school-wide data team structure, where teachers meet in grade-level teams on student data and planning for instruction. Teachers meet on ‘Friday school’ days in their teams. One representative from each team participates in data team which meets with Ms. Beaudry to progress monitor school-wide every two months.

Waldport High Principal Diana MacKenzie noted enrollment at the school has increased 10% from 2014 to 2015, athletic participation is up 45% and participation in school related clubs and activities have more than doubled. The school now offers college credit classes through OIT and OCCC, and Advanced Placement (AP) courses The Career/Technical Education (CTE) teachers submitted an application for a \$400,000 revitalization grant.

Ms. MacKenzie introduced teachers Peter Ellingsen, Dominic Scharp and Alex Browne who described some of the interventions and enrichment opportunities being offered in their classrooms to improve student achievement and meet the school’s growth goals. All math classes are aligned through common core state standards, which is increasing the rigor and depth of mathematics taught. Math instruction is aligned vertically 7-12. Honors English is now offered at Waldport High; Language Arts is a strong point at WHS, with 86% of students meeting or exceeding on the Smarter Balanced test.

Ms. MacKenzie noted she would check in with the board at the end of the school year to report the school’s progress toward their goals and felt confident they would meet or exceed expectations.

Transportation Update

Director of Support Services Rich Belloni introduced part of the Mid-Columbia Bus Company team, including manager Joel Heisler, dispatcher Danielle Watkins, Lincoln City lead driver Kim Bolden, and Mid-Columbia President Dave Lear. Though some areas got off to a rocky start this year, operations are smoothing out.

School realignments and changes in start/end times at schools created some of the challenges. District and Mid-Columbia staff have worked hard to address the issues. Safety Coordinator Sue Graves is meeting with City of Newport representatives to brainstorm ideas to help with student pick up and drop off at Yaquina View.

Financial Reports

Business Manager Julie Baldwin reported no adjustments to projections. The targeted ending fund balance is approximately \$4.1 million, or about 5% of the total budget. Enrollment is higher than last year's, even considering full-day kindergarten. Enrollment has increased the most in the south and west areas.

Interest rates remain flat.

Ms. Baldwin presented the final capital expenditures financial report. Of the \$69.7 million in bond funds, the district spent approximately \$43 million locally in four years.

Chairman Martin thanked the stellar efforts of Director of Support Services Rich Belloni and staff, Business Manager Julie Baldwin and staff, and all of those who made the bond measure possible.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Boynton thanked an anonymous donor who purchased \$5,000 in gift cards from JC Market in Newport. The cards will go hard working families who need some help. JC Market provided a ten percent discount, so the cards will have \$5,500 of purchasing power. They were given out to the four Newport schools in increments of \$50 and \$100 based on student population; each school will determine which families will receive them. Mr. Boynton thanked the donor and JC Market, Newport.

The Superintendent thanked the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments for their gift of \$370 to purchase six rain gear jackets. The jackets will be used by Yaquina View staff at student drop off and pick up times.

Mr. Boynton thanked the Newport Boosters for supporting Newport Middle School's "bring your own device" program. Attendees at the recent fall Booster auction donated approximately \$11,000 to Newport Middle, enough to purchase about 55 Chromebooks.

The Superintendent introduced Linn Benton Lincoln ESD Superintendent Mary McKay and LBL Board member (and former LCSD board member) David Dunsdon, who were attending the meeting.

He wished board member Amanda Remund a belated happy birthday (October 5th).

Mr. Boynton updated the Board on school based health centers, noting that district staff is working with Lincoln County Health and Human Services on an amended agreement. A safety assessment of the clinics has been completed, and an amended agreement will likely be presented at the next meeting.

The clinics are not being as heavily utilized by elementary students as they could be, so both LCHHS and district staff are working on a campaign to share information about the clinics' accessibility. The amended agreement may extend the hours of the clinics when school is not in session.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 15/16-11

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Remund, the Board unanimously approved Consent Calendar items, including:

- Minutes, 9/15/15 Regular Session;**
- Minutes, 9/29/15 Work Session;**

•Regular Personnel Items and Addendum.

Approval of Native American Heritage Month

Motion 15/16-12

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Remund, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2015/16-2, proclaiming the month of November as “Native American Heritage Month.” The Resolution will be distributed to schools to help honor Native Americans in our schools and community.

Date of First Budget Committee Meeting

Business Manager Julie Baldwin suggested the first Budget Committee meeting take place on May 17, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at Newport High School. If another meeting is necessary, it will occur May 19, 2016. The board will consider the date for the first Budget Committee meeting at the November regular session, as prescribed by policy.

Budget Committee Vacancies, Zones 2 and 3

Vacancies exist in Zones 2 (Agate Beach, south Lincoln City) and Zone 3 (central Newport) of the LCSD Budget Committee. Incumbents in each of the open zones have expressed interest in continuing in their roles. Both positions are for three year terms, through June 30, 2018.

Applications are available on the district website and at the district administration office. They must be received by Laurie Urquhart in the district office by close of business on October 30, 2015.

Budget Committee members may not be employees of LCSD, must currently reside in the respective zone, and must be registered voters.

Information on Long-Term Care/Treatment (Olalla)

Special Education/Elementary Education Director Susan Van Liew introduced Special Education Administrator Cyndi Henry, then described services the district provides at the Olalla Center. LCSD is responsible for education services at the long-term behavioral/emotional treatment center.

Information on Juvenile Detention Contract (Added Item)

Director Van Liew updated the board on the contract the district has with ODE for Juvenile Detention. She reported the district provides education services for students housed at the juvenile detention center, typically for only a few days at a time. Ms. Van Liew has been working with ODE to reach full funding for this program.

Feedback from Board Retreat

Chairman Martin asked board members for feedback from their retreat held in July, though it is early in the school year. Director Beck expressed his appreciation for reports from principals on what they are doing with regard to their school improvement plans. He added that a local press entity may need to be addressed, with sometimes inaccurate information printed, and with a correction much smaller than the original story.

Chairman Martin noted the importance of communication.

Other

Board member expressed appreciation for the enrollment report, noting that the district has many more students this year. Superintendent Boynton commented that it was prudent to move schools out of unsafe areas (tsunami zones), but now the district faces issues with growth and space.

Mr. Boynton also thanked both the LCSD Tech Department, as well as that of the Linn Benton Lincoln ESD. The LCSD Tech department has had substantial changes over the last few weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent