

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors

Tuesday, March 8, 2016- 7:00 p.m.

Crestview Heights School

Waldport, Oregon

Minutes

PRESIDING: Liz Martin, Chairman

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

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

Handouts: Financial Reports, 2/29/26; Personnel Addendum, 3/8/16; Information on Advanced Course Offerings at High Schools (Eric Clendenin); Program Change Reports- CTE Courses at Taft, Toledo & Newport High Schools; Crestview Heights School Improvement Plan; Waldport High School Improvement Plan; WHS Accreditation Visit Information; 2016/17 East & South Calendar (revised draft 3/8/16); 2016/17 North & West Area School Calendar (revised 3/8/16)

Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Martin convened the meeting and called the session to order with a quorum of all five board members present.

Communications

Chairman Martin noted the receipt of two written communications to the board: one from Marvin Straus and one from Kristina McCann and Hovey Grosvenor.

Board Reports

Director Amanda Remund reported Waldport High sent a wrestler to state, where he finished second in his weight class. She noted Crestview will have a Literacy night on March 10th.

Director Kelley Ellis congratulated Siletz basketball teams for their excellent showing, saying the gym was full for the games and it was wonderful to see the support.

Director Ron Beck said he had a great visit with Newport Middle Leadership students, and said he is impressed with them. When he asked students why they were participating in the class, the most common response was “It’s the teacher.”

Chairman Martin will visit the NMS Leadership class soon to explain what a board of directors does. She was also a guest in a third grade classroom at Sam Case during Love of Reading week. She expressed gratitude for schools’ Facebook pages, saying they make her feel more connected.

South Area Report-

Crestview Heights Principal Kelly Beaudry presented an updated copy of the school improvement plan, with updates from when it was presented to the board in the fall. She reported her focus was to distribute leadership across the staff to build capacity.

A priority achievement indicator staff began with is ‘creating a welcoming environment.’ A structure and checklist was developed for each event held at the school; each has a coordinator to ensure smooth operations and reviews plans with the Title coordinator at the school.

The Curriculum/Instruction Frameworks team is focusing on better articulating the school’s common, agreed upon frameworks, including Daily Five, Balanced Math, etc. Their emphasis is on English/Language Arts at present.

The Authentic Learning and Student Engagement team is focused in part on project based learning. Fifth/sixth grade teacher Cassie Nickerson just completed a project on cells that incorporated political science as well. Students presented their “cell man” campaigns to a panel of experts. This work will create a bank of projects to be reused in future years.

For student achievement, the school has scored two of three writing samples for the year. They use STAR and DRA data; student growth is focused on growth and areas to improve.

Waldport High Principal Diana MacKenzie reported the school recently was visited by an accreditation team. The school exceeded the national average in all categories.

Opportunities for improvement include:

- develop a formalized, all-staff professional development program that includes classified employees;
- continue to build a comprehensive assessment system focused on increasing student performance; and
- improving course offerings in Spanish, music and science (already in process).

Ms. MacKenzie reported the CTE revitalization grant awarded the school will be utilized in part to improve career pathways to students. Pathways include manufacturing, coastal tourism and emergency response.

She thanked the board and Superintendent for Friday school/professional development, and said it has been ‘amazing’ for both students and staff.

Financial Reports

Business Manager Julie Baldwin reported the county school fund and state timber revenues have increased this year. This will not mean additional revenue to the district, as the district will have to repay the funds to the state in May of 2017.

Student enrollment has dipped slightly, but is still higher than when the school year began. Interest rates are beginning to climb.

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Boynton recognized several organizations for their contributions to H.E.L.P. (Homeless Education and Literacy Program) including: **Columbia Bank** donated \$600 and a large supply of mittens and scarves; the **Hatfield Marine Science Center Student Organization** held a fundraiser raffle and donated \$1,500 to the HELP Center; **Oregon Coast Aquarium** hosted a free ‘Sleeping with the Sharks’ family adventure to families in the HELP program. Over 30 people attended, slept in the shark tunnels and got to keep their sleeping bags courtesy of **Newport Rotary**. **Georgia Pacific** donated eight pallets of paper towels and toilet tissue to district to families accessing the HELP Centers. Mr. Boynton noted that more homeless students have been identified this year than all of last school year.

Jon Zagel and Melinda Dye were commended in a letter to Superintendent Boynton from an Aspire volunteer for their responding “quickly, judiciously and fairly to address a difficult matter.” Mr. Boynton thanked both for their good work.

The Superintendent noted that several LCSD athletic teams were recognized by the Oregon Dairy Farmers for their achievements in both academics and athletics.

He reminded the board of the upcoming work session on the remainder of Policy Section I and K/L on March 15th, and wished a belated ‘happy birthday’ to board member Karen Bondley.

Mr. Boynton also reminded the board that spring break is March 21-25; all schools will be closed then.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 2015/16-28

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

- Minutes, February 9, 2016 Regular Session;**
- Regular Personnel Items and addendum;**
- Renewal of Licensed Permanent/ Probationary Personnel;**
- Banking Services, Oregon Coast Bank, 7/1/16 through 6/30/17.**

Take from the Table, Motion Regarding Superintendent Contract

Motion 15/16-29

On motion of Director Ellis, seconded by Director Bondley, the Board unanimously approved taking from the table the motion relating to the Superintendent’s contract. (This item was tabled at the last board meeting for clarification and to allow all board members to be present for the discussion.)

Superintendent Contract, 2015/18

Motion 15/16-30

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Ellis, the Board unanimously approved the Superintendent’s contract for the 2015 through 2018 time period as discussed 3/8/16 and using language contained in Version 3 of the contract (sent under separate cover). Though the Board offered the Superintendent a new three year contract after last year’s evaluation, it was not finalized until now.

Director of Human Resources Michael Morgan noted the board suspended negotiations on the Superintendent’s contract until the negotiations with the union were completed. He said termination language in several administrators’ contracts was modified to comply with state law, which says districts

cannot create a pre-employment termination agreement. “There are four parts to such an agreement; in three of the four, your language meets requirements of the law and one does not.” The statement relating to termination without cause and payments for 12 months from the date of written notice from the superintendent or upon finding new employment is the language that does not align with the law.

Mr. Morgan recommended the board change the language to comply with the law as well as district policy. One of three options presented the board under separate cover stipulates “The District may terminate this agreement without cause...by providing 90 days’ prior notice of such action. The Board retains the right to relieve the Superintendent of duties and place him on paid administrative leave during this notice period.” Typically, said Morgan, the separation of a superintendent from a district does not occur this way, but more informally.

Director Beck said he preferred Version 3, but asked to make the paragraph gender neutral. Director Bondley agreed that Version 3 is her preference for its simplicity.

Director Ellis noted the only reason the board delayed the vote on the contract was to get clarifications on the language and so all board members could be present. Chairman Martin said she appreciated everyone’s input, as well as the work the superintendent has done.

Information on CTE Course Descriptions

Director of Secondary Education Eric Clendenin reported LCSD has a “landslide of momentum” for advanced learning opportunities in all high schools in the district. He distributed a handout showing opportunities available at the four regular district high schools. Barriers for students are being removed, and the ability to help articulate dual-credit courses has been extended to Siletz and Eddyville.

He reported that some existing CTE (Career Technical Education) courses need to be divided into more detailed components and numbers in order to better describe career pathways and maximize the district’s opportunity to receive available funding under a new “Career Pathways” program through the Oregon Department of Education. Restructuring the courses in this matter will allow the district to maximize potentials and increase opportunities for students.

He said the more the district can demonstrate a complete form of study, the better positioned the district is for additional funding. He noted he will return to the board in June to provide a more detailed report on the number of students participating in different courses, the number of credits earned, etc.

Discussion on Middle School Buildings- Grades 7 and 8

Several LCSD schools are configured with grades 7 through 12. Staff is exploring the possibility of organizing the schools (Taft 7-12, Toledo Jr./Sr. and Crestview Heights) so that grades 7 and 8 are separate from grades 9 through 12 (or K-8) for ODE reporting purposes only. This would enable staff to be able to compare schools more efficiently with like grades compared to like grades.

The location of the schools would not change; the reorganization is internal only. The desired outcome for this change is to help the district find a better way to understand assessment and data.

This topic will return to the board at the next meeting for consideration.

Discussion on 2016/17 School Calendars

Calendars for the coming school year were developed by principals to best address the needs of their schools, using the approved 2016-17 District calendar as their template. The dates for spring break are aligned with the Oregon university system.

Staff proposes using similar calendars to those used this year, with the north and west areas using a semester system, and the east/south using a trimester system. The calendars were revised slightly from those published in the board folder to better balance short school weeks. Also, the statewide inservice day in October will become a contract day. Principals will be able to make arrangements for those teachers wishing to participate in training other than the Coastal Learning Symposium hosted by the Oregon Coast Aquarium.

The calendars will return for the board's consideration at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent