MEETING MINUTES

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD of DIRECTORS Regular Meeting – December 8, 2022

Vernonia Schools, 1000 Missouri Avenue, Vernonia, OR 97064

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: A Regular Meeting of the Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Stacey Pelster, Chair.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Board Present: Stacy Pelster, Susan Wagner (virtual), Amy Cieloha, Joanie Jones, Greg Kintz,

Javoss McGuire

BOARD PRESENT

Board Absent: Scott Rickard

BOARD ABSENT

Staff Present: Jim Helmen, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, MS/HS Principal; Michelle Eagleson, Elementary Principal; Rachel Wilson, K-12 Vice Principal; Susanne Myer, SPED Director; Marie Knight, Business Manager; Kendra Schlegel, Licensed Staff; Leonard Hamilton, School Nurse; and Thomas Jones, Coach

STAFF PRESENT

Visitors Present: Scott Laird, and Jim Green and Richard Donovan (virtually)

VISITORS PRESENT

1.1 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2.0 AGENDA REVIEW: Amy Cieloha moved to approve the agenda as presented. Javoss McGuire seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

AGENDA REVIEW

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA and NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT

4.0 SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS:

4.1 Administrator Reports: The Board reviewed the administrative reports prior to the meeting. Joanie Jones asked Rachel Wilson about the tardy program. Nate Underwood has taken on the tardy program. He is reviewing Synergy data each Friday and assigning lunch detention to students with too many tardies in a week. The process is working.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

4.2 Fall Sports Report: Gordon Jarman's written report was provided to the Board. There were no questions.

5.0 BUSINESS REPORTS:

5.1 Superintendent Report: Jim Helmen's report was provided to the Board prior to the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Joanie Jones asked about the new Tier 3 class. This classroom is managed and overseen by Rachel Wilson. She explained that it has made an impact on students. One specific student ate lunch with her yesterday that has not had an issue in a month. She is hearing from parents that kids are excited to come to school. Ms. Wilson has stepped back from the teacher role due to the recent hire of James Helmen and the excellent work by the instructional assistants working in that classroom. The radio chatter has been significantly reduced within the building. There have been no room clears since this program began. The Tier 3 classroom is for the 5% of kids who need intense individual time away from peers. It is a classroom setting and allows students to interact with their peers during recess and other times. Students are proud to be in their own class.

Community Input Forum event is scheduled at the school on Dec. 13th. At this event work with story circles, ran by NWRESD, will occur. This work is with both student groups and community. This event will satisfy the community input requirement of the District's Integrated Guidance work. Thought exchange, funded by the ESD, is one part of this. An online survey was recently sent out as well. The District is using the input to build a strategic plan as well as fulfill the requirements for the Integrated Guidance. Ultimately, the input gathered will help the District prioritize the areas the community feels is important to become part of the District priorities. Jim is also attending sporting and community events to collect more data. The top priority of the thought exchange is maintaining high quality staff.

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Administrators are working with staff to meet some specific goals this year as well as their administrative goals.

The second round of STAR testing is going on now for elementary. Middle and high school will test in February due to many kids being out sick. According to Michelle Eagleson, the amount of growth from October to December this year is anywhere from 4 months to 2-3 years of growth. Teachers are using IXL daily for reading and math.

5.1.1 Strategic Plan Update: None given.

STRATEGIC PLAN **UPDATE**

5.2 Financial Report: Marie Knight's report was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. There were no questions.

FINANCIAL REPORT

5.3 Maintenance Report: Mark Brown's report was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Amy Cieloha asked about the status of hiring. The District has posted for a custodial opening and has received applications.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

BOARD REPORTS/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT: 6.0

6.1 Committee Reports: The policy committee will schedule a meeting at a later date, due to Scott COMMITTEE UPDATES Rickard a member of this committee, not in attendance.

BOARD REPORTS

6.2 Board Goals: A draft of the Board 2022-23 goals was shared and reviewed.

BOARD GOALS for 2022-23 DISCUSSED

7.0 OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION

Staff Hires / Staff Resignation: Jim Helmen shared that the District has hired Jennifer STAFF HIRES & 7.1 Adkins, 2nd grade teacher, James Helmen, Behavior Classroom teacher, and Janessa MacDonald will be starting January 3rd for 4th grade. Currently classified staff member Liz White is covering the 4th grade classroom with support from Michelle. Eagleson & Kendra Schlegel. Kyrsten Nothwang resigned her 4th grade position effective November 18, 2022

RESIGNATION

Information on OSBA Resolution to Adopt Legislative Priorities: 7.2

Jim Green, OSBA Director and Richard Donovan, Lobbyist, joined the meeting virtually to help the Board understand the recently presented resolution document and the OSBA legislative process.

OSBA RESOLUTION TO ADOPT LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES INFO **SHARED**

Richard Donovan explained that the Legislative Policy Committee includes board representatives; Greg Kintz from Vernonia and Sondra Gomez from Seaside. The Legislative Policy Committee creates the priorities document every two years. The current document is values based, provides direction for OSBA and how they lobby. Stacy Pelster, shared that as a business owner she has conflicting roles in relation to the Student Investment Account portion of the document.

Jim Green offered support when board members might have questions.

ACTION ITEMS 8.0

Board Goals: Greg Kintz moved to approve the 2022-23 Board Goals as discussed. Joanie 2022-23 BOARD GOALS 8.1 Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

APPROVED

8.2 Staff Hire: Joanie Jones moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to hire Jennifer Adkins - 2nd Grade, James Helmen - Behavior Classroom, and Jenessa MacDonald -4th Grade. Amy Cieloha seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

ADKINS, HELMEN, and MacDONALD HIRED

8.3 Staff Resignation: Javoss McGuire moved to approve the resignation of Kyrsten Nothwang effective November 18, 2022. Greg Kintz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

NOTHWANG RESIGNATION APPROVED

MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE: Nothing noted. 9.0

MONITORING BOARD

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PERFORMANCE

10.0 CONSENT AGENDA:

CONSENT AGENDA

10.1 Minutes of 11/03/22 Workshop and the 11/10/22 Regular Meeting

MINUTES

Amy Cieloha moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Joanie Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

11.0 OTHER ISSUES: Greg Kintz talked about the value of the OSBA Annual Conference that he and Supt. Jim Helmen attended. Greg is also attending another conference next week for industry and education to meet.

OTHER ISSUES

Jim Helmen asked that board members attend the Community Input Forum event on Tuesday, 12/13/22 from 6-8 pm. Event was listed in the Voice, posted in the school, on Facebook, sent home with students.

12.0 RECESS to EXECUTIVE SESSION: The regular meeting recessed at 6:57 p.m.to go into Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2)(i) to review and evaluate the performance of the Superintendent. An evaluation status check-in with Superintendent Jim Helmen was discussed.

RECESSED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

13.0 RETURNED to REGULAR SESSION: The regular meeting reconvened at 7:32 p.m.

RECONVENED REGULAR MEETING

12.0 MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:32 p.m.

ADJOURNED

Submitted by Marie Knight, Vernonia School District Business Manager

Soard Chair

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