

MEETING MINUTES

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD of DIRECTORS Budget Committee & Regular Meeting – May 12, 2022 Vernonia Schools Library, 1000 Missouri Avenue, Vernonia

- 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. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Stacey Pelster, Susan Wagner, Joanie Jones, Scott Rickard, Amy Cieloha, and Greg Kintz BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** Javoss McGuire BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Marie Knight, Business Manager; Cherise Harbour, Fiscal Assistant; Nate Underwood, MS/HS Principal; Michelle Eagleson, Elementary Principal; Rachel Wilson, K-12 Vice Principal; Allison McLeod, Jim Krahn, Juliet Safier, Courtney Ferguson, Rachel Brown, Susanne Myers, and Kendra Schlegel, Licensed Staff; and Glenda Delemos, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Scott Laird, Audrey Hill, Cody Hathcoat, Julie Ramsey, Janice Cochran, Carol Cochran, Tyler Riddell and Remington Winningstad. VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 2.0 AGENDA REVIEW:** Susan Wagner moved to approve the agenda as presented. Joanie Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. AGENDA REVIEW
- 3.0 RECESS to BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING:** The regular meeting was recessed to go into the Budget Committee meeting at 6 04 p.m. RECESS to BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
- 4.0 RETURN to REGULAR SESSION:** The regular meeting reconvened at 6:35 p.m. REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED
- 5.0 SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS:**
- 5.1** Principal Reports:
- Nate Underwood provided a written report and highlighted the upcoming 8th grade promotion ceremony on Tuesday, June 14th. MIDDLE / HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL REPORT
- Michelle Eagleson highlighted her written report:
- Administrative Assistant recognition day and Teacher appreciation week recently took place. Staff were recognized for their hard work. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL REPORT
 - Kindergarten registration had a great turnout
 - Staff are continuing their PLC work on school climate and parent partnerships
 - 5th Grade students are currently doing statewide testing
 - STEAM night will be held in 2 weeks in conjunction with the HS Salmon Auction
 - 5th Grade mixer with MS students will take place on June 16th
- Rachel Wilson provided a SWIS report and shared that the March and April referrals have been cut in half. Students are going into small groups to learn procedures. These changes at the elementary level have helped to reduce referrals. VICE PRINCIPAL REPORT
- 5.1.1** Special Education Report: Susanne Myers gave an overview of the services provided by the District. She stated that field trips are happening again, with a recent visit to job corp. in Astoria and attending a job summit. They have had community outings as well. The data shows that the grad rate for special education students has been consistently improving over the last few years. Staff are working hard with supports in place to help students be successful. There were no questions from the Board. SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT

5.2	<p>Student Reports: Audrey Hill gave a report on various class activities. She shared that the upcoming Salmon Auction supporting the Art Program will take place on the 26th. She also shared that students held a walk-out on May 11th in protest to the Roe vs Wade news. Students attempted to place posters in the school showing their position on the issue and when posters were taken down, they felt silenced by the administration.</p>	STUDENT REPORTS
5.3	<p>Community 101 Grant Presentations: Jim Krahn and two of his Project Based Learning class students, Remington Winningstad and Tyler Riddell, presented grant awards to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary Music Program/Kendra Schlegel - \$804.00 • Friends of the Public Library/Shannon Romtvedt - \$1500.00 • Library Updates/Jana Titus - \$795.00 • Vernonia Cares & Senior Center/Tobie Finzel - \$1900.00 <p>Annually Jim's class receives \$5,000 from the Community 101 grant to disburse to the Vernonia community 501c3 organizations. To date the Community 101 grant as given out approximately \$80,000 in funding.</p>	COMMUNITY 101 GRANT PRESENTATIONS
6.0	<p>PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None</p>	PUBLIC COMMENT
7.0	<p>BUSINESS REPORTS:</p>	
7.1	<p>Financial Report: Marie Knight reported that per her report the estimated ending fund balance for 2021-22 is at \$566,628.00. This includes \$300,000 in the contingency fund and \$100,000 in unappropriated funds. Next year, it was noted that the budgeted contingency fund will increase to \$350,000.</p>	FINANCIAL REPORT
7.2	<p>Maintenance Report: Mark Brown's report was reviewed by the Board. A question was asked if this was a running report from month to month or specific to what was actually done during the month. His report is a monthly reflection of the work done during that time.</p> <p>Joanie Jones mentioned that there is a safety issue with the irrigation valves by the baseball field being exposed. Mr. Miller will share this with Mark Brown.</p>	MAINTENANCE REPORT
7.3	<p>Superintendent Report: Aaron Miller reported that two students have tested positive since the last Board meeting and were on quarantine but they are back. No staff are quarantined at this time.</p> <p>Scott Rickard asked about the Forestry Shop contract and how that process works. Mr. Miller explained that the District tries to obtain three bids from which to select a contractor for the project. Marie Knight explained that O.R.S. rules regarding purchasing require the District to publish a Request for Proposal (RFP) process if the project value is over \$100,000. Small projects under \$100,000 in value require obtaining bids.</p>	SUPERINTENDENT REPORT
8.0	<p>BOARD REPORTS/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT:</p>	
6.1	<p>Committee Reports: Discussion was held on advisory committees and not receiving invitations to committee meetings. TAG, VEF and Policy committee were the ones mentioned as having not had communication.</p> <p>Greg Kintz shared that the legislative policy committee has worked hard considering the caucus of color which is part of the OSBA. OSBA board set up the rules to start a caucus, how it progresses from advisory to full caucus, how they work, how they vote, etc. This was all run through the State and the caucus was created. Next year this will occur for a Rural Schools caucus. The first year will be the development period and an advisory committee for 12 months then become a caucus. A couple people from smaller districts will be selected to begin the work. Vernonia will be poised to put someone on this caucus.</p>	BOARD MEMBER REPORTS
6.2	<p>Rescheduling DEMSP #4: After discussion it was decided to go forward with scheduling the final DEMSP training session on May 19th from 4:00 -7:00 pm.</p>	DISCUSSION HELD ON RESCHEDULING DEMSP #4
9.0	<p>OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION</p>	

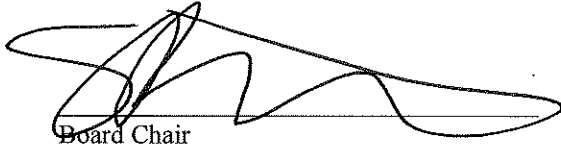
- 9.1 **Student Travel:** Out of State travel requires Board approval. Nate Underwood shared that next year, three out of state trips would like to start planning. Senior Trip, 8th Grade CloseUp Trip to DC and the HS student trip to Germany. With approval now, these groups can begin their fundraising efforts. OUT of STATE 2022-23 STUDENT TRAVEL REQUEST
- 9.2 **Honor Grad Diploma Proposal:** Cody Hathcoat, a senior at VHS and speaking on behalf of the National Honor Society spoke about a proposal to create an Honor Grad Diploma program to increase academic enhancements. Mr. Underwood stated that this proposal will be on the June meeting agenda for Board approval. HONOR GRAD DIPLOMA PROPOSAL SHARED
- 9.3 **Fee Schedule 2022-23:** An updated Fee Schedule draft for the 2022-23 year was shared. Per ODE recommendations, food service fees are increased \$.50. During the 2021-22 school year the District participated in a different food service program. Under this program all meals served were reimbursed. Next year we revert to the standard program and our meal prices need to be at the reimbursable rate. The Maintenance Department has also requested fee increases for facility use to cover costs. 2022-23 FEE SCHEDULE PRESENTED
- 9.4 **Staff Resignation:** Aaron Miller shared that 4th grade teacher Jenna Schwartz has submitted her resignation to stay home with her daughter. STAFF RESIGNATION
- 10.0 **ACTION ITEMS**
- 10.1 **Out of State Student Travel:** Amy Cieloha moved to approve student out of state travel during the 2022-23 school year for 8th grade Close Up, high school Germany student trip, and high school senior trip. Joanie Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. OUT OF STATE TRAVEL APPROVED
- 10.2 **Fee Schedule for 2022-23:** Scott Rickard moved to approve the 2022-23 Fee Schedule as presented. Amy Cieloha seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. 2022-23 FEE SCHEDULE APPROVED
- 10.3 **Staff Resignation:** Joanie Jones moved to approve the resignation of Jenna Schwartz, 4th grade teacher effective June 30, 2022. Amy Cieloha seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. J. SCHWARTZ RESIGNS
- 9.0 **MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE:** Upcoming DEMSP training on 5/19 4-7 p.m.
- 10.0 **CONSENT AGENDA:** CONSENT AGENDA
- 10.1 Minutes of 04/14/22 Regular Meeting
- Susan Wagner moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Greg Kintz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED
- 11.0 **OTHER ISSUES:** Aaron Miller shared that the District lost a day in April due to a late season snow storm. Discussion was held about extending the year by one day. Comments from the board were made in favor and against extending the year. Consensus of the Board was to not extend the year and make up the day missed. OTHER ISSUES
- Visitors / Volunteers in the school update: Currently we are not allowing visitors to come into the school to have lunch with students. Volunteer applications are being processed and volunteers are being used as needed. It was suggested to make the volunteer application a fillable form on the website. CALENDAR WILL NOT BE EXTENDED
- VISITORS FOR LUNCH & VOLUNTEER UPDATE
- Emails to the Board and what response if any should take place: Aaron Miller shared that when these type of emails come in he will address and will let the board know when he has responded. BOARD EMAIL COMMUNICATION RESPONSE PROCEDURE
- Amy Cieloha shared her concerns about chronic attendance issues. Students don't seem to be held accountable. ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTABILITY LACKING

Stacey Pelster commented that the students had their final concert cancelled due to teacher absence. CANCELLED CONCERT
Maybe the school could ask for someone to replace the teacher so the concert could go on. She CONCERNS
would like the school to think outside the box to fill these holes for the sake of the students.

12.0 MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:06 p.m.

ADJOURNED

Submitted by Barb Carr,
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Directors



Board Chair



District Clerk