

MEETING MINUTES

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD of DIRECTORS Regular Meeting – June 13, 2024 Vernonia Schools, 1000 Missouri Ave., 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 6:01 pm by Scott Rickard. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Scott Rickard, Joanie Jones, Javoss McGuire, Susan Wagner, Amy Cieloha, Greg Kintz, and Stacey Pelster (attending virtually). BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** None BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Jim Helmen, Superintendent; Michelle Eagleson, Elementary School Principal; Nate Underwood, Middle/High School Principal; Susanne Myers, Special Education Director; Marie Knight, Business Manager; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Brett Costley and Kendra Schlegel, Licensed Staff; and Teresa Williams and Camrin Eyrrick, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Scott Laird VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 2.0 AGENDA REVIEW:** Other Information and Discussion item 9.4 Administrative Memorandum of Agreement and corresponding action item #10.7 were removed from the agenda. Amy Cieloha moved to approve the agenda as amended. Joanie Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. AGENDA REVIEW
- 3.0 RECESS to BUDGET HEARING** at 6:04 p.m. BUDGET HEARING
- 3.1** Public Hearing opened at 6:04 p.m.
- 3.2** Budget Review: Jim Helmen highlighted the budget document and stated that the budget document does not reflect any staff being cut.
- 3.3** Public Comment. The floor was opened for any public comment. There was none.
- 3.4** Close Hearing. The public hearing closed at 6:06 p.m.
- 4.0 RETURN TO BOARD MEETING** at 6:06 p.m.
- 5.0 PUBLIC COMMENT:** None PUBLIC COMMENT
- 6.0 SHOWING CASING of SCHOOLS**
- 6.1 Administrative Reports:** Administrator reports were provided to the Board prior to the meeting. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS
- There were no questions for the Administrators.
- Amy Cieloha asked Mr. Helmen if there are regulations about when students can bounce between regular school and VFA enrollment. Mr. Helmen shared they are allowed to transfer at the semester break.
- 6.2 Honors Diploma Proposal:** Jim Helmen shared that there were some questions from the board at the last meeting when this was first presented. It is back on the agenda at this meeting for approval. HONORS DIPLOMA PROPOSAL
- This is not a certified Oregon honors diploma, it is only recognized at Vernonia High School
- 6.3 Spring Sports Report** SPRING SPORTS REPORT
- Teresa Williams, Co Athletic Director, reported on the spring sports season. Track had a very successful season with 21 boys and 13 girls participating. The Girls' side won their first District title and set 3 school records. The Boys' side was nominated for the 2A Les Schwab Team of the Month for May. Coach John Rody was nominated for Coach of the Year of the Girls' team. Multiple athletes competed at the State Meet and ended up on the podium.

The Softball team struggled but they are a young team with lots of potential with the athletes returning for next season.

OHSET had a great year with 4 girls competing and making it to State. One qualified at the State Meet to go to regionals but didn't go.

Boys Volleyball was fun and as a new program competed with 6A schools.

Clay Target Team had 10 athletes on the team. Varsity Letters can be earned based on the number of shots. One letter was awarded. Their State Meet is June 23rd.

Baseball – 25 athletes were on the roster at the start of the season. The weather was in issue, forcing practice indoors which proved to be challenging. Five athletes were named to the 2nd Team All League and 2 received Honorable Mention recognition.

7.0 BUSINESS REPORTS:

7.1 Superintendent Report: The Superintendent Report was provided to the Board prior to the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Jim Helmen shared highlights from the District Priorities in Academics, Attendance, Behavior and the Smarter Balance testing.

Attendance saw an increase this year due to student incentives, celebrations, competitions, etc. These efforts are working to increase overall attendance.

Behavior: Investments with PBIS and a Behavior Specialist is working. We are seeing lower behavior incidents. Next year the plan is to build a Tier 3 program at the secondary level.

Smarter Balance Testing: 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 11th grade students are tested.

English Language Arts: Growth was seen at each grade level with the exception of 4th, 6th and 11th grade. :

Writing: According to Michelle Eagleson, students were frustrated and struggled with writing at the beginning of the year. After a year focusing on writing, the students are excited and proud to write. At the secondary level writing was added across the curriculum. Writing is considered critical thinking and within the Smarter Balance testing, this is heavily weighted.

Math: Growth was seen at each grade level with the exception of 6th and 11th grade.

Science: 5th, 8th, and 11th grade students are tested and growth was seen at the 5th and 8th grade level.

Overall, according to Jim Helmen, the District has a lot to be proud of and he thanked the staff for their hard work. Positive results are being seen.

7.1.1 Staffing Update:

New Hires include Doug Bilodeau, MS Math Teacher and new Head Football Coach; Dakota Jackson, K-12 Structured Learning Center Teacher, and Nina Lengefeld, VMS Science Teacher.

An Enrichment Program is being added at VES. A current teacher will move into this position to cover STEM technology, art and music.

Brittanie Roberts and Brett Costley shared information about a workshop they recently attended at NWRESD learning about drones.

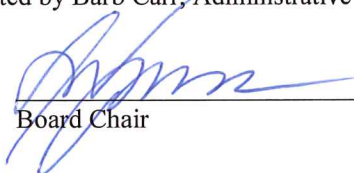
7.2 **Financial Report:** The Financial Report was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Marie Knight shared the ending fund balance is increasing and is in line with where we want to be. A resolution adopting a supplemental budget for the current year needs board approval. This is a requirement due to the District receiving additional revenue above what was initially budgeted from the State School Fund and property tax. The supplemental budget resolution authorizes this additional money to the budget and then allows the District to spend it. There were no questions from the Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- 7.3 **Maintenance Report:** The Maintenance Report was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Amy Cieloha asked for an update on the issues with the Snack Shack. Jim Helmen indicated that Mark Brown is getting everyone back in to do a final check of everything. Gordon Jarman will be asked to attend this meeting when it is scheduled. Amy noted that the door doesn't shut properly and that the rain spouts were not installed correctly. MAINTENANCE REPORT
SNACK SHACK
CONCERNS
- 8.0 **BOARD REPORTS/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT:**
- 8.1 **COMMITTEE REPORTS** COMMITTEE REPORTS
- 8.1.1 **Safety Committee** – Susan Wagner shared that the committee met recently wrapping up the current year tasks and getting ready for the upcoming school year. Justin Ward will chair this committee again next year.
- 8.1.2 **Policy Committee** – 2nd reading of policies and approval are on the agenda.
- 8.1.3 **Scholarship Committee** – Work for this year is done.
- 9.0 **OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION** OTHER INFORMATION
- 9.1 **Policy Updates:** The following policies were presented for a second reading. POLICY UPDATES
- 9.1.1 BBBA – Board Member Qualifications
 - 9.1.2 BCF – Advisory Committees to the Board
 - 9.1.3 CB - Superintendent
 - 9.1.4 CBC – Superintendent’s Contract
 - 9.1.5 CPA – Layoff and Recall for Administrators
 - 9.1.6 CPA-AR – Layoff and Recall for Administrators
 - 9.1.7 DBEA – Budget Committee
 - 9.1.8 EFA – Local Wellness
 - 9.1.9 EFA-AR – Local Wellness Program
 - 9.1.10 EH – Records and Data Management
 - 9.1.11 EH-AR – Records and Data Management
 - 9.1.12 GBEA – Workplace Harassment
 - 9.1.13 GCAA – Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of Oregon Educators
 - 9.1.14 GCBDB/GDBDB – Early return to Work
 - 9.1.15 GCDA/GDDA-AR – Criminal records Checks and Fingerprinting
 - 9.1.16 GCPA – reduction or Recall of Licensed Staff
 - 9.1.17 GCPA-AR – Reduction or Recall of Licensed Staff
- 9.2 **2024-25 Fees:** A draft fee schedule for 2024-25 was presented. Increases are inflation driven and costs haven't been increased in a long time. Stacey Pelster felt their needed to be a reduced rate for families with multiple students in multiple sports.
- 9.3 **OSEA Personal Leave Transfer Request:** Camrin Eyrrick, OSEA President, shared that per the OSEA contract in order for employees to give personal time to another employee in need, board approval is required. This request has been made.
- 9.4 **Administrative Memorandum of Agreement/Contract 2024-2027.** This item was removed during the Agenda Review.
- 10.0 **ACTION ITEMS:**
- 10.1 **Honors Diploma:** Susan Wagner moved to approve the VHS Honors Diploma effective 24-25 school year as presented and discussed. Javoss McGuire seconded the motion. Scott shared that he still does not feel 3.5 G.P.A. is high enough. Yes votes: Greg Kintz, Amy Cieloha, Joanie Jones, Javoss McGuire, Susan Wagner and Stacey Pelster. No votes: Scott Rickard. Motion passed. HONORS DIPLOMA
APPROVED
- 10.2 **Resolution #2024-04 – Adopting the Budget, Making Appropriations, Imposing and Categorizing the Tax.** Greg Kintz moved to approve the Vernonia School District budget for the 2024-25 school year as follows: 2024-25 BUDGET
ADOPTED
- General Fund: \$10,329,052
 - Special Revenue Fund: \$3,717,782
 - Debt Service Fund: \$1,200,000
 - Capital Projects Fund: \$0
 - Total, All Funds: \$15,346,834
- as presented with a tax rate of \$5.0121 per \$1,000 of assessed value to be assessed in support of the General Fund and in the amount of \$1,200,000 for debt service for general obligation

bonds. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.3 Resolution 2024-05 – Adopting a Supplemental Budget to Transfer Appropriations within funds of the 2023-24 budget.** Javoss McGuire moved to approve resolution #2024-05 adopting and appropriating the supplemental budget and to transfer appropriations within funds of the 2023-24 budget. Greg Kintz seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously. SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROVED
- 10.4 Staff Hire:** Susan Wagner moved to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to hire Dakota Jackson, K-12 Structured Learning Center Teacher and Nina Lengefeld as VMS Science Teacher. Amy Cieloha seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously. JACKSON and LENGFELD HIRED
- 10.5 2024-25 Fee Schedule:** No motion stated. Item will be tabled for a later date. FEE SCHEDULE TABLED
- 10.6 OSEA Personal Leave Transfer:** Amy Cieloha moved to approve the OSEA personal Leave Transfer as requested. Joanie Jones seconded the motion. Scott Rickard stated he is happy to see people giving of their valuable leave time. Motion passed unanimously. OSEA PERSONAL LEAVE TRANSFER REQUEST APPROVED
- 10.7 Administrative Memorandum of Agreement/Contract:** This item was removed during the Agenda review.
- 11.0 MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE:** The Board per Policy BK has an annual obligation to do a check in as to how the board is functioning. The OSBA Board self-evaluation document was shared for reference. According to Jim Helmen, the Board can do a formal evaluation as provided by OSBA or do our own process, or remove the language in the policy requiring the evaluation. BOARD PERFORMANCE
- Scott Rickard felt the evaluation isn’t necessary.
Greg Kintz felt it a good idea to read the OSBA document and reflect on it and make a statement as to the performance of the Board.
Susan Wagner felt it is a disservice to constituents to not evaluate ourselves.
- This will be discussed again in the future.
- 12.0 CONSENT AGENDA:** CONSENT AGENDA
- 12.1 Minutes of 05/09/2024 Regular Meeting.**
- Susan Wagner moved to approve the consent agenda as presented Javoss McGuire seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED
- 13.0 OTHER ISSUES:** OTHER ISSUES
- 13.1** Next Agenda Setting Meeting will be Scott Rickard and Joanie Jones - 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 2nd. Stacy Pelster stated she will be absent at the next meeting on July 11th.
- OSBA summer board conference is coming up in August. Please let Barb Carr know if you plan to attend.
- Greg Kintz – Currently there are only 48 members in OSBA’s rural caucus. He asked board members to consider signing up.
- Amy Cieloha requested to get monthly updates on the student body fund review.
- 14.0 MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:25 p.m. ADJOURNED
- Submitted by Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant



Board Chair



District Clerk