

MEETING MINUTES

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD of DIRECTORS Regular Meeting – October 17, 2024 Mist Elementary, 69163 Hwy 47, Mist

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER:** A Regular Meeting of the Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Susan Wagner. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Susan Wagner, Greg Kintz, Joanie Jones, Javoss McGuire, Amy Cieloha, and Tony Holmes. BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** Stacey Pelster BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Jim Helmen, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle & High School Principal (virtual); Michelle Eagleson, Elementary Principal (virtual); Susanne Myers, Special Education Director (virtual); Marie Knight, Business Manager (virtual); Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant, Sena Wilmoth, Licensed Staff and Camrin Eyrrick, Classified Staff (virtual). STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Julie Ramsey and Doris Buchholz VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 2.0 AGENDA REVIEW:** The following items were added to the agenda. AGENDA REVIEW
- 5.1.1 Integrated Guidance Update
- 7.3 Athletic CoOp Agreement with Jewell
- 8.1 Action to approve the Athletic CoOp Agreement with Jewell
- Amy Cieloha moved to approve the agenda as amended. Javoss McGuire seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.
- 3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT:** None PUBLIC COMMENT
- 4.0 SHOWING CASING of SCHOOLS** ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS
- 4.1 ADMINSTRATOR REPORTS:** The Board received all Administrator Reports prior to the meeting. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS
- Amy Cieloha asked for enrollment numbers prior to COVID. These will be sent out. She also asked if Character Strong is still being used during Logger Power Hour or Advisory. According to Mr. Underwood a new curriculum called WayFinder is being used. Jim Helmen shared that the use of SEL curriculum is mandated by the State and the WayFinder curriculum is more relevant to secondary students.
- Susan Wagner thanked the administrators for their reports. Board members are getting lots of great information and therefore they don't have a lot of questions during the meeting.
- 4.2 VSD Citizen of the Month:** Susan Wagner shared that she also serves on the Vernonia City Council and members take turns selecting someone to be recognized as Citizen of the Month. Susan chose Vernonia School District. The District is integral to the entire community. Jim Helmen thanked Susan for the recognition, stating it is an honor to be recognized. VSD HONORED BY CITY
- 5.0 BUSINESS REPORTS:**
- 5.1 Superintendent Report:** The Superintendent's Report was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT
- Jim Helmen shared that the headings of his report directly relate to his Superintendent goals.
- Greg Kintz asked for an update on the vacant YTP position. According to Mr. Helmen, the position has adjusted and is now only funded through a limited grant. It is no longer full time. The position has been offered but has not yet been accepted. YTP POSITION UPDATE

5.1.1 Integrated Guidance Update: Jim Helmen shared that this data was presented at the end of last year as a requirement by the Oregon Department of Education. ODE sets the metric that Districts are required to meet in terms of student growth. INTEGRATED GUIDANCE UPDATE

Quarterly, Districts are required to submit their progress goals and also how Student Investment Account (SIA) and High School Success Account (HSSA) funds are being utilized and contributing to student success. This report is a summary of how Vernonia School District performed. It shows that adequate progress is being made and contains narratives on how funds are being spent.

Discussion was held on growth percentages. Staff are working very hard to bring students to where they need to be. After COVID students on average were 2-3 years behind and expectations have been low. It's been a steep hill to climb especially with the proficiency test being as difficult as it is and with such a high level of rigor. It's not uncommon for a fluent reader in Kindergarten, 1st grade and 2nd grade, to not meet the standard as a 3rd grader. Jim Helmen stated the importance of parents helping their students at home with their reading and comprehension.

5.2 Financial Report: The Financial Report was shared with the Board prior to the meeting. There were no questions on this report. FINANCIAL REPORT

An updated student body account review and the progress on their internal audit was shared. Board members were asked to submit any questions by email to Marie Knight.

5.3 Maintenance Report: Mark Brown's report was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. MAINTENANCE REPORT

It was asked for clarification regarding replacement locks at the District Office. Jim Helmen explained that this was necessary to separate District office access keys from the standard school access keys.

Greg Kintz shared that he hears comments from visiting game officials that we have a fantastic field.

6.0 BOARD REPORTS/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT:

6.1 COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1.1 Safety Committee – Susan Wagner shared the Safety Committee their had first meeting with the new meeting process, changing how they address adult safety issues. Student safety issues be a separate committee.

6.1.2 Policy Committee – Nothing reported

6.1.3 Scholarship Committee – Nothing reported

6.2 Board Member Items: Greg Kintz shared that the OSBA Regional Roadshow will meet next Thursday in Astoria.. The target and impact of the 2025 legislative session will be shared. The Rural School Board Caucus is still looking for members to join. Any of our board members are eligible. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

7.0 OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION

7.1 Division 22 Standards: Jim Helmen shared that after his thorough review of our policies, procedures, and standards, the Vernonia School District is in compliance with all of them. The yearly report is due by November 1st as stated in OAR 581-022-2305 District Assurances of Compliance with Public School Standards. DIVISION 22 STANDARDS IN COMPLIANCE NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

7.2 Class Size / Enrollment Report: Jim Helmen stated our incoming Kindergarten numbers are down as they are in many other districts. Overall our enrollment is holding. CLASS SIZE / ENROLLMENT

Tony Holmes asked at what point would an elementary class be split? According to Mr. Helmen this is looked at if there would be 15-17 students in each class. Currently our staff to student ratio is still good.

7.3 Athletic CoOp with Jewell School District: Jewell School District has requested to join us for high school boys' basketball. They are unable to put together their own team due to low numbers. A request for girls' basketball hasn't been received. JEWELL REQUESTS ATHLETIC COOP

8.0 ACTION ITEMS:

8.1 Athletic CoOp Agreement with Jewell School District: Greg Kintz moved to approve the Athletic CoOp Agreement with Jewell for the 2024-25 Boys' Basketball season. Javoss McGuire seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

ATHLETIC COOP
APPROVED FOR BOYS
BASKETBALL

9.0 MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE: Susan Wagner read a letter from COSA recognizing that Jim Helmen was nominated for Oregon 2024-25 Superintendent of the Year. The winner of this designation went to the Superintendent from Corvallis. Susan shared that she'd like to see small and large districts separated into their own category.

MONITORING BOARD
PERFORMANCE

10.0 CONSENT AGENDA:

10.1 Minutes of 09/12/2024 Regular Meeting

CONSENT AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA
APPROVED

11.0 OTHER ISSUES:

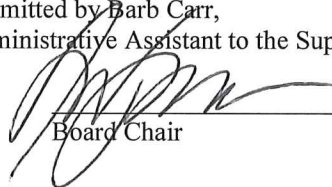
11.1 Next Agenda Setting Meeting: Javoss McGuire will join Jim Helmen and Susan Wagner at next month's agenda setting meeting to be held, Wednesday, November 6th at 5:00 p.m.

OTHER ISSUES

13.0 MEETING ADJOURNED 7:07 p.m.

ADJOURNED

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



Board Chair



District Clerk