

MEETING MINUTES

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD of DIRECTORS Workshop Meeting – May 19, 2022 Vernonia Schools Library, 1000 Missouri Avenue, Vernonia

CALL TO ORDER: A Workshop of the Board of Directors of Vernonia School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 4:17 p.m. by Stacey Pelster

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Board Present: Stacey Pelster, Susan Wagner, Scott Rickard, Amy Cieloha, and Joanie Jones

BOARD PRESENT

Board Absent: Greg Kintz and Javoss McGuire

BOARD ABSENT

Staff Present: Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle and High School Principal; Michelle Eagleson, Elementary Principal; Rachel Wilson, K-12 Vice Principal; Susanne Myers, Special Education Director; and Pete Weisel and Ashley Ward, Licensed Staff.

STAFF PRESENT

Visitors Present: Janet Avila-Medina, OSBA

VISITORS

1. **Welcome Back:** Janet Avila-Medina introduced herself as did those attending.

2. **Brief Recap/Check-In:** Janet Avila-Medina gave an overview from Session #3 and reviewed the overall program.

SESSION #3 RECAP

Session #1 – Facilitated planning session, Assessment of board needs for project, setting expectations, designing project outcomes, scheduling future sessions.

Session #2 – Project session 1 with District Leadership Team

Session #3 – Project session 2 with District Leadership Team

Session #4 – Final Project session with District Leadership Team

Purpose: to develop a board project that will impact student achievement through a collaborative governance approach.

Board Project: Implement Monitoring Plan to hold the school district accountable for meeting student learning expectations.

3. **Session #4: Board Project with District Leadership Team - Monitoring Session #2.**

SESSION #3

Focus Area: Innovative Career Pathways

District Priority #2: Innovative and broad career path options for all students are provided through learning opportunities such as vocational, STEAM, field trips, curriculum and other interactive and personalized learning experiences.

Discussion Guiding Questions

- How will the district achieve this priority?
- What work is the district currently doing to achieve this priority?
- What data is missing?
- What progress does the board want to continue seeing?

Discussion Notes:

- Extensive shop systems
- At the elementary level there is STEAM night, which is a way to get kids involved and aware. There is no coursework but at least an opportunity to see different occupations • Forestry is popular
- Students have preconceived notions about what things are. Counselors encourage students and let them know what opportunities there are
- Looking to revamp career learning programs and the senior project
- There is an outdoor program for 6th graders, but high school student's volunteer • Fire science

program; partner with fire department? Fire science works, Colorado partnered with fire department and a community college; it was a half-day

- Disciplinary data: how we address student behavior is telling. Is there a correlation with this data and the participation #s. Are students with referrals participating in the programs? • There are a lot of great programs, but how is career pathway data being captured? • Are competitive science after school programs still happening?
- Are we comparing outcomes?
- Is there a way to track after high school, if these skills are being transferrable to careers or the pathways students choose after high school?
- DLT is developing an alumni survey
- It is about skills; students don't necessarily have to choose a career that utilizes those skills • What about connecting these programs to our curriculum and the basics like math? For example, applying geometry to construction/wood class
- Gaps with instructors; for example, if a welding teacher is needed, the earnings don't necessarily match. It is more about industry experience vs. teaching license experience
- Having a motivational speaker at graduation, school assemblies, etc., to talk about their journey is going to create impact
- Can we apply some of the special education work to all students? For example, have check-ins? • Can middle schools get a sample of some of the programs/courses offered in high school? • Can English teachers support the senior scholarships turnout by incorporating some of the work into their curriculum?
- Is there more we can do with dual credits?

Overall, the board wants to continue seeing progress in these areas:

1. Increase % of students taking CTE course and earning certifications
2. Increase diversification of students (e.g., more girls taking/signing up for wood classes, etc.)
3. More high school seniors with more credits at graduation (e.g., more dual credit opportunities at school)
4. A linkage between students' interest in CTE, curriculum, and projects that are offered, and to what extent they apply that knowledge to their career pathways

4. What's Next: How the Board will Continue this Work:

1. Review the Strategic Plan Process
2. Complete Superintendent Evaluation
3. Complete Board Self-Evaluation
4. Review Board Goals
5. Review board Operating Agreements

A sample calendar was provided.

ADJOURNED: Workshop adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

ADJOURNED

Compiled by notes from Janet Avila-Medina and submitted by Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant


Board Chair


District Clerk