

MEETING MINUTES

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD of DIRECTORS Regular Meeting – September 8, 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 6:01 p.m. by Stacey Pelster MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Stacey Pelster, Susan Wagner, Scott Rickard, Amy Cieloha, Greg Kintz, Javoss McGuire, and Joanie Jones. BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** None BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Jim Helmen, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, MS/HS Principal; Michelle Eagleson, Elementary Principal; Rachel Wilson, K-12 Vice Principal; Susanne Myers, Special Education Director; Kendra Schlegel, Rachel Brown, Juliet Safier, Sena Wilmoth, Terri Ann Stavens and Brittanie Roberts, Licensed Staff; and Tabetha Groshong, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Scott Laird and Julie Ramsey 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. Amy Cieloha seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. AGENDA REVIEW
- 3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA and NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** PUBLIC COMMENT
Juliet Safier, VEA President, introduced herself.
- 4.0 SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS**
- 4.1** Susan Wagner thanked the Administration for their great reports. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS
- Nate Underwood introduced Trinity Weber, Leadership student. Trinity provided a brief report on upcoming happenings at VHS.
- Welcome back dance next week
 - Homecoming Oct. 3-10
- Michelle Eagleson shared that starting on Monday, lunch will be offered to students at Mist. The custodial staff will shuttle the food out to them.
- 5.0 BUSINESS REPORTS:**
- 5.1 Superintendent Report:** Jim Helmen’s Superintendent Report was reviewed by the Board. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT
- Scott Rickard asked for clarification on the Strategic Plan, specifically if this will be the framework that the Board needs to develop? Mr Helmen shared that the Improvement Plan is based on data and areas of improvement. The Board and Administration will take a deeper look and dive into the data.
- Community engagement is a big part of what we are doing as a team. Meet the Family night was a huge success. Administration did a great job with their staff. Feedback was that people felt part of the school and felt connection to teachers and families.
- Susan Wagner commented that parents and staff were happy and engaged. Overall, a feeling of positivity which has been absent.
- Joanie Jones went to Meet the Family night at Mist. It was also very positive.
- 5.1.1 Superintendent Annual Goals:** Jim Helmen shared a copy of his goals for the 2022-23 year. As discussed previously, it was noted that the addition of increasing dual credit options had not been added but will be added to the second section. He also noted as previously discussed, that he has paired each goal with the Superintendent evaluation standards. SUPERINTENDENT ANNUAL GOALS SHARED WITH BOARD

Amy Cieloha shared that she was hoping for more CTE reference in the goals. Mr. Helmen stated that as this is his first year, he didn't want to over promise and under perform.

Jim Helmen and Nate Underwood gave a quick update on CTE:

- Students are connecting with Mr. Costanzo, the new welding teacher.
- Sawmill building is almost done – Justin Benassi is doing great things.
- Brett Costley doing great things with engineering.
- PCC will come in and bring a mentor. The District is going to get a new C & C machine, training and then the next step will be CAD.

Stacey Pelster suggested the Superintendent goals be published.

5.1.2 Smarter Balance Assessment Scores / Attendance / Behavior Report:

Handouts of smarter balance assessment scores were shared. Data in mathematics, English language arts and science were reviewed. District scores were compared to the State averages.

SMARTER BALANCE
ASSESSMENT SCORES /
ATTENDANCE /
BEHAVIOR DATA
SHARED

The professional view is judged by outcomes. This is a singular assessment that provides a look into what we are doing. Mr. Helmen stated that he believes smarter balance is a good test and opting out should not be promoted. There is value in the testing and the current scores are a baseline going forward.

Behavior data was also shared. Currently data is being entered into the SWIS program as well as Synergy. Going forward teachers will be entering any behavior referral data into Synergy which will eliminate a great amount of paper based behavior referrals. The behavior matrix and intervention system has been revamped and 123 Magic, a new behavior program, is being used. Since school has started 4 behavior referrals have been received.

Amy Cieloha stated that she has brought this up before but does not like the number of referrals written and the feeling of doom this causes the students and the parents. Rachel Wilson shared that staff have had great conversations and open communication with students and parents and stands by the process of how they received and handled behavior referrals. They helped to identify the needs a student may have and helps the District with placement. Staff reteach and reinforce expectations.

Mr. Helmen reinforced that data is being shared as baseline data and will grow from there going forward. The data is purely for the Board to review and absorb.

Attendance data was shared. Mr. Helmen expressed concern that if we maintain the same trajectory by the year 2026-27 our attendance rate will be 65.8 percent. Stacey Pelster asked what the state average is and how does it compare to us? In 2018-19, 88% of Vernonia students K-12 attended 90% of the time. The state average for the same year was 83%.

5.2 Financial Report: Marie Knight shared that she is working with the auditors this week to finish up the 2021-22 year. Her report reflects business as usual. There were no questions from the Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT

5.3 Maintenance Report: Mark Brown's report was reviewed. It was noted that an entry regarding damage to the water bottle filling station appears to be carried forward from last month.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

6.0 BOARD REPORTS/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT:

BOARD REPORTS

6.1 Committee Reports: Susan Wagner shared that the safety committee will hold their next meeting virtually on the 13th.

6.2 Superintendent Evaluation Standards & Timeline: The standards for evaluation as well as the timeline for conducting the Superintendent evaluation were discussed and developed at the last Board workshop. It is being presented for formal adoption at this meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT
EVALUATION &
TIMELINE DISCUSSE

<p>6.3 Board Workshop Topics: Discussion was held on what topics the Board wanted to discuss at the upcoming Board Workshop on September 29th. The following items were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superintendent/Board Operating Agreement. The Board would like to have samples ahead of time. • Scheduling a fall and spring monitoring session. 	<p>BOARD WORKSHOP TOPICS DETERMINED</p>
<p>7.0 OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION</p>	
<p>7.1 New Hires: Jim Helmen shared that the District has four new hires: Erinne Coit 2nd grade, Alexia Hamilton HS Math, Jessica Kintz MS/HS Art, and Brittanie Roberts, 3rd grade.</p>	<p>NEW HIRES</p>
<p>7.2 Speech & Language Services Contract: Jim Helmen shared that this is not something that needs to come before the Board as this person is not a District employee but to remain consistent he is sharing the personal and professional services contract the District has entered into with a Speech and Language person. This contract saves the District funding in lieu of going through the ESD for these services.</p>	<p>SLP CONTRACT</p>
<p>7.3 Staff Resignation: Melissa Reynolds, VES Kindergarten teacher has resigned effective September 30. Amy Cieloha asked how many students are in Kindergarten. There are currently 5 at Mist and 36 in Vernonia.</p>	<p>STAFF RESIGNATION</p>
<p>8.0 ACTION ITEMS</p>	
<p>8.1 Superintendent Annual Goals: Susan Wagner moved to approve the annual goals for Superintendent Jim Helmen for 2022-23 as presented. Greg Kintz seconded the motion. Susan Wagner amended her motion to include the focus on dual credit under goal #2 as discussed. Greg Kintz seconded the amended motion. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>SUPT ANNUAL GOALS APPROVED</p>
<p>8.2 Superintendent Evaluation Standards & Timeline: Scott Rickard moved to approve the Superintendent Evaluation Standards and Timeline as discussed. Javoss McGuire seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>SUPT EVALUATION STANDARDS & TIMELINE APPROVED</p>
<p>8.3 New Hires: Amy Cieloha moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to hire Erinne Coit 2nd Grade, Alexia Hamilton HS Math, Jessica Kintz MS/HS Art, and Brittanie Roberts 3rd Grade. Joanie Jones seconded the motion. Greg Kintz abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest. Motion passed unanimously with the remaining six board members.</p>	<p>COIT, HAMILTON, KINTZ and ROBERTS HIRED</p>
<p>8.4 Professional/Personal Services Contract: Susan Wagner moved to approve the professional/personal services contract for Linsey Zeller Antone, to perform speech and language services for the 2022-23 year. Javoss McGuire seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>SEL SERVICED CONTRACT APPROVED</p>
<p>8.5 Staff Resignation: Javoss McGuire moved to accept the resignation of Melissa Reynolds effective September 30, 2022. Scott Rickard seconded the motion. Susan Wagner thanked her for staying through the end of the month. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>REYNOLDS RESIGNS</p>
<p>9.0 MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE: None.</p>	<p>MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE</p>
<p>10.0 CONSENT AGENDA:</p>	
<p>10.1 Minutes of 08/11/22 Regular Meeting and the 08/27/22 Workshop.</p>	<p>MINUTES</p>
<p>Greg Kintz moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Javoss McGuire seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED</p>
<p>11.0 OTHER ISSUES: Agenda setting meeting in October will be Stacey Pelster and Amy Cieloha.</p>	<p>OTHER ISSUES</p>
<p>Jim Helmen was asked to discuss HB 3294 which requires Districts to provide access to menstruation products. Mr. Helmen shared that Ashley Ward is working with administration on what we are providing. Mr. Helmen reminded all that as a District we are required to uphold the laws of our State and it is not our job to express our personal beliefs. He shared a sample that will go in all bathrooms. The small Tupperware container provides requirements for the dignity act and gives</p>	<p>HB 3294 EXPLAINED</p>

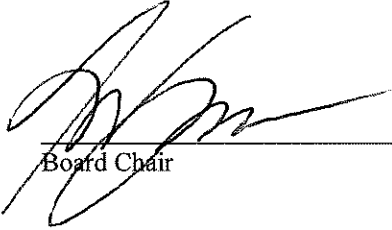
access to menstruation products to all students along with disposal information and information on video access or literature. If students need further products can access by reaching out to Ashley or our school nurse. The containers will be placed in all bathrooms, grades K-12. The intent behind the legislation is to provide resources to students that may not have access to them.

Mr. Helmen shared a circle chain link graphic titled "Elements of a Good Decision" which he uses every time a decision is made.

12.0 MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:38 p.m.

ADJOURNED

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



Board Chair



District Clerk