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| Bret Uptmor  Superintendent |

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| Grant School District #3  401 N. Canyon City Blvd. **•** Canyon City, OR 97820  Phone: (541) 575-1280 **•** Fax: (541) 575-3614 |

**BOARD MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, October 20, 2021 ● 7:00 P.M.**

**District Office**

**MINUTES**

* 1. **PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**
  2. **Call to order**
  3. **Pledge of allegiance**

Pursuant to notification of Grant School District 3 board of directors and news release to The Blue Mountain Eagle, KJDY and posted on the district web site. Haley Walker called the school board meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Other board members in attendance were Chris Labhart (via Zoom), Aaron Lieuallen, Kelly Stokes, Alicia Griffin and Dr. Colleen Robertson. Jake Taylor was absent. Superintendent Bret Uptmor and Business Manager Heidi Hallgarth were also present.

* 1. **Agenda Review**

3.3Superintendent Search Consultant Selection

4.11 FFA National Convention Itinerary

**1.4 Public Forum**

No public comment.

1. **Reports**
   1. **Superintendent’s Report**

Uptmor told the board that a co-op meeting is scheduled with Prairie City on Friday to work on building the partnership.

Uptmor told the board that he has not scheduled a meeting for the preschool Promise grant yet.

Uptmor told the board that SRO services through the city are ending at the end of this month but conversations with the sheriff’s office have begun. Uptmor said that the County was going to review MOU with the city to see if any changes needed to be made. Uptmor said that he would probably have a new MOU set in place for approval at the November meeting.

Uptmor said that himself along with a group of other Superintendent’s had met virtually with Governor Brown on Monday to let her know what the climate is in the districts across the state. Uptmor said that the Governor seemed receptive to the Superintendents. Uptmor said that he told the Governor that the staff are overwhelmed across the board and we need to find a way to soften that blow for them. Uptmor said that the Superintendents gave the Governor suggestions on the masking mandate which she said she will take to OHA to see what can be done. Uptmor told the board that Western Oregon seems to be supportive of the vaccination of students while Eastern Oregon is not. Uptmor said that he is hopeful that the vaccination exclusion will be available to our students as other immunizations are. Walker told Uptmor that she appreciated him advocating for us.

* 1. **Administrator Reports**

2.2.01 Grant Union Junior/Senior High School Principal, Ryan Gerry, told the board that Grant Union had made it through homecoming, which was a positive. Gerry said that they were able to hold events like in years past so they were getting back to some normalcy. Gerry told the board that the Grant Health Department told the district that starting tomorrow quarantine days will drop from 14 to 10 days. Robertson asked Uptmor if there had been any talk of going to distance learning during his talk with the Governor. Uptmor said that there had not.

2.2.02 Humbolt Elementary Principal, Janine Attlesperger, told the board that the bullhorn had been installed today and seemed to be working. Attlesperger said that the rest of her report was as written.

2.2.03 GU Athletic Director, Ryan Gerry, told the board that the district tournament for volleyball had been changed this year due to COVID. Gerry said that instead of holding a tournament the higher seeded teams would host the lower seeded teams at their school for playoff games. Gerry said that Grant Union would host Union on Saturday with the winner traveling to Stanfield on Tuesday. Gerry said that because of the new format Grant Union would not be hosting the High Desert 1A district tournament on Saturday. Gerry told the board that the home cross country meet was tomorrow at 7Th Street and that Grant Union would be hosting the 1A, 2A and 3A cross country district meet next week at 7th Street.

2.2.04 Seneca Head Teacher, Dana McLean, told the board that the new secretary’s first day was today and that the remainder of her report was as written.

2.2.05 District SPED Director/Diagnostician/DTC/ Tag Coordinator, Rhonda McCumber, told the board that the State went back to the previous performance tasks so they will be longer then they were last year.

2.2.06 Assistant Principal, Karen Shelton, told the board that there was a correction on her report and that it was actually the seniors participated in the ASVAB testing, not the juniors. Shelton also told the board that they were able to start bringing events back into the school to make the year a little more normal. Shelton said that they have a financial aid night, an EOU visit and an OIT visit scheduled for the seniors. Shelton told the board that Jerry Peacock was donating two 3-d printers to Grant Union.

2.2.07 Engagement Specialist, RC Huerta, told the board that the new website was up and running and that he was working on getting the other sites updated. Huerta told the board that they had five participants in the chili cook-off and that Mandie McQuown and Susan Mitchell won. Huerta said that the Booster club donated prizes for the winner and the 8 judges/students got swag for judging the contest. Huerta told the board to check out the Facebook page each week to play the “Guess Who” game that is going on right now. Huerta said that the staff member of the week was still going on with the spotlight on Mr. Teague this week. Huerta told the board that he would be representing the district on Coffee Time twice a month. Huerta told the board that he would like to do a family listening group and reach out to parents once a month or so to see how things could be done differently and maybe more efficiently. Robertson said that she loves the idea of the family listening group and that she hears from grandparents that are involved with their grandkids so she would love to see grandparents and guardians involved in this group. Lieuallen said that he loves the grandparent idea but would also love to see the district reaching out to new parents moving to the community. Walker said that the various activities were fun and engaging. Robertson told Huerta that we are so glad that you are here.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**

3.1 Division 22 Assurances

Uptmor told the board that every year we are required to publicly present our Division 22 standards. Uptmor said that the leadership team went through the standards and did not find any areas that the district was deficient in. Uptmor reminded the board that this report of standards was for the 2020-21 school year. Uptmor said that instructional time is one of the first standards that they reviewed to make sure that all of the schools’ schedules met the standards. Lieuallen asked McCumber if the waived standard for essential skills affected any of the students she has in her programs in terms of data collection. McCumber said that this is not affecting the SPED department because they use data from the teachers and will utilize the Data Suite program once it is finished. Uptmor reminded the board that senior projects were part of the essential skills standard and the district still required the senior projects even though it was waived by the State. Robertson asked if there was a yearly fee for the Data Suite program. Uptmor said that there was and that it was budgeted for with the HSS, SIA and Early Intervention grants but this year the ESD said they would pay for it. Robertson said that she was glad to see that the district was in compliance.

* 1. Student Representative to the Board

Uptmor told the board that he had reached out to Mark Witty to see what Baker School District did in regards to their student representative. Uptmor said that Witty told him that the student gives a report to the board similar to what the leadership team does. Uptmor told the board that when he was in Ontario there were students from each school that would give a presentation at the meetings but that can make for long meetings. Labhart said that he had also visited with Mark Witty and that Labhart wasn’t sure if we needed a policy or not. Labhart said that he thought that it was important to have a student reporting to the board in order to keep students first. Labhart said that he would like the board to consider finding a student to join the board. Walker asked if there are guidelines on what the students can and cannot present to the board. Uptmor said that typically the reports are about what’s going on in the schools and any activities that are going on that month. Walker said she thinks that having a student representative at the board meetings was a good idea. Griffin said she thought that it would help bridge the gap quickly and more efficiently if the board was aware of how the decisions they make are affecting the students directly. Griffin said that she agreed that there should be some guidelines set and even possibly pre-approval of the report before the meeting. Stokes said that he thinks it’s a good idea and agrees that guidelines should be set. Robertson said she loves the idea but hopes that it’s not too burdensome for the students. Lieuallen asked if there would be one student for the entire year or if there could be a different student at each meeting. Lieuallen asked if the Leadership teacher could help to get the process started. Labhart said that he would like to see Huerta and Behrens come up with a plan on how to get this going. Labhart said he liked the idea of rotating students throughout the year as well. Walker said that consensus of the board was to pursue this with the help of Behrens and Huerta. Dougharity-Spencer said that each month a class from Humbolt and Seneca could submit things that they are doing as well even if it is a recorded presentation. Dougharity-Spencer said that she thinks it’s important to represent all of the schools and not just GU.

* 1. Superintendent Search Consultant Selection

Uptmor told the board that while reviewing things that are going on in his personal and work life he started seeing some things that generated a time when transition could happen. Uptmor continued that there were a multitude of things that he started seeing that if he started them and then left there could be delays to the projects and so the district needs to have a leader in there for the entire time. Walker explained that there are 3 members on the board that went through the last recruitment and last time they used Greg McKenzie but he is no longer doing this work so the proposals that we have now are from COSA and OSBA. Walker said that she would like to see a decision on the consulting firm made tonight. Walker told the board that she had read through both proposals and believes that both of them will be good. Walker told the board that there are already several vacant superintendent positions open so she would like to see this process done sooner rather than later. Robertson said that she liked the post-employment services that COSA offers. Lieuallen asked Uptmor if he has had any experience with either of the firms. Uptmor said that he had been through OSBA interviews and they’re good and even though COSA is just starting out with this venture they have teamed up with Hank Harris and he does an incredible job so the board couldn’t go wrong with either one. Walker asked the leadership team if they’ve had any experience with either one. Shelton and Gerry said they would choose COSA. Griffin said that with the post-employment support that COSA offers she felt that it would really set the candidate up for success so that would solidify her decision. Lieuallen said that he could probably support COSA. Walker told the board that COSA’s proposal was very general but it could be tailored to the district’s needs. Labhart said that the district must have public comment from the public and staff.

Stokes moved to select COSA as the consulting firm for the Superintendent search. Griffin seconded. 6 for 0 opposed.

Lieuallen said that he agrees with the back end support that COSA offers. Robertson said that she agrees but that she wants to make sure the district maximizes our opportunities in regards to the timeline. Labhart said he had nothing more to add. Stokes said he was good with COSA. Griffin said she was in support. Walker said that she had nothing to add either.

1. **CONSENT AGENDA**
   1. September 7th Work Session and September 15th Board Meeting Minutes
   2. Approve GU Middle School Girls’ Basketball coach – Jayson McQuown
   3. Accept Letter of Resignation from GU MS Wrestling Coach – Don Speakman
   4. Accept Letter of Resignation from Humbolt Cook’s Assistant – Melissa VanLoo
   5. Approve Seneca Office Specialist – Sierra Hutchison
   6. Approve GU Educational Assistant – Susan Mitchell
   7. Approve GU Assistant Wrestling Coach – Angie Lusco
   8. Approve GU MS Boys’ Basketball Coach – Jayson McQuown
   9. Approve Humbolt Title Teacher – Elijah Humbird
   10. Accept Letter of Resignation from Superintendent – Bret Uptmor
   11. Approve FFA National Convention Itinerary

Robertson moved to approve the consent agenda with the minute corrections and pending Hutchison’s passing her drug test. Lieuallen seconded. The motion passed with 6 for; 0 opposed.

Lieuallen asked why the board was approving the FFA itinerary. Uptmor said that board policy says that if a school trip leaves the state then the board needs to approve that. Uptmor said that this is done by providing a copy of the itinerary for the board to approve. Uptmor told the board that there are 17 students going to the National Convention this year.

Uptmor noted that Sierra Hutchison’s employment was contingent on passing the drug test.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**

5.1 Student Store

Gerry told the board that the plumber was the only thing left (final hookup of appliances) and they were planning on opening for business next week. Robertson told Gerry great job for seeing the project through.

5.2 Long Range Facility Plan

Uptmor told the board that he hopes the Long Range Facility Plan will turn into the strategic plan in the future because this should be included in that plan. Uptmor told the board that he would work on the strategic plan and bring it to the board as it is developed with hopes of completing it in March. Walker told the board that Vince Adams, with OSBA, will be the moderator of this process. Lieuallen asked Uptmor if a lot of the things that came out of the September work session would be included in the plan. Lieuallen asked how does the board make sure that they don’t lose traction on those items. Uptmor told Lieuallen that he combined the meeting minutes and the highlights from the work session and sent that to Vince so he could create a plan to guide the board through those items and to make sure that they are kept at the forefront. Lieuallen asked Uptmor if he could get a copy of the highlights that were sent to Vince. Uptmor said that he would send it to the board.

5.3 Security Camera System

Uptmor told the board that he has been working with the ESD and Waltenberg thinks that they can in fact install cameras in our buildings. Uptmor said that Waltenburg is also working with the county because they need to update their cameras as well. Uptmor told the board that he is looking into this process of we buy the cameras and we install them because if you use a vendor to install them it is too expensive. Uptmor said that Waltenberg likes to be involved up front in these projects because he’s the one that has to come back and clean items up after the fact so he likes to be the one installing them. Robertson said that she thought Waltenberg had said before that he said he couldn’t do it. Uptmor said that he initially did but then changed his mind. Walker said that she thinks it is important that the ESD is on board since they are the ones that will be performing the maintenance on them. Lieuallen asked if the other agencies Waltenberg is working with are on the same “quick” time frame that we are. Lieuallen told Uptmor that the sooner we get this done the better. Uptmor said that students can’t be in the building when the cameras are being installed so we have to work around the students’ schedules as well.

5.5 Mandates as Requested by Parents at August 25th Board Meeting

Uptmor told the board that he had talked about this in his board report. Uptmor said that this item would be removed from the agenda after tonight’s meeting and that any future updates will be sent via email to the board. Robertson asked if there was any indication that the state’s leadership was moving towards student vaccination mandates. Uptmor said that yes, they want the kids in school vaccinated. Uptmor said that the Governor has stated that the vaccine has to be FDA approved then the state can have discussions on the mandate. Uptmor guessed that a mandate could come down as early as next school year but could be later depending on how things go.

**6.0 FUTURE AGENDA AND CALENDAR ITEMS**

October 20 Board Meeting

November 17 Board Meeting

January 19 Board Meeting

February 16 Board Meeting

March 16 Board Meeting

April 20 Board Meeting (Seneca)

May 4 Budget Meeting

May 18 Board/(Optional) Budget Meeting

June 1 Budget Hearing/Board Meeting

June 2 Last Day of School

June 3 Teacher In-service

Labhart said that he would like to hold a workshop on the budget process before we start our budgeting process in the spring. Labhart said that he thought it might be nice to have other cities or schools invited to attend the workshop as well. Walker said that different agencies run their meetings differently so that could be an issue. Labhart said that he was not thinking the workshop would be on how the budget committee is run but rather how the budget works. Griffin said that anytime we are overseeing or approving something it is good to have some background or knowledge so she thinks it is a really good idea. Lieuallen said that the workshop would be a public meeting so anyone can listen in or come if they want.

**7.0 GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Labhart told the board that he will be at the next board meeting, he said it is kind of wet at the coast.

Robertson told Uptmor that she was disappointed to get his resignation letter, but she appreciated the advanced notice and Uptmor giving the district time to plan.

Lieuallen joked that hopefully there will be an opportunity to see how much work Uptmor can do before June 30. Lieuallen told the leadership team that there seems to be a lot more excitement and spirit at the events he’s been at and that it’s exciting to see.

Walker reminded the board that the mandatory reporting training is due at end of the month. Walker thanked all of the staff for their commitment to the students, during school, after school, etc.

**8.0 ADJOURN**

Walker adjourned the meeting at 8:28 pm

November 17, 2021

Haley Walker

Chairman’s Signature

November 17, 2021

Bret Uptmor

Clerk’s Signature