



BANKS SCHOOL DISTRICT

12950 NW Main St. Banks OR 97106

Administration Building

Minutes August 9, 2021

REGULAR SESSION

District Board Room

In attendance:

Ron Frame, Chair

Jeff Leo, Superintendent

Dan Streblov, Vice-Chairman

Administrators, Staff, Patrons

Will Moore

Corissa Mazurkiewicz (via OWL)

Leslee Sipp

CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE

Ron Frame called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. He commented that this is the first in person meeting since March 2020. He said if anyone in the audience had any comments/questions to fill out an Intent to Speak card and give it to the Board Secretary. Comments are limited to 5 minutes maximum. Mr. Frame led the flag salute.

PUBLIC WELCOME/RECOGNITION

There was no public recognition.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Will Moore moved to approve the agenda as presented. Dan Streblov seconded. Discussion: There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

There were no presentations.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Attached summary of parent comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Minutes: July 12, 2021

July 17, 2021

Routine Personnel Matters

Hiring:

Albert Mendoza, 1.0FTE Technology Assistant effective August 16, 2021

Trudi Grimes, 1.0FTE Elementary Secretary effective August 16, 2021

Resignation:

Lori Hinkey, 1.0FTE Elementary Secretary effective August 6, 2021

Bobbie Woodruff, 1.0FTE Student Services Secretary effective September 2, 2021

Dan Streblov moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Leslee Sipp seconded. Discussion: There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

COVID 19 Update

Mr. Leo commented that much has changed. The governor's mandates states masks are required during school hours and on buses. He also is discussing new quarantine guidelines and testing options for the fall. The year will be a much bigger challenge. We need to get back to a normal school day, and the goal

is to keep students in school and minimize quarantine requirements based on rules. A parent letter will be sent out with specific details of the school year. The situation is fluid, but Mr. Leo said he is confident we will remain stay in person throughout the school year. This spring 75% of our students attended in-person instruction and attended longer school days than many other districts. The district switched to optional masks immediately in summer school when we received local control at the end of June. The decision for mask wearing for this coming school year was decided for the district last week. Decisions are being made to try to keep kids safe and in school as much as possible. Mr. Leo said as a licensed superintendent in the state of Oregon it is his job to follow state and federal law, and we cannot knowingly violate state orders. If districts violate this mandate they can receive a \$500 daily fine and the teachers and administration could have their licenses revoked and OHA could intervene in district business.

During the presentation there were crowd interruptions. Mr. Frame stopped the meeting and a recess was taken at 6:45 for 5 minutes. The meeting reconvened and Mr. Leo finished his report.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 2021-22 Superintendent/Board Working Agreement

Superintendent Evaluation Timeline

Ratification of BEA Bargaining Agreement July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023

Will Moore moved to approve the action items as presented. Dan Streblov seconded. Discussion: There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

BOARD COMMUNICATION

Superintendent Comments

Mr. Leo said 8/24 is the first day for all staff to return. He asked if a couple of board members could come and speak to staff on the first morning. There are many new staff members. He said he would send an email asking who would like to attend the meeting.

Board Member Comments

Will Moore gave a thank you to the administrators. There will be much learning loss to overcome. He knows we still need staffing. He said he likes the focus and is looking forward to a more normal routine.

Leslie Sipp thanked everyone. She said she appreciates all who came tonight and spoke. She agrees with Will Moore - This is our community and these are our schools.

Dan Streblov thanked everyone for coming. He said it is good to see community support. He asked everyone to talk to their local representatives.

Corissa Mazurkiewicz said she lost her mother in law to COVID in January. She understands the comments from the community. She said we are all in this together and she is dedicated to the supporting the needs of all students. She said she is pleased with staff and everyone is feeling stress/anxiety/depression. She said the staff will make the transition back to school for students as smooth as possible.

Ron Frame said it looks like there will be lots of needs of students. Study hall, Saturday school, etc. He said people assume he is for masks, he said his daughter struggled all last year as a senior. We need to get vaccine rates up.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Public Comments:

Dan Williams:

Support actions of BSD last year and the methodology they took in making decisions to safeguard students and staff.

His 5th grader had best year ever. Child is disabled and at high risk. Their family is at the high end of the risk factors and need protection.

7th grade child found it ok, not great. But has great grit and resilience.

BSD has a spectrum of families and ALL need to be taken into account

Good mask discipline is important to their disabled child since the vaccine is not available to her.

Education is a right and so is equal access.

Applaud the district, the strategy worked last year.

Keep partisanship out of it. Don't question the motives of people involved in the process.

Equity committee should be established to problem solve strategies for racial equity. SB1132.

Kristin Acardi:

Deeply concerned about last month's public comment, and that our curriculum or current teaching methods do not address race.

CRT is difficult to understand. Not a curriculum or a teaching strategy.

When demand "No CRT" – that is a "catch all". What does it mean? Person making public comment didn't give enough info to know.

She supports creation of an advisory committee to see if children of color are being treated correctly.

Governor signed a bill obligating district to do this. Please accelerate the timeline to complete this.

Leanne Barger:

Please don't make children wear masks. Should be a personal preference.

Wearing a mask inhibits her daughter. The school is letting her down.

Last year was terrible. Isolated and didn't learn anything.

Make masks a personal choice.

She read a long article from somewhere ???

These masks everyone is wearing do not work and shouldn't be worn for long periods of time.

Read a letter from another parent who couldn't be there. No name give. No masks

Joe Baliga:

There is no science behind these masks.

Kids less than 18 years old have a .000001 chance of dying from COVID.

In England 25 deaths in kids under 18 years old.

Conservative censorship within the school. What he has said is restricted in the classroom. Being shut down.

Gave an example about that in his AP Government class. Admin did nothing about it.

Christy Duyck:

Masks don't work. Unhealthy. Form of child abuse. Children can't learn. Want normal life back.

People like you slap mandates on us. Doesn't like the tyranny.

Kate Brown doesn't care about us or our children. Ron DeSantis is right.

Tired of hearing about COVID. It was a fake, false and phony pandemic. PCR tests don't work.

Her child went to Visitation last year with no problems....NO PROBLEMS

Johns Hopkins study that showed no children died of it.

Suicide up 5 fold. Begging the board to go up against tyrannical Kate Brown.

This will lead to taking their guns next. All our freedoms will be gone. Outrage for our children.

Children getting black mold in their lungs from the masks. The school board is very disrespectful.

She is going to take her mask off now and go grocery shopping!

Kate Hailey:

There is an agenda with teachers across all classes. Doesn't feel comfortable speaking. No free speech in her classes. She almost passed out wearing a mask while doing 3 sports.

In classroom can't interact with friends. Isolated in CDL. Suffered depression.

Megan Normandin:

She has struggled with this for 1 1/2 years and that's putting it mildly. Passionate about unmasking kids. The masks give a false sense of protection. If the board has scientific proof that masks work, then please share it. She thinks the Board is taking the path of least resistance. Please listen to the community.

Jodi Hailey:

Following up on last month. Still wants a community advisory forum. Town hall event sponsored by the School Board. Asked if Jeff or the Board had become familiar FAIR. Jeff said he looked at it, but not the Board. The School Board is elected by the people and the people should be represented by the Board and carried out by the Superintendent. The parents need representation. She believes masks are very damaging. Risks from COVID very low and risk from masks VERY high. The school board needs to listen to the people in attendance and stand up for them. Other districts have gone to bat for the parents, why won't this district.

Amy Vanderzanden

I am my child's parent. Let me parent my kids. Want your respect to let us parent.

Wants more parent-board communication so the Board can understand what the parents want.

The board has a responsibility to the people who elected them. We want local control. We have unique problems and concerns.