



12950 NW Main St. Banks OR 97106
Administration Building
Minutes October 11, 2021

REGULAR SESSION

Via Zoom

In attendance:

Ron Frame, Chair

Dan Streblov, Vice-Chairman

Will Moore

Corissa Mazurkiewicz

Leslee Sipp

Jeff Leo, Superintendent

Administrators, Staff, Patrons

CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE

Ron Frame called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Comments are limited to 5 minutes maximum per speaker. Speakers were asked to state their name and city of residence for the record. The Chair, Vice-Chair and Superintendent will meet and decide the appropriate response. Mr. Frame said the flag salute is postponed until the meetings are back in person.

PUBLIC WELCOME/RECOGNITION

There was no public recognition.

ASB REPORT

Will start in November. Student elections just happened.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Will Moore moved to approve the agenda as presented. Leslee Sipp 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: September 13, 2021

Routine Personnel Matters

Hiring:

Doris Kennedy .40625FTE Instructional Assistant effective 9/21/21

Sarah Norbury .40625FTE Instructional Assistant effective 9/21/21

Kara LaMotte Littlejohn .40625FTE Instructional Assistant effective 9/27/21

Nicole Graham .8125FTE Instructional Assistant effective 9/27/21

Transfers:

Julie Turner .40625FTE Instructional Assistant to .8125FTE Instructional Assistant effective August 31, 2021

Shelley Luetke .40625FTE Instructional Assistant to .8125FTE Instructional Assistant effective August 31, 2021

Resignations:

April Oster .8125FTE Instructional Assistant effective 10/18/22

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

COVID 19 Update

Mr. Leo had just a few items. The staff vaccination rate is 95%. It was close to that before the mandate. There was a successful vaccination clinic on October 1 serving 102 people. A number were booster shots, some first and second doses. There will be another on October 22. COVID rates are slowly dropping. We are about where we were last January/February 2021. Still have protocols and procedures in place. One thing added – case board on web page. We have had just a handful of cases. We are not seeing a spread in the schools. One or two cases can cause 20 quarantines in the school. Based on rules and regulations from ODE and OHA, quarantine numbers would be through the roof without masks being worn. The safety and guidance of OHA and rules we have to follow as a district helps keep our kids in school. Contact tracing has become a part of life for us. Staff can spend part of the day on it. There's a lot to it. It is a huge task. Staff is contacting parents over the weekend if needed. Mr. Leo thanked all the staff and said we are getting really good at contact tracing. Ron Frame said that Mrs. Waite-Larkin said the Middle School goes through on average a box of masks a day – he asked how many masks that would be? Mr. Leo said there are 50 in a box.

SIA Annual Report

Received funding last year. The application was submitted originally March 2019. Last year the funding was cut to \$250,000. Some of the SIA plan was for support for the students going to CDL. This year – being fully funded, about \$800,000. The district is able to implement the original plan. We have the same list as was submitted March 2019 which included two additional instructional assistants, elementary middle school and high school counselors. The high school counselor position was changed since we were not able to fill the position. This is giving a ton of extra support for students. Mr. Leo presented the annual report to the board. It will be posted to the website and submitted to ODE. Mrs. Mazurkiewicz asked if we were seeing any impact on students by not having substitutes and having assistants positions open. Mr. Leo said there has not been a huge impact yet. There are some challenges. For the most part schools have been able to piece together substitutes. Staff is using prep time to sub. ESS is working to get more people qualified to sub. We are working to up our support for students who are struggling using more ESSER money. The hope is within a couple of weeks the majority of positions will be filled. The district has the funds, now we need the quality candidates to hire. Mr. Pence said some positions are harder to fill than others. The high school couldn't add a counselor so they added a classified position to help the counseling department. They will increase the number of assistants in special education. There may be not as many adults in the classrooms as we would like. The high school has been able to offer all the classes. It is a struggle right now with subs. Mrs. Waite Larkin said the same things are happening in the middle school. She said the district is really feeling it in special education. She has been reaching out to parents, but she doesn't know when it will get better. Mr. Moore said he is pleased we have gone from 1.5 counselors to 3. In the long term it is critically important. Mr. Streblow wondered where kids are scholastically. He said the middle school students seems to be struggling in math. How can parents help them, actively letting parents know kids are struggling and how they can help. Mrs. Salter said at the elementary 57% are on level or below in reading. Previously the numbers were more like 72%. We are behind. She said her goal is for students to be learning and happy to be at school. Kinders and 1st and 2nd graders are struggling. They don't know how to be at school – for them this is their first year. Social skills need work – it has been a long time since they have interacted with others. She said she wants them to feel safe and be happy. She said the district will do all the assessments but have to slow down – they need time to adjust to coming to school. The school will keep a close eye on data – they analyze data every week in the PLC. She said she is proud of the team and the students. Mr. Moore said he appreciates the direct communication. Mrs. Salter was asked about volunteers. She said we do have parents in the building volunteering.

Division 22 Annual Compliance Report

Mr. Leo said it is a requirement of the state to report to the community and it is due by November 1. He said the district is in compliance with the Division 22 standards. One area is out of compliance – the district is one year behind in curriculum adoption schedule. The area is English/LA. He said the standards were shrunk down a lot last year. Mr. Moore said this enforces the need for a matrix for curriculum renewals. Mr. Leo said there is a schedule from the state on yearly adoptions. Mrs. Mazurkiewicz asked when the ELA adoption would occur, in 2022. Mr. Leo said the fall of 2022. He said he will start the process, it is one more thing for the administrative team. Mr. Frame asked if the issue on PE has been resolved. Mr. Leo said the district took care of this at the middle school.

ACTION ITEMS

There are no action items tonight.

BOARD COMMUNICATION

Superintendent Comments

Mr. Leo said he had nothing to add. He asked if there were any questions. He commented that the Director of Equity at the ESD was attending the meeting and was working to get something set up to start working with the board. He said there is a lot going on. Conferences are on the agenda for the administrator meeting tomorrow. Time is flying by. He thanked the board for their support in these pretty tough times. Mr. Moore asked Mr. Buchanan about football being on a different classification than the rest of the sports. Mr. Buchanan said the league has been dealing with the situation for quite some time. It is a different sport. They don't count the senior class in ADM. He said the district will apply to go up into the 4 classification. More drafts will come out of this. It will be in place next year. The decision will be made by January if not sooner. Travel time is part of the equation and disrupts the whole process. No one wants to go to Central OR from the valley. They need to even out the classifications and have more equity. Everyone seems to have a different agenda. Mr. Moore asked Mr. Pence the reasons behind the decline in high school enrollment. Mr. Pence said it is more complex after last year's situation. Some students moved last year but didn't transfer until this year. Some students moved into the community and started with us this year that we didn't anticipate. There are more students dropping out this year at the high school level already than we have had in the past year. The mask mandate has caused some families to home school. There is not one reason. He said he thinks enrollment is fairly steady now. Mrs. Mazurkiewicz asked about PDSA training and accommodation for students? Mr. Buchanan said PDSA is an experiment and he feels it is very beneficial to students. The first step this year is the offering of test retakes. He said retakes have been offered before but this is more intentional, and addresses kids individually. He said they are collecting data on student who took up the offer on retakes, and how it effects their grade. They are providing intervention to kids in the freshman class who are struggling. There are 90 kids and this can have quite an impact very suddenly. He said it is a good process. It is offered to everyone in the freshman class. Mr. Moore asked about student response? Mr. Buchanan said the students have two weeks to retake a test. It is too soon to know the data, he is not sure how many will participate. Mr. Buchanan said he thinks it will be beneficial for the freshman. He said it lets them know we care and the staff is excited about it. Mrs. Sipp said all we can do to help the kids is great. Mr. Frame said he appreciates the information.

Board Member Comments

Leslee Sipp said she felt they had a really good discussion tonight. She said we all need to work together for the education of the students and it is nice to see the community support. She welcomed all the new staff. She said she was glad to see the return to having homecoming, kids need to get back to normalcy. She welcomed the new student body president.

Dan Streblov thanked faculty and staff for all their work. He said there will be struggles for a little while to get kids back on track. He said he appreciates the candor from the administrators. He said he is happy we've been able to maintain students in school safely.

Corissa Mazurkiewicz echoed the same sentiments. She said kids are struggling. It is the hardest year. The first thing is safety. She said she wanted the staff to know they are deeply appreciated.

Will Moore echoed the statements made. He said he appreciated Mrs. Salter's direct input. He said the board has no lack of confidence but don't always know what the administration and staff are dealing

with. He said he has appreciated the community emails. He said he feels really good that the board is acting in the best interest and in full support of the district members. He said he is pleased where we're headed and has no lack of confidence in the outcome. Thanks to everyone.

Ron Frame said he can only imagine all the frustration and stress the administration is dealing with. He said he is sympathetic to what they are going through. This school year is tough. The goal is to keep kids in school as long as we possibly can.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 710 PM.

Public Comments October 11, 2021

Jody Hailey

She started with a question: If we cannot make democracy work at local level how can we hope it to work at a higher level? The board has been asked to listen to constituents. The board is failing their constituents and is not willing to take any other course of actions. The board thinks their responsibility is to enforce state mandates. This is not their job. Public schools belong to the people. The board does not have the right to disregard the opinions of the constituents. No one should be in an elected position not following the peoples' will. Mask mandate: People want the board to eliminate the mask mandate. There is no research on the mask mandate and there is no data that says masks are effective. Decisions belong to the parents – the board needs to follow their own will, not follow the will of the state. Vaccine mandate: contrary what is desired by the community. This is immoral. We don't know all the side effects of the vaccines. The hands of the board are not tied and they need to defend the community. Complicit in something evil.

Jessee Scoveren

2 out of 3 children in BSD.

Will the board honor medical and religious exemptions when state requires vaccines for children? Pulse Oximeter – CDC and Mayo clinic 95 and above good. Her children: 9 yrs. old - 86 to 89. 6 years old - 88 to 93. When they take off masks – 99. CDC says low readings show oxygen deprivation. Why are the schools not checking oxygen levels at school? Her kids are having chest pains, not eating lunch. Does the school accept liability for health problems down the road? OR is one of 16 states requiring masks in the schools. It is causing students social and physical harm. Will Moore: clarifying question: did she request exemption to the district office? Her son has mask exemption at elementary school when at his desk and only when 6 feet from other students.

Travis Schlegel

Thanked the board for taking time to listen to his input. His concern: make sure a plan is in place and everyone is covered if any problems on the 18th. He strongly doesn't think it will be a problem. On May 8 when there was a massive walkout for higher funding in the schools our teachers didn't walk out. Want to point out the hypocrisy that it is said that teachers are greedy union people, then stand and support teachers against horrible vaccine mandate. Appreciate taking every step possible using every scientific data available (not anecdotal evidence) to keep school opens. His child is severely autistic – thriving being back in school. He has had challenges wearing mask like lots of children have. Masks are not ideal but the schools and administration are doing the best we can. No one is out to "get the children".