

SILVER FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 12, 2016

6:30 p.m.

Silverton Community Center

Attendance: Board members present were Chair Wally Lierman, Tom Buchholz, Aaron Koch, Tim Roth, Ervin Stadeli, Ron Valoff and Todd White. Also present were Andy Bellando, Superintendent; Dandy Stevens, Assistant Superintendent; Jennifer Hannan, Director of Teaching and Learning; Dana Pedersen, Director of Special Services; and Denise Childs, Board Secretary. Steve Nielsen, Business Manager was absent. Vanessa Meraz and Rachel Peters, SHS Student Representatives were unable to attend. Press was present.

Chair Wally Lierman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and noted attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. pursuant to **ORS 192.660(2)(e)** – *To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions* – Sale of Eugene Field School and site; **ORS 192.660(2)(b)** – *Complaint Review*; and **ORS 192.660(2)(h)** – *Consult with Legal Counsel* – Regarding complaint against Board Member. Present were the seven Board members; Andy Bellando; Dandy Stevens; Denise Childs; Tom Hendrie and Curt Arthur, Sperry Van Ness Commercial Advisors, LLC (SVN); and Kristine Thomas (member of the press).

Tom Hendrie and Curt Arthur were excused from Executive Session at 6:49 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:59 p.m.

Reconvened: Regular Session reconvened at 7:03 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited prior to the start of board business.

ACTION ITEM

Censure: Ervin Stadeli moved, and Tim Roth seconded, to approve the resolution censuring Director Todd White – No. 12-12-2016. For the record, Chair Wally Lierman read the resolution. Wally then explained the meaning of censure:

Censure is an official condemnation, reprimand or criticism leveled at a board member by his peers. Censuring does not remove the board member from office or technically impede his ability to serve. Censuring can be an important means of distancing the board from counterproductive behavior since silence in some cases might be interpreted as passive endorsement or might give fodder to accusations of conspiracy. In that way it can help guard the other board members and organization from liability resulting from a board member's comments or actions.

Wally explained that the Board is considering “censure” and not “censor”. He clarified that this action does not suppress anyone’s opinions or speech, and that this Board of Directors does not have the authority to remove anyone from the Board as each member has been duly elected.

Following this explanation, the motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Aaron Koch moved, and Tim Roth seconded, to approve the *Consent Agenda*. The motion carried unanimously. The *Consent Agenda* included:

- Approve minutes of November 14, 2016.
- Approve resignation of Mark Twain Elementary Teacher Helena Hennigan, effective November 21, 2016.
- Approve revision to Policy **DJ** – *District Purchasing*.
- Approve proposed new policy **GBMA** – *Whistleblower*.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

- Student Reps: It was noted that Vanessa Meraz and Rachel Peters, SHS Student Representatives were unable to attend tonight's board meeting. Ellie Bright and Sophie Piaskowski spoke as tonight's SHS Student Representatives.
- Sports: Ellie and Sophie reported on how the following sports teams were doing overall: Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Swim Team, and Wrestling.
- Activities: Sophie and Ellie reviewed various activities involving the following school clubs: Interact Club (shopped and wrapped gifts for Tree of Giving); Associated Student Body (raised \$5,300 for Tree of Giving); and National Honor Society (helped at Christmas Tree Festival). In response to Tim Roth's inquiry, Ellie and Sophie believed that approximately 100 kids will be receiving presents.
- The Board thanked Ellie and Sophie for their report and coming to tonight's meeting.

AUDIENCE WITH VISITORS

- Guidelines: Chair Wally Lierman reviewed public testimony guidelines.
- Bullying/
Harassment: Naseem Rakha shared that she appreciated the Board's due diligence, asking the right questions and taking the SHS political activity seriously. She stated that she is an optimist and believes that good intentions to build the community can go a long way. Naseem said that she is here to help the Board in any way possible, be an active community member, and attend future board meetings.
- Enez Bradford noted that she had spoken to the Board last month sharing her concerns on how the incidents with the SHS election activity were handled. She wanted to publicly thank **Andy Bellando**, **Justin Lieuallen**, and staff members who worked diligently to right the wrongs that had occurred. Enez said that, after reading a recent article in the Statesman Journal referencing a course of action, she has confidence in the leadership going forward. She said that in knowing steps are being taken and a plan is being implemented to reduce the likelihood of such occurrences happening again, gives her pride to be a part of this community. Enez thanked the Board and staff members for hearing their concerns and responding accordingly.
- Elizabeth Nevs thanked the Board for listening and understanding this community's request for ongoing comprehensive diversity education and training. She commended the Board members who were able to see that discrimination and prejudice would destroy that collaboration and to understand that accountability, vulnerability and relationship building are keys to our thriving community.
- Shelly Nealon handed out documentation before she spoke to the Board. She felt that the Board had taken appropriate action and shared her hope that everyone can move forward in a positive and proactive way. Shelly shared that the community is here to support school staff members and the Board in having a successful and wonderful school district with people who behave in an appropriate manner. She said she

appreciated the Board's time in talking and giving them the effort to make a difference. Shelly stated that they are here to stay to help with anything that is needed.

Lisa Leslie said that she appreciated what the Board members have done tonight. She questioned a quote in the Statesman Journal by Board member Tom Buchholz regarding a description of what bullying means to him. Tom explained that he had been trying to do a comparison of kids who have to ride a bus (and get bullied) and people who choose to use and engage in intense debates/discussions on Facebook. He stated that he is fully against bullying. Lisa shared her hope that Board members are being educated about bullying and invited to whatever diversity trainings happen for the District. She felt the Board members need to learn all they can about what it means to bully, and the different ways it can happen that are not as obvious as some people might think.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Revised Policies: There was a second reading of proposed revisions to policies: **IGDF** – *Student Fund-Raising Activities*; **JED** – *Student Absences and Excuses*; **JFC** – *Student Conduct and Discipline*; **JG** – *Student Discipline*; and **JHCCF** – *Pediculosis (Head Lice)*.
- In regard to policy **JED**, Wally Lierman and Tim Roth thanked Mr. Bellando for making the changes that were suggested at the November 14 Board Meeting.
- WESD 2017-2019 Local Serv. Plan: Mr. Bellando said that the District acquires quite a few services from the Willamette ESD through dollars received from the State of Oregon that purchase those services. He explained that the Board is required to take *action* on the Local Service Plan every two years. Mr. Bellando noted that it is an *action item* later in the meeting.

ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF REPORTS

Bellando — Governor's Proposed K-12 Education Budget and Related School Funding Information Including Measures 98 and 99; PE Mandate. Mr. Bellando reported that Governor Kate Brown had recently released her preliminary proposed state budget that will be submitted to the State Legislature. He noted that, at this point, there are many unknown financial variables in regard to Oregon K-12 school funding.

Mr. Bellando pointed out that Measure 98 had recently been approved by the voters with a specific target of increasing graduation rates and reducing dropouts by using a variety of methods. He explained the plan is to be approximately \$800 per high school student across Oregon, but currently the governor has included approximately \$400 per student to fund that addition to the education budget. Mr. Bellando said it is unknown at this time where the additional \$400 per student will come from.

Mr. Bellando noted a mandate related to elementary physical education that had been approved by the Oregon Legislature in 2007 with a ten year leeway of discovering how it would be funded. He said it is a significant impact and while they see all the merits of it, there will need to be serious conversation as, at this time, the governor's budget does not even meet current service levels and now there will be this new mandate that could possibly be unfunded by the State. Mr. Bellando encouraged the Board to be attentive and that he will give financial updates as they move ahead.

Wally Lierman shared that he will be going to the Capitol tomorrow to talk to some representatives about some other issues. He offered to include other specifics in the discussion. Mr. Bellando suggested Wally's discussion include implementation and adequate funding for Measure 98 and the physical education mandate. He pointed out there are some interesting dynamics to the PE mandate that were not planned well – licensure concern in finding enough PE teachers, what the facilities need to look like and how to incorporate that into existing programs.

Discussion continued with Wally asking if outdoor school will now be required to be a full week instead of the typical 2-3 days (passage of Measure 99). Mr. Bellando replied that he has heard it will be multiple days, but he is uncertain about the number of days required. He explained there is still some interpretation on that yet to occur. Mr. Bellando noted that questions have risen as to parents who may not be interested in sending their child on an overnight function and the limited number of camps in Oregon that can take care of outdoor education and be ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible.

In response to Wally's inquiry, Mr. Bellando confirmed that Measure 98 dollars will not be allowed to be used on existing CTE programs. Mr. Bellando explained the money has to be used for new programs although possibly a school district could rework or expand existing programs.

Tim Roth asked for clarification on the dollar figure for Measure 98. Mr. Bellando explained that it is supposed to be \$800 per high school student, which equates to just under \$1 million for Silver Falls School District. Tim then inquired if the State can only come up with \$400 per student, could the Legislature roll that back. Mr. Bellando believes it will be up to the State Board of Education on their ruling and interpretation of the law.

In response to Todd White's inquiry, Dana Pedersen confirmed that there is a dental screenings mandate that is not funded by the State. Mrs. Pedersen explained that our school nurses and a couple local dentists organize the initial screenings.

Justin Lieuallen — Planning Efforts at Silverton High School. Mr. Lieuallen gave an update on planning efforts related to the recent election activity at Silverton High. He said he appreciates the feedback he continues to receive from families, students and staff to work through this together. Mr. Lieuallen noted the commitment and effort to put systems and actions in place that are sustainable over the long term. He said they continue to check in with students and staff members who have been impacted the most by this incident. Mr. Lieuallen believes the school is now in a better place and people are feeling a lot better. He shared that they are moving forward and formulating short- and long-term plans to further strengthen our students' connectedness to one another and the school, as well as the families connecting to the school.

Short-Term Plans. Continue lessons in Advisory Groups; adorn school halls with posters as well as digital posters on flat screen TVs promoting kindness and respect; "We are one" staff t-shirts; staff equity training scheduled on January 30; form equity team (focus group facilitators); continue work with consultants; encourage students to be involved in a school sport or activity; and create a Latino parent club to be responsible, along with a school liaison, to develop agendas for those meetings and school leaders could learn about needed resources.

Long-Term Plans. Survey staff, students and families to figure out long-term goals; and try to hire highly qualified teachers and other staff members who also represent the demographics of Silverton High School.

The Board thanked Mr. Lieuallen for his report and the work that is being done.

Nielsen — Financial Report. In Steve Nielsen's absence, the Board acknowledged receipt of the Financial Report.

Kevin Palmer — Butte Creek School. (Before the start of the meeting, Mr. Palmer distributed a handout.) Mr. Palmer noted changes within the building because of new staff and people changing jobs. He also wanted to point out special recognition to **Libby Facha**, Title I Teacher for her organization and leadership as a teacher, helping with after school and evening events, and also being the Process Manager with the Indistar reporting process for school-wide Title planning. Mr. Palmer then shared an example from a staff survey recently done for input on their school-wide plan. He said that their

Site Council, Positive Behavior Intervention Support Team, and school staff work well together to direct how things happen at the school.

Mr. Palmer described two new policies at the school:

- ◆ **New Homework Policy.** Teachers will no longer be sending home regularly planned homework. This is to encourage and support families to spend more time reading, playing and eating together along with getting a full night sleep. If the work does not get done during the school day it will then need to be done on the weekend or at home. For students struggling in school, there is intervention to help them. So far the feedback has been tremendously positive from just about everybody.
- ◆ **Grading System.** Use 1-5 Standards Based grading system for grades K-8. No letter grades for middle school. This is being seen as a pilot program.
 - Wally Lierman disagreed with this concept. He felt at least 5th through 8th grades should have letter grades to get students adjusted in preparation for high school and college.
 - Aaron Koch believes this is a great way to challenge the norm and look at new ideas to expand within the District. He said he will be curious to see how the scores in testing go this year to stay within the Standards. Aaron added that he also likes the idea of not having homework and kids interacting with their families.

Mr. Palmer was pleased to report on their Summer School (with 50 kids) and how teachers Libby Facha and Stacy Boost were able to get some online funding and donations for the kids to see the musical "The Lion King". He also noted that the school helped 24 Butte Creek families with holiday gift baskets and food.

Wally inquired if there were any facility issues that need to be fixed. Mr. Palmer described a septic smell underneath the building that they are working on to remedy. He added that the new play shed is working out well. With no further questions, the Board thanked Mr. Palmer for his report.

Mark Hannan – Silver Crest School. Mr. Hannan reviewed various district programs/ services that he oversees: 504 plans, nursing, ELL (English Language Learners), migrant and homeless. During his review of these programs, Mr. Hannan thanked the following people and organizations:

Nurses **Suellen Nida** and **Geralyn Sheets** for all the work they do. They complete health protocols, hearing and vision screenings, and emergencies that take place at all our schools.

Silverton Hospital for its unique working relationship with District.

All the **ELL instructors** throughout the District for the wonderful job they do in helping second language students learn English. Teacher **Kristen Johnk** does a great job of ELL reporting and compliance and keeping the District apprised of everything that changes.

Monica Hanson for all the hard work she does with the SHS migrant students. She is an amazing resource and if those students stay through their senior year at SHS, she graduates every one of them.

Abbie Hays, Silver Crest School Secretary, for doing an amazing job in tracking and providing transportation for homeless students.

Mr. Hannan next reviewed Silver Crest School's enrollment (currently 131), and parent-teacher conferences (94% of families attended). He recognized recent new hire **Sandra McLean's** smooth transition to fill the 4/5 blend classroom. Mr. Hannan invited everyone to attend the school's Winter Concert on December 19 in the school gym.

Mr. Hannan then noted copies of a picture he had handed out to the Board members before the start of the meeting. He explained it is a picture of the new athletic field at Silver Crest School. Mr. Hannan said that a lot of work had gone into the project with

almost no cost to the District. He recognized a number of people and organizations for their help, which included: **Wilco Farm Store, Ioka Farms, Dan Stadeli, Shawn Poole and family, Silver Crest Booster Club, Mike Charpiloz (Premier Ag, Inc.), Jan and Jason Hupp (Drakes Crossing Nursery), Ron Duda** (District Groundskeeper/Maintenance), and **Ken Johnston**. Mr. Hannon said the entire Silver Crest community, students and staff rallied around this project.

Wally Lierman inquired if there were any facility concerns or challenges with the Silver Crest School building. Mr. Hannan explained that technology differs from classroom to classroom and needs to be addressed. He shared that he is working with the District's Technology Department and Silver Crest Booster Club. He added, from a facility standpoint, that the school building is a real gem for the District.

The Board thanked Mr. Hannan for his report.

BOARD REPORTS

No board reports given this evening.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Wally Lierman noted that the Board had received lots of e-mails.

AUDIENCE WITH VISITORS

No comments from the audience.

ACTION ITEM

WESD Local Serv. Plan: Tim Roth moved, and Todd White seconded, to approve the 2017-2019 Local Service Plan from Willamette Education Service District. The motion carried unanimously.

OTHER

Adjourn: No further business was brought before the Board and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Superintendent-Clerk