

SILVER FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 13, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Silverton Community Center

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

Chair Wally Lierman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and noted attendance.

FLAG SALUTE

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approve minutes of January 9, and January 23, 2017.
- Designate "Zero" as the number of non-resident transfer students as per ORS 339.133(5)(b) for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Accept resignation of Nancy Griffith, Silverton Middle School Principal, effective end of 2016-2017 contract year.
- Accept retirements of Janie Burich, Robert Frost and Mark Twain Schools Dean of Students; and Kevin Zenchenko, Silverton Middle School 6th Grade Teacher; effective end of 2016-2017 contract year.
- Approve proposed revision to Policy **GBN/JBA** – *Sexual Harassment* (final reading).

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Sports: Vanessa Meraz and Rachel Peters reported on how the following sports teams' were doing overall: Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Unified Basketball Team (new basketball team includes Special Education Department students); Swim Team (21 members going to State competition); and Wrestling (District Tournament had four finalists – **Matthew Guenther, Kaden Kuenzi, Tristan Lanier, and Jacob Whitehead**).

Activities: They next reviewed various school club activities: Interact Club (made valentines for Gordon House); Associated Student Body (organized Counselor Appreciation Week and now planning upcoming Mr. SHS event); Key Club (student community service organization); and Red Cross Club (successful blood drive on January 31).

The Board thanked Rachel and Vanessa for their report.

AUDIENCE WITH VISITORS

Guidelines: Chair Wally Lierman reviewed public testimony guidelines.

There were no comments from the audience.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Classified Employee Appreciation: Chair Wally Lierman read a resolution noting Classified Employee Appreciation Week on March 6-10. He encouraged everyone to recognize the dedication and hard work of these employees. Wally pointed out that this will be an *action item* later in the meeting. Tim Roth thanked the classified employees for the work they do within this District.
- 2017-2018 School Calendar: Mr. Bellando reported that there had been a revision to the draft 2017-2018 School Year Calendar since the version the Board members had received in their agenda packet. He shared that, based upon input from the administrative team, the end of 1st semester was changed from January 25 to February 1. Mr. Bellando explained the reasoning for this adjustment: 1) Create a bit more equitable length of each semester [1st semester – 89 days; 2nd semester – 85 days]; and 2) The length of semesters will become even closer with the likelihood of snow closure days in December and/or January. Mr. Bellando added that this one week change does not have any employment or contractual impact. In response to Chair Wally Lierman's inquiry, none of the Board members present shared any comments or concerns.
- Policy Committee Sect. A & B: Wally Lierman noted the second reading of the District Policy Review Committee's recommended revisions and deletions to the policies in Sections A and B. He explained that this will be an *action item* at the March 13 Regular Board Meeting.
- Policy Committee Sect. C & D: Wally Lierman noted the first reading of the District Policy Review Committee's recommended revisions and deletions to the policies in Sections C and D. Tim Roth thanked **Wally Lierman, Ron Valoff, Andy Bellando**, and everyone else involved for being on the Policy Review Committee. He also thanked **Denise Childs** for her part in the policy summaries as it made it easier to sort through what policies are being revised.

ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF REPORTS

Andy Bellando — High School Graduation Rates -- 2009-2016. Documentation was handed out before the start of the meeting. Mr. Bellando reviewed multi-year data specific to graduation rates at Silverton High School (SHS), which included information on subgroups – Hispanic, Economically Disadvantaged, Limited English Proficient, Special Education, Migrant and CTE (Career Technical Education) students. He also explained the difference between the 4-year cohort and 5-year cohort student data.

Mr. Bellando noted that there is always room for improvement, but he felt that SHS has a strong graduation average with continued growth and sustained performance shown when compared to State averages and also similar-sized schools and districts. Wally Lierman commended staff for their good work and that this focus seems to be making a difference. Tim Roth added that they can be proud not only with the high school but with all our schools in focusing on the graduation goal.

Steve Nielsen — Financial Report; 2017-2018 Budget Development Timeline. Mr. Nielsen reported that revenue and expenditures remain on track through January 31. He said that they are starting to focus their attention on the 2017-2018 budget development and that he will be working closely with school principals.

Dana Pedersen — Special Education Program. Before the start of her report, Mrs. Pedersen handed out a sample Special Education Department's newsletter that is sent electronically to all administrators and special education staff. Mrs. Pedersen was pleased to share how she has found the special ed. staff and community being committed to every student in the District. She reviewed professional development presentations and trainings for special ed. classified and licensed staff members.

Mrs. Pedersen reported that 471 students have been identified as receiving special education within the District, which is approximately 12% of the total student body. She described the wide spectrum of kids served with the highest percentage of those kids being with specific learning disabilities. Mrs. Pedersen reviewed the number of staff

members – 28 licensed special education teachers and 50 classified assistants – who use the team approach, which includes help from the nursing staff. She described the range of programs offered, which included: Learning Resource Center, Basic Skills Classrooms, Structured Learning Programs, Functional Skills Program, Youth Transition Program, and Transition Program. She then gave an overview and explained the process and timelines in how students become eligible for special education.

Mrs. Pedersen reviewed some of the successes within the special ed. program (e.g., able to serve all special education students within our District) and current and future challenges (e.g., increased number of special education students in every school). She said that they try to make sure there is enough backing in our schools so teachers, staff and students are supported.

Wally Lierman commended Mrs. Pedersen and staff members for the work they do. Tim Roth inquired if kids are already identified or qualified for special education services when they move into the District. Mrs. Pedersen explained that quite a few students who move into the District are already on IEPs (Individualized Education Plan), but that they have seen kids as young as kindergarten where they start tracking their behaviors just to see if they are going to need additional support. The Board thanked Mrs. Pederson for her report.

Justin Lieuallen — Silverton High School. Mr. Lieuallen distributed handouts before the start of his report. He then reviewed portions of the 2015-2016 State Report Card, which included: student attendance, enrollment, graduation completion rate, dropout rate, and researching what students are doing beyond high school.

Mr. Lieuallen gave an update on the SHS post-election events. He noted staff has been working with and getting help from Rodney Dean (family support advocate from Willamette ESD) and John Lenssen (Equity Consultant Facilitator Trainer who works primarily with schools, districts and public organizations on issues of cultural competency, diversity, conflict, civil rights and inter-cultural communication). Mr. Lieuallen reported that 8 staff members from across the District will be attending a 2-day training in April. He said this group will comprise the District's Equity Team to handle issues that occur. Mr. Lieuallen also reported that a Latino Parent Club has been started. He said they want to find out what these parents need in the way of information and resources. Mr. Lieuallen said the parents of this club do not want it to be exclusive, but have the ultimate goal to include all parents. He noted that a larger parent meeting is scheduled for March 9.

Mr. Lieuallen was pleased to report that the following CTE (Career and Technical Education) programs had received additional funding through the Oregon Department of Education: Agriculture (\$45,000), Health Services (a little over \$19,000), Automotive Tech. (\$2,400), and Business Tech (approximately \$4,800). He explained that this funding is based on the number of credits that students earn in those programs. Mr. Lieuallen also noted that because of Measure 98, they have been developing a plan for that funding to establish new CTE programs, access college courses and dropout prevention.

Mr. Lieuallen reported that they are continually looking for areas where they can offer students dual credit through local community colleges. He explained that, with students being able to do that, they get some colleges credits done while in high school.

Mr. Lieuallen also shared that part of their dropout prevention plan is to get student connected in either sports, clubs or other school activities. As part of that plan, they hope it will also address mental health and maybe substance abuse types of cases.

Mr. Lieuallen noted the report given earlier in the meeting by the Student Representatives, but he wanted to share some additional information regarding sports and activities. This included:

Girls' Basketball tied for the League lead and are ranked 3rd in State.

Swim Team – Out of 64 individual events the team members swam in, 62 of them had personal best during the District Tournament. The Boys' 200 Medley Relay Team were District champions (**Jaiden Davis, Blake Doefler, Ross Mackinnon, Jason Orr**). Mr. Lieuallen commended the Swim Team's coach **Lucky Rogers** for the great job he does with the kids.

Wrestling Team – 6th in the District with 4 finalists and two champions; 5 going on to the State Tournament.

New website on the silvertonfoxes.com where people can subscribe and receive time alerts for SHS athletics.

Robotics Team – Science Teacher Patricia Hooker is running this new program. The team has qualified for the State competition.

Speech and Debate Team – State qualifier is scheduled for March 11. National qualifying tournament will be March 23-25 at Clackamas Community College. Language Arts and Speech Teacher Katie Kantrowitz is the team's coach.

Drama – Play called “Inherit the Wind” opens on February 16, with additional shows on February 18, 23 and 25.

Music and Band – Sophomore **Ethan Budde** attended the All-State Honor Band in Eugene. Senior **Marah Christenson** returned from New York City after auditioning for flute professor Janet Arms at the Hartt School of Music. Marah was offered acceptance into that music program immediately after her audition, but has not yet committed to any particular school.

Choir – **Sydney Bersin, Sarah Cleary, Ross Mackinnon, and Austin Molloy** participated in the All-State Choir. Choir finale concert scheduled for May 25.

Sophomore **Tyler Susee** was the 10 millionth visitor to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. He earned about \$8,000 in prizes.

Social Studies Teacher Kirstin Barnes took a group to the Inauguration Event.

As an update on facilities, Mr. Lieuallen wanted to give special thanks to **Kerry Kuenzi** who worked with Athletic Director Wade Lockett in having a shot-put pit completed as part of the track field.

Mr. Lieuallen reported that all the computers in the lab were replaced to support the software needed to run the engineering programs. He shared that they are also looking at expanding the use of Chromebooks.

Mr. Lieuallen then reviewed various challenges that they are working through:

Standards Based Grading – Trying to adjust districtwide for consistency and that people can understand. Appreciated the work of **Jennifer Hannan, Andy Bellando, Phil Kelly** and others involved. Hopes to get feedback from a survey and can start planning and moving forward.

Loss of PLC time for the remainder of this school year. Working with staff to make up 12 remaining hours. Next school year hope to try to find a way to fit PLC time into each week.

Parking – Appreciate the work that community members and City Manager Bob Willoughby have done to lessen parking issues.

Wally Lierman inquired about what has come out of the parent meetings. Mr. Lieuallen replied that so far the primary focus has been on safety. He said that they want to make certain that parents understand what policies and processes are in place to handle situations that will make parents and students feel safer.

The Board thanked Mr. Lieuallen for his report.

Kirstin Jorgenson — Scotts Mills School. Before the start of her report, Mrs. Jorgenson distributed a handout to the Board. She then reviewed various school activities:

Battle of the Books for grades 3rd-5th and 6th- 8th.

Commended the great work that volunteer **Skip Blamer** does in leading 5th-8th grade students in a Robotics Club; and volunteer **Courtney Goode** leading 1st-4th graders in Lego Robotics.

Invited the Board to come and see the school gym after the seismic upgrade.

Veterans' Day Assembly held the Thursday before Veterans' Day. About 23 veterans came and were recognized by the students.

Mrs. Danyiel Andrus' class (3rd/4th Grade Teacher) doing a "Great Kindness Challenge" in February. Next year this will be a school-wide activity.

As part of a Wellness Wednesday activity, students and staff wrote on individual's paper plates good things about that person that were then on display.

First Annual Science Night. Clarissa Bay, SHS Science Teacher, and Lisa Garrett, Scotts Mills 1st Grade Teacher, collaborated with a SHS student on their student project to plan a "Science Night" for K-4th grade students and families. Former Scotts Mills students volunteered as high school helpers.

The Kiwanis Club will be sponsoring swimming lessons for 3rd and 4th graders.

The City of Scotts Mills has received a grant and offered to put more street lights in front of the school building and parking area.

Mrs. Jorgenson reviewed various PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) components of their school-wide plan to increase positive behaviors: Student of Month Assembly (students receive positive recognition), Conflict Managers (7th and 8th grade students monitor/support grades K-4 recess and mentor younger students), and Responsibility Day (last Friday of each month, each class is responsible for a different school area).

Mrs. Jorgenson then reported on various school focuses:

Figuring the schedules and preparing for testing season.

Data Team – Intervention system to support students.

Creating a brochure to promote Scotts Mills School.

Received Kinder Readiness Partnership and Innovation Grant from Marion and Polk Counties Early Learning Hub. Classes will be offered in March, April and May to help parents prepare their children ages 4-5 for kindergarten next fall.

Working to increase enrollment by increasing incoming kindergarten numbers.

Need for outdoor covered play area.

Parent-Teacher Club starting to raise money for a larger parking area.

Mrs. Jorgenson invited everyone to attend the school's Bingo Night on Friday, April 21; 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. Due to the large crowd they had last year, Mrs. Jorgenson said that they plan to have a shuttle from the Fire Station to the School.

In response to Wally Lierman's inquiry, Jennifer Hannan explained that the Marion and Polk Counties Early Learning Hub is through the Oregon Department of Education. She said the grant amount is based on the state kindergarten assessment that measures readiness for kindergarten. Mrs. Hannan felt that Scotts Mills School qualified because there is not a preschool facility in the community.

The Board thanked Mrs. Jorgenson for her report.

BOARD REPORTS

No Board Reports were given.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

AUDIENCE WITH VISITORS

Questions: Shelly Nealon said she had several questions about various topics that were discussed tonight. Consensus of the Board was that she would e-mail those questions to the Board members and Mr. Bellando.

ACTION ITEMS

Financial Audit: Tim Roth moved, and Todd White seconded, to approve the Financial Audit Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

Classified Employee Week Resol.: Aaron Koch moved, and Ervin Stadeli seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2/13/2017 proclaiming March 6-10 as Classified Employee Appreciation Week. The motion carried unanimously.

2017-2018 Calendar: Tim Roth moved, and Aaron Koch seconded, to approve the 2017-2018 School Year Calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Following a break from 8:05 p.m. to 8:10 p.m., the Board entered Executive Session pursuant to **ORS 192.660(2)(f)** – *To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection* – Consideration of sick leave bank request; and **ORS 192.660(2)(e)** – *To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions* – Eugene Field School and property. Present were the five Board members (Tom Buchholz and Ron Valoff being absent); Andy Bellando; and Denise Childs. Jennifer Hannan, Dana Pedersen and Steve Nielsen were excused.

Reconvened: Regular Session reconvened at 8:21 p.m.

OTHER

Collective Bargaining: Mr. Bellando said that collective bargaining would soon be starting with the Classified and Licensed (Teachers) Associations. He noted that Wally Lierman and Tom Buchholz were part of the Classified Bargaining Team and that Tim Roth was part of the Licensed Bargaining Team. Mr. Bellando said if any other Board member was interested in being on the Licensed Bargaining Team, to please let him know. He shared that the first bargaining session with the teachers will be March 14.

ACTION ITEM

Sick Leave Bank: Tim Roth moved, and Aaron Koch seconded, to approve a sick leave bank, up to 50 days, for Ted Pallister. The motion carried unanimously.

OTHER

Adjourn: No further business was brought before the Board and the meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.