

SILVER FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 13, 2017

7:00 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; Jennifer Hannan, Director of Teaching and Learning; Dana Pedersen, Director of Special Services; Steve Nielsen, Business Manager; Denise Childs, Board Secretary; and Rachel Peters, SHS Student Representative. Dandy Stevens, Assistant Superintendent and Vanessa Meraz, SHS Student Representative were absent. Press was not 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

Ervin Stadeli moved, and Todd White seconded, to approve the *Consent Agenda*. The motion carried unanimously. The *Consent Agenda* included:

- Approve minutes of February 13 and 27, 2017.
- Approve 2017-2018 Integrated Pest Management Low Impact Chemical List.
- Designate 400 as the maximum number of inter-district transfer students into Silver Falls School District for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Move to contract status those probationary licensed employees who have been employed three years and are eligible for contract status.
- Non-renew contracts of temporary licensed staff and selected probationary staff, effective at end of current contract year.
- Extend contracts for contract teachers and administrators at end of current contract year.
- Approve District Policy Committee Recommended Revisions and Deletions in Policy Manual Sections A and B. See Summary Addendum (final reading).
- Accept resignations of Deborah Harrington, Evergreen and Victor Point LRC Teacher, effective February 27, 2017; and Linda Heintzman, Robert Frost Special Education Teacher, and Weston Shippy, Silverton High School Spanish Teacher, effective end of 2016-2017 contract year.
- Accept resignation of Justin Lieuallen, Silverton High School Principal, effective end of 2016-2017 contract year.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Sports: Rachel Peters reported on upcoming schedules for the following sports teams: Boys' Basketball, Track, Girls' Softball, Boys' Baseball, Golf, and Dance Team (going to State competition). It was noted that the **Girls' Basketball Team finished 2nd in the 5A State Championship.**

Activities: She next reviewed various school club activities: Interact Club (held Daddy-Daughter Dance Saturday night); Associated Student Body (planning upcoming Mr. SHS event); Key Club; Red Cross Club (blood drive scheduled on May 31); **Robotics Club (Bronze Round State Champions)**; and Speech and Debate Team (multiple members heading to State competition). Wally Lierman added that he heard good things about the Daddy-Daughter Dance and that it was very positive for the community.

The Board thanked Rachel for her report.

AUDIENCE WITH VISITORS

Guidelines: Chair Wally Lierman reviewed public testimony guidelines.

There were no comments from the audience.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Policies Sect. C & D: Wally Lierman noted the second reading of the District Policy Review Committee's recommended revisions and deletions to the policies in Sections C and D. There were no comments from the Board. Chair Wally Lierman said these two policy sections will be an *action item* at the April 10 Regular Board Meeting.

Policies Sect. E & F: Wally Lierman noted the first reading of the District Policy Review Committee's recommended revisions and deletions to the policies in Sections E and F. There were no comments from the Board. Tim Roth thought it looked good.

2013-14 State Report Card Data Correction: Andy Bellando thanked **Tom Buchholz** for questioning the information on the 2015-2016 State Report Card, and **Steve Nielsen's** efforts in getting an error corrected. He explained that it was specific to information in the 2013-2014 Per Pupil Spending amount on the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 District Report Cards.

Steve Nielsen explained it had been brought to the attention of the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) that a discrepancy was found between the amount in the School District's 2013-2014 audit and the amount in the District's electronic data. He shared that the error has been corrected.

Tom Buchholz said he appreciated his concern being checked into.

In response to Wally Lierman's inquiry, Mr. Nielsen felt that this type of error has happened to other school districts. Mr. Nielsen said he did not know what happened in ODE's reconciliation process, but that ODE accepted responsibility for the error. Wally thanked Tom and Mr. Nielsen for their efforts.

Board Elections: The following Board members declared their candidacy for the School Board Director Election on May 16, 2017: Ervin Stadel (Zone 2); Wally Lierman (Zone 4); and Aaron Koch (Zone 5).

Mr. Bellando reported that Marie Traeger, Teachers' Association President, had shared that a tentative date is being considered for a school board candidate forum -- Monday, April 17, 7:00 p.m. at Silverton High School. He pointed out that the date has not yet been finalized, but that school board candidates will receive information when it becomes available.

ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF REPORTS

Andy Bellando — School District Enrollment Study by Population Research Center, Portland State University – Spring of 2017; SafeOregon – School Safety Tip Line. Mr. Bellando reported that a District enrollment study is scheduled to begin mid-April. He explained that it is being initiated and carried out by the Population Research Center at Portland State University. Mr. Bellando said this information will help in the future in assessing and making informed decisions on possible attendance boundary

adjustments, additional facilities planning, and student transfer numbers. He anticipates a report to the Board will be given in June or July.

Mr. Bellando explained that SafeOregon is a new and fully funded school safety tip line program available to all public K-12 schools in Oregon. It allows any student in the State of Oregon an easy-to-use electronic submission availability to share information or concerns about threats and safety. Mr. Bellando said that the school principals will get program training on March 23. He noted that the plan is to also notify parents and students about the program, and report it to the media for publication.

Wally Lierman inquired how invalid tips will be handled. Mr. Bellando explained that situations will be investigated discreetly with the hope of putting administrators in a position to help address the needs of students, even if only a portion of the information is true.

Steve Nielsen — Financial Report; 2017-2018 Budget Process/Timelines. Mr. Nielsen reviewed portions of the Financial Report. He said that revenue and expenditures remain on track through February 28.

Mr. Nielsen noted the Oregon Legislation currently in session and the financial unknowns in working on the District's 2017-2018 budget. He shared that the administrators are being watchful in working through the budget process and will return their work to him either before or right after Spring Break. Wally Lierman said that he appreciated the District taking a conservative approach to the budget process.

In response to Ervin Stadel's inquiry, Mr. Nielsen said that he would check as to where Food Services' finances were last year at this time.

Jennifer Hannan — District Science Curriculum Adoption Timeline – Postponement for One Year. Mrs. Hannan explained the reasoning behind the need to postpone the District Science Curriculum adoption for one year – the next generation science standards are significantly different than the old science standards and the current curriculums available have not caught up to the new standards.

Mrs. Hannan clarified that the new standards look a lot like STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) education. Wally Lierman said that he is familiar with the STEM concept, but that he does not necessarily agree with all of it. He felt this coming from the State will make it expensive for every Oregon school district. In response to Tim Roth's inquiry, Mrs. Hannan explained that the new science standards were brought out this past summer with science teachers trained at the State level. These teachers are now in school districts starting to do that training and they are supposed to be fully implemented by next fall.

Leslie Roache — Robert Frost School. Mrs. Roache distributed a document to the Board before the start of the meeting. She reported on the school's enrollment (414), hosting special education programs, and getting close to an attendance rate of 95%, even with the challenges of illness. Mrs. Roache then assessed the students' current reading and math scores and their continued focus to improve academically. She shared that the school continues to implement the PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) system in helping kids understand school rules and reinforcing positive behavior. Mrs. Roache commended the students who work hard, are kind, and have pride in their school. The Board thanked Mrs. Roache for her report.

Jamie McCarty — Evergreen and Victor Point School. Mr. McCarty distributed documentation to the Board before the start of the meeting. Using a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. McCarty stated that student learning at both schools is their number one priority. He described how staff members have data team meetings to track and monitor STAR (Standardized Testing and Reporting) scores to identify trends, try to make certain that students are at or above the benchmark by the end of the school year, and put interventions in place when needed. Mr. McCarty reviewed some of the current scale scores in reading and math proficiency at both schools and how they track each

student. During this portion of Mr. McCarty's presentation, Ervin Stadel and Wally Lierman asked clarifying questions regarding some deficiencies in certain grade levels. Ervin felt that data is good for tracking and seeing how students make progress.

Mr. McCarty described how staff members use technology and its tools in the classroom in focusing on instructional materials and resources, as well as student engagement. He reviewed what technology is in place at Evergreen and Victor Point's 3-Year Technology Plan. Wally Lierman suggested that Technology Plans carry on as working documents because technology continues to change.

Mr. McCarty reported on recent celebrations at both schools:

Evergreen –

- ◆ Adeline Miller's 2nd/3rd grade class participated in a Sumdog (online educational game) math competition where the class took 1st for the Willamette Region and 9th out of 1,400 classrooms nationwide. The school as a whole took 4 of the top 5 places in the regional competition.
- ◆ Play structure now installed due to over \$26,000 raised in one month.
- ◆ Recent Battle of the Books District/Regional Competition – 3rd-5th grade team placed 8th out of 42 teams.

Victor Point –

- ◆ Recent Battle of the Books District/Regional Competition – Made it to the final 8 teams.
- ◆ Reading Under the Stars/Taco Tuesday/Scholastic Book Fair – Fed 220 community and family members. Staff members dressed up as book characters in different classrooms where they read books to students and parents.

In response to Aaron Koch's inquiry, Mr. McCarty confirmed that this Thursday is Victor Point School's Chili Feed. The Board thanked Mr. McCarty for his report.

BOARD REPORTS

- SHS Theater: Aaron Koch shared that the Silverton High School Theater Department did a fabulous job with the production "Inherit the Wind". He commended Drama Teacher Doug Ousterhout and the Silver Mask Thespians for amazing performances. Aaron encouraged everyone to attend the "One Acts" in the spring.
- Battle of the Books: Aaron described recent Battle of the Books competitions that he had attended. He felt all of the District's school teams did well. Aaron commended the educators for getting the teams ready for competitions. He said it is a neat experience to see our kids compete at such a high level.
- School Visits: Wally Lierman reported on his visits to Scotts Mills, Mark Twain Elementary and Silverton Middle Schools. During his report he noted the seismic upgrades at Scotts Mills; traffic flow and need for bathroom upgrades at Mark Twain; and security fencing in place and need for playground space at Silverton Middle.
- Girls' Basketball/Community Support: Tim Roth recognized the girls' basketball team playing at the State tournament last week in Corvallis. He noted the number of community members and students who attended the State games showing their support. Tim shared that a couple Gill Coliseum officials had commented on how well behaved our kids acted during the games. He commended all our schools' staff members for the wonderful things they do in teaching kids. Tim felt it was good to reflect that this District is an awesome place.
- Robotics: Tim reported that the Butte Creek Robotics Team will be competing at the National level. He said things like that are happening all over this District.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

AUDIENCE WITH VISITORS

There were no comments from the audience.

ACTION ITEMS

None at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Following a break from 7:52 p.m. to 7:59 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)(h)** – *To consult with legal counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.* Present were the seven Board members; Andy Bellando; and Denise Childs. Jennifer Hannan, Dana Pedersen and Steve Nielsen were excused.

Reconvened: Regular Session reconvened at 8:09 p.m.

ACTION ITEM

Sick Leave Bank: Tim Roth moved, and Aaron Koch seconded, to approve a sick leave bank, up to 25 days, for Abby Greene. The motion carried unanimously.

OTHER

Adjourn: No further business was brought before the Board and the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Superintendent-Clerk