

**Bend-La Pine Schools
Bend, OR 97703**

The Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools met in a regular session on April 11, 2017 in room 314 at the Education Center, 520 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR 97703.

Board Members Present

Peggy Kinkade
Cheri Helt
Carrie Douglass
Julie Craig
Andy High
Stuart Young
Ron Gallinat

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 p.m. by Chair Kinkade. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Review of the Agenda

Chair Kinkade reviewed the agenda. There were no changes.

Public Input

Beth Hoover addressed the board about SB 13 and the needs of Native American students and recommend the board support the passage of this bill. She asked that the board support culturally appropriate curriculum and an equity policy. She shared handouts with the board and thanked them for their time.

Superintendent Spotlight of Success

FAN : Family Access Network

Superintendent Mikalson thanked FAN for their partnership and introduced Brooke Garcia, FAN Foundation Chair and Julie Lyche, FAN's Executive Director, and presented them with the 2017 Community Partner Award. Mikalson also introduced Dana Pederson, Ensworth Principal and FAN Administrator as well as Raquel Hernandez, Mara Stephens, Sandy Schmidt and Jen Reuter, all who are district FAN Advocates. Pederson shared stories and noted that FAN is seeing an increase in situational poverty vs. generational poverty. FAN is a coordinated effort of the FAN Foundation, HDESD, cooperating partners, and district employees. There is an advocate at every school, it varies on size and demographics on the amount of time the advocate spends at each location. There are also two advocates that work with students who are not yet in schools. Stuart Young complimented FAN on the difference they make for families and students. Chair Kinkade thanked all who are involved with FAN for their work and their partnership.

Consent Agenda

Andy High moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion.

Douglass was out of the room at the time of vote. **Unanimous approval.**

Report

Financial Report

Zhai Logan reviewed a financial update as of March 31, 2017 and noted there is very little change on the revenue side. Expenditures will show costs related to the winter snow storm in two major categories: utilities/services and salaries. The board authorized the district to spend up to \$1.85 million from the ending fund balance to pay for winter storm expenses, and to date the district has spent just over \$1.7 million. A majority of those funds will be reimbursed by insurance and possibly FEMA.

Chair Kinkade asked about earning rates on investment revenue and Logan explained the district keeps its liquid cash in a local guarded investment pool and rates are tied to federal rates. Cheri Helt asked what the cause is for increased revenue and emphasized the need to advocate for federal forest fund dollars. Logan explained the district continues to struggle to fill transportation, custodial and nutrition services positions, which is consistent with what is happening across the state. Andy High asked for more detail in wages paid due to the cost of snow removal. Logan will follow up with figures and thanked the board for their commitment to financial stability. Kinkade thanked Logan for the report.

Executive Limitation 9 – Technology

Chair Kinkade noted the report in the packet and added her thanks for the additional the list of information in section two based on feedback from last year's report. Andy High asked how the transition to dark fiber has gone. Ben Hansen said the speed is incredible and very reliable. All schools in Bend and South County are connected.

Cheri Helt commented on the Technology Plan the board approved a few years ago and suggested an update and asked if it is time to evaluate elements of the plan, specifically in iPad utilization. Carrie Douglass agreed and would like to know more about what students are using their iPads for at various levels.

Stuart Young commented as part of section three, that technology is being used in a 'safe and responsible manner,' and how are students and parents informed on what is safe and responsible use. Skip Offenhauser said digital citizenship lessons are increasing and next school year the goal is have one per month, appropriate for grade and age level. Young asked how the district uses students to help in terms of safety, social media happenings, etc. Offenhauser said teachers and staff encourage students to share with an adult of anything worrisome. Julianne Repman added there are other safety measures in place, like text-a-tip, a two-way texting option with 911 and schools are doing a great job of making these and other communication options known.

Ron Gallinat asked about what summer options the district is considering to offer students. Offenhauser said with the popularity of Bend-La Pine Online, the district will begin to offer original credit classes this summer, along with credit recovery classes. Superintendent Mikalson complimented Offenhauser and his team for the growth and success of BLPO.

Carrie Douglass asked about student data and information security. Hansen said the district is always looking for ways to improve and often times it is a holistic approach of both the technical and personnel side to keep on top of vulnerable areas. Currently the district is going through a security review which help provide additional information and insight.

Julie Craig said she would also like to review the Technology Plan, like Helt suggested, and hear more about best practices, strategies, outcomes, equipment, available tools, options, etc.

Discussion

Social-Emotional Learning Report

Sean Reinhart shared part of the district's work plan this year is to evaluate and refine K-12 behavior support programs. Reinhart said the work of social-emotional learning is not new, but the district is working on different strategies of integration and building capacity in each of the schools and creating a culture from adults, that extends to students in five key areas: self-management, self-awareness, social awareness, responsible decision making and relationship skills. Reinhart reviewed what a Trauma Informed School System includes and that the practices of leading with empathy is another positive component of social-emotional learning.

Jim Boen shared about the work being done to develop a comprehensive guidance counseling program. A counseling team has spent this past year looking at data around student achievement, behavior and attendance and are now working to develop a plan of action to support areas where there are gaps.

Chair Kinkade asked about trauma informed practices and any specific approach to help students and families around deportation. Lora Nordquist said that is a topic of conversation and staff continue to remind students and

families that schools are safe. Reinhart added that a social-emotional learning think tank group, with teachers, administrators and school psychologists, are coming up with training options, instructional strategies and support materials for staff. Building-wide trainings will soon be offered with the overall goal that these ideas and strategies end up as part of each school's design plan.

Cheri Helt asked how the district is working to provide consistent support and practices for students at all schools. Mikalson explained that school administrators are working in the context of their school design plan to best meet the needs of their students. The five key areas Reinhart noted are the core focus for all schools and through the design work, a school determines the best strategies to implement. Helt said she would like to ensure equitable social-emotional learning opportunities.

Carrie Douglass asked what areas or indicators does the district look to measure growth / success. Reinhart said attendance, grades, academics areas and Gallup poll results around hope and engagement provide valuable data for buildings. Helt asked how behavior coaches help support schools. Reinhart said the district hired an additional behavior coach this school year which has been a great improvement in being able to train and guide staff through the most difficult situations. Mikalson noted, this is an area of need across the district, and the strategy of growing capacity at each building will help until more resources and dollars become available. Julie Craig expressed her frustration of not being able to address the needs and issues of all students and that is ultimately keeping them from being future ready. She noted there is phenomenal work going on, but wishes there were more resources available. Stuart Young understood and agreed that he too would like the work to happen faster, however, it is complex work and takes time. He complimented the work being done and would like to hear continued update on how the district is moving forward in this area.

Craig said she would like to know more about the district's connection to community partners and ways to leverage resources to help support students. Reinhart shared about the work being done and the relationships amongst the community and added, there is a tremendous value-add for not only the district, but the partners, because of these positive relationships. Helt commented on how reduced funding and resources are taking their toll on staff and our community partners. She will continue to fight for funding and seek ways to help meet the needs of the district so we can serve students as best possible. Chair Kinkade thanked Reinhart for the presentation.

Chair Kinkade recessed the regular meeting at 7:16 p.m.
The regular meeting resumed at 7:24 p.m.

Board Self-Evaluation

Chair Kinkade shared a handout of questions for board members to consider as part of the board's self-evaluation. She explained the questions came from the boards governance policies and welcomed feedback. She suggested the idea of an anonymously submitted evaluation for individual board members and the board a whole, and the possibility of outside feedback. She also asked the board to help think through next steps once the results are gathered.

Julie Craig said she would like to hear from teachers, administrators, staff, and community members as part of the evaluation. Douglass agreed and noted she would like to see a rubric created to help define or provide guidance on the scoring process. Kinkade suggested asking those who understand the workings of the district, rather than a random sampling of the community could be more useful in providing meaningful feedback. Stuart Young agreed and suggested narrowing down the questions and would like to hear feedback from Mikalson and his team. Ron Gallinat suggested asking targeted groups like budget committee members and sites and facility members.

Chair Kinkade asked board members to share their ideas and thoughts and will bring back an updated self-evaluation to the next board meeting. Mikalson noted themes from the evaluation could be a great way to develop conversation topics for the board retreat.

Evaluation Scoring

Chair Kinkade reviewed the current status of Superintendent Mikalson's evaluation, noting it has taken longer to wrap up than expected, but it is the desire of the board to get it right the first time. She explained initial scoring provided by board members led to the realization that there was quite a bit of room for subjectivity in Mikalson's evaluation, thus making it difficult for Mikalson to understand what the expectations of the board are and how to best meet those expectations as they align to the eight Ends.

Kinkade feels the more subjective the evaluation and scoring are, the further away the board gets from policy governance. She asked board members for their input in developing an evaluation scoring system. Discussion ensued and Kinkade asked all board members to review their initial scores for Mikalson's evaluation. If anyone would like to change their scores, please use the current rubric (and no decimals) and send them to Kinkade. She and High will compile scores and a narrative of feedback. High suggested the evaluation discussion continue and possibly seek out other resources to help guide this work. Mikalson agreed and appreciates the progress in getting closer to an understanding of his and the boards expectations.

Board Comments

Andy High encouraged all to vote, only 35 days until the election.

Chair Kinkade shared an update on the bond campaign and Don Stearns, BEA president, added that BEA members agreed to endorse the bond at their membership meeting this evening and offered to help with canvassing efforts.

Julie Craig said the NSBA conference she recently attended was great and would encourage other board members to go next year. A presentation from Red Clay School District on their work around increasing graduation rates and reducing drop-out rates was amazing and she would like the district to look into similar models and practices. She enjoyed hearing about differentiated instruction for equity being done in Aurora, CO and how another school district extended the school year, to year-round school, for specific, at risk students. She also encouraged all to read Wes Moore's book, *The Other Wes Moore*.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Wilson
4.11.2017