

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

The Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools met in a regular session on March 14, 2017 in room 314 at the Education Center, 520 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR 97703.

Board Members Present

Cheri Helt
Ron Gallinat
Peggy Kinkade
Carrie Douglass
Andy High

Board Members Absent

Stuart Young
Julie Craig

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Chari Kinkade. The Pledge of Allegiance followed and Kinkade welcomed Carrie Douglass to her first board meeting.

Review of Agenda

Chair Kinkade reviewed the agenda. There were no changes.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Superintendent Spotlight of Success

Dual Immersion Program

Superintendent Mikalson introduced Kinsey Martin, Dual Immersion Coordinator for the district. Martin introduced students, staff and administrators from the Dual Immersion Program and gave an over view of what a two-way program model looks like and how the program is set up at Bear Creek Elementary and High Desert Middle School. The mission of the DI Program includes bilingualism, biliteracy and intercultural competence. Martin shared data on how Bend-La Pine students are performing in the DI Program compared to those who are not. Cheri Helt asked Martin what her thoughts were for the staggering difference in test scores amongst students. Martin shared that what the district is seeing is consistent with what national studies are showing. Native Spanish speakers come in with their language being seen as an asset rather than a barrier. She added, family engagement has been very successful and parent involvement has been a key factor to classroom success. Bilingual teachers are extremely passionate and there is great energy in the classroom and students are excited, which leads to great results.

Sixth grade Dual Immersion students, Ivy and Liam, who have been in the DI Program since kindergarten, spoke about their experience, what they enjoy and why they are in the DI Program.

Martin explained how the K-5 DI Program strands are set up at Bear Creek. In kindergarten, 80% of instruction is delivered in Spanish, by the fifth grade, instruction is a 50/50 split between Spanish and English. At High Desert Middle School, DI students receive Language Arts and Social Studies instruction in Spanish, which meets the DI standards, that at least half of the core content areas need to be delivered in Spanish. Currently there are 420 students taking part in the Dual Immersion Program in grades K-6, of those students, 45% are ELL students. DI Program staff, including teachers and educational assistants, represent seven different Spanish speaking countries and half of those employees are native Spanish speakers.

Ron Gallinat asked about the demand of the DI Program. Martin said the demand has grown and is large. There continues to be ongoing education for native speakers about the way their students will learn English and noted access and transportation are some barriers family face and prevent them from participating.

Mikalson thanked Martin and others from the DI Program for their passion, he is impressed and proud of the program and how it has been able to expand into middle school.

Board Workshop

Budget Workshop

Superintendent Mikalson introduced budget committee members; Matt Hillman, Heidi Slaybaugh, Ron Smith and Bruce Reynolds in attendance. Mikalson said his goal is to share an overview and find out what the board and budget committee needs as the budget process continues this spring.

Mikalson shared a presentation and highlighted following areas:

1. Progress to date: Mikalson shared data and measurements for the Board's Ends
2. The district's Strategic Plan and Priorities: Mikalson shared the plan and priorities defined by cabinet: Safety, Options, World Class Education and System Performance
3. The budget picture moving forward: Mikalson shared a preview for the 2017-19 K-12 budget and an overview of where funding was from 2015 to what is projected for the next biennium.

Andy High asked what the likelihood is that we will know what state funding will be before we vote and pass our district budget; Mikalson said very unlikely. High noted his disagreement with the process of establishing the district budget when the district does not yet know the actual funds from the state. Mikalson explained the budget committee process ahead will include a range of multiple scenarios for the budget committee and board to work through and make the most well informed decision. He noted that employee groups are also negotiating contracts this spring, which is an additional unknown to factor. Mikalson said he is confident with Brad Henry and his team as they work on projections. Henry explained how the process works and the numbers considered in developing each of the scenarios. Mikalson added that the district is facing and looking at potential cuts, which is difficult and frustrating to understand when the economy seems to be improving.

Ron Gallinat asked about the current budget and if there would be any new dollars to invest. Henry explained any new dollars would go to cover the costs of PERS and toward maintaining the current service level. Gallinat asked how the expenses of snow removal could impact the budget process. Henry said the district has applied and is waiting to hear if we will receive any dollars from FEMA to cover costs. Expenses not covered by FEMA will be paid from the reserve fund. Henry added, the district is working hard to cover any and all costs to avoid using reserve funds.

Cheri Helt expressed her concerns around class size and encouraged Mikalson to keep that as a focus and priority during this process. Andy High asked what the "wish" level of funding would include to help provide some clarity on why an increase still does not cover the current service level. Mikalson explained those "wishes" will be defined more specifically during the budget committee meetings and related to the scenario of a possible bond measure and clarifying how those dollars do and do not impact one another.

Consent Agenda

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

Cheri Helt asked for clarification on the 4-hour education assistant hired at High Desert Middle School. Brian Crook said this person is currently teaching 4-hours per day and these hours are simply extending that employee's work day. **Unanimous approval.**

Action Items

Resolution 1850 : 2017 Bond Measure Election & Ballot Title

Chair Kinkade noted the resolution in the board packet and Brad Henry explained one of the steps in the process to place the bond measure on the May ballot is for the board to formally approve a resolution "calling for measure"

and approving the ballot title. Approval of the resolution will approve the ballot title. Andy High asked about additional funds from Senate Bill 447. Henry said if the district qualifies, the board could issue less bonds. The district did apply and did not qualify, however are on a waiting list.

Andy High moved to approve Resolution 1850. Cheri Helt seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Transportation Facility : 2017 Renovations Contractor Recommendation

Mike Tiller said this was a hard-bid process. Of the eight qualified general contractors who attended the mandatory pre-bid conference, the district received two bids. Cheri Helt questioned why only two bids came in and asked Tiller to research further with the other contractors who chose not to bid their reasoning.

Ron Gallinat moved to approve the 2017 Transportation Facility Renovations Contractor Recommendation. Andy High seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Elk Meadow Elementary : 2017 Field Reconstruction Contractor Recommendation

Mike Tiller said this was a hard-bid process. Of the six qualified general contractors who attended the mandatory pre-bid conference, the district received two bids. Helt asked if the sod or seed will be used for the field. Tiller said sod as it will allow for immediate use. High asked about timing and if field users (i.e., Little League) have been notified. Tiller said he has been in contact with Little League, and they are supportive of the work. The reconstruction should be complete by the start of the 2017-18 school year.

Andy High moved to approve the 2017 Elk Meadow Elementary Field Reconstruction Contractor Recommendation. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Pilot Butte Middle School : 2017 Restroom Renovations Contractor Recommendation

Mike Tiller said this was also a hard-bid process. Of the six qualified general contractors who attended the mandatory pre-bid conference, the district received two bids. He added, a decision has been made to refurbish the existing tile instead of replace it due to cost.

Cheri Helt moved to approve the 2017 Pilot Butte Middle School Restroom Renovations Contractor Recommendation. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Report

Policy Monitoring – Executive Limitation 11 : Asset Protection

Chair Kinkade reviewed EL 11 and noted updates that were requested from the board as a result of the 2016 monitoring process, including a list of real-estate the district owns. High noted the district gets requests from various outside groups to use and access our 174 vacant acres. In May, the board is scheduled to discuss how they would like Superintendent Mikalson to handle such requests and asked board members to send him their thoughts or ideas in preparation for May.

Helt asked for more specifics around the district's bus fleet; i.e., cycle of purchasing, what the districts owns and maintains, fleet inventory, age, propane vs. gas, how many buses are deployed to for elementary, middle and high school routes daily, etc. High would also like an inventory of maintenance equipment. Helt suggested in #1, to remove "fail to" as it is a double negative, based upon the previous sentence. Chair Kinkade asked for a motion, because a modification to an executive limitation requires board action.

Cheri Helt moved to amend Executive Limitation 11, number 1, and remove the words "fail not." Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Discussion

ELL Transformation District

Skip Offenhauser introduced his work to help lead the ELL Department in the district. He said that in fall 2016 the district was identified as a Transformation District by the state, which means, Bend-La Pine is one of the 25-lowest performing districts in the state in terms of outcomes for linguistically diverse students, among districts with a significant population of students identified as English Language Learners (ELL's). With the goal of addressing the performance, academic growth, and graduation rates of the district's linguistically diverse students the district has chosen three focus areas at the 12 highest needs schools: educator effectiveness, systems to support students and

family engagement. The state has awarded the district \$180,000, annually, for the next four years and these dollars will be used to support the focus areas identified.

Superintendent Mikalson shared a Latino Night was recently held at Pilot Butte Middle School in an effort to engage, listen and answer questions from our Spanish speaking families. He said the event was eye-opening and some stories shared were heartbreaking. He will debrief with district staff who attended the event to summarize and brainstorm on how to try and address the concerns and ways to break down some of the barriers our Spanish speaking families are dealing with.

Chair Kinkade asked what plans are for the schools who are not part of the 12, and what will be done to help those students. Lora Nordquist said the professional development that will be offered will be available to all district teachers. State dollars also allow the district to pilot innovative ideas that if successful, could be extended to all schools. High asked how we plan to support other languages. Offenhauser said Vietnamese is the second most spoken language for ELL students and Cate Hill expanded on ways the district serves families who speak unique languages through Transact who provides translation services across Oregon.

Helt appreciates the flexibility of the state funding so districts can use it in ways that will be most beneficial. She asked if there is a mentor program for ELL teachers, similar to the program established for new teachers. Nordquist said Kinsey Martin provides support to ELL teachers and also works closely with OSU Cascades and their teacher program coordinators to seek out the best up and coming teachers. Ron Gallinat asked if the district is collaborating with neighboring districts. Nordquist said the ELL Directors in Central Oregon do meet monthly, as do ELL Coordinators, including HDESD staff members, and there are great ongoing regional conversations about ELL successful strategies.

Carrie Douglass would like to know more about strategies that will be used for family engagement and would like to see it be more of a school-wide engagement model than person by person. Nordquist agreed, school-wide is the focus the district will plan to move forward with. Douglass also asked about digital resources and encouraged the district consider a supplemental strategy to help with communication

Jay Mathisen shared graduation information around the Hispanic/Latino, and economically disadvantaged students in the district. He will follow up with more specific numbers to board members. Kinkade thanked all for the presentation and efforts being made to better serve ELL students.

Board comments

Andy High commented on contractor recommendations, noting there may be a capacity issue impacting the region and thus causing fewer bids to come in. He asked if Helt could provide polling data from OSBA's recent survey. High also shared that he, Peggy Kinkade and Scott Ramsey participated in the Education Foundation's Trivia Bee. Their team faired extremely well as they took on a two-time jeopardy champion. High also submitted a petition for the record from a fifth-grade class at Pine Ridge Elementary to keep chocolate milk in schools.

Cheri Helt shared that OSBA to continue to lobby for funding and reform and recently polled citizens around the state to rank funding priorities in education, PERS reform, revenue reform She is happy to report that funding for education ended up being one of the highest priorities and she will send the full data report to board members.

Chair Kinkade said Summit High School's Mr. Thunder pageant is coming up soon, and her son Scott is one of the 2017 Thunder participants. She is proud of how hard these students work to raise money for Summit High's sparrow, and other high schools have similar events and appreciates the support they provide to the community.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Wilson
3.14.2017