

## Bend-La Pine Schools Board of Directors Meeting Work Session Minutes

**Meeting Date: September 22, 2020**

### **Meeting Location:**

To support Governor Brown's executive orders for social distancing, the Board of Directors conducted the Board Meeting Work Session virtually, through Cisco Webex. The meeting was also live streamed to the BLS Schoolboard YouTube webpage.

### **Board Members Present**

Julie Craig  
Carrie Douglass  
Shimiko Montgomery  
Amy Tatom  
Caroline Skidmore  
Stuart Young  
Melissa Barnes Dholakia

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Chair Douglass, roll call followed.

Douglass thanked all for attending, noting that the agenda tonight will be a work session format, adding the Board's intention to hold one business meeting and one work session style meeting each month this year.

Chair Douglass noted that Valerie Pitts with HYA is in attendance and suggested moving the Superintendent Search discussion to right after the reopening update. All Board members agreed.

### **Update**

#### **❖ School Reopening Update**

Superintendent Nordquist shared an update on schools reopening, reviewing the metrics Deschutes County must meet for K-3 and 4-12 aged students to return to in person instruction. She noted there has been an increase in cases in Deschutes County which is concerning and until there are students physically attending in person, if the county does not meet the metrics, then the three-consecutive week calendar starts over as directed by the Oregon Department of Education. The metric data will be available mid-day on September 28, and the district will update the Board and families as soon as possible regarding the return of K-3 students. The Board asked clarifying questions and discussed metrics and scenarios surrounding the return to in person. Discussion around Bend Parks & Recreation use of facilities, masks and face shields, classroom set up, proximity of staff to students during in person instruction and metrics for when to close schools also took place.

### **Discussion**

#### **❖ Superintendent Search**

Chair Douglass introduced Valerie Pitts with HYA and shared an update on the recruitment process and proposed timeline for the Superintendent search.

Board members agreed to have Pitts meet with new district administrative staff and new community leaders, reopen the feedback survey and to extend the application deadline to October 15. Board members will meet on October 27 in executive session with Pitts to review candidates. Julie Craig will continue to be the lead for the search and will work to confirm members of the interview committee and details of the process with fellow board members and Pitts.

## **Work Session**

### **❖ Equity Coalition Formation & Work Discussion**

Superintendent Nordquist said Sonya Littledeer-Evans has agreed to be the Equity Coalition facilitator for the next two years and she is currently working with Katie Legace, Chris Boyd, Juan Cuadros and Kinsey Martin to form the full committee. Chair Douglass asked how the Equity Coalition will interact with the board and Nordquist shared the idea of having the coalition join the October work session meeting.

### **❖ Executive Limitations Review Process & Board Ends Update**

Melissa Barnes Dholakia led Board members through objectives around the work of Executive Limitations and Board Ends, and the goals of aligning Board Ends, Executive Limitations and Strategic Priorities. Barnes Dholakia noted key considerations she would like to keep at the forefront:

- What do we seek in terms of an organizational culture?
- What are our systems for empowering student and family voice?
- What are our systems for advancing staff diversity?

Barnes Dholakia reviewed an updated draft of the Board Ends and led a discussion on the key considerations that are reflected in the Ends: Outcomes, Experiences and Adult Actions. She noted how each of the Ends had been revised and updated and discussion ensued on the suggested revisions and proposed measures. Barnes Dholakia will continue to revise the Ends and noted the discussion of updating Executive Limitations will continue at the next Board meeting work session.

Chair Douglass thanked Barnes Dholakia for her work and noted the discussion of the Executive Limitations will take place at the October work session meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Recorded by: Andrea Wilson

**Minutes approved at 10.13.2020 board meeting**