

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

The Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools met in a regular session on December 11, 2018 at the Education Center, 520 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR.

**Board Members Present**

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

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair High. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**Public Input**

Chair High reviewed the process for public input.

Janelle Rebick, BEA President, addressed the board about funding issues that plague the district and Oregon public schools. She noted electives, mental health services, and class size as being some of the largest areas of need; and that the QEM shows state school funding is close to \$2 billion short each biennium. Rebick noted Governor Brown's proposed budget is one that brings Oregon closer to full funding than ever before and is the best chance public schools have had in over a decade. Rebick read aloud a resolution in support of school funding and asked board members to join Oregon educators and support increased funding. Chair High thanked Rebick and all the teachers in attendance for their advocacy and said the board would bring the resolution to the January 8 board meeting for discussion and possible action.

Chair High recessed the regular meeting at 5:38 p.m. The meeting resumed at 5:45 p.m.

Matt Payne, parent, addressed the board about the proposed attendance areas that affect his neighborhood in Awbrey Butte. He said a letter would be coming from the Awbrey Butte HOA to further explain why the proposed boundaries will place an undue burden on the neighborhood of Awbrey Butte and also to highlight other boundary options that he asked the district to consider. Payne shared concerns about the potential loss of neighborhood / community connection and does not feel it is in the best interest for his students to have to change schools.

Timothy Dewey, parent and resident of Awbrey Butte, echoed Payne's comments and added concerns of safety, traffic, commute times and further issues of neighborhood / community impact. He feels the proposed boundaries are unreasonable and would force his neighborhood to have to commute and participate in school activities outside of their established home area.

Tara Dewey, parent, shared her concerns of the proposed boundary changes and her desire to have her children and neighbors continue to attend their same schools. She asked the board to consider commute times and safety in their decision.

Kyle Fleming, parent and resident of Awbrey Butte, shared his concerns for the proposed boundary changes and questioned future boundary changes that would again change the attendance areas of their neighborhood. He too shared concerns of traffic, commute time and driver safety in harsh weather conditions. Fleming suggested Mt. Washington Drive be considered the boundary for the new elementary school as a fair compromise for the district to consider.

Nicole Hanover, parent and Awbrey Butte resident shared her child's negative emotional response to the possibility of having to change schools. Hanover does not want the community / neighborhood of Awbrey Butte to be shaken up and asked that the district consider a different option.

Chair High asked Superintendent Mikalson where the district is at in the attendance area review process. Mikalson said the Attendance Area Committee has been working over the past months to determine new elementary school boundaries as the district prepares to open a new elementary school in Fall 2019. On Dec. 4 and 6<sup>th</sup> the committee hosted public meetings to share three proposed maps with community members. Committee members are taking feedback received at the meetings along with survey data into consideration as they prepare a recommendation for Mikalson to consider. Mikalson said the committee's recommendation will come to him in late January / early February and from there he will make a final decision for elementary attendance areas that will be effective for the 2019-20 school year.

#### **Consent Agenda**

**Ron Gallinat moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Carrie Douglass seconded the motion.**

**Unanimous approval.**

#### **Action Items**

##### **❖ Instructional Time Flexibility & Optional Instructional Hours Exemptions**

Chair High reviewed the executive summary in the board packet and the district's recommendation to support.

**Ron Gallinat moved to approve the Instructional Hours Flexibility and Optional Instructional Hours exemptions as outlined in the executive summary. Carrie Douglass seconded the motion.**

Cheri Helt commented on her support for high school students to have flexibility within their schedule, but not less education. She noted her desire is to make sure students can have a full schedule if they want to and/or need to. She believes that students should have access to four, full years of high school education. Peggy Kinkade agreed and feels this is a move in the right direction. Douglass also agreed.

**Unanimous approval.**

#### **Reports**

##### **❖ New Elementary School Naming Committee Recommendation**

Superintendent Mikalson introduced Kevin Gehrig and reviewed the new elementary school naming process, explaining the role of the naming committee and board. Board members will consider the recommendations presented tonight and Mikalson said the community could anticipate a decision from the board after the new year.

Kevin Gehrig, principal of the new elementary school, said he is thankful to have an opportunity to lead and name the new school. He introduced members of the naming committee, a mixture of district staff and community members: Erin Micken, Amber Linn, Allison Harris, Jen Salari, Kendall Erickson, Tasha McFarland and Gary Timms. Gehrig reviewed the process the committee used, sharing that there were just over 375 suggested names submitted and using the naming criteria established by the board, the committee narrowed the list with a focus on identifying names that reflect the values, vision, character and goals of the district and community. The committee researched and consulted with the Bend Historical Museum and recommended the

following names for consideration: North Star Elementary, Ruth Reid Elementary, and Florence Drake Elementary.

Carrie Douglass asked Gehrig, of the three names, if there was a committee favorite. Gehrig said North Star Elementary rose to the top for the committee. Peggy Kinkade thanked Gehrig and the naming committee, adding she likes all three options, the process and rationale used, and feels the committee met the spirit of the naming process. Cheri Helt agreed, adding this is the best naming process she has been a part of and shared her appreciation for the thoughtfulness and consideration put into the recommendation. Stuart Young agreed, and said it will be a tough decision for the board.

#### ❖ **Alternative Learning Options Evaluation Report**

Superintendent Mikalson introduced Kathy McCollum, HDESD Alternative Learning Options Coordinator, to share the Contract and Charter School Evaluation report. McCollum thanked the board for their time and said all contract and charter schools have done a wonderful job this past year. She reviewed the standards set by state law and revisions to the matrix so the evaluation report is more understandable and useful. All contract and charter schools met all required standards. McCollum's recommendation is to accept the evaluation report as written and approve new contracts for the 2019-20 school year.

McCollum noted significant accomplishments made over the past year:

- Bend International School planned for and completed a facility expansion which has allowed them to increase their enrollment capacity by 15.
- Desert Sky Montessori successfully opened this year with 106 students.
- COIC improved their GED graduation rate with 191 students completing their GED and 116 students receiving their high school diploma in 2017-18.
- J Bar B established an on-site GED testing center allowing for seven students to complete their GED in 2017-18.
- The Academy at Sisters received a \$25,000 wellness grant to add increased physical activity, as well as mindfulness, meditation and yoga classes.
- OYCP is planning for an expansion of their facility to add 24 more female and 60 more male students, bringing their total enrollment capacity to 240 students.
- ODE is currently assisting with revamping administrator and teacher evaluation practices at all of the charter and contract schools.

Ron Gallinat asked to hear more about COIC's GED and graduation rate increases. John Bouchard attributed the increase to the support from the district and school counselors who are helping identify struggling students early on. With early identification, COIC is able to support and get students back into their regular school with successful outcomes. Carrie Douglass asked about BIS and DSM's academic success measures and thoughts on their results. Each charter shared about their assessments, results and efforts each are making to track data trends, etc. Douglass noted the importance of measuring success and would like to know more about charter school assessment data in future ALO evaluation reports.

Peggy Kinkade asked what a typical day is like for a student at COIC. Bouchard shared students alternate between direct instruction and self-directed learning (online courses). Staff members help students focus on tasks and continually work with students to engage, connect and establish trust. He said about 79% of students are on free and reduced lunch and many are apprehensive at first to connect with staff. Many COIC staff members are adding endorsements to their teaching licenses in an effort to help support students and he added that a recent grant award will help give students the opportunity to try out community college courses while they attend COIC which is very exciting.

Kinkade asked if students in the private DSM preschool program have an advantage in charter school enrollment. Julie Borgia, Head of School, said an advantage would only apply to siblings of students currently enrolled.

Cheri Helt asked about OAKS assessment still being used. Mikalson explained that OAKS is considered the umbrella for all state assessments, including SBAC. Helt agreed with Douglass, and would like to see assessment data for charter schools. She also asked for ideas on how the regular school system could do a better job supporting students. Bouchard said it's not a failure of the school system, it's a failure of these student's social environment that lands them in alternative settings. The fact that there are so few students in these programs is a tribute to the efficacy of the school system. Pam Price agreed, and said what her students and their families need most are wrap around services which is a community-wide issue.

Stuart Young complimented all of the contract and charter school programs and is pleased with the improvement he has seen over the years. He appreciates the opportunity these programs provide for students and thanked all for the passion and commitment they bring to their programs. Chair High agreed and appreciates the compassion and service these programs provide students. High noted the board will take action on the evaluation and 2019-20 contracts at the next school board meeting and thanked McCollum for the report.

Cheri Helt asked for a Point of Personal Privilege and said she would like the board to consider taking action tonight on the funding resolution presented by Janelle Rebick earlier. Chair High clarified what resolution number would be assigned to the resolution. Andrea Wilson answered 1878.

**Cheri Helt moved to approve Resolution 1878 as written to support educational funding. Carrie Douglass seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.**

Chair High said Wilson will put the resolution into the proper format, get the necessary signatures and send a copy to Rebick once complete.

#### ❖ **Board Ends Report**

Superintendent Mikalson presented his Board Ends Report, with a focus of updating the board on measures and expectations set in the eight Board Ends. Peggy Kinkade asked Mikalson if there is any area of concern in the information presented. He said areas of hope and engagement are ones he would like to continue to drill down and focus on improvement in, not only our schools, but in the community. Helt asked if there was a way to further break down the hope and engagement questions of the survey. Mikalson said the data comes from Gallup and the district's trends match that of the nation; hope tends to decrease by level as students become older. He will send the board the questions that are a part of the Gallup survey. Discussion ensued on the difficulty in measuring certain areas that the board and district consider valuable and strategies to support students and staff.

Stuart Young said he was happy to see an increase in both graduation rates and the freshman on track percentages. Julie Craig asked if GED completers were counted in the graduation rates. Mikalson said students are awarded credit for passing GED scores and are able to use those credits when they reenter school toward the credits required for earning a diploma. Chair High reminded board members the Board Ends report is the first part of Mikalson's evaluation process. He and Douglass will work to gather scores and feedback from each of the Executive Limitation reports to complete the remainder of Mikalson's evaluation.

#### ❖ **Administrative Policy & Regulation Update**

Superintendent Mikalson reviewed the executive summary and noted the report in the board packet summarizing the policy and regulation updates that have occurred since the last report to the board in September.

## **Discussion Items**

### **❖ Board Committee Updates**

Peggy Kinkade shared an update on the work of the Shareholders Board Committee. She noted the recent boundary meetings provided board members an opportunity to connect with community members and said the board will be a part of the Latino Family Night on January 22 as well as the Hope, Help and Heal meetings in Bend and La Pine later this spring. Kinkade proposed board members be present at these upcoming meetings to engage with community members and then set aside time immediately after to debrief. Chair High added that board committee members will also be meeting with BEA leadership and members to connect and listen about current concerns.

Cheri Helt shared an update on the work of the Advocacy Board Committee and the work being done to move forward a bill in support of ACT.

Carrie Douglass shared an update on the work of the Boardsmanship Board Committee. Creating a more systematic review and revision process for the Board Ends has been a major focus of their work, with a specific focus on the best way to utilize data. She said the committee is preparing to bring a proposal to the next board meeting for further discussion. The committee is also in the beginning phases of creating an onboarding process for new school board members. Chair High said the board retreat will take place in July, a specific date and location details will be forthcoming.

### **❖ OSBA Legislative Policy Committee : Position 3 Vacancy**

Chair High said OSBA is seeking candidates to fill Position 3 on the Legislative Policy Committee. The vacancy comes from Helt's resignation due to her election to House District 54 in the Oregon Legislature. High reviewed the application and appointment process OSBA plans to use for filling the position.

## **Board Comments**

Cheri Helt shared about recent boundary meetings she attended and thanked Kinsey Martin for her leadership and efforts to engage with the Latino population about the boundary process. Helt also thanked the teachers who came to the meeting tonight.

Chair High congratulated the Summit High School girls cross country team for winning the national championship.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Recorded by: Andrea Wilson

*Minutes approved at 1.8.19 board meeting*