

Bend-La Pine Schools
Bend, OR 97701

The Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools met in a regular meeting on September 9, 2014 in room 314 of the Education Center, at 520 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR 97701.

Board Members Present:

Cheri Helt
Julie Craig
Andy High
Ron Gallinat
Peggy Kinkade
Nori Juba - absent

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02p by Co-Chair Helt. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Public Comment

Terry Edwards with Child Evangelism Fellowship / Good News Club in Central Oregon addressed the Board and asked that their group be able to park their trailer at Buckingham Elementary. They would like to park in the staff parking lot because recently they found out where they have been parking for the past 25 years is a no parking area and alternatives nearby the school do not provide safe access for children. Peggy Kinkade asked how often and how long their club meet. Edwards said the trailer would be parked for 2.5 hours / week on Mondays and the Good News Club meets from 2:15-3:15p. Julie Craig asked how students are currently getting to and from the trailer. Edwards said they have supervision and an adult to help student to and from. Co-Chair Helt thanked Edwards for his time and said the Board would look into his request.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wilkinson noted the excellent start of the school year and said he is proud of all District staff members working hard together to get schools open and ready for students.

Wilkinson complimented the hard work done over the past few weeks in terms of Phase 2 of the Digital Conversion rollout. He encouraged all to pay attention to the news tomorrow, as the National Merit Semi-Finalists will be released. Wilkinson congratulated Summit High School's Dave Turnbull being recently named as one of two inaugural winners of the National High School Track & Field Coach of the Year for boys and girls teams – presented by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Superintendent Wilkinson shared many open houses are happening in schools and Bend-La Pine Online will host a K-5 Meet the Teacher for families interested in the K-5 program, adding the District has recently hired a half-time teacher to assist families in the online program. The participation continues to grow and added, Bend-La Pine Online offers an excellent program, in his opinion, better than other online programs currently available.

Stephanie Bennett, Cascade Middle School Principal, will be performing in Swinging with the Start to support the Sparrow Clubs of Central Oregon. Wilkinson encouraged all to support this great cause and wished Bennett good luck.

Wilkinson said as the District prepares to open two new schools next fall, the discussion of boundaries will happen soon. More information will be sent out publically later this week on how interested persons can apply to be a part of the Boundary Committee; he anticipates the process to start in October.

Wilkinson shared he will be hosting a leadership team from Botswana this Friday, noting they are here to learn about world class organizations. Co-Chair Helt asked about the Botswana visitors and if they will be going to any schools. Wilkinson said he has arranged for them to tour at Mt. View High School and shared the current emphasis on college preparedness and CTE programs in education in Botswana, which made MVHS a great fit for their group.

Wilkinson introduced Skip Offenhauser, to share about the Digital Conversion Phase 2 rollout. Offenhauser said the rollout is going tremendously smooth at all school and all high schools, except for La Pine High, have their iPads. He noted the Teachers on Special Assignment (TOSA) have done an awesome job and thanked them for the many extra hours they have put in. Offenhauser said each school was able to design their own rollout process and all have gone well, noting Bend High was the largest with 1,400 iPads being deployed in two days. He added families have responded extremely well to the optional insurance for iPads. He thanked the Business Office for handling the logistics of purchasing, etc. to make the insurance an easy process.

Peggy Kinkade asked how many TOSA's are involved and how will they be participating as the school year continues. Offenhauser said Christie Boen, John Craft and Scott McDonald are currently TOSA's and have been deeply involved in the rollout. The next phase of their work will begin in early October as they move to teaching more professional development and getting into classrooms to help teachers and students.

Co-Chair Helt asked about low SES families and how they are responding to the rollout and insurance. Offenhauser said there are three levels of protection/insurance for iPads with varying price points, and the District provides all students a case to help protect their device. He said there were 1,000 insurance policies purchased at Bend High during the rollout, which is a school that has a diverse population, showing a good example that families are interested. Julie Craig asked if there are scholarships available for students who cannot afford, but want to purchase insurance. Offenhauser noted there are PTA's who support students in this area.

Offenhauser said by the end of September nearly every school in Phase 2 will have deployed their iPads with the exception of Three Rivers. Helt thanked Offenhauser and his team for all their work. She appreciates how much they are doing and is excited for students this year. She asked how teacher training has gone thus far. Offenhauser said the response and number of teachers who participated was amazing. Nearly every class was booked within the first few days of being offered and there will continue to be more teacher training dates, and there have been a great number of teachers expressing interest in additional professional development. Scott McDonald added the trainings this year were much more targeted and they used the feedback from last years' pilot schools to create useful and meaningful opportunities for teachers. He said there is a noticeable difference in how excited teachers are this year because he feels the trainings were more applicable to their needs.

Superintendent Wilkinson thanked Offenhauser and his team for their incredible work and time invested. He noted the trainings and rollout feedback from staff and students have been very positive.

Consent Agenda

Peggy Kinkade moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Reports

Enrollment Update

Brad Henry noted two reports at each seat, both of which were updated as of 5:00p today. One report shows enrollment and the other shows the enrollment comparison to capacity. He said the District projected to be 175 over our October 1 enrollment in 2013, and currently we are over 200. He added there is always quite a bit of flux the first week of school with new students being enrolled and no-shows

being dropped. Henry reviewed the figures by level and noted certain schools, adding that on the same date in 2013 we had 331 less students.

Ron Gallinat asked about the large enrollment at Bend High and how many are transfers. Wilkinson explained there were no new out of district approvals, however, there are many attendance area change requests factored in and probably new students living in the attendance area. Gallinat asked about a possible increase in FTE to Bend High and Wilkinson answered at this point probably not, but he is continually watching and assessing their staffing needs.

Staffing Update

Jay Mathisen noted the staffing update at each seat which summarizes the adjustments made to meet staffing in various locations based upon enrollment. He reviewed the changes and noted the District is continually assessing each school and their enrollment numbers.

Co-Chair Helt asked if all the recently posted positions have been filled. Mathisen answered no, adding some of the most recent were posted just days ago. He noted there is also information on the handout summarizing all of the hiring done since April 1. Peggy Kinkade asked how many of these positions new FTE. Mathisen said for the Classified hires, not many, as there is quite a bit of turnover in positions in the transportation and nutrition services departments. He said between April 1 and today, 46 Certified employees are a part of the new compensation system, of those, over half chose to opt in, the others are new hires to the profession who were automatically placed on the new system. All together, 192 Certified positions have been hired thus far.

Helt asked of those staff who are on the new compensation system, are any of them temporary employees. Mathisen answered yes, and explained to be on the new compensation system at teacher would have to be brand new to the teaching profession or within the 2-3 year of teaching and chose to be a part of the new system.

Mathisen noted the administrative hires, of those many are reassignments of existing staff and three are new to the District. Kinkade asked who the three new Administrators were. Mathisen answered, Tim Broadbent, Principal at Three Rivers, Chris Boyd, Planning Principal for the new middle school, and Tami Pike, Nursing Supervisor, which is a new position. Mathisen complimented the hard work of the Human Resources Department through this hiring season.

Assessment Update

Dave VanLoo noted the packet at each seat, which he will use in his presentation tonight. He noted the significant amount of change in assessment this year and there are many areas the District is making changes and using guiding principles to make these decisions. He shared a snapshot of what formative assessment is and noted it is a primary driver of learning. VanLoo shared research on formative assessment and guiding principles.

VanLoo shared the assessment calendar for 2013-14 and 2014-15.

Peggy Kinkade asked for clarification on acronyms. VanLoo said PT stands for Performance Task, like a work sample; KAE is Oregon Department of Education's Kindergarten Assessment that happens the first week of school and SB stands for Smarter Balance. Kinkade said this is the kind of information she would like to receive ahead of time as part of the board packet. Lora Nordquist said this information was just rolled out to administrators yesterday and apologized for the large amount of information tonight. She offered to meet and/or continue the conversation with anyone interested and answer any question after tonight.

Shay Mikalson and VanLoo reviewed high school assessments and explained the difference of interim exams and summative exams. Mikalson noted there has been constant conversation with principals on assessment and changes. This information tonight is designed to be a tool and Wilkinson added there is an interest

amongst principals in providing more formative assessment data. He said last spring there was conversation about using Smarter Balance or continue with the ACT and the District chose to continue with ACT as we felt it will provide better, measureable data.

Kinkade asked who makes the decision about optional assessments. VanLoo answered it is most likely a classroom teacher or a group of team teachers in the building. Andy High noted his concern about communication to parents. Nordquist said there is very little changing from last year, the District is taking away and adding to, and trying to keep the amount of assessments even. In reality there is not much more assessment happening this year, than what took place last year.

VanLoo reviewed some of the reasons ACT was chosen over Smarter Balance, noting District stakeholders were overwhelmingly supportive of the ACT, the good history and substantial research ACT does to make sure their assessments really evaluate what it takes to be college and career ready.

Julie Craig asked when Smarter Balance assessments are taken, grades 3-8 and then 11th. VanLoo answered yes, noting the state makes this determination. Wilkinson said there are more changes at the state level and guidelines in evaluation, which will ultimately modify the District's evaluation system, specifically around student growth and learning goals, and updates will need to be made around Domain 4 and using assessment results. Nordquist noted, while this does seem like a lot of assessments, the total time is 3.5 hours for Kindergarten, 4.5 hours for fifth grade (not including Smarter Balance assessments) over the course of the school year. Helt asked the Board be sent the number of hours each student / grade level is committing to assessment.

Jay Mathisen reminded the Board that formative assessment is not separate from learning and there is not necessarily a sacrifice in lost learning time. It is critical to understand a good formative assessment can actually foster learning and bring more learning to a classroom.

Action Items

Approval of Board Policy JFCM: Threats of Violence

Jay Mathisen noted the updated version of this policy at each seat and noted the new addition is the last sentence of the policy. Helt explained this was in response to some thinking and her concern for a need to state, as a District, we are committed to supporting students who are known and showing they are under distress. Co-Chair Helt said this is a safety concern and she does not want to ignore these students. She feels the addition in the version tonight addresses the larger safety concern and appreciated the effort made to include this. Ron Gallinat supported the additional language.

Peggy Kinkade moved to approve Policy JFCM: Threats of Violence as presented in the updated version. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Approval of Board Policy JFCJ: Weapons in Schools

Jay Mathisen reviewed the executive summary in the board packet and noted the recent updates listed in response to feedback at the August 19, 2014 meeting.

Peggy Kinkade moved to approve Policy JFCJ: Weapons in Schools as presented. Julie Craig seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Approval of Board Policy JG: Student Conduct and Discipline

Jay Mathisen reviewed the executive summary in the board packet and noted the recent updates listed in response to feedback at the August 19, 2014 meeting.

Andy High moved to approve Policy JG: Student Conduct and Discipline.

Peggy Kinkade asked about the list on page 20 and proposed adding a cross reference to Policy JBA/GBN: Harassment / Intimidation / Bullying / Cyberbullying to help clarify when the District becomes involved in these types of situations.

High withdrew his motion to approve. Mathisen noted Kinkade's suggestion and will bring an updated version of this policy to the next board meeting.

Approval of Board Policy LBE: Public Charter Schools

Jay Mathisen reviewed the executive summary in the board packet and noted there were no changes to the first reading of this policy.

Ron Gallinat moved to approve Policy LBE: Public Charter Schools as presented. Peggy Kinkade seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Board Comments

Ron Gallinat complimented the great start of the school year.

Co-Chair Helt thanked all staff members for making the first week of school great and welcomed everyone back for a great school year ahead.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17p.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Wilson
Confidential Supervisor
9.9.2014