

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

The Board of Director of Bend-La Pine Schools met in a regular meeting on December 13, 2016 at the Education Center, 520 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR 97703.

**Board Members Present**

Peggy Kinkade  
Nori Juba  
Andy High  
Stuart Young  
Julie Craig  
Ron Gallinat  
Cheri Helt *arrived at 5:20 p.m.*

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Chair Kinkade. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**Review of Agenda**

Chair Kinkade noted the updated agenda which included a discussion about the Budget Committee.

**Public Input**

Marilyn Burwell shared a handout with the board regarding Measure 98 including key questions and answers. Burwell asked that the board agenda each month include the number of homeless students in the district. She noted FAN would be an excellent resource to provide this information. Research shows that homeless students are at risk of not graduating and/or becoming incarcerated. Burwell said there are state funds that are designated to reduce incarceration rates and encouraged board members to talk with local law enforcement and find out how schools can access some of those dollars for at risk students. Chair Kinkade thanked Burwell.

**Spotlight of Success**

Superintendent Mikalson thanked Burwell for her advocacy. Mikalson then introduced Mark Molner, current coordinator for the district's Chinese teacher exchange program. Molner introduced three teachers from China who are teaching at Bend Senior High, Mt. View High and Sky View Middle School. Each of the teachers shared a bit about their experiences teaching and what they are working on in their classrooms this school year. Abigail, a student at Bend Senior High, shared about her experiences being a student in the Mandarin class over the past year and a half and about her travels to China this past summer where she enjoyed the culture and was able to improve her speaking skills.

Callie Pfister, Bend-La Pine teacher who traveled to China the past year and taught shared about her experiences and what she was able to bring back to her classroom. Pfister thanked the district and board for the support of the exchange program. Molner noted Doug and Diane Brown, teachers at Bend Senior High, will be leaving to teach in China in February.

Molner shared about the Mandarin Exchange program and the Confucius Classrooms that just started in the district this year. The Confucius Classroom program is fully supported by the Chinese Government and this is the first-year Confucius teachers have taught in the district. Molner would like to see the programs continue and expand. Molner said he has enjoyed his time as coordinator but is passing the torch to a soon-to-be-hired replacement and is hopeful for continued success.

Superintendent Mikalson thanked Molner for his contribution and work to bring more and more teachers to our schools, and sending district teachers to China. Nori Juba asked what district and Chinese teachers are learning from their teaching time in foreign countries. Molner said, for him, much of the experience of teaching in China

was about culture and he came home thinking about ways to raise the bar and challenge our students to do more. Pfister said she was impressed with how much value is placed on education and the efforts families will go to in order to support their children. She noted Chinese classrooms are leveled, which provided a very different classroom teaching experience for her. Cheri Helt asked if Molner or Pfister thought there would be any sort of shift in the near future to Chinese classrooms being more about learning opportunities for students. Molner felt that parents and teachers understand the need for that shift, but they are up against history and tradition. Chair Kinkade thanked all for sharing about their experiences.

### **Consent Agenda**

Chair Kinkade amended the minutes on page four, regarding the 2016-17 Board Work Plan, to read that the chair and co-chair will focus on public agency outreach, while other board members work to connect with adopted schools and new administrators as agreed upon. **Andy High moved to approve the minutes as amended. Ron Gallinat seconded to motion. Unanimous approval.**

### **Action Items**

#### *2016-17 Board Work Plan*

Chair Kinkade noted the updates and proposed calendar she and Andy High developed since the last version. Timeline by month include:

- January – Parent engagement with emphasis homework
- February – Education advocacy
- March – Charter position paper
- April – Board self-evaluation

Kinkade asked for any feedback or suggestions. High shared his appreciation for the work done thus far to create this template and structure. He suggested this work plan be an 18-month plan and adjusted as needed. Cheri Helt agreed with High and suggested an annual review of dates, but not structure. **Stuart Young moved to adopt the 2016-17 Board Work Plan as an 18-month plan with a review period at the beginning of the next school year. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.**

#### *OSBA 2017-18 Legislative Priorities and Policies Resolution*

Chair Kinkade summarized the board's discussion from the last board meeting including High's reservations to the resolution because of how broadly it is written. Kinkade thanked Cheri Helt for her work as a member of the Legislative Policy Committee.

Kinkade shared her reservations about the resolution, and while it is not perfect, it does provide a strong framework with an emphasis on what OSBA should advocate for. Kinkade feels OSBA has become more credible in the legislature and they are focusing on the right things in their advocacy efforts. This resolution provides a good framework she is supportive. Stuart Young agreed with Kinkade, he will support the resolution and feels it is a good platform and addresses the needs of the state, however, does lack specifics in certain areas. Ron Gallinat agreed and is supportive as well. High added his support but continues to have the same reservations he stated in the last meeting.

Nori Juba asked what happens if a majority of districts support or do not support the resolution. Helt said the document was written to direct lobbyists to advocate on behalf of the state. If it is not supported by a majority of districts, then OSBA would not advocate. She explained the work of the LPC and how the document was created and feels OSBA is doing good work and, at the same time, understands and respects the concerns and reservations mentioned. Juba asked who from OSBA will be the main spokesperson. High said Jim Greene, OSBA's Executive Director, but noted Greene does not have a vote in the legislature. **Young moved to approve the OSBA 2017-18 Legislative Priorities and Policies Resolution as written. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. Nori Juba abstained from the vote. Board approval with six votes in favor.**

## **Reports**

### *Sites & Facilities : Final Report*

Brad Henry reviewed the history of the Sites & Facility review process. The plan looks at facilities, needs and enrollment projections for a planning horizon of 20 years. The district refreshes the plan every five to six years, it was last refreshed in 2010 with small updates in 2012 prior to the 2013 bond levy.

In the fall of 2015 the Sites and Facilities Committee looked at the needs in current facilities, and enrollment projections provided by Portland State. An initial report was created and provided to the board in May 2016. Since that time, a smaller team has been working to narrow the list of nearly 800 projects, to what is needed within the next five to six years. The project list was narrowed down to just over 150 projects, including a new high school and new elementary school. Henry provided the complete project list to the board and added it will also be available on the district's website.

Henry noted the two biggest projects are a new high school and elementary school. Current district high schools are over capacity and a new, full comprehensive high school, could potentially open with 1,400 students. The new high school would be located in South East Bend. Another elementary school is needed and the areas of North East and North West Bend provide the greatest need as of now. He said the district will wait for October 2017 enrollment and available land to make the final location decision. Other major projects include a full renovation at Pilot Butte Middle School, an interior remodel at Amity Creek Magnet at Thompson Elementary, and multi-use areas would be added at Juniper, Bear Creek and Jewell Elementary.

Andy High asked about size and potential cost of the new high school. Mike Tiller said the initial plan is to build a 260,000-square foot high school and a median price range of \$280 per square foot was used to estimate construction costs. This cost is a hard construction cost and does not include off site, ADA, etc. Julie Craig asked how long the remodel at Pilot Butte Middle School could take. Tiller said a majority, if not all of the work, would be done in the summer months while school is not in session.

Henry explained there really is only one way in the state of Oregon to fund these types of projects, which is done through a bond levy. The committee recommends that the board place a bond measure on the May 16, 2017 general election ballot for \$268.3 million .

Cheri Helt asked about safety upgrades. Henry said secure entries are the main focus of upgrades, noting the list of projects includes those locations that will be updated. Other safety recommendations and projects came from a safety consultant's evaluation.

Chair Kinkade asked how the original list of 800 projects were reviewed and paired down to the recommended list. Henry said the immediate needs within the next five to ten years gave priority. Kinkade said the report is now public and asked all board members to review and be prepared in January to take action on the recommendation made by staff.

Superintendent Mikalson thanked the board, district staff and sites and facilities committee members for their work and appreciates the proactive measures to do what is best for students and the community. 500 students joined the district this school year and from his seat, every project list presented tonight must be addressed as soon as possible. He is proud of this work and is confident in the recommendation. Chair Kinkade agreed and thanked all involved for their work and time.

### *Executive Limitation 6 – Staff Evaluation*

Superintendent Mikalson reviewed Executive Limitation 6 – Staff Evaluation policy monitoring report in the board packet and the reporting process that has taken place over the past year and tonight completes the first full cycle of executive limitation reporting. Mikalson reviewed the work of district staff and the evolution of the evaluation of staff in various employee groups. He noted the use of student surveys is something he feels there is room to improve upon and that data could be used to help teachers in their goal setting process. Mikalson offered to answer any questions.

Cheri Helt shared her appreciation of the work done with the PASS program and asked if there are plans to continue the PASS beyond the current MOU. Mikalson reviewed the work that continues to take place between district and union leadership in a collective effort to continue to move and grow the PASS program. One of the challenges is getting more access to more teachers, specifically around logistics and time.

Chair Kinkade thanked Mikalson for the report and is appreciative of the collaborative work being done with district and union leadership.

## **Discussion**

### *2016 OSBA Convention Reflections*

Chair Kinkade asked any board members to share about the OSBA Convention all board members attended in November 2016.

Ron Gallinat attended a session about board-staff relationships, working with bargaining groups, etc. and was interested to hear how various districts approached negotiations. He is thankful and appreciative of the relationships the district has with our unions and the ability to work through difficult conversations.

Kinkade attended a session on student voice in bond planning and appreciated the perspective students brought to the programming process of a new school. With the potential of a new high school, the district has a unique opportunity to include students in the programming and focus on the importance of fostering an atmosphere for students to share about what they value and desire in a school.

Andy High felt the two general session keynote speakers were excellent. Julie Craig agreed and appreciated the perspective and inspiration each brought. She added the building support for our schools academy was interesting and would like to explore the idea in our district as a way to engage the community and invite them to learn more about what the district is doing. Cheri Helt agreed with both High and Craig and said she attended a session on school nursing and, while there is much work to be done, our district has a great model and is far ahead of many others in the state.

Stuart Young appreciated the keynote speakers and the conversations amongst peers. The conversations emphasized the common funding struggles all districts face. He noted the growth of our district is something to embrace as it provides an opportunity to look at the future, which some districts are not able to do at this time.

Nori Juba appreciated the keynote speakers' message and thought the designing schools session was interesting as well, specifically around listening to student voice in the process. He also attended a session on performance reviews, conducted by Greater Albany School District, who had outside consultants review their district, from teaching to operations. Consultants came up with hard-hitting recommendations, which shows the value of review. Even if a district is the best in the state, there is still something to be learned and ways to continue to improve. Superintendent Mikalson agreed and noted the district's partnership with AdvancedEd and the path to have them take a deep look at the district in the same fashion as Greater Albany. Juba shared his appreciation in district leadership taking a serious look at best practices and ways to continue to improve. Kinkade agreed and shared how important it is for all to continue to learn and do their jobs better.

### *Budget Committee*

Andy High gave an overview of the process he and Stuart Young used to consider the three applications received for the open Budget Committee seat. Melissa Allen, Troy Reinhart and Bruce Reynolds each applied and were interviewed by High and Young. High said each of the applicants were impressive and would all be a great asset to the district. Although there is only one open seat on the Budget Committee, he'd like to be able to find a way for each of them to be involved with the district. Young agreed and said he and High are prepared to bring forth a recommendation.

Chair Kinkade thanked High and Young for their time and asked for any other questions from the board. High nominated Bruce Reynolds to fill the open Budget Committee seat. Young seconded the nomination and would like to invite Reinhart and Allen to participate through the budget process in case there are future openings on the committee. Nori Juba asked the length of the term. Brad Henry said three years and Superintendent Mikalson noted Matt Hillman's term is also up and he has expressed interest in continuing to serve.

**Chair Kinkade asked for a vote to appoint Bruce Reynolds to the Budget Committee. Unanimous approval. Cheri Helt moved to reappoint Matt Hillman to the Budget Committee. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.**

**Board comments**

There were no board comments.

Chair Kinkade recessed the regular meeting at 7:10 p.m. and announced executive session would start after a five-minute break.

Chair Kinkade resumed and adjourned the regular meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrea Wilson  
12.13.16