

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

The Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools met in a regular session on January 8, 2019 at the Education Center, 520 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR.

**Board Members Present**

Andy High  
Carrie Douglass  
Cheri Helt  
Julie Craig  
Stuart Young *via teleconference*

**Board Members Absent**

Peggy Kinkade  
Ron Gallinat

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Chair High. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. Superintendent Mikalson noted January is school board appreciation month and expressed his gratitude for all board members and their commitment to education and their community.

**Consent Agenda**

**Julie Craig moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Cheri Helt seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.**

**Public Input**

Katie Kessel addressed the board about naming the new elementary school after her father, Arlie Seems. She spoke of the survey and the process used by the naming committee and feels that the public opinion was ignored and would like to know why.

Susie Fagen-Wirges addressed the board about the naming of the new elementary school and asked why Arlie Seems was not considered. She questioned the process and the decision made to not include his name and spoke of his legacy and impact.

Jeff Brit spoke about traffic, commuter safety and the location of the new elementary school noting that the driving route to the new elementary is unsafe and as a result, the Awbrey Butte neighborhood should not be pointed to the new elementary school. He referenced a recent traffic study / report from The City of Bend and ODOT and the unsafe routes to the new school.

Scott Brees shared an update on district Robotics Programs, inviting board members to the January 24<sup>th</sup> robotics tournament. He said he would follow up with more details about the event and volunteer opportunities in an email to board members. Brees also thanked Anne Birky for her help in problem solving a location / facility issue they ran up against.

Sarah Goodrich also addressed the board about the naming process for the new elementary school and shared her disappointment that the board is overlooking an opportunity to honor Seems, and possibly other valuable members of the community because they are naming schools after geographical places.

Nori Juba, former school board member, thanked board members for their time and service and acknowledged Ron Gallinat and Peggy Kinkade's many years of serving on the board. He complimented board members for

their work and maintaining priorities focused on the best ways to educate students. He noted the contentious issues like naming facilities and attendance boundaries are some of the most difficult issues the board works through. Juba also congratulated Cheri Helt on her recent election to the legislature. Juba said his time spent serving on the school board was some of the most rewarding work he has done.

### **National Board Certified Teacher Pinning Presentation**

Superintendent Mikalson introduced Heather Anderson and Michele Oakes, NBCT ambassadors for the district and state of Oregon. He thanked them for their passion and commitment to teachers and the NBCT program. Three teachers were recognized: Leticia Ortega from Cascade Middle School, Kristine Hable from R.E. Jewell Elementary, and Will Ashlock from Summit High School for earning and renewing their NBCT status.

Chair High recessed the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 6:10 p.m. and Stuart Young joined the meeting via teleconference.

### **Action Items**

#### **❖ New Elementary School Name**

Chair High invited board members to share their thoughts on the suggested new elementary school names. Carrie Douglass noted this is the first time she has been through a naming process and felt there are areas in the process that could be more clearly outlined, however, she felt the naming committee followed the policy and process as written and appreciates their efforts and suggested names. Cheri Helt agreed and stressed the importance of following procedure and policy as it is written. She feels the naming of a new school is an important board decision and suggested that the board delay voting until the full board is present. Julie Craig agreed with Helt's suggestion and Stuart Young shared his appreciation for the process and time of those involved noting he is pleased with the suggested names but would also like to wait to vote with a full board. Douglass said she would also like to have the full board represented when voting on such an important decision.

Chair High thanked board members for their input and said the new elementary school name would be a part of the February 12, 2019 agenda. Helt thanked Kevin Gehrig and the naming committee for following the board's naming policy as written and their efforts to bring forth three quality name suggestions for the board to consider.

#### **❖ Approval of 2019-20 Alternative Learning Options Contracts**

Chair High reviewed the Alternative Learning Options Contract executive summary in the board packet. Carrie Douglass shared her appreciation for the report and would like to see future evaluations of these programs include more comparison information. Cheri Helt noted the value add that ALO's and Charter Schools bring to the district and is proud that the district provides a variety of options for students.

**Cheri Helt moved to approve the Alternative Learning Option Contracts and Charter School Evaluations as presented at the December 11, 2018 board meeting, and to approve new contracts for the 2019-20 school year for all the Contract and Charter Schools evaluated. Julie Craig seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.**

### **Reports**

#### **❖ Education Foundation Update**

Superintendent Mikalson introduced Michelle Johnson and Wendy Graunitz from the Education Foundation, noting the Foundation is celebrating their 30-year anniversary this year and highlighted the numerous ways they help support students and staff in the district. Graunitz thanked the board for their partnership and support over the years and shared information about how the Foundation has grown and expanded their scholarship opportunities. Johnson shared history about the classroom grant program and the types of grants they award for teachers. Johnson said the Foundation is working to create a classroom grant endowment fund with the goal set at \$100,000. The Foundation hopes to have met that dollar goal by this time next year. She also reminded and invited all to the March 16 Trivia Bee at the Tower Theater.

Stuart Young thanked Johnson and Graunitz and expressed his appreciation for the Education Foundation and all the ways they support students and educators.

#### ❖ **Financial Update**

Roy Burling reviewed the second quarter financial report in the board packet and said the comprehensive financial report is complete and available for all board members to review. Chair High thanked Burling and asked about the status of bus purchasing. Burling said a couple of busses have been purchased and are in use and a couple more will be delivered in March or April.

#### ❖ **HB 3681: Open Enrollment Sunset Provision**

Superintendent Mikalson reviewed the executive summary in the board packet and noted the sunset provision will change the law, but will not have much of an impact or change district practice of allowing for out of district students to continue to apply for enrollment through the joint approval inter-district process.

#### **Discussion Items**

##### ❖ **Board Committee Updates**

Chair High reminded all of the January 22 Community Linkage – Latino Family Night meeting that will be held at Mt. View High School. He also shared about a recent meeting the Shareholders Board Committee held with BEA executive team members to learn more about struggles teachers are facing in the classroom. He, Peggy Kinkade and Julie Craig all felt it was an eye-opening conversation to be a part of and appreciated the opportunity to connect. Cheri Helt offered to meet with BEA President, Janelle Rebick, to listen and possibly submit a legislative concept request to help support classrooms.

Carrie Douglass shared an update on the work of the Boardmanship Board Committee, noting she and Stuart Young have met with district leadership to review and discuss the eight Board Ends and if there is a need to revise or update the ends to ensure that the best data, measures, etc. are being used. Douglass also commented on the importance of board time being spent on teaching and learning and said the committee will come with suggested changes to the executive limitation reporting calendar for board members to discuss and consider.

Cheri Helt shared an update on the Advocacy Board Committee's work and legislative concepts she is pushing forward on topics like school funding and testing.

#### **Board Comments**

Carrie Douglass commented on the elementary boundary process and suggested the district put together an FAQ to go along with Mikalson's recommendation for the public to understand the considerations and decisions (i.e. traffic considerations). Mikalson noted a full report will come from the Attendance Area Review Committee and will include information on their charge, process, factors considered, etc. Lora Nordquist said the committee intends to have their recommendation to Mikalson on January 15<sup>th</sup> and that recommendation will also be shared on the district's website. Mikalson will announce his decision on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Cheri Helt shared her appreciation for the open dialogue and the district's efforts to include the public in the boundary review process.

Chair High noted he was chair of the boundary review in 2008 and shared his appreciation for the time commitment and efforts put in by committee members during the current boundary review process. He shared his support of the district's process and looks forward to supporting the committee and Mikalson's recommendation. High also noted he would like the board to continue the discussion on how to make future facility naming processes more clear for community members.

Chair High recessed the meeting at 7:05 p.m. for the board to move into Executive Session. The meeting resumed and was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.