

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

The Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools met in a regular meeting and board retreat on August 2, 2017 in room GC 110 at OSU Graduate and Research Center, 533 SW Columbia Drive, Bend, OR 97702.

Board Members Present

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

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by Chair High. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Review of Agenda

Chair High reviewed the agenda, there were no changes.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Superintendent Spotlight: Construction Update

Mike Tiller shared an update on the 2017 bond projects underway; the five current, large projects include: new high school, new elementary school, Lava Ridge Elementary remodel, Pilot Butte Middle School remodel, and the Marshall High addition. All RFP's are complete and architectural contracts are currently being negotiated and should be completed within the next week.

Bend High School roofing repairs from the snow damage is underway, funded by insurance dollars. The temporary gym structure for the Kenwood campus is still pending city permits and hopefully it will be up in early Fall. New gym construction will begin in October and should be complete by the start of the 2018 school year. Jewell Elementary roof and trusses have been repaired and all have passed load tests.

The last of the 2013 bond projects are wrapping up at Bear Creek Elementary, Elk Meadow Elementary, High Lakes Elementary, Cascade Middle School, High Desert Middle School, Pilot Butte Middle School, Sky View Middle School and at various support buildings. Four modular structures have been set this summer: two at Bend High School, one at Buckingham Elementary and one at Ponderosa Elementary. Each modular hosts two full classrooms.

Exterior and parking lot lighting projects are also wrapping up at eight different locations. Brad Henry explained SB 149 is funding the lighting conversion in an effort to help reduce electric usage and have been approved through the Oregon Department of Energy.

Consent Agenda

Cheri Helt asked about a social-emotional learning teacher listed as a new hire at Buckingham Elementary. Gary Timms said that is a position that many elementary schools are staffing with their discretionary staffing funds. Helt said she would like to see all schools staff these types of positions across the district. Superintendent Mikalson said a conversation planned later in the retreat would address staffing priorities and would be a great time to expand on this area. **Peggy Kinkade moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Stuart Young seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.**

Board Retreat Workshop

Bend-La Pine Schools Strategic Priority Discussion

Board Ends Discussion

Superintendent Mikalson shared a Simon Semik video to start the conversation of the district's why and how leaders inspire individuals and groups. Clarity of WHY, Discipline of HOW, and Consistency of WHAT are the three questions from the video that he will try to work through today and how the district's strategic priorities meld with the Board Ends.

- **Clarity of Why**
Superintendent Mikalson shared what the district is serious about: banning the average, designing to the edges, moving from a test-ready student to a future-ready student.
- **Discipline of How**
Mikalson explained the Theory of Action that is taking place in each of our schools in a variety of ways and leading to actionable work across the district. Mikalson shared his passion for allowing professionals, like principals, to lead innovation rather than drive it down. Empowered, accountable schools are what we want as a district and we are working to create the conditions that allow for the action to happen.
- **Consistency of What**
Mikalson highlighted the work of Cabinet this year that will support this commitment and how that could align with the Board Ends
 - Mikalson reviewed the current Board Ends and shared recommendations for Board members to consider as they continue to refine and work on their Ends. Mikalson reviewed ESSA Reporting and Accountability Indicators for 2017-18. He and Dave VanLoo reviewed Smarter Balance testing opt out rates and participation data, how other testing data, i.e. DIBLES could be used to correlate to predict if a student would meet SBAC standards to help with the large number of opt out students in SBAC, while much less opt out of DIBLES testing. The district is going to internally monitor ELA with DIBLES and will continue to do so along with ACT Aspire.
 - Mikalson suggested updates for the Academic Excellence, Thriving Citizens and Future Ready portion of the Board Ends, which would make measurements and reporting more effective and meaningful and areas that the district will also be focusing work on.

Chair High asked the Board if they would like to discuss adding some "or's" to the Academic Excellence Ends, and how or if they would like to align some of those Ends with ESSA. Mikalson explained how data reporting might look using other testing measures. The Board discussed options to consider and what might be of most value as they consider and evaluate their Ends; and how to communicate publicly to the importance of taking tests and the value the data results can provide the district. The Board was supportive of adding the "or" and would like to work on communicating the value of testing and what parents should understand we do with the testing data. Mikalson suggested a couple Board members work with staff to update Ends language and bring back to the collective Board for approval. Carrie Douglass, Stuart Young and Cheri Helt offered to work with a small group on this section of the Ends and refine the specific data the Board would like to see in Mikalson's annual report.

In the Thriving Citizen category of the Ends, the Board discussed the importance of student engagement and how participation and student identity helps increase graduation rates dramatically. All agreed chronic absenteeism is an important factor to include and consider.

In the Future Ready category of the Ends, the five-year completion rate was suggested as an addition to the reporting. Helt said she would like to add employment rates and/or trade industry school enrollment as a way to track if a student left as future ready. The toughest part of this is finding a way to track such measures accurately.

Chair High recessed the meeting for lunch at 11:45 a.m.

Chair High resumed the meeting at 12:00 noon.

Superintendent Mikalson reviewed the school design process that the district is committed to. Mikalson shared a video that will be used at summer leadership academy and the guiding questions that will be asked of district leaders to think about and consider as they watch the video. He noted the value of listening to students, allowing principals to build on the culture of innovation and how could their focus at the school level also work to support the goals of the district and ultimately meeting Board Ends.

High School Programs / High School Configuration Discussion / Measure 98 Update

The August 10 Leadership Academy will be focused on the continuing work of school design plans and allow building teams time to further develop their plans and discuss ways to increase engagement. Jay Mathisen shared about the design high schools that will launch in fall 2018. Alice DeWittie and Roger White will be leading the two new schools and have a small cohort of planning team members who are currently working on the design of each school.

- “REALMS High School” – led by White, will be based upon the concept of inspiring students to be active learners and engage in environmental stewardship, social justice and other real-world investigations.
- “The Academy Model” – led by DeWittie, will be based upon student passions and redesigning student learning spaces with blended online options, internships and providing students opportunities in more real-world settings that allow for innovation and problem-solving.

High School Programs / Measure 98 Update

Superintendent Mikalson said the work of visioning the new high school is underway and led by Lora Nordquist. Nordquist shared the process and work she has completed thus far, including a summary report in the packet that captures the information gathered from the 50 different focus groups she met with; she noted that there was not one specific theme that rose to the top as a preferred high school option. There are community forums being scheduled for September to gather feedback which will ultimately be presented to Mikalson along with a recommendation for the new high school in early Fall.

Nordquist pointed out the enthusiasm around small high school options and CTE was by far, the option most advocated for. Mikalson thanked Nordquist for her time, effort and summary presentation. Peggy Kinkade appreciated the work as well and feels this information will be helpful in planning the community forums and next steps. Mikalson agreed, noting the pros and cons identified in the summary along with the specific concerns like transportation, equity, access, etc. are valuable as programming decisions are being made. Julie Craig expressed her desire to see more emphasis and CTE options as part of meeting the district’s future-ready goals.

Mathisen noted that decisions on how to best use the Measure 98 funds are currently being made. Spending decisions are focused around what is best for students and most impactful across the district. He said graduation coaches at all high schools, start-up costs for the two new high school programs, Launch 9 (a support and intervention program targeted at 8th graders who appear to be at risk), increased CTE support, graduation support for under-served populations, dual credit opportunities, native language coaching support, etc. are examples of what is being considered. Mikalson noted that Measure 98 funds have a specific target and he is supportive of these identified areas.

Culture of Innovation Discussion

Ron Gallinat suggest the Board publicly discuss ideas and what is currently in place to support teacher innovation as the district works to serve all students. Carrie Douglass shared her passion for innovation and would like to see the innovation conversation continue noting three specific areas that lend to innovation: exposure, resources and space (or removal of barriers). She suggested these areas could be a guide for future Board conversations.

Budget Discussion

Mikalson noted the suggestions and budget questions posed by Douglass in the spring and would like to start a discussion around the Board’s desires early on as the district prepares materials for the upcoming budget season. Discussion ensued about the budget document moving from an accounting tool to more of a planning and visioning tool, next steps and possible goals the Board would like to achieve.

Brad Henry said budget information for the upcoming year is due to the state in December and January is typically the time the district begins to look at staffing, etc. so the earlier the Board could identify their desired revisions to the document, the better. Chair High suggested a smaller committee of Board and Budget Committee members begin to work with Henry. High and Douglass volunteered to participate and High will reach out to Natasha McFarland, Budget Committee Chair, to join.

Board / Community Linkage

Superintendent Mikalson reviewed the work Cabinet identified as a focus for this year. He noted the valuable partnerships the district has with various community groups and suggested as part of the Board's governance model they could consider community linkage meetings. He noted a model from Bellingham School District which has proven to be a successful way for their board to engage with the community on specific topics. Chair High like the model Bellingham developed and suggested the Board pick three to four topics for this next year to engage in community dialogue.

Kinkade suggested the Board consider inviting a targeted group of community members to discuss each specific topic, which could allow for meaningful conversation and possibly lend to developing next steps and further partnerships. Cheri Helt agreed and said she would like to see suicide and mental health as one of the topics. Julie Craig asked what, if any training options are offered for staff around youth mental health. Sean Reinhart reviewed what specific groups of employees are trained on and the various trainings offered to all staff members. Julianne Repman noted the excellent partnerships in the community and the importance of working collectively on topics like mental health.

Chair High identified high school programming, mental health, school start times and connecting with the Latino community as possible linkage meetings. All Board members agreed. Mikalson and High will work together on next steps, dates and meeting format to plan for the year.

Board Work Plan Discussion

Reaffirm 7 Principles of Policy Governance

Chair High noted a copy in packet and Superintendent Mikalson expressed his thanks to Board members for embracing the policy governance model. All Board members agreed to reaffirm the seven principals of John Carver's Policy Governance model.

Monitor and Refine Executive Limitations Discussion

Chair High noted the Refining the Board's monitoring of Executive Limitations document in the packet, prepared by Peggy Kinkade. Kinkade suggested focusing on EL 7 : Facilities today and moving the remaining part of the document for future discussion. High agreed and reminded all that with the new RFP process, approved by the Board, the superintendent now signs all architectural contracts on behalf of the district and the Board. Kinkade said she does not want to change or reevaluate the new RFP process, but suggested having a public conversation about the contract with the Board, especially with the large projects and two new schools' architectural services now being considered. Discussion ensued on the method of notification from Mikalson to the Board on such contracts.

Cheri Helt shared her concerns with the RFP scoring process and moved to amend Executive Limitation 7 to clarify that the Board will sign off on architectural contracts over \$300,000. The motion was not seconded. Motion failed to pass. High suggested the RFP process be part of the larger review that the Board will lead with an independent party of the 2017 bond and if that review comes back with significant concerns in the RFP process, it is something the Board can address in the review of EL 7 in early 2018. High suggested that Mikalson send the contract to the Board Chair 24 hours prior to signing. The Chair will then send the contract out to Board members for review. All agreed and agreed that this process will take place for the five current architectural contracts. Mikalson will provide a construction update at the September 12 board meeting.

The Board agreed to move the discussion of NSBA and OSBA, and the superintendent evaluation to the September 12, 2017 meeting.

Board Comments

There were no comments

Meeting and retreat adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Wilson
8.2.2017