

Bend-La Pine Schools Board of Directors Special Session Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 26, 2020

Meeting Location:

To support Governor Brown's executive orders for social distancing, the Board of Directors conducted the special session meeting virtually, through Cisco Webex.

Board Members Present

Julie Craig
Carrie Douglass
Shimiko Montgomery
Caroline Skidmore
Melissa Barnes Dholakia
Amy Tatom
Stuart Young

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Co-Chair Craig, roll call followed.

Discussion

❖ **Summer Board Retreat**

Board members agreed to hold the Summer Board Meeting / Retreat on August 4, with location and time details to be determined.

❖ **Visioning**

Co-Chair Craig welcomed and thanked all for attending and thanked Melissa Barnes-Dholakia for her efforts to organize and lead the visioning conversation.

Barnes Dholakia provided a recap of the visioning discussion from the April 28, 2020 Special Session and reviewed handouts and examples of visioning work from other districts. She led Board members through a sharing exercise, asking each to share about a recent connection they made with another person, paying special attention to how important connection with others is in light of current circumstances and restrictions on interactions as a result of COVID-19.

Barnes Dholakia led Board members through a brainstorming exercise specific to the district and Board's mission. She noted the current mission and vision and the Bend-La Pine promise and asked how the Board might want to expand on, redefine, or modify each. Board members shared about the knowledge, skills and dispositions they would like to consider including in the district's mission and/or vision statements.

Barnes Dholakia led the Board through an exercise to reflect and discuss the current Board Goals. Discussion ensued on Board Goals vs. Board Ends and possible ways to consolidate. Board members discussed priorities they would like to highlight in revised Goals and/or Ends and ways to link to the district's Strategic Plan. Board members also discussed ways to measure and metrics that could be used to reflect on the work and progress of the Goals and/or Ends. Barnes Dholakia said she would like to work with Nordquist on Strategic Priorities, asked for any other volunteers, and suggested bringing this work back to the Board at their retreat for review and discussion. Amy Tatom and Co-Chair Douglass volunteered to help.

❖ **Superintendent Search Update**

Co-Chair Craig asked Board members to share their thoughts on the Superintendent search. Discussion ensued on resuming the search, timelines, options of extending the interim status, challenges to consider with COVID-19, and an upcoming election in May 2020. Board members agreed to resume the search in October 2020 with HYA & Associates, to reopen the application for any new candidates who would like to apply, and set a goal of announcing the new superintendent by February/March of 2021. The Board agreed to continue the discussion as the process established and timelines may need to be adjusted due to COVID-19.

Board Comments

Stuart Young thanked Barnes Dholakia for her organization and leading the special session discussions.

Co-Chair Craig clarified the goal of the Board Retreat will be to come to agreement on the Mission / Vision and Goals / Ends. Barnes Dholakia added she would like to have better alignment with the Ends and Executive Limitations and will include this effort in her work over the next months with Nordquist.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Recorded by: Andrea Wilson

Approved at 6.10.2020 board meeting