

Bend-La Pine Schools
Bend, OR 97703

The Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools met in a Special Meeting on February 27, 2017 in room 312 of the Education Center, 520 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR 97703.

Board Members Present

Peggy Kinkade
Cheri Helt
Julie Craig
Nori Juba
Ron Gallinat
Stuart Young
Andy High

Call to Order

The special meeting was called to order at 5:29 p.m. by Chair Kinkade for the purpose of interviewing finalist candidates for the Zone 7 position. Kinkade reviewed the interview process with the ultimate goal of the board selecting a candidate and having that person sworn in at the February 28 regular board meeting. Kinkade reminded all that the special meeting is a public session.

Agenda

Interview of Zone 7 Finalists

The Zone 7 finalists and their interview times:

- Melissa Barnes Dholakia 5:30-6:00 p.m.
- Rick Olegario 6:00-6:30 p.m.
- Carrie Douglass 6:30-7:00p.m.
- Laura Boehme 7:00-7:30 p.m.

All finalists were asked the following questions:

1. In your opinion, what are the roles and responsibilities of a school board member, and which one is the most important to you?
2. Tell us about an experience where you worked as part of a leadership team to bring about change in an organization?
3. Describe your previous experience as a member of a committee or board. What are some positives or otherwise?
4. What do you think is the most important factor to a student's academic success, and what should the school board do to encourage that success?
5. If the Bend-La Pine School District got a funding windfall and money was no object, what 3-5 programs or initiatives would you prioritize for spending the new money? Follow-up: Your funding has just been cut; which of the initiatives will you scrap?
6. A controversial matter surfaces at school and you begin to get questions and opinions from friends, fellow, parents, and/or community members about the issue. How will you handle these interactions?

At the end of the six questions, board members and finalists had an opportunity to ask any follow-up questions or clarification.

At the beginning of each interview Chair Kinkade reviewed the interview process and the board's intentions to deliberate and make a final decision. She said she would call each candidate after the board meeting to let them know the board's final decision.

Action

Appointment of Zone 7 Board of Directors Position

The board discussed and shared feedback about each candidate interview. Andy High shared ideas and what he is planning to do to help with new board member orientation. Kinkade thanked High and said she would like Nori Juba to participate fully at the February 28th meeting and have the new board member sworn in at the end of the meeting. All board members agreed.

Julie Craig said all candidates were excellent. She feels that both Douglass or Barnes Dholakia could make valuable contributions within the next four months and added, she really appreciated their future and forward thinking. Her vote would be first for Douglass, and second for Barnes Dholakia. Craig also considered who she would endorse in the upcoming election and feels Douglass is that person.

Ron Gallinat agreed, and was most impressed with Douglass. He appreciated her vision of the future and what students need to know as they graduate and leave our schools. He also liked that Douglass had previous board experience. Olegario would be his second choice and he appreciated his knowledge of the district and understanding of what it means to be on a board.

Andy High said he is looking forward to the debate of fellow board members this evening as he has been an advocate for the election process, however, he has also tried to have an open mind for all candidates and the appointment process.

Cheri Helt said all candidates were spectacular. She appreciated Olegario's comments and suggestion to include stakeholders as part of the Comprehensive Plan. She appreciated Douglass' vision and feels she would bring a different perspective to the board. Olegario was the candidate who caused her to reflect on board work more than anyone else and her vote would be for Olegario.

Stuart Young said it has been a great process and appreciated how well it has allowed the board to get to know all of the finalists. He was very impressed with the finalists, for a variety of reasons. Douglass' Bend background, significant exposure to non-Bend areas in the United States, her vision of the future and understanding the role of a board member most impressed him. She would be his first choice with Olegario as a close second.

Nori Juba felt all candidates came well prepared and were extremely knowledgeable. He commented on the Bulletin's recent editorial and he is in agreement that this decision should be left to the voters, and ultimately the election will decide. He delayed his resignation from December to February as he felt there was unfinished business he needed to take care of. He added the importance of being part of this decision as he wants to help get the right person who can help to make the next four months meaningful. Juba feels Olegario is the best candidate to finish his term out, emphasizing Olegario's knowledge of the district budget and his ability ask hard questions.

Chair Kinkade was impressed with all candidates and agreed with Craig's comments about Douglass. She appreciates Juba's thoughts; however, she would vote for Douglass. She was impressed with her knowledge of policy governance, the idea of being a 'thought partner' and her forward thinking.

Andy High felt Boehme did a great job and appreciates the budget insight that Olegario could offer. Whoever is selected, he is committed to supporting.

Julie Craig moved to appoint Carrie Douglass to finish the term for Zone 7. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. Discussion ensued and Chair Kinkade called for a vote. In favor of Douglass: Stuart Young, Julie Craig, Peggy Kinkade and Ron Gallinat. Opposed: Andy High, Nori Juba and Cheri Helt. Motion carried 4-3.

Kinkade said she will contact all candidates this evening to inform them of the decision and is hopeful those who opposed the motion are okay with the end result. Juba said Douglass will be a great board member.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Wilson
2.27.2017