

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

The Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools met in a regular session on April 10, 2018 at the Education Center,
520 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR 97703.

Board Members Present

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

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair High. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Review of Agenda

Chair High reviewed the agenda. There were no changes.

Public Input

Chair High reviewed how the public input process works, clarifying it is a time for the public to address the Board; he explained the Board appreciates hearing from the public, takes comments and feedback seriously, however, does not engage in conversation during this time.

Stewart Fritchman, parent and community member, spoke about suicide. He shared how a history of suicide has impacted his family and spoke about the importance of discussing suicide in a public forum. He encouraged schools to teach about emotional health, offer genuine programs to help address emotional struggles student face and help them find a place of belonging.

Mandy Fritchman, Stewart's mother, shared about moving forward from her families' tragedies and encouraged compassion and direction for students who are struggling.

Amy Sabbadini, Bend Senior High social studies teacher and parent addressed the Board about 2018-19 staffing at Bend Senior High. She urged the Board not to reduced staffing allocations and shared how reductions have negatively impacted schools over the past years. She noted the Quality Education Model (QEM) adopted by Oregon Legislature which recommends certain levels of support for student success; and that district schools, classrooms and student supports like counseling and nursing do not meet QEM recommendations.

Matt Craven, Bend Senior High math and social studies teacher asked the Board to consider building bigger schools, specifically bigger high schools. By building bigger schools, he explained staffing could be used more strategically and schools would be able to offer more programs, activities, and diversity of options for students to participate in. Craven shared a handout with Board members.

Oscar Gonzales with the Latino Community Association of Central Oregon offered his praise to district leadership and the Board for the creation of an equity cadre, proclamation regarding the district's stance on protecting immigrant students and respecting their families, facilitating cultural competency training for staff, supporting the town hall forums on racism, and for the overall openness of the district to collaborate with community partners. Gonzales said the upcoming town hall forums will be student-led in an attempt to hear how racism has impacted other students. He

is grateful for these opportunities for students to share and encouraged the district to continue to think outside the box in the areas of staff recruitment and continue to seek a more diverse staff for schools.

Dr. Romir Chatterjee, retired community member, addressed the Board about the rising tide of hate, racism and violence that flows from our nation, to the state, to the county, to our community and schools. He asked why the district has been silent on recent tragedies and when will the community hear more specific information on investigations of such tragedies and conclusions drawn from those investigations.

Dr. Dalton Miller Jones, a representative of the Restorative Justice and Equity / Trauma Informed Practices group, asked that the district hire a Restorative Justice and Trauma Informed Practice trained instructor and that funds be dedicated in the district's budget for the release and training time for teachers to be trained as soon as possible.

Caroline Skidmore, parent and member of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense, spoke about the importance of gun safety, specifically the importance of locking guns up at home. She thanked Superintendent Mikalson for including this sentiment in an earlier communication but asked that the district communicate annually with parents and families about the importance of locking guns up.

Mary Stelzer, parent, addressed the Board previously about single points of entry and locking doors at schools. She shared she has since had a conversation with her school's principal and doesn't understand why limiting entrances is something that cannot happen immediately. She asked Board members to initiate measures to make schools safer immediately.

Dr. Yvette Nishikawa, current professor at OSU, introduced herself and teacher prep students from OSU who are willing to support the district in the areas of: cultural proficiency training for staff and students, addressing racial disparities in academic achievement, and hiring diverse staff and seeking out diverse community partnerships. She shared a handout of resources with Board members and encouraged the district to post about the district's goals, efforts, and communications on race on the district website. She also encouraged all to read the book *Courageous Conversations about Race* by Glenn Singleton.

Marcus LeGrand, substitute teacher, shared he is one of very few substitutes in the Central Oregon area of color. He spoke about his experiences in schools and the importance of having someone that students of color can relate to in their schools. He encouraged the district to continue to hire a diverse staff and maintain this as a top priority.

Chair High thanked all who addressed the Board and invited all to attend the May 22 Community Linkage Meeting that will be held at Sky View Middle School to discuss mental health.

High recessed the regular meeting at 6:18 p.m.

High resumed the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

Superintendent Spotlight

Superintendent Mikalson noted the challenges of school funding in Oregon and agreed with comments made about the district not meeting QEM recommendations. The district would need over 300 teachers to meet the recommendations set forth by the QEM. Cheri Helt added that the QEM model has been in place for 19 years, and in all those year, the recommendations have never been met.

Mikalson shared two upcoming dates that will be focused on honoring staff and students in the district:

- May 2: Excellence in Education awards at Mt. View High School will celebrate certified and support staff for excellence in their profession
- May 16: Perseverance Awards at The Loft will celebrate high school students who have overcome adversity and persevered during their educational journey

Consent Agenda

Chair High noted the updated personnel report at Board members' seats.

Ron Gallinat moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Stuart Young seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Action Items

Middle School Mathematics Materials Adoption

Lora Nordquist reviewed the executive summary in the board packet. In Spring 2016, the middle school math curriculum review team was asked to pilot the Eureka Math Program for the 2016-17 school year. Throughout the 2016-17 school year there were concerns with the program, and ultimately the team decided to review other materials in Fall 2017. Nordquist introduced Kerri Morton and Tara Butler to share about the processed used this past fall and answer any questions about the recommendation to adopt Open Up by Illustrative as the district-adopted middle school math program.

Morton shared that this is one of the best math programs she has seen and Butler appreciated how well the program will work for ELL students. Peggy Kinkade noted her appreciation for the real-life approach of the materials and the consideration of families and how it allows for parents to help their students at home. She asked about expenses for materials and professional development. Morton explained that materials are primarily digital and a majority of costs will be spent on teacher professional development. There will be printed materials available for students if needed. Offenhauser said the district will not be purchasing textbooks with this adoption, which is a significant cost savings, and students will have access to curriculum on their iPads without internet connection.

Carrie Douglass asked how homework is a part of the program. Butler said homework will be school and teacher driven rather than program driven. Cheri Helt felt this program will work well for students who are struggling readers or dyslexic. She asked how much memorization is part of the program. Morton said the program uses a variety of strategies to help students retain information and allow for an overall better math understanding. Helt asked how this program will work with Bridges, the elementary math program. Morton explained Bridges is a very visual math program and the pedagogy and mathematic ideas of Open Up are a good match and will coordinate well. Stuart Young liked the multiple strategies, skillset, tools, and feels the program meets the future ready goals of the district. Chair High thanked the committee for their work in reviewing and selecting the materials presented and called for a motion.

Peggy Kinkade moved to approve the adoption of Open Up by Illustrative as the district-adopted middle school math program, starting in 2018. Cheri Helt seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Trade of Land Agreement for High School and Middle School

Brad Henry noted the executive summary in the board packet and reviewed the history of the land which is part of the transaction. He thanked John Rexford for his forethought in future land needs of the district and obtaining large pieces of property over the years. Henry said the trade agreement presented has been in the works for about four years, starting with former Superintendent Ron Wilkinson, and over the last couple of years the district has determined this location to be the best option to serve students and the community for many, many years. Henry said he is excited about the trade proposal and noted his appreciation of the Ward Family and their willingness to work together on the trade explained in the summary.

Julie Craig moved to approve the trade purchase and sale agreement to exchange district property, including approximately 50 acres on Country Club Road and approximately 25 acres on Murphy Road, for approximately 79.4 acres of land on 15th Street owned by J.L. Ward Co. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Marshall High School Contractor Approval

Angus Eastwood reviewed the contractor recommendation in the board packet. The recommendation is to award a contract to the lowest bidder, 2KG Construction, a company based out of Portland who are opening a new office in Bend. This was a hard-bid process and did come in over budget by \$238,126.00. Cheri Helt noted her concern of the

project being overbudget. Brad Henry noted, throughout a bond cycle, some projects go over and some under budget which allows for a balancing of costs. The district will also look into interest earnings to help cover overages if necessary. Carrie Douglass asked what factors are causing the increase costs. Eastwood said labor and materials have significantly increased in the past years for all types of construction, and with a hard-bid process there really is no room for negotiation. Henry explained how the district estimates bond project costs, which includes a factor for inflation. Superintendent Mikalson commented on the great work of the Facilities team and their efforts to build high quality facilities in the most cost-effective way possible. He noted with this project, the district is building what was initially promised to voters and will do it in the most cost-effective manner. Helt added her appreciation to the Facilities team and wants the district to make sure we are cognoscente of costs with this being one of the first large projects in the 2017 bond.

Ron Gallinat moved to approve that a construction contract be awarded to the low bidder, 2KG Contractors Inc., in the amount of \$6,269,200.00. This contract exceeds the construction budget, including contingencies and soft costs by \$283,126.00. Julie Craig seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Reports

Financial Update

Roy Burling reviewed the third quarter financial report in the board packet, and said the district is in a good position to carry funds forward into the next school year. Peggy Kinkade said she appreciated the level of detail provided in the report.

EL 9 – Technology Policy Monitoring Report

Superintendent Mikalson reviewed the EL 9 report in the board packet and thanked Skip Offenhauser and Ben Hansen for their work and preparation. Offenhauser reviewed sections 1-3 of the report and noted the work of Bend-La Pine Online and the increase in support and courses offered to students during the school year and summer months. BLPO teachers are working with classroom teachers to help intervene and support struggling students and are seeing great success with efforts in preventing student from falling behind or failing. He noted that a big effort has been made this year to promote and introduce coding and computer science into classrooms; along with breaking down the misconceptions instructional coaches are giving teachers the ability and tools to teach these courses. Chair High asked about coding and being considered a second language. Offenhauser said he just discussed this topic in a cohort meeting today along with how coding does apply to various aspects of learning.

Offenhauser noted continual efforts being made around digital citizenship and the best ways to deliver digital citizenship messages and instructions to students on a more regular basis. Peggy Kinkade asked about equitable access and asked for clarification on page 20; the third bullet under *2018 response*; and if it should read “summer classes for original AND credit recovery were offered during the summer of 2017 and will be offered again during summer 2018.” Offenhauser said that nearly all curriculum, etc. on a student’s iPad can be accessed without internet service. He also noted ELL students are being supported and have an opportunity to earn credits with and ELL teacher provided to support them. He also agreed with Kinkade’s correction to the report, he meant to include the word ‘and.’ The correction will be noted in the EL 9 report.

Ben Hansen reviewed sections 4 – 6 of the report and highlighted new efforts the technology team has put into place across the district. 100% of the district is now using dark fiber and plans for the new schools are being made to have the same fiber connectivity. Hansen also addressed student data privacy and processes used by the district with all vendors to ensure data is protected. Kinkade asked how the district is reviewing and deciding to stay with iPads or move toward another type of device, or a combination of devices. Offenhauser said Chromebooks have been demoed by some schools for a variety of courses and at this point, the district continues to be iPad centric. He noted the district is open to looking at new device options as they become available and there is continual conversation about what is the best tool for students, teachers and programs.

Board Comments

Peggy Kinkade said the Board and district leaders are all concerned and invested in security at our schools. She recently visited an elementary school where temporary safety measures have been put into place and said staff shared they feel safer. Kinkade thanked the facilities and maintenance teams, Superintendent Mikalson and Mike Tiller, for making changes and safety a priority.

Julie Craig returned from the NSBA convention last night and shared a video she saw at the convention to demonstrate how districts are incorporating student voice in their Board work. She noted Superintendent Mikalson has implemented a student advisory committee this year and she would like to see the Board consider the same and suggested it be a discussion at the board retreat this summer.

Carrie Douglass thanked Craig for sharing the video and would also like to have student voice as part of the Board. She expressed her appreciation to everyone who shared during public comment, for their engagement in the community and said their words do have an impact. She said it is important for the Board to hear from teachers and students and to have an opportunity to dialogue with one another.

Ron Gallinat said he and Stuart Young toured all of the South County schools before spring break and enjoyed each of their visits.

Cheri Helt attended the Kids Center Luncheon where the district was recognized as a community partner. She extended her gratitude to the Kids Center for the work they do and thanked them for being an incredible partner. She noted The Bend Chamber's Women of the Year award nominees and all the representation from the district, she is incredibly proud of these women and would like to see more students nominated in future years. Helt said she attended and participated in the March for Our Lives event and is looking forward to the Community Forum on May 22 to continue hear from community members.

Stuart Young appreciated the video Craig shared and likes the idea of including student voice on the Board. He shared his passion for student and school safety and said public comment is taken seriously and tonight was a great example of the magnitude of competing forces the Board and district seek to balance.

Chair High asked Board members to complete the EL 9 scoring sheet at their seat and confirm which graduations they plan to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Wilson
4.10.2018

Minutes approved at 4.24.18 board meeting