

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

The Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools met in a regular meeting on September 13, 2016 at the Education Center, 520 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR 97703.

Board Members Present

Peggy Kinkade
Nori Juba
Julie Craig
Ron Gallinat
Stuart Young
Cheri Helt *arrived at 5:37 p.m.*

Board Members Absent

Andy High

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 p.m. by Chair Kinkade. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Review of Agenda

Chair Kinkade reviewed the agenda, there were no changes.

Public Input

Chair Kinkade welcomed Central Oregon Family School supporters and noted 10 people signed up for public comment. She asked comments be kept to two minutes and to please refrain from repeating one another.

Donese Pogue thanked the board for their time and shared her excitement about COFS, and as a founding member, she is hopeful the board will cast a vote of sponsorship tonight. Pogue shared about COFS board members and the role each of them will play. She added each of the five board members supports the COFS model and proposal and is hopeful for a yes vote as well.

Emily Gibson spoke about the revised COFS budget and a policy handbook established for internal fiscal controls. A certified accountant has worked through the proposed budget and is supportive of the application materials. Gibson addressed start-up costs and ways COFS supporters have offered to offset those expenses. She asked the board to vote in support of the application.

Jamie Folkins addressed the COFS opening timeline. With a yes vote, COFS plans to open in late October or at semester and would consider longer school days or a longer school year that would support the 900 hours of required instruction. First Presbyterian Church has agreed for COFS to use their facility and they have over 30 signed intent forms. Folkins asked the board to vote in support of the application.

Leanna Long spoke to the board about the qualifications and the experience of the educators who will be working at COFS. They are all familiar with educational best practices and will provide support for parents. She asked the board to vote in support of the application.

JoAnne Bowles addressed special education services, funding allocations for services and responsibilities of the sponsoring district to provide special education support services. She read a memo that further clarified responsibilities of the governing educational board of the charter school for special education services. Bowles said COFS fully plans to cooperate with the recommendations of the district and understands the district would keep a portion of ADM to help pay for the support services they provide to COFS. She asked the board for a vote of support.

Drinda Bell spoke about TSPC license requirements for staff and instructional hours. She explained that highly qualified teachers will be hired and the student teacher ratio will meet legal requirements. Teachers will oversee and develop core curriculum and delivery, monitor attendance, produce progress reports and adapt schedules, etc. as needed by the student. She noted there are at least five other charters operating successfully with a similar structure as the COFS proposal. She asked the board to vote in support of COFS.

Catherine Lieberknocht explained the differences between COFS and Bend-La Pine Online. She noted COFS students are part of a regular classroom that meets for one full community day, which is required. Progress monitoring occurs weekly, community service activities are required, there are text-based lesson plans which COFS teachers develop, direct and supervise. Regular classrooms are taught by highly qualified teachers and schedules are structured to support parents in a variety of ways. She ensured the board that attendance and progress would be monitored daily and tracked by COFS to meet legal compliance. Lieberknocht asked the board to vote yes tonight.

Anita Fairbanks spoke about the teaching and learning techniques that make COFS different from other programs in the district. She noted direct reading instruction, math labs, accessibility to teaching staff and administrators with same day response time for questions and support. She explained instruction happens in real time with no online requirements. The flexibility of COFS and specialized training teachers receive (i.e., dyslexia training) will be used to support parents. She commented on the effectiveness of homeschool options for students who struggle with reading and dyslexia and urged the board to vote yes.

Anna Kluckow addressed the concerns of expansion from the district. She feels COFS will enhance the options the district can offer to students without inhibiting enrollment. Nearly 1,200 students are currently enrolled in home school through the High Desert ESD and she anticipates some of those students will enroll with COFS. Kluckow said with the projected increase of enrollment in the district over the next years there will be an increased need for options for students and families. She asked the board to vote in support of the application.

Lori Bogen addressed the districts concerns of parents providing instruction and not meeting TSPC or ODE requirements for charter schools. Five COFS teachers will be providing direct instruction at a ratio of 1:18 and will oversee the instruction being delivered at home, preparation of curriculum materials and monitor progress and assessment. COFS teachers will provide counseling and guidance for parents and will be accessible each school day to ensure compliance with all state regulations. Bogen would like the boards support of the COFS application.

Chair Kinkade thanked all for their comments.

Action Items

Central Oregon Family Charter School Application

Superintendent Mikalson expressed his appreciation for the efforts put forth by Central Oregon Family School (COFS) and reviewed the application, remediation recommendation, the work of the district review committee and process leading up to this point. He said while the application has improved based upon recommendations made by the district, he still has concerns. Mikalson said there is continuing concern related to budget, student discipline, similarities to the current Bend-La Pine Online program, meeting licensed teaching staff requirements and instructional time requirements set forth by the state of Oregon. Mikalson shared the district has researched instructional time laws with ODE through legal counsel and feels their understanding along with ODE interpretation lends to the charter application not meeting the requirements of the law.

Chair Kinkade asked for any board comments.

Ron Gallinat appreciates the work done by COFS and the time spent in their application. He agrees with the district recommendation and shares the same concerns. He is not in favor of supporting the application.

Cheri Helt thanked COFS for their desire to create an alternative option for students and families. She thanked district staff for the time invested in reviewing the application and noted she highly values their work and expertise and agrees with the district's recommendation to not support the application.

Stuart Young shared he has been on both sides of a charter application, as a former superintendent reviewing materials and as a part of an application group presenting a charter. He respects the mission of COFS and work they have done, however agrees with the district's recommendation to not support the application.

Julie Craig agreed, and said she too is not supportive of the application. She said it is difficult for her to vote no when so much time and passion have been invested into the process. She hopes that this decision does not discourage those who are educating their children at home.

Nori Juba said he is a big supporter of charter schools, adding his son attended a charter in Redmond that Mikalson helped found. He does not think COFS is an exact duplication of programs the district already offers, like Bend-La Pine Online, however, he agrees with the district's concerns around instructional time and at this time does not support the application.

Stuart Young moved to deny sponsorship of the Central Oregon Family School charter application based upon reasoning provided from the district review committee and presented by Superintendent Mikalson. Ron Gallinat seconded the motion. The board unanimously agreed to deny sponsorship.

Chair Kinkade expressed her sincere thanks to Central Oregon Family School for their efforts and wished them the best.

Consent Agenda

Cheri Helt asked about the four-hour per day new hires and expressed her general concern of personnel cost due to those employees being benefit eligible. Jay Mathisen and Debbie Watkins shared the general reasons for these hires and noted that this is an unusual amount of these types of positions. Some are grant funded, some are split shift employees, like bus drivers and others were positions that were previously combined and now hired separately as building needs have changed. Kinkade thanked Watkins for the information.

Ron Gallinat moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Julie Craig seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Reports

High School Programming

Superintendent Mikalson reviewed the district staff's comprehensive work plan in the board packet and noted one of the priorities this year is to continue to evaluate and refine high school programs.

Jay Mathisen said he is excited to think and plan high school programs. The first step in this process is to look at what is current in our high schools and feels the district has done a good job of putting different programs in schools that allow students to develop skills where they have aptitude. Last year, much emphasis was placed on school culture and the positive movement has been exciting to watch and the district wants that to continue as the visioning of high school includes a combination of culture, board vision, what is defined in the board ends all while working toward Student B.

Mathisen shared an overview of enrollment and growth in the district, noting today, there are 550 more students than last year at this time. Rapid growth was identified in Phase 1 of the Sites and Facilities Report which projected all of the district's high schools will be over capacity by 2018. Seven schools are needed in the next 20 years to keep up with initial projections of growth, and at this point the district is exceeding the growth rate factored in those projections. The Sites and Facilities Team is currently working to issue the second phase of their report and part of that is fine tuning just how much capacity the district needs at the high school level and possible solutions to meet need and goals of the district. The district is looking at how to better personalize education at the high school level by reflecting on current programs and researching what other districts are doing well.

Mathisen said a community group, Looking Forward, is very interested in thinking with the district on how high school can be done differently and making it a place to better prepare students for their futures and the 'new economy' and what skills they might need to have after they graduate; they are excited to partner with the district and do what is best for the whole student.

Mathisen reviewed the questions around planning principles for the district:

- Choice matters: choice for students and families is strong in grades K-5, how or in what ways can we offer more at the high school level?
- Personalization: how do we personalize instruction for all students?
- Space for innovation: it is the district's job to set the stage for educators to be innovative and think differently. Schools and principals who support teachers to think outside the box in how they teach curriculum are often very successful. How can we support innovation?
- Future ready, thriving citizen, academic excellence: all need to be kept in mind

Mathisen said as the district begins to rethink high school, and how to meet capacity needs while maximizing the impact and experience for all students, programming ideas that reflect the district's larger vision are important. He shared some potential high school models:

- REALMS Next: expeditionary learning for grades 9-12
- CTE Future Now: focuses on construction, programming, electrician skills, culinary, etc. These programs are currently successful in our high schools and how we can expand and integrate the CTE model into core academic subjects
- Innovation and Design School: Mathisen noted the work of Alice DeWittie and Project XQ work which resulted in a new high school model shared last Spring
- Health Sciences School: there is great potential to partner with facilities and physicians in Central Oregon, a similar model is very successful in Beaverton
- Arts and Communications School: fine arts, digital and digital communications

As the district continues to grow and have more high school students, the district would like to offer more options and Mathisen feels each of these models fit within the board goals and the vision of Superintendent Mikalson. The need for capacity provides a perfect opportunity to think about opportunities and creative options for students. He added, the district is in a unique position where we could test some prototypes over the next couple of years to see what is working well and what students are excited about.

Chair Kinkade asked if the district is talking with students about what they would like for their high school experience. Mathisen said DeWittie did work with students significantly in her design work and other principals are having conversations about what works well and makes for a well-rounded high school experience. Kinkade likes to hear what high school students think and what they are interested in.

Cheri Helt thanked Mathisen for his excitement and appreciates his efforts to look outside the box and offer options at the high school level. She likes that the business community and students are involved in the conversations and appreciates all the work being done.

Nori Juba asked about the timeline and what does testing these models look like. Mathisen said Summit High has done some experimenting with expeditionary learning and learning from student feedback if that is a desired program. Mt. View High is bringing in an advisory group to look at CTE and computer programming and ways to utilize people in the industry to help develop that program. Bend High's current CTE program is very popular with students and expanding to include Rec Tech. He gave credit to Sal Cassaro who continues to work with students and teachers to develop the program. Juba likes the design process and would like to see this move as quickly as possible. He commented on how impressed he was with Principal Brian Crook's presentation at High Desert Middle School when Governor Brown visited. Crook spoke about relationships and supporting students who are willing to take risks in their education. Mikalson agreed and shared his appreciation for Mathisen's leadership as the district continues to look forward.

Kinkade thanked Mathisen for his presentation and looks forward to hearing more about options that could provide a great menu for many students, helping them be connected and stay engaged at school.

Board Retreat Continuation

Board Staff Linkage – Monitoring Superintendent Performance

Chair Kinkade referenced the first draft on page 18 in the board packet and reviewed the content and plans to continue forward with the executive limitation policy monitoring, governance policy, board ends, and contract that was set in place for Superintendent Mikalson this year.

Cheri Helt said this draft reads well and Mikalson agreed, noting he feels this clearly articulates what the board has expressed in a more formalized model. Kinkade said a final version will be part of the September 27 meeting for board action.

2016-17 Board Work Plan

Kinkade reviewed the draft work plan in the board packet, noting the draft was created based on the discussions at the board retreat.

Ron Gallinat asked about 3d: dialogue with stakeholders under community outreach and if specific stakeholders should be listed. Kinkade said this language comes from policy governance and the importance of the board connecting with all stakeholders, whom they represent. She noted this goes beyond parent engagement as these stakeholders are often times the districts best advocates.

Nori Juba liked the draft plan and appreciates the effort to define the specifics of what the board would like to achieve. He would like to add some specific outcomes to the plan. Helt suggested adding goals to the plan and those goals could change each year. Discussion ensued on work and how to set goals for each part of the plan. Mikalson added this will also help with the board's self-evaluation. Juba suggested continuing the conversation at the September 27 board meeting and asked for board members to submit specific ideas for numbers 3, 4 and 5 of the plan. From those suggestions the board will then prioritize goals and determine if a committee of the board needs to be created. Juba and Gallinat will work together on a first draft of the board's charter school position paper for board members to review. Chair Kinkade said she likes the plan and looks forward to the upcoming discussion.

Board Roles

Chair Kinkade suggested moving this discussion to a later time, after the goals and priorities of the board are defined at the September 27 meeting. All board members agreed.

Board Ends Review

Chair Kinkade asked for any comments or concerns around the eight ends the board identified. Stuart Young said he would like to leave them as they are written and feels they are a great start and looks forward to digging into each one more deeply as the year goes on. Kinkade agreed and added she would like to have the board continue to think about number eight under Future Ready and ways to measure what students do after graduation.

Superintendent Mikalson said the momentum in schools is positive and encouraged the board not to change much at this point. Juba agreed and added he would like to find a way to gather data on what students do after graduation. The board discussed their interests and ideas on this topic. Mikalson said AASA has started the conversation "redefining ready" and will be spending the next year discussing what it means for students to be 'life ready' and this may help the district and board redefine this measure.

Board Comments

Chair Kinkade noted tonight is Bulletin reporter, Abby Spegman's last board meeting. A press release went out yesterday about the vacant Budget Committee seat. Applications are due October 7 and she encouraged all board members to reach out and share this information. She suggested a subcommittee of the board

review applications and bring a recommendation to the board. Ron Gallinat and Andy High will take care of the application review process.

Ron Gallinat attended the Bear Creek open house and said the turnout was amazing. It was a great event.

Julie Craig thought the Welcome Back at Bend High was fantastic and energizing. She enjoyed meeting Governor Brown and Salam Nour at High Desert Middle School this morning. She could tell that Principal Crook is doing a great job in his role there. Ron Gallinat agreed.

Cheri Helt attended the opening ceremonies for OSU Cascades Campus today and said she appreciated seeing binders made for all students that had 'tips for helping a stressed friend' listed. Sharing those tips with every single student is a great way to remind students to focus on their mental health wellbeing and that of others.

Nori Juba visited an art classroom at High Desert Middle School and was impressed with teacher, Marcy Monte, who was talking about the importance of building relationships in class with her students. Juba likes the climate Principal Crook is creating with his staff and students, adding it feels like a positive learning environment. He also liked hearing students tell the Governor that they wanted more choice and electives when asked. Teachers agreed and shared electives and choices are what students get excited about and makes them more engaged. The Governor also asked students if iPads are useful in class and students answered yes with a variety of reasons why. Juba enjoyed hearing their responses as it validates board work.

Chair Kinkade thanked all for attending.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Wilson
9.13.2016