

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

The Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools met in a regular session on February 27, 2018 at the Education Center, 520 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR.

Board Members Present

Andy High
Julie Craig
Peggy Kinkade
Ron Gallinat
Cheri Helt

Board Members Absent

Stuart Young
Carrie Douglass

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:58 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Review of Agenda

Chair High noted the National Board Certified Teacher recognition would take place first, followed by public input and then a spotlight on the Education Foundation.

NCBT Recognition

Superintendent Mikalson introduced Michele Oakes and Heather Anderson and thanked each of them for their support of the NBCT candidates in the district. He said 13 teachers are being honored tonight for their recent NBCT certification and added his appreciation for their hard work and accomplishments. Oakes and Anderson shared about the process to becoming certified and noted that Bend-La Pine Schools' teachers represent 70% of the teachers who were certified this year. Mikalson introduced the following teachers, who were presented with a pin, flower and thank you gift: Erica Hoiness, Lindsey Manitsas, Cindy Perkins, Kari Sue, Jeannie Thorp, Connie Wilson, Nicole Ricketts, Mara Richardson, Courtney Winter, Julie Montoya, Marni Spitz, Heidi Friesen and Luke MacSween. Chair High congratulated all teachers and expressed his gratitude for their dedication to the teaching profession.

High recessed the regular session at 6:10 p.m.

High resumed the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Public Input

Chair High reviewed public input and explained it is an opportunity for the Board to listen to community members.

Steven Cramer, community member, spoke on behalf of his daughter-in-law who is a teacher in the district and his grandchildren who are students in the district. He spoke of his concern for school safety and the gun and sporting culture in Central Oregon. Cramer does not want to see teachers armed, but rather, suggested other means of stopping potential threats: metal detectors, restricted access, etc. He said he believes the district has a responsibility to educate and ensure the safety of children.

Amy Sabbadini, teacher at Bend Senior High and parent of a student in the district, thanked Superintendent Mikalson for his call to action message sent earlier in the week. She spoke about the tremendous impact more funding would make in schools, in the classroom, counseling support (which students often don't understand the support available from school counselors) and bolstering a positive and safe school atmosphere. She urged Board members to continue to advocate for funding.

Lenka Moor, parent and co-founder of the Bend Kindness Rocks project, shared about the purpose of the Bend Kindness Rocks project and the thought process and conversations it is intended to promote about what kindness really means. She recently was a volunteer for Challenge Day at Sky View Middle School and said the experience was profound and life changing. She encouraged other schools offer a Challenge Day and urged the district to remember that kindness is essential and should be part of a child's education.

Julie Ireland, business owner, shared about her recent experiences with community members and students in her profession and suggested mentorship and ways to learn compassion for students who are struggling rather than suspend or expel for poor behavior; along with a debriefing effort or program to follow up and continue to connect with those who are struggling.

Angela Chisum, parent and community member, shared about the Facebook group: *Parents, Students, Teachers, and Friends of BLP Against Gun Violence*, that now has over 2,400 members who are looking to be a part of the conversation and solution. She spoke about the groups' efforts to collaborate on sensible gun reform through legislation and the mental health crisis. She is thankful for the steps taken by the district thus far but asked that more be done to make school and student safety the number one priority.

Lynette Konkler, parent in the La Pine area, encouraged the district to be forward thinking and really put an emphasis on the importance of listening to students. Families need to be welcomed in school and students need to be heard by their teachers and administrators. As the world continues to change, she asked the Board be willing to change policy when necessary to be current in helping support student needs.

Chair High noted the next Community Linkage Meeting will be focused on mental health. The meeting will be in May and invited all to attend. Superintendent Mikalson thanked the Board for their support and advocacy efforts for schools, staff and students.

Superintendent's Spotlight

Superintendent Mikalson introduced Wendy Graunitz, Education Foundation Board President and Michelle Johnson, Education Foundation Executive Director and highlighted the incredible partnership between the district and the foundation. Graunitz shared about classroom, athletic and activity grants that were awarded in 2017, the Perseverance in Education Award event held each spring, and their fundraising efforts; including the upcoming Trivia Bee. She noted the foundation has been serving the district for 30 years.

Johnson shared about the Leadership Impact Summit Program through The Bend Chamber. The foundation is a finalist, and if they win, will be awarded \$12,000. The foundation plans to use those dollars to help support the district with trauma informed care and specialized training in an effort to support mental health needs. Johnson invited all to the Trivia Bee and noted their website has more information on events and ways to donate. Peggy Kinkade thanked the Foundation for their efforts to support schools; and noted Cheri Helt started the Perseverance in Education Award, which has grown into a wonderful way to honor college bound students with a scholarship who have persevered throughout their K-12 years.

Public Hearing

Bend International School – Request for Charter Renewal

Chair High recessed the regular meeting and called the Public Hearing for Bend International School (BIS) to order at 6:42 p.m. High reviewed the process for the hearing and noted the executive summary which explains the charter contract renewal process.

Meera Rupp, BIS School Director, thanked the Board for their time and shared about the progress they have made over the past three years. Rupp reviewed methods of assessment, testing results, student and family engagement,

and the enrollment scale up model they have used. BIS currently has 195 students enrolled and 216 students on their waitlist.

Rupp said she and the BIS community are hopeful the Board will approve their charter renewal request and shared areas they would like to discuss in the negotiation process; like increasing ADM funding to support additional staffing, programing development and resources. Superintendent Mikalson commented that the Board action to approve BIS's renewal request would initiate the negotiation process and items like funding would be considered. The final contract would be presented to the Board for approval.

Rupp invited all to the One World Gala on March 3 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and shared a video that highlighted students, teachers and families who are part of the BIS community. Rupp thanked the Board for their support and consideration of the renewal request.

Chair High moved into the public comment portion of the hearing.

Cassie Bullock, parent and teacher at Bend Senior High, has two students who attend BIS. Bullock shared her support for the academic programs BIS offers and appreciates the cohort model of the school, allowing teachers to really know students and families. She appreciates the level of family engagement and noted the Spanish component of learning is wonderful and adds an extra challenge to students' learning along with a layer of empathy. BIS has gone above and beyond her families' expectations.

Lucina Hernandez, parent of three BIS students, agreed with Bullock and is grateful her students have been a part of BIS from the beginning. She appreciates the Spanish learning and said her students look forward to going to school each day. She thanked the Board and district for their support of BIS and would like to see it continue to be an option for families.

Kindra Kennedy, first year BIS parent, spoke about her experience at BIS this school year compared to experiences of her other children in different schools in the district. She said her kindergartner has had a wonderful start to his education at BIS and appreciates the perspective and acceptance for others that he is learning at school.

Chair High thanked Bullock, Hernandez and Kennedy for their comments and asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. High asked what the opt out rate was at BIS for the Smarter Balanced assessment. Rupp said approximately 20%. Cheri Helt shared that she attended the One World Festival last year and thought it was wonderful. She enjoyed seeing the excitement of students and their families.

Chair High closed the public hearing and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Ron Gallinat moved to renew Bend International School's charter contract. Julie Craig seconded the motion. Peggy Kinkade said she appreciated BIS supporters being at the meeting and also appreciates the tremendous option BIS provides students. Chair High called for a vote. Unanimous approval.

Consent Agenda

Ron Gallinat moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Cheri Helt seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Action Items

Resolution 1864 : Classified Employee Appreciation Week

Julie Craig read Resolution 1864 out loud and Chair High expressed his thanks to all Classified Employees for their tremendous work and service to the district and students. Superintendent Mikalson introduced OSEA President, Robin Raiter, and thanked her for representing Classified Employees and for her leadership.

Cheri Helt moved to approve Resolution 1864 : Classified Employee Appreciation Week. Peggy Kinkade seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Elementary Land Purchase Agreement

Mike Tiller reviewed the new executive summary for the purchase of land for the new elementary school that is being funded by the 2017 bond. 13.12 acres in NE / NW Bend will be purchased from Vicki A. Brownrigg for a price of \$1,040,000. Tiller noted, that while the Brownrigg's were not able to make the meeting tonight, he wanted to share how wonderful they have been to work with and he is appreciative of their support and cooperation.

Cheri Helt moved to approve the purchase of 13.12 acres off of OB Riley Road for the construction of a new elementary school. Peggy Kinkade seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Reports

ELL Transformation Update

Lora Nordquist reviewed how the district was identified by the state as a Transformation District due to the lack of programs and support provided to linguistically diverse students. She said it was a wakeup call for the district and tonight the ELL team will cover how the district has invested grant dollars provided by the state to develop and enhance support for linguistically diverse students in three key areas: effective instruction, systems to support students, and family engagement.

Skip Offenhauser reviewed models for English Language Development Instruction at the elementary and secondary levels. These models are being funded by grant dollars and are showing some early success with students. Professional learning efforts include ELL coaches are now working with other coaches in the district to collaborate, provide co-teaching experiences and training, and the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) training experience and follow up efforts have been redesigned by Cate Hill to help support ELL students.

Kinsey Martin shared how the district has refreshed their systems to support students and families, which include new protocols and policies, and developing and enhancing the Welcome Center experience for families when they first come to the district. She spoke about increased pathways to graduation that have been developed for ELL students who are credit deficient and / or falling behind.

Offenhauser said the reorganization of staffing; specifically adding Martin as the Assistant Director for ELL / Dual Immersion and hiring Family Liaisons; has made a significant difference, even in just one year. He shared the roles and responsibilities of Family Liaisons and said the work they are doing in schools and the connections they are making with families and in the community is amazing. He spoke to the value and expertise of Martin, which has allowed for the district to make incredible progress. Mikalson noted that all of these staffing moves were made from reorganizing the current budget, to ensure the positions are sustainable once grant funding ends. Additional supports for linguistically diverse families includes Juntos, a district Parent Advisory Committee and School-Based Events.

Martin shared about the continued growth of the Dual Immersion program, with 7th grade DI students at High Desert Middle School outperforming non-DI 7th grade students in recent math test results. Martin talked about next steps for the DI program and is excited that the new high school will be the long-term site for the DI program; until the new school opens, Bend Senior High will host the DI program. Martin said the 8th grade seal of biliteracy event is coming up at COCC in the spring and will also include 5th grade DI students presenting in both English and Spanish. Mikalson encouraged all to attend and see the incredible work of the DI program first hand. Cheri Helt asked how liaison student caseloads are determined and what is offered at the elementary level, since Juntos is primarily a secondary level program. Offenhauser explained the liaisons are graphically organized and caseloads are balanced as students are identified. Martin noted the caseloads can vary, but a liaison's location is often based on the highest concentration of Spanish speaking families. One liaison serves in the Welcome Center and provides support across the district. An ELL teacher in South County provides liaison-type of support for their students.

Nordquist shared that the recent Latino Family Night had double the amount of attendees as last year's event and credits much of that to the work and outreach efforts of the liaisons. She said they do positive reach outs to families and help support communications coming from schools. Martin said there is not currently a Juntos type of program at the elementary level, but there are community partners and groups like Better Together, that are helping to support elementary families.

Peggy Kinkade asked what other language needs are in the district. Offenhauser said about 90% of the linguistically diverse students speak Spanish. Next would be Vietnamese and Chinese with about 12-15 students. Liaisons use the same approach with families and students who speak languages other than Spanish and connect them with translators and continued supports.

Board Comments

Cheri Helt expressed her thanks to those who have put in the long days and weeks and extra hours for the district's safety. She noted the support, time and efforts of the Education Center's administrative team to support the community often goes unknown and should be acknowledged. Helt said it is important that the community know the Board and district leadership team share their concerns for school and student safety and it is a priority taken very seriously.

Peggy Kinkade agreed with Helt.

Ron Gallinat also agreed with Helt. He thanked those who publicly commented and noted the great work being done by Julianne Repman around school safety. Gallinat commented on Sabaddini's public input and appreciated her sharing a student's perception of high school counselors. Services and supports school counselors can provide need to be reiterated with all students across the district.

Julie Craig attended the Latino Family Night last week and was encouraged to see the numbers of families who participated and shared her appreciation for the reach out efforts of district staff and community partners. She echoed Helt's sentiments and shared her concern and passions around student safety and mental health, adding there is much work to be done as a community and a country to support those who are struggling.

Chair High attended the recent classified job fair and was encouraged by those who attended.

Chair High recessed the regular meeting at 7:58 p.m.

The regular meeting resumed and was adjourned by Chair High at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Wilson
2.27.2018

Minutes approved at 3.13.18 board meeting