

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J
1201 TEXAS AVENUE
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 08, 2020

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER:** A Regular Meeting of the of Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order virtually at 6:05 p.m. by Greg Kintz. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Jeana Gump, Joanie Jones, Susan Wagner, and Greg Kintz. Brittanie Roberts joined at 6:08 p.m. BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** Steve Whiteman BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle/High School Principal; Michelle Eagleson, Elementary Principal; Marie Knight, Business Manager; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Brett Costley, Juliet Safier, Kendra Schlegel, and Claire Youngberg, Licensed Staff; and Beth Kintz, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Scott Laird VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 2.0 AGENDA REVIEW:** Jeana Gump moved to accept the agenda as presented. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. AGENDA REVIEW
- 3.0 SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS:** SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS
- Principal Reports:
- Nate Underwood highlighted his report.
- Just finished the 3rd week of Comprehensive Distance Learning (CDL). There are glitches that need working through such as connectivity, but the start has been better than anticipated. He has been pleasantly surprised with the attitude of our students. They are not thrilled with the current situation but are trying to make it work. PRINCIPAL REPORTS
 - Staff is working hard to make it work.
 - He is connected to every virtual classroom so he can drop in whenever he wants. Teaching and discussions are happening.
 - Attendance is an issue. Students are learning the need to attend the online classes. Students are not marked absent if the school knows ahead of time they are not able to attend. Students are told to email their teachers who will notify the attendance officer.
- Michelle Eagleson highlighted her report:
- Elementary staff are on campus and busy learning about Canvas management system and setting up classrooms.
 - They have had a great first couple weeks of school.
 - She has started monthly virtual chat meetings for parents of K-5 students. These will be held on the 2nd Tuesday from 6-7 pm.
 - Elementary staff is participating in Journeys professional development for our reading curriculum. This will make distance learning effective and better for kids and families.
- A question was asked as to how the District is monitoring on line learning to determine if it is effective. Teachers are meeting weekly with families, doing assessments in reading and math, meeting in small groups, and continuing to provide Title 1 services. Vernonia Elementary is doing the same things as before, it just looks different in a virtual setting.
- Mr. Miller shared that next month Rachel Wilson will have a Social Emotion Learning (SEL) Team report.
- 4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None PUBLIC COMMENT

5.0 BUSINESS REPORTS:

5.1 Superintendent Report: Aaron Miller updated the Board on the following:

- COVID numbers last week were over 37 / 100,000, meaning the 3 weeks straight of good numbers starts over again. The infection numbers have increased.
- K-3 On-Site Instruction: County numbers must be lower than 30 / 100,000 and we must have had no cases for staff or students within the last 14 days. We were meeting these numbers until recently. Mr. Miller remains in contact with O.D.E. and the County Health Department.
- Limited In-Person Instruction (LIP): The District must have had 14 straight days without a staff member or student testing positive for COVID-19. We have met this standard and will move forward with LIP on a case by case basis. We do have need for student assessment to occur on site. As individual student needs arise the District will look to bring these students in as well. The guidance from ODE is clear, when distance learning is not working for a variety of reasons, we can have LIP on site.
- Athletics: the District is also able to move forward with having practices on campus as long as the infection numbers remain within the limits. Starting on Oct 19th Spring Sports will practice and continue for a couple weeks. After that Fall Sports will practice a couple weeks, followed by Winter Sports. We are splitting this first OSAA Section into three due to the cross over between sports by our students. On December 28th the 2nd OSAA Section begins which is the competitive portion for Winter sports. The last two OSAA Sections will be for Fall sports followed by Spring sports.
- Enrollment: last year we ended with 570 students. We are currently at 527 K-12.
- Connectivity: Approximately 35 students were unable to connect to WiFi. The District purchased "Hot Spots" enabling these students to connect to the internet. Until this occurred we had a few students working at the City Library with an Instructional Assistant. We also have a few students utilizing thumb drives to receive assignments and send work back to their teachers. Special thanks to Glenda Delemos and Jana Titus who have been working hard to get all of our students connected.
- Shout Out to our Maintenance / Grounds / Custodial staff for working hard to make our campus and building look nice.
- Teachers and Instructional Assistants are supporting our students and are available when needed.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

COVID-19 NUMBERS

ON SITE INSTRUCTION FOR K-3

LIMITED IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION

ATHLETIC PRACTICES TO BEGIN

ENROLLMENT NUMBERS ARE DOWN

STUDENT INTERNET CONNECTIVITY

STAFF SHOUT OUT

Bond Update:

- Art Room: This is very close to being finished. Lighting and fans have been ordered. As soon as they arrive and are installed we can apply for the occupancy permit.
- Playground Equipment: MES has been delivered and installed. VES has not arrived yet.
- VES Play Fields: The reseeded grass is coming up and looking good.
- Solar Panels: The money has been encumbered and they will be installed soon.
- Entryway Security: Doors are in. Working on electronics
- The new CTE Building (Metal shop) will have an official naming ceremony after the students return.

BOND PROJECTS UPDATE

Questions about the LIP guidelines and if there would be exceptions for students with special needs. As there are different levels of need for any special needs students Mr. Miller recommended parents with concerns or questions regarding this to contact the school to review their student's IEP and to discuss options.

5.2 Financial Report: Marie Knight shared that the 2019-20 ending fund balance is over \$400K which is up slightly from last month. All entries from last year aren't closed up and rolled forward yet but will be soon. The District's annual financial audit is done and she is hoping to have this presented at the November meeting. There were no questions from the Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- 5.3 Maintenance Report:** Mark Brown's report was reviewed by the Board. There were no questions. MAINTENANCE REPORT
- 6.0 BOARD REPORTS/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT:** The OSBA DEMSP Training with Steve Kelley is scheduled for 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10th. The Board must have a quorum at all meetings to satisfy the guidelines of the DEMSP scholarship. BOARD REPORTS & BOARD DEVELOPMENT
- Policy Committee: Brittanie Roberts has a couple questions that she will get to Mr. Miller
 Safety Committee: Susan Wagner stated she was unable to attend the last meeting due to a schedule conflict. Joanie Jones stated she was in class at that time and also unable to attend.
- 7.0 OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION**
- 7.1 2020-21 Calendar Adjustment:** Aaron Miller shared a revised 2020-21 instructional calendar explaining why the numbers were off on the previously presented version. There was a mistake on the calendar adopted on 8/13/20 showing 165 student contact days. It should have showed 164. The date of November 13th was incorrectly counted as a student contact day. 2020-21 CALENDAR ADJUSTMENT DISCUSSED
- This has been fixed on the calendar being presented at this meeting. The other 3 student contact days being eliminated have to do with the 3 grading periods. When this was moved to Wednesdays these become non-student contact days.
- 7.2 Curl School Bus Services Contract Adjustment:** Mr. Miller shared that the question from Curl about a clause "without cause" in contract has been determined by Curl to not be an issue and to move forward leaving this as it is in the contract currently. The new agreement is in support of Curl not using as many busses and drivers for the 2020-21 school year and also an adjustment to cover extra PPE and cleaning supplies to address COVID issues. The basic agreement was presented to the Board. CURL SCHOOL BUS SERVICES / VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT DISCUSSED
- 7.3 Vernonia Education Association MOA:** Mr. Miller shared that with the changes to work conditions, due to COVID, there was need to re-open the contract and address the changes. The VEA and the District negotiations team have met and both tentatively agree to the changes. VEA REQUESTS TO OPEN CONTRACT DUE TO WORK CHANGES
- 8.0 ACTION ITEMS**
- 8.1 2020-21 Calendar Adjustment:** Joanie Jones moved to approve the 2020-21 calendar as amended. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. 2020-21 CALENDAR ADJUSTMENT APPROVED
- 8.2 Curl School Bus Services Contract:** Susan Wagner moved to approve the adjustment to the Curl School Bus Services Contract as discussed and presented. Joanie Jones seconded the motion. CURL SCHOOL BUS SERVICES CONTRACT MOA APPROVED
- A question was asked if by not addressing the without clause now will this impact anything in the current contract? No according to Mr. Miller.
- There was no further discussion and a vote was called for. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.
- 8.3 VEA M.O.A.:** Jeana Gump moved to approve the VEA MOA as discussed and presented. Joanie Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. VEA MOA APPROVED
- 9.0 MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE:** The Board Self-Evaluation survey was sent to the Board by Greg Kintz. MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE

11.0 CONSENT AGENDA:

11.1 Minutes of 09/10/20 Regular Meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED

Susan Wagner moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Jean Gump seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

Other Issues: Greg Kintz addressed the concern of some Board Members about holding meetings virtually and not in-person. Greg shared that he is not ready to hold in person meetings. When rules can be relaxed and students can be on site he will reconsider.

OTHER ISSUES:

Aaron Miller asked that the Board continue to hold meetings virtually. Keeping our staff and students COVID free will allow us to start to have on site learning sooner. He would rather not expose the staff to the public by allowing them inside the building for board meetings.

Susan Wagner asked that the Board think about equity. If we can't allow everyone in, we should not be having a meeting.

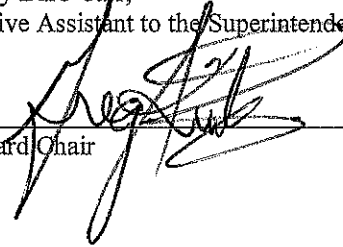
Brittanie Roberts stated that she does not agree with this being an equity issue. The number of attendees can be limited.

Jeana Gump stated it is difficult for her to have space at home for a meeting and would prefer to meet in person on campus.

12.0 MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:25 p.m.

ADJOURNED

Submitted by Barb Carr,
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Directors



Board Chair



District Clerk