

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J
1201 TEXAS AVENUE
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2019

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:38 p.m.* by Greg Kintz. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Board Present: Steve Whiteman, Brittanie Roberts, Greg Kintz, and Stacey Pelster via Phone.

BOARD PRESENT

Board Absent: The vacant position, Susan Wagner, and Melissa Zavales.

BOARD ABSENT

Staff Present: Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, MS/HS Principal; Michelle Eagleson, K-5 Vice Principal; Rachel Wilcoxon, K-12 Vice Principal; Marie Knight, Business Manager; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Juliet Safier, Laura Blacker, Kaitlyn Carr-Kiprotich, Brett Costley and Jim Krahn, Licensed Staff; and Stacy Adams and Camrin Eyrrick, Classified Staff.

STAFF PRESENT

Visitors Present: Scott Laird, Tobie Finzel, Jeana Gump, Sam Clapshaw, Bill DeJager, Lanaya Clapshaw, and Anika Suppes.

VISITORS PRESENT

* Due to Board members running late, Superintendent Miller asked Mr. Jim Krahn and his students to give their Community 101 presentation before the meeting was called to order.

COMMUNITY 101
GRANT
PRESENTATIONS by
PROJECT BASED
LEARNING CLASS
STUDENTS

Jim Krahn's Project Based Learning (PBL) Class students Annika Suppes and Lennea Clapshaw gave a presentation on the Community 101 Grant, which formed in 1997 through the Oregon Community Foundation. The PBL class sent applications to all 501c3 companies located in the Vernonia area, then reviewed the applications and selected scholarship winners. They award a total of \$5,000 annually, which includes \$1,000 in awards to applications from the school.

This year Community 101 grants recipients were:

- Vernonia Education Foundation: \$2,050 for their Sports Initiative effort and support to the newly formed Clay Target team.
- Vernonia Cares: \$1,500 in support of the Food Bank. Tobie Finzel accepted.
- Vernonia HS Art Dept. \$600 to purchase screen-printing equipment. Kaitlyn Carr-Kiprotich accepted and shared an example of a T-shirt created with the new equipment.
- Friends of Vernonia Public Library: \$450 to purchase additional chairs for the reading area. Brittanie Roberts accepted.
- Vernonia Elementary: \$400 to fund a field trip. Ms. Blacker accepted.

Mr. Krahn shared that next year another \$5,000 will be awarded.

Mr. Krahn also shared results of a survey his class conducted back in November to all 8th-12th grade students.

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m.

1.1 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

2.0 AGENDA: Resolution #1819-11 was added as a discussion (7.2.3) and action item (10.3). Existing action items were renumbered accordingly. Out of State Travel action item (10.8) was added. New Hire action item (10.5) added Lisa Spiesschaert. AGENDA REVIEW

Steve Whiteman moved to approve the agenda as amended. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance and on the phone.

<p>3.0 RECESSED To Budget Hearing at 6:42 p.m.</p> <p>Mr. Miller explained the budget process and opened the floor for public comment on the 2019-20 Vernonia School District operating budget. There were no comments received.</p>	<p>RECESS TO BUDGET HEARING</p>
<p>4.0 RECONVENED to Regular Meeting at 6:45 p.m.</p>	<p>RECONVENE TO REGULAR MEETING</p>
<p>5.0 SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS: Student Reports: Community 101 Project Based Learning Class presented prior to the start of the meeting.</p> <p>Principal Reports: Michelle Eagleson highlighted her written report to the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VES student reading fluency numbers haven't shifted yet but they are seeing huge shifts in the accuracy numbers. • Enhanced Core Reading Instruction (ECRI) was implemented this year and has helped with phonics and closing the gaps. They have had great consistency at K-5 with this. • Pilot Tier 3, a program for intense readers, is another resource to help students. • Next year a new reading curriculum will be introduced, that has ECRI imbedded into it. • A book giveaway for the outgoing reading curriculum was held. Approximately 50 families attended and took books home. • Support and progress for students diagnosed with dyslexia. • Great success in student growth with tutoring. • Mindful practices are going well. <p>Nate Underwood gave a verbal report to the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing Data for MS and HS hasn't been done yet. He hopes to share an analysis in August. • He is excited about a strong leadership program next year. Ashley Ward will take on HS Leadership as well as MS Leadership and activities coordinator. • Would like to make a change to HS student transcripts in a proposal that removes Career Education as a formal class. Students will obtain the instruction half through Advisory and half with their senior project. He would also like to remove Computer Apps as a separate class and imbed this instruction into core classes. Both Career Ed and Computer Apps are not an individual class requirement. <p>AVID Report: Juliet Safier, the Site Cordinator for Achievement Via Independent Determination (AVID) reported. This year AVID was offered to 8-11th grade. 6th and 12th grades will be added next year. AVID professional training will take place in Denver in July. All of the MS teachers will be attending. AVID is continuing to grow in Vernonia and it is exciting.</p>	<p>SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS</p> <p>STUDENT REPORTS</p> <p>PRINCIPAL REPORTS</p> <p>AVID REPORT</p>
<p>6.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.</p>	<p>PUBLIC COMMENT</p>
<p>7.0 BUSINESS REPORTS: 7.1 Superintendent Report: Mr. Miller provided a written report to the Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Community Meeting to provide an update to the changes in Bond Projects will be held on July 11th at 5:15 p.m. in the Commons. • At Home School Program: Regular meetings have been held with the parents. Debbie Taylor has done an outstanding job so far. It looks as though we may have 45 students interested. • Mist School: The goal of 21 students in K-2nd and also in 3rd-5th at Mist is close. Currently they are slightly over in the 3rd – 5th grades and under in K-2nd. • Professional Development: the Elementary team worked on data. The Administrative team met with Ms. Safier and Ms. Myers to develop a plan for in-service week. Late start Wednesday will occur every Wednesday next year. Staff will start Professional Development activities at 7:45 a.m. School will start at 9:15 a.m. 	<p>SUPERINTENDENT REPORT</p>

7.1.2 Bond Update:

BOND PROJECTS
UPDATE

The plan to construct four additional classrooms at the end of the west wing has been scrapped. The District set aside \$1.8 million for this project and unfortunately, the two bids that came in were considerably over that amount. The plan now is to construct one classroom for dedicated art classroom space. Other items for consideration are:

- Storage needs in classroom and athletic department
- Changing out LED lights to save on electric costs
- Surveillance camera updates
- Lights and scoreboard at field
- Metal Shop – already underway
- Lights and infrastructure at the football field for future grandstand and a score board for softball and baseball.

The Board expressed concern that if just one classroom is built instead of the original concept of 4 classrooms, the District is losing this space for future growth. Mr. Miller explained that the room will be designed to be able to add onto and on top of in the future. Steve Whiteman hopes we can get everything done and have done the best they could.

7.2 Financial Report: Marie Knight shared the financial report. There are no big changes and all looks good moving forward into the new year. She explained the following resolutions that the board is asked to approve later in the meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- Resolution #1819-09 - the standard resolution adopting next year’s budget
- Resolution #1819-10 - for GASB 54 is restating how we deal with and have been dealing with certain parts of the budget. The resolution is a housekeeping item that keeps us in line with the GASB rules.
- Resolution #1819-11 - within the 200 fund (grant funds) of the 2018-19 operating budget, we spent more from what was originally budgeted as revenue. \$60,000 was budgeted in Support Services. The fact that there was an overage in spending is in part due to grants received that were not anticipated and budgeted. Some of these grants involved staff professional development. Budget Law does not allow us to overspend budgeted revenue. This resolution explains moving money into the proper budget line to offset the expenditures.

7.3 Maintenance Report: The Board reviewed Mark Brown’s maintenance report. Steve Whiteman asked about the anticipated increase in water usage. Aaron Miller explained that most definitely the District will have higher water bills with the addition of the ball fields.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

8.0 BOARD REPORTS/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT:

BOARD REPORTS /
BOARD DEVELOPMENT

8.1 Election Abstract: Barb Carr reviewed the election abstract provided by Columbia County Elections Department. Based on the abstract, Greg Kintz was the winner for position #2 and Steve Whiteman for position #3. Position #6 (two year position) and position #7 had no one running. Brittanie Roberts was the winner by write-in for both positions.

ELECTION ABSTRACT
EXPLAINED

Ms. Carr further explained the next steps by the Board. At this meeting, the Board needs to accept the election abstract and declare the winners in each position, both elected as well as write-in winners. Because Ms. Roberts was the write-in winner for two positions, she needs to make her intent known to the County as to which position she desires. At that time, the County will send official notice to the winners as well as declare the remaining position vacant. The Board can then proceed with their process to appoint someone to the vacant position.

9.0 OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION

9.1 Out of State Travel Request: Aaron Miller shared the following out of state travel requests:

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL
REQUEST FOR AVID, 8th
GRADE CLOSE-UP TRIP,
SENIOR TRIP

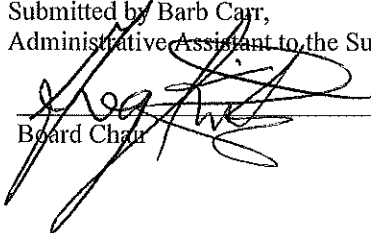
- Middle School AVID team is going to Denver for Professional Development in July;
- Next year’s 8th graders will travel to Washington, DC in the Spring; and
- Next year’s senior class will travel to California in the Spring.

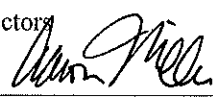
- 9.2 Staff Resignations and Retirements:** Aaron Miller shared the following staff are retiring: Val DeWitt, Instructional Assistant; Nga Frederiksen, Middle School Math Teacher; and Linda Hobart, Elementary Teacher. The following staff have resigned: Katherine Brown, Middle/High School Band & Music; Paul Dorry, Elementary Teacher; Casandra Hylton, Life Skills Teacher; Deb Stahlnecker, Middle School Special Education; and Doran Lower, High School Digital Arts. RETIREMENTS and RESIGNATIONS
- 9.3 New Hires:** Aaron Miller shared the following new staff hires: NEW HIRES
 Rachel Brown, Middle School Social Studies
 Kirk Ebberts, Middle/High School Welding (part time)
 Claire Youngberg, Elementary – Kindergarten
 Jordan Frink, Elementary – 1st Grade
 Kiara Single, Elementary – 1st/ 2nd Blend or 1st Grade
 Dancia Sammons, Elementary – 4th or 5th Grade
 Lisa Spiesschaert, Middle School Special Education
- There are still vacancies at the intermediate elementary level, high school band, foreign language and digital arts.
- 9.4 VEA Contract:** Aaron Miller shared that the District has completed negotiations with the Vernonia Education Association (VEA). The District negotiation team consisted of Steve Whiteman, Greg Kintz, Susan Wagner along with Aaron Miller and Marie Knight. The members of the VEA met today and ratified their two-year contract. Highlights in this contract include: VEA CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS SUCCESSFUL and DONE
- 1st year COLA is at 3% and the 2nd year is at 4%. All understand that adding 4 days to the calendars will also increase salaries.
 - A \$50 insurance cap bump each of the two years.
 - A couple small jobs were added to the agreement such as teacher mentor positions and splitting middle school girls' and boys' basketball stipends.
 - There is also language about teachers having the option to not be part of the union but still utilize the contract. This is in line with state language for compliance.
- Mr. Miller stated it is a strong agreement and a good compromise on how the District moves forward but maintains our financial solvent.
- Steve Whiteman complimented all involved for working together.
- 10.0 ACTION ITEMS:**
- 10.1 Resolution #1819-09 - Adopting the Budget, Making Appropriations and Imposing and Categorizing the Tax:** Steve Whiteman moved to approve Resolution #1819-09 as presented. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance and on the phone. RESOLUTION #1819-09 APPROVED
- 10.2 Resolution #1819-10 – GASB 54 Fund Balance:** Brittanie Roberts moved to approve Resolution #1819-10 as presented. Steve Whiteman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance and on the phone. RESOLUTION #1819-10 APPROVED
- 10.3 Resolution #1819-11 – Appropriation Transfer:** Steve Whiteman moved to approve Resolution #1819-11 as presented. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance and on the phone. RESOLUTION #1819-11 APPROVED
- 10.4 Retirements / Resignations:** Steve Whiteman moved to accept the retirement of Val DeWitt, Nga Frederiksen, and Linda Hobart and the resignation of Katherine Brown, Paula Dorry, Casandra Hylton, Doran Lower, and Deb Stahlnecker. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance and on the phone. MULTIPLE RETIREMENTS and RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED
- 10.5 New Hires:** Brittanie Roberts moved to approve the following new teacher hires: Rachel BROWN, EBBERTS,

Brown, MS Social Studies; Kirk Ebberts, MS/HS Welding (part time); Claire Youngberg, VES Kindergarten; Jordan Frink, VES 1st Grade; Kiara Single, VES 1st/₂nd Grade; Dancia Sammons, VES 4th or 5th Grade; and Lisa Spiesschaert, MS Special Education. Steve Whiteman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance and on the phone. YOUNGBERG, FRINK, SINGLE, SAMMONS, and SPIESSCHAERT HIRED.

- 10.6 Election Abstract:** Brittanie Roberts moved to accept the abstract from the May 21, 2019 election and declare Greg Kintz the winner of Position #2, Steve Whiteman the winner of Position #3, and Brittanie Roberts the write-in winner for both Position #6 and #7. Steve Whiteman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance and on the phone. ELECTION ABSTRACT ACCEPTED and WINNERS DECLARED
- 10.7 VEA Contract:** Steve Whiteman moved to ratify the 2019-20 and 2020-21 Vernonia Education Association contract as presented. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimous with those in attendance and on the phone. TWO YEAR V.E.A. CONTRACT RATIFIED
- 10.8 Out of State Travel:** Brittanie Roberts moved to approve out of state travel for staff attending AVID professional development in Denver, CO in July 2019, and the 8th grade DC trip and the Senior California trip in the Spring of 2020. Steve Whiteman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance and on the phone. OUT OF STATE TRAVEL APPROVED
- 11.0 MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE:** Greg Kintz shared that the Board will discuss the timeline to fill the vacant position at the July meeting.
- 12.0 CONSENT AGENDA:**
12.1 Minutes of 05/09/19 Regular Meeting and the 05/30/19 Workshop. CONSENT AGENDA MINUTES APPROVED
- Steve Whiteman moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance and on the phone. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED
- 13.0 RECESSED to EXECUTIVE SESSION** under O.R.S. 192.660(2)(b) and 192.660(2)(i) at 7:37 p.m. RECESSED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION
- The Board reviewed and discussed a complaint regarding a recent decision of the Superintendent denying a request for a student transfer.
- 14.0 RETURNED to REGULAR SESSION** at 9:17 p.m. RETURNED TO REGULAR SESSION
- Stacey Pelster moved to uphold Mr. Miller's decision on the student transfer request. Steve Whiteman seconded the motion. Yes votes: Steve Whiteman, Greg Kintz, and Stacey Pelster. No votes: Brittanie Roberts. Motion failed due to a lack of majority. MOTION FAILS DUE TO LACK OF MAJORITY
- Stacey Pelster moved to create a directive to the Superintendent and High School Principal to create a plan of accommodation to meet the needs of the student for classes beyond what our school provides. Steve Whiteman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance and on the phone. BOARD CREATES DIRECTIVE TO SUPT. and HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
- 1450 MEETING ADJOURNED** at 9:21p.m. ADJOURNED

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


Board Chair


District Clerk