



Board of Directors' Official Minutes

School Board Meeting

October 12, 2011

Estacada High School Choir Room

7:30 p.m. GENERAL SESSION Called to Order by Chairman, Mark Greene. Present were **Directors:** Mark Greene, Ralph Branson, Tim Schultz, Rick Mudrow, and Steve Woods. Directors, Sonja McCarty, and Leslie Andre were absent. Also present were Superintendent, Howard Fetz; Business Manager, Donna Cancio; and Executive Secretary, Sabrina La Londe.

SPECIAL REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

- Plaque Presentation – The School Board presented patron Becky Ginsbach with an award for her hard work and dedication to the Community Patriot Flag project in June, and “Fireman Joe’s” presentation to our 5 traditional schools this past week. (See ECE Student Body Report below.)
- Student Body Report - Eagle Creek Elementary – Gavin & Tommy Stiles reported about all scholastic activities happening at Eagle Creek as well as the assembly that took place yesterday with guest speaker, Joe Torrillo from New York – There will be conferences next week, and Family Fun Night on October 29th. The Stiles family has been doing many hours of community service at the school, and Mrs. Rhue thanked them.
- Hardchrome –The School Board publicly thanked Hardchrome for their recent donation of 3,000 pencils for students.

HEARING OF CITIZENS – Action Items

Dora Morgan requested that the Board not approve the Superintendent’s Evaluation Calendar.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Consent Agenda
Ralph Branson moved, Rick Mudrow seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.
2. Approval of the Superintendent’s Evaluation Calendar – Tim Schultz moved, Rick Mudrow seconded, to approve the Superintendent’s Evaluation Calendar, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.
3. Budget/Election Calendar – Ralph Branson moved, seconded by Tim Schultz, to approve the Budget/Election Calendar as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.
4. Approval & Declaration of Budget Committee Vacancies – Rick Mudrow moved, seconded by Tim Schultz, to approve the Declaration of Budget Committee Vacancies, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Tina Rhue – Principal of Eagle Creek Elementary, and School Improvement Director, reported about

the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), and how this program is developing. Mrs. Rhue said that the State of Oregon started from college, and worked backwards. This is why the standards have increased because they found some gaps in high school kids being ready for college, or ready to enter the work force. For example, children in kindergarten are expected to write paragraphs now compared to a few years ago when they were not expected to do this. The Board was invited to meet with Mrs. Rhue if they want a more thorough review of the Common Core State Standards.

As School Improvement Director, she helps the schools understand what they need to do to get the kids “up to speed.” There is a new assessment coming out called the “Smarter Balance Assessment” which will eventually replace the OAKs testing in Language Arts, and Math. Teachers are learning to phase in the new standards, but still be able to help kids pass the Oaks Testing. It is important to know that the kindergarten piece was written with full-day kindergarten in mind. However, most school districts in Oregon do not have sufficient funding to support full-day kindergarten.

Mrs. Rhue also reported on Eagle Creek Elementary School’s Oregon School Report Card results for 2010-2011. Their overall rating was “satisfactory.”

Seth Johnson – Mr. Johnson gave a summary of the Oregon School Report Cards for both CRES and RME. The overall rating was “satisfactory.” With the raising of the bar last year, it was a challenge for the schools to meet the standards. Both elementary schools are looking to improve the economically disadvantaged numbers in all areas. River Mill’s reading scores stayed about the same as the year before, but math dropped down to 49%. Science is not calculated but it did improve.

At Clackamas River the overall rating was “outstanding.” This school did better at meeting the math expectations, but the reading scores went down. The math scores went from 89 to 87 at the old standards, and from 89 to 69 at the new standards. Science at CRES went from 83 to 86. In their PLC’s, they will be looking at in-district schools that have areas of strengths, and then collaborate to become better.

Dan Draper – Mr. Draper reported that he is proud of the students and staff at the Junior High. The JH received a “satisfactory” grade overall, and attendance and participation results were “outstanding.” Students have three opportunities on the OAKS testing. The JH was one test short of meeting AYP. Mr. Draper said that only 22% of middle schools in Oregon met AYP across the state. The JH was really close to meeting that.

Scott Sullivan – Mr. Sullivan thanked Becky Ginsbach for her hard work on the Patriot Flag Project, and for being instrumental in bringing guest speaker, Joe Torrillo, to the Estacada School District yesterday to speak to students. This event brought positive press in the Oregonian.

Mr. Sullivan thanked his staff and students for meeting AYP for the 2nd year in a row. He believes that whatever happens in the high school is not only a “high school thing,” but a K-12 effort. He thanked, and recognized all schools for helping the High School meet AYP last year. The State Report Card indicates a level of “satisfactory” for the high school, and they did move over in the spectrum scale closer to “outstanding” than in 2009-2010. Mr. Sullivan wants to reach “outstanding.”

The graduation rate is figured on a 4-year cohort rate, and sometimes the school does not have control over the graduation rates. For example, if a senior comes to Estacada High School for the first time with zero credits, then he/she will not be able to earn the required credits to graduate in one year, which will affect the graduation rates negatively. They have set high standards for the high school, and Mr. Sullivan believes they can meet those challenges.

Joni Tabler – Principal of both District charter schools – Mrs. Tabler reported that the big push for the charters were the participation rates in both schools. She is very proud of the job her teachers did last year in bringing the participation rates up from 69% in Web Academy for 2009-2010 to 93.1% this past year. Mrs. Tabler is confident that both charters will make the participation rate this coming year.

Charter school students are used to working in the home environment, and getting them to areas where they can test a few times a year is the challenge. The graduation rate was low last year because they had 120 seniors out of 318 students. Most of those seniors were 4th, 5th, 6th, year seniors. Mrs. Tabler said this is a last chance for many kids. The charters have 76 seniors this year, and they brought in a new math curriculum.

Gary Hatcher –Principal at Estacada Alternative High School – Their report card is not the same as other schools, and the graduation rate is their biggest challenge. They had 100 students graduate last year, which was a huge improvement from the year before. Most students come to Job Corps with very few or no credits at all. Their goal is to get as many students as possible to earn their High School diploma. The achievement rate has been met, but not many kids take the OAKS testing. The GED scores reflect 99% passage by their students.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT:

There were no questions about the Business Office report in the packet. Mrs. Cancio did report that there will be a ribbon cutting event at 10:00 a.m. on November 9th for the new Biomass Boiler project, and everyone is invited to help celebrate.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

Ralph Branson – Mr. Branson reported on his recent trip to Randle, Washington. The committee was looking at a model Randle uses that may work for the Three Lynx facility. This is a self-sustaining program, but there are grants that they work with, and they charge fees to the schools that attend. They have a water management program, wildlife management program, astronomy program, and dormitories. They are willing to assist us with the operation plans they used.

Mark Greene – Mr. Greene reported that the Athletic Committee has been working with the Boosters Club to help fund the nine coaches that were cut from the budget this year. The Boosters recently reorganized their organization into two divisions. One division is for fundraising, and one is for the concessions. There will be a dinner auction on January 7th and they are looking for donations for the auction.

HEARING OF CITIZENS (Non-Action Items)

Mark Luedtke – Mr. Luedtke said it's the Board of Directors that runs the district and the policies help guide the Superintendent to run the district. The Administrative Rules are also guidelines. There is one AR in particular that bothers him; BDDH-AR paragraph one – The section about public participation was revised three years ago, limiting speakers to a 3 minute limit. Mr. Luedtke believes this restricts his rights. He wants the AR to be reviewed, and to have this policy set aside.

Mr. Luedtke began speaking about a District staff member at which time the Chairman of the Board reminded Mr. Luedtke that he cannot criticize staff. Mr. Luedtke said he sent a letter to the Superintendent, and the response he received back was less than satisfactory. Mr. Greene advised him that he is welcome to send the letter to the Chairman.

Isabelle Jaurón – Principal Reduction – Mrs. Jaurón said that the Board stated they would discuss the Principal Reduction issue once again when school started. She would like to request that this meeting take place on October 24th, and invited the principals & secretaries to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Action Taken

1. Consent Agenda - Approved.
2. Approval of Superintendent's Evaluation Calendar - Approved.
3. Approval of the Election/Budget Calendar – Approved
4. Approval of the Declaration of Budget Committee Vacancies - Approved

Mark Greene
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Howard Fetz
Superintendent

Date

Date