

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Corvallis School District 509J
 1555 SW 35th Street
 Corvallis, OR 97333

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Rieck called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. in the Board Room of the Central Administration Building, 1555 SW 35th Street, Corvallis, Oregon. The secretary recorded those present as listed below.

<p><u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</u> Kari Rieck, Chair Donna Keim, Vice Chair Blake Rodman Matt Donohue Helen Higgins Anne Schuster Nell O'Malley</p>	<p><u>EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT</u> Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent Jim Hogeboom, Assistant Superintendent Jeanne Holmes, Human Resources Director Fred Wright, Auxiliary Services Director Debbie Bell, Accounting Supervisor</p>
<p><u>STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT</u> Kyle Snider, Crescent Valley High School (CV)</p>	<p><u>PRINCIPALS PRESENT</u> Oscar Moreno-Gilson, Lincoln K-8</p>

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Rieck led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

III. COMMITTEE/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Chair Rieck introduced student Kyle Snider, Crescent Valley student body vice president, sitting in for student body president and usual representative to the Board, Courtney Gardner.

Vice Chair Keim related that last year she served as part of the OSAA (Oregon School Activities Association) committee that reorganized the state's athletic conferences and divisions and that it has been very exciting to see how well the District is doing in the new structure.

Director Schuster touted the wonderful job CV and CHS (Crescent Valley and Corvallis High School) students did in the recent "Spitfire Grill" play.

Chair Rieck offered her congratulations to the CHS football team reaching the finals this coming Saturday, the first time since 1986, and also to the CV girls' soccer team who also reached the finals.

Chair Rieck reminded those who wished to speak to the Board to complete a card, noting that the Muddy Creek Charter School testimony would be heard separately during the meeting.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Tarzian announced that she would like to dedicate her report to thanking the political action committee (PAC) that successfully worked to pass the District operating levy last month. On behalf of the District, school staff, parents and students she expressed her appreciation and her conviction that the committee was responsible for this success. She has sent a letter of thanks to Key Communicators and the Corvallis Gazette-Times. She acknowledged individuals serving on the PAC as well as the OSEA (Oregon School Employees Association) monetary contribution of over \$7,000 and teachers' many hours of labor contributing to the cause. State and local OSEA representatives were on hand to present their check and Corvallis Education Association president Eneke Warnke accepted a token of appreciation on behalf of the teachers.

V. PUBLIC TESTIMONY - GENERAL

No one wished to testify.

VI. STAFF PARTICIPATION

Eneke Warnke, CEA President, announced that a former CHS graduate in his early 30's, Chip Terhune, who had been serving as chief lobbyist of the Oregon Education Association, had recently been named as Governor Kulongoski's chief of staff.

VII. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. 2006-07 BUDGET

Business Services Director Kathy Rodeman announced that she had recently sent the Board an updated list of possible places to direct funds that have become available through release of the remaining Public Employees Retirement System litigation reserve and through:

- Prudent investing, good interest rates,
- Good fiscal management, unspent funds carried forward,
- Larger than expected school fund payment.

The list will be distributed to principals who are being asked to garner feedback from parents tomorrow, with the distribution decision to be made by the Board on January 22.

B. POLICY KG AND ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION KG – COMMUNITY USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES

Auxiliary Services Director Fred Wright reviewed that the facilities use policy (Policy KG) had been in the foreground for a number of years. With the help of the Facilities Advisory Committee, the policy and its administrative regulation (AR) have been revised, including a proposed fee and implementation schedule. He explained that the main reason for the review was due to its inconsistent interpretations. The policy and its AR are being presented to the Board as a first read tonight with the revised policy up for approval in January. He is planning on beginning implementation as far as the education portion immediately; rates will apply beginning July 1, 2007.

Mr. Wright acknowledged that some users are on different fiscal years so exceptions may need to be made for implementation.

VIII. CONSOLIDATED ACTION

Chair Rieck noted that the June 26, 2006 minutes needed to reflect that it was she who attended the dual immersion graduation at Garfield Elementary, not Director Keim, as stated in Section VI. Committee/Board Member Items and that the minutes were to be considered for approval with that edit.

MOTION #23: Considering Chair Rieck's edit as integrated into the June 26, 2006 minutes, Director Higgins moved, Director Schuster seconded, to approve the Consolidated Action Items.

The motion was approved unanimously.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes listed below were approved as presented

1. June 26, 2006, with Chair Rieck's edit above
2. August 14, 2006
3. September 8, 2006
4. September 11, 2006
5. September 25, 2006
6. October 9, 2006

B. SUPPORT SERVICES ITEMS**1. LICENSED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Board approved the recommendations. (See Supplemental Item #IV-15 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

2. IN-KIND DONATIONS

The Board accepted the donations. (Filed as Supplemental Item #X-10 of the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

3. INTER-DISTRICT TRANSFER AGREEMENTS WITH PHILOMATH AND HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

The Board approved the Inter-District transfer agreements with Philomath and Harrisburg School Districts for Special Education Students as presented. (See Supplemental Item #I-19 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

4. AGREEMENT WITH LINN BENTON LINCOLN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT (LBL ESD) FOR REGIONAL AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER SERVICES

The Board approved this agreement which utilizes flow-through money from the LBL ESD to fund 1.5 classified and 1.0 certified Autism Specialists to be employed by the District. This procedure has been followed for the past four years. (See Supplemental Item #I-20 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

5. AUTHORIZE ATHLETIC TRAINER SALARY CHANGE – NON-REPRESENTED STAFF POSITION

The Board approved the increased salary schedule to more closely align with comparator groups. (See Supplemental Item #X-II in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

6. BOARD POLICY GBCBA—ALCOHOL/CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE USE—NEW—SECOND READING

The Board approved this new policy which outlines prohibited conduct related to drugs, alcohol, or other impairing substances that will subject an employee to immediate discipline, up to and including termination. (See Supplemental Item #XII-11 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

7. BOARD POLICY—GBNAA/JFCFA—CYBERBULLYING—NEW—SECOND READING

The Board approved this new policy directed to staff which specifically address the issue of harassment through electronic transmissions, otherwise know as cyberbullying. (See Supplemental Item #XII-12 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

8. BOARD POLICY—JFCFA/GBNAA—CYBERBULLYING—NEW—SECOND READING

The Board approved this new policy directed to students which specifically address the issue of harassment through electronic transmissions, otherwise know as cyberbullying. (See Supplemental Item #XII-12 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

9. BOARD POLICY—GCBDE/GDBDE—MILITARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE—REVISED—SECOND READING

The Board approved this revised policy which was updated to better reflect changes in State law. (See Supplemental Item #XII-13 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

10. DECISION REGARDING WILDCAT PARK FUNDRAISING

The Board approved fundraising by the New Wildcat Park Planning Committee in excess of \$75,000 to rebuild Wildcat Park. A minimum cost estimate to build the park is \$171,161. \$100,000 in remaining bond funds were previously allocated to the project. (See Supplemental Item #IV-16 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

IX. CONSOLIDATED INFORMATION

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Filed in Section V of the Official 2006-07 Minutes.

B. INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES ITEMS

1. INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER INFORMATION

The Board received information on 18 interdistrict transfers.

2. EXTENDED FIELD TRIP INFORMATION

The Board received information on 7 extended field trips. (See Supplemental Item #IV-17 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

C. SUPPORT SERVICES ITEMS**1. NON-LICENSED PERSONNEL INFORMATION**

Filed as Supplemental Item #IV-18 in the Official 2006-07 Minutes.

2. UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – OCTOBER 31, 2006

The Board received the unaudited statements of revenues, expenditures, and fund balances for the various funds of the District for the period ending October 31, 2006. (Filed as Supplemental Item #X-12 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

3. CHECK REGISTER

The detailed check distribution ledger is on file in the Business Services Office and is available for information during business hours. (Filed as Supplemental Item #X-13 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION – EGAAA-AR – GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS – NEW

The Board received a copy of this new regulation which sets forth guidelines for the use of copyright materials and further clarifies Board Policy EGAAA-Reproduction of all Copyrighted Materials.

5. BOARD POLICY GBEB – COMMUNICABLE DISEASES – REVISED – FIRST READING

The Board received a draft of this revised policy which was updated to include reference to pandemic flu and other catastrophic events.

6. BOARD POLICY JHCC – COMMUNICABLE DISEASES – REVISED – FIRST READING

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flu and other catastrophic events.

7. BOARD POLICY KG – COMMUNITY USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES – REVISED – FIRST READING

The Board received a draft of this revised policy which centralizes and provides clearer direction of the building use process.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION KG-AR – COMMUNITY USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES – REVISED

The Board received a copy of this administrative regulation which centralizes and provides clearer direction of the building use process including updated fees and their implementation schedule.

9. ALL-DAY KINDERGARTEN TUITION

The Board received annual information on all-day kindergarten programs in the District related to enrollment, tuition, numbers of full and partial scholarships received and denied, waiting lists, and costs of teachers, conferences, materials and supplies. (See Supplemental Item #VII-15 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

In response to Chair Rieck's question, Ms. Rodeman responded that centralized registration is being considered for next year. Feedback from principals will be brought to the Board on this topic.

X. OTHER DISTRICT BUSINESS

There was no other District business.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board met in Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. under ORS 192.660(2)(d) – To Consult With the District's Labor Negotiator.

XII. MUDDY CREEK CHARTER SCHOOL PROPOSAL – PUBLIC HEARING

A. PUBLIC TESTIMONY REGARDING CHARTER SCHOOL PROPOSAL

Richard Meneghelli, 31407 Fern Road, Corvallis, spoke in support of the proposed charter school elaborating on its qualities of cohesiveness, integrated rural place-based science appreciation, uniqueness within the District, serving of home-schoolers, and developing future leaders who understand what it means to be sustainable. He suggested that the District did not have anything to lose by

approving the charter and that if it does not work out in a couple of years, they could then deny the charter.

B. PRESENTATION FROM CHARTER SCHOOL ORGANIZERS

Muddy Creek Charter School organizers Payton James-Amberg, Kathleen Westly, and Tanya Freeman presented information to the Board. All of the presenters are also members of Inavale Community Partners (ICP) who share the common belief that this community needs a school that would also serve parts of Philomath and Monroe.

Chair Rieck related that Board members had received a copy of the charter application last week.

Ms. James-Amberg reviewed that charter schools are public schools open to everyone in the District, run by a non-profit, parents have high degree of input, and that they have governing bodies. She noted that charter schools trump district boundaries and that they have four main areas of accountability:

- Academic
- Fiscal
- Rule Compliance
- Parent/Community

They are subject to all the same statutes as other schools.

Ms. James-Amberg related how charter schools came about, the process to form and evaluate a charter, and where Muddy Creek was in the process. She added that approval of the charter does not mean that a district is failing, it just adds to the state's choices.

Ms. Freeman displayed a map of the area that the charter is to serve which also depicted the closed Inavale K-8 that previously served the area and Adams Elementary and Lincoln K-8 that are now serving them. She stated that they do not want to take away from Lincoln K-8 but they expect that they will pull some District students.

Ms. Freeman answered questions as to how they would be different than Inavale stating that Muddy Creek would:

- Be K-6 versus K-8
- Avoid a blend at the kindergarten level
- Would have a cap of 60-65 or 80-85 versus Inavale's 180-220
- Can accept Monroe and Philomath students, Philomath charter has waiting list
- Focused on rural
- Eligible for more grants than Inavale while still being available for District grants

Ms. Westly spoke to Muddy Creek's educational model as agricultural place-based and a typical day of mornings that would offer basic instruction in core subjects while afternoons would be focused on

project work that would incorporate those core subjects in application. She noted that service learning would be a significant component in projects. She expressed her appreciation, as Ms. James-Amberg had, of the District's Review Committee in stimulating and completing their thinking.

Ms. James-Amberg spoke to Muddy Creek's enrollment and financial stability stating that their target population is those who live outside of the urban growth boundary of Philomath and Corvallis, but it would be open to all. She named two different financial scenarios based upon either 80% or 90% average daily membership weighted to demonstrate their flexibility and willingness to find a mutually satisfactory solution with the District. Inclusion of the Inavale building for their use is not part of the charter. Their budget is based upon guaranteed funds from the State School Fund to prove stability and independence from anticipated grant and donation revenue. They provided to the District evidence of stability with lower enrollment than is anticipated. Other sources of revenue are expected but not depended upon.

Ms. James-Amberg spoke to the impact the charter would have in the areas of education reform, society, and the District, concluding that they do not feel that the creation of the charter would have any directly identifiable, significant and adverse impact on the quality of the public education of students residing in the school district.

Ms. Westly concluded the presentation by stating that a duty of the school board is to take responsible risks. She asserted that the charter could be a model to not only the District but other rural schools. She reflected that it is exciting what it could be and felt that through it resources could come to the District.

Presenters provided a hard copy of their presentation topics to members prior to the meeting's end. (Filed As Supplemental Item #VII-16A in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

Chair Rieck called a break at 8:05 p.m., the meeting reconvened at 8:13 p.m.

C. PRESENTATION AND RECOMMENDATION FROM DISTRICT REVIEW COMMITTEE

District Review Committee Facilitator and member Sharon Thornagle shared that the group had held four meetings and that the charter group had been very responsive. Board members were provided a packet of information which she referred to:

- Advisory Review Committee Report which includes their recommendation (Filed As Supplemental Item #VII-16B in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)
- Talking Points by member Larry Enochs (Filed As Supplemental Item #VII-16C in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

- Operations budget, which is a revision (Filed As Supplemental Item #VII-16D in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)
- Bylaws of Inavale Community Partners Incorporated (Filed As Supplemental Item #VII-16E in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)
- Lists of questions that Committee posed and Charter answered (Filed As Supplemental Item #VII-16F in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)
- Memorandum dated November 30, 2006 from Inavale Community Partners, Inc. providing comments relevant to state charter evaluation criteria 1-9. (Filed As Supplemental Item #VII-16G in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)
- Drafts of meeting notes that still need some revisions. (The final versions of the meeting notes were filed as Supplemental Item #VII-16H in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes. The draft versions were not filed.)

Ms. Thornagle stated that a lot of research was done outside of meetings and that they requested additional information as needed. The final decision came down to whether the value of the charter outweighed the cost to the District. She stated that Muddy Creek Charter School has value and she reiterated those values identified on Page 3 of the Committee's report which are summarized below:

- Hands on learning which is environment based
- Targeted class size of 20-25
- Anticipated greater parent involvement though measurement unclear
- Allow for another choice option for District students in grades 1-6

Ms. Thornagle also referred to the Talking Points composed by Committee member Larry Enochs on the Value of the Muddy Creek Charter Proposal.

Ms. Thornagle related that the Committee wrestled with the Charter's value and concerns regarding curriculum and finance, which is also discussed on Page 3 of their report. She stated that there are pockets of project-based learning in the District but not continually or concentrated all in one place. Concern was raised regarding allowance of time for core subjects; if used project time to increase time in core subjects it would take away from the very thing that sets the charter apart. She equated a loss of District revenue due to loss of students from the District to the charter, which might mean the loss of a half a District teacher as an example.

Assistant Superintendent Hogeboom spoke to the charter's impact on newly converted Lincoln school to a K-8, from an elementary, which includes field study on Wednesday afternoons. He acknowledged that it would be hard to state the effect on Lincoln but he is concerned because the school has welcomed the drop in rate of free and reduced lunches. He added that the amount of staff time to dedicate to Muddy Creek would be difficult as staff is already stretched thin. The Charter would take resources away from current students.

Ms. Thornagle spoke to the difficulty in supplying Muddy Creek Charter with specialists due to the charter's location requiring a large percentage of time in transportation as listed on Page 16 of their

report.

Business Services Director Kathy Rodeman referred to Pages 13, 14, and 15 of their report which contains an overview of financial estimates. She related that State law required that the District provides at least 80% of flow through money to the charter, which is what the Review Committee recommends. Extra weighting for special education students would stay with the District. Her other comments included:

- Rental income for the Inavale building, if used by the charter, has a neutral effect and so was not included in the financial scenarios. It is neutral because there are others who are interested in renting the facility and rent could not be set at a level that would generate a profit as school districts cannot charge to make a profit.
- If a currently enrolled 509J student leaves to attend Muddy Creek Charter, the District is still going to have the same number of buildings and administrators but would be supported by less revenue. There is not necessarily a one-to-one correlation in reduction of students to reductions in services. It would take a loss of 15-20 students before would cuts would be made.
- The amount of time and effort needed to make sure a charter complies is a direct link to the District.
- Anytime there is a position that requires more travel than teaching time it is hard to fill.
- The financial model in Table 6 is based upon Eugene's as they have had more charter applications than Corvallis has; some were accepted, some not.
- Predicts District expense of \$121,152 to \$164,078, not necessarily a reason to deny.

Ms. Thornagle stated that the Committee's recommendation is to the superintendent, not the Board. She related that they primarily looked at the needed seven review points particularly whether the charter's value outweighed its cost to the District. She reported that of the members, one person supported the charter. Another member could have gone one way or the other; the rest could not recommend support. There is community support but not a high degree.

D. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION

Superintendent Tarzian expressed her appreciation to Inavale Community Partners and especially the Muddy Creek Charter group and District Review Committee for their time. As the application was on the heels of closing Inavale K-8 she wanted an as open and unbiased review as possible. Until she received the call from Assistant Superintendent Hogeboom on Thursday she could not anticipate what the recommendation would be. Curriculum and financial impact was the balance. She told both groups that she struggled a bit reviewing the information regarding location and value. She stated that she appreciates a rural school for a rural community but that the school's location is not known. In the 16 hours of meeting time represented in those meetings, along with five times as many hours spent in preparation, thought, research, and discussion, the time spent is substantial enough that having seven members voting to deny, two voting in favor, with one of those being iffy, that she also recommends

denying the Muddy Creek Charter School application.

E. CLOSING PROCESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Chair Rieck reminded members that in their training packet there was a matrix and evaluation forms that they could utilize. Given that they have new information referenced in the evening's presentation she recommends reviewing the material to determine if they have any new questions to submit to her in the next week. She will in turn pass them on to both committees to answer before or at the meeting on December 14th.

Chair Rieck asked for feedback on the process. Director Donohue requested that the information presented this evening be included in the minutes as well as the record of the 14th.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Chair Rieck adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Kari Rieck, Chair

Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent

Prepared by Jolene Shute

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