

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Corvallis School District 509J

1555 SW 35<sup>th</sup> Street

Corvallis, OR 97333

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Vice Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in Central Office Board Room, 1555 SW 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Corvallis. Vice Chair Miller dispensed with the calling of the roll and the secretary recorded those present as listed below.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ron Miller, Vice Chair  
Robert Baldwin, Member  
Sara Gelser, Member  
Nell O'Malley, Member  
Robert Johnson, Member  
Joan Demarest, Member

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED

Cyrel Gable, Chair

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Andrew Grill, Corvallis High School  
Ashleigh Campi, Crescent Valley High School

PRINCIPALS PRESENT

Jay Conroy, Corvallis High School  
Denise Gorthy, Jefferson Elementary  
Rick Gaultney, Cheldelin Middle School  
Lynn Lahey, Garfield Elementary  
Lois Rawers, Hoover Elementary

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Jim Ford, Superintendent  
Ron Corbell, Assistant Superintendent  
Jeanne Holmes, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Kathy Rodeman, Business Services Director  
Michael Ann McIlvenny, Administrator for  
Special Programs  
Dawn Tarzian, Teaching and Learning Director  
Laverne Pitts, Foundation Director  
Karen Smith, Administrator for Instructional  
Services  
Duane Jager, Information Services Manager  
Kim Finch, Student Services Director  
Julie Catala, Board Secretary

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

## II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Miller led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## III. COMMITTEE/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Director Gelser reported she and Business Services Director Kathy Rodeman had attended one of the Public Employees Retirement System's traveling meetings regarding alternatives under consideration to realign their actuarial tables. One of the choices would save the District \$700,000 per year, the equivalent of about five teachers.

Director O'Malley reported that she attended a budget recommendations committee led by former Governor Atiyeh and House Representative Lane Shetterly. She will forward the committee's final recommendation to the Board.

Director Baldwin drew positive attention to an article distributed to the Board by Superintendent Ford which provided a matrix to guide a process of "organized abandonment," taking tasks off of one's plate that are not productive. Superintendent Ford added that in these times of budget cuts a guide such as this could be helpful in prioritizing which activities should be retained. The Superintendent's Staff is also reviewing the article.

Vice Chair Miller introduced Resolution #03-0105 (filed as Supplemental Item #III-14 in the Official 2002-03 Board Minutes). This resolution avows non-support of the current Corvallis High School being named as an historic site in the National Register of Historic Places. Vice Chair Miller read the resolution, noting the reason for its introduction at this Board meeting was listed in the resolution's attached synopsis of nomination events. This included a request by the State Historic Preservation Office for the District's comment to the nomination. Vice Chair Miller stated the district's legal counsel advised action at this meeting regarding the nomination.

**Motion # 22:** Director Miller moved, Director Baldwin seconded, to approve Resolution 03-0105 in non-support of Corvallis High School's nomination to the National Registry of Historic Places. The motion passed unanimously.

## IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Ashleigh Campi of Crescent Valley High School stated staff had been selected to sit on the interview committee for the school's new principal. She thanked Board members for their participation in the school's budget forums.

Andrew Grill of Corvallis High School stated the Mr. Spartan pageant (a fundraiser for the Children's Miracle Network) is coming up. He also stated input is being gathered regarding student parking for next year during construction of the replacement high school.

#### **V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Ford announced:

- There had been two break-ins at Crescent Valley High School over the vacation, resulting in damage to exterior doors and the loss of approximately \$28,000 in scales, laptops, and electronic equipment. With the district's deductible set at \$100,000 the district will have to absorb the loss.
- Budget forums would be held three evenings in January at which public comment will be sought.
- The League of Women Voters would be hosting a Measure 28 panel, in which he will be participating, moderated by former Senator Cliff Trow.
- Benton County Taxing Agencies will be having a meeting regarding Measure 28 also.
- A rally will take place for public education in Salem on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- The district is beginning an examination of its expulsion system. Issues revolve around consistency between middle school and high school, zero tolerance, long-term implications to students, and looking at ways other districts handle expulsions. It is hoped the review will be complete by the end of January.

#### **VI. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

Cosimo Storniolo 743 NW Beaver Place, stated he was the vice chair of the Corvallis Waldorf School Board and he was speaking on behalf of the school. He stated he and other professionals moved to Corvallis because of the Waldorf School and the strength of the public school system, where students of Waldorf enroll as high schoolers. Providing the school with a permanent home would increase its value and bring more families to Corvallis. Referring to the district's surplus Fairplay property, he stated in their six-year search for a home, it is their most viable option. He reviewed the drop in value of the property to the district should it not be used as an educational facility by summer and the fact that no viable rental or lease offers have been forthcoming. He added changing the zoning from farmland (which it would revert to if not used for educational purposes) is an unlikely possibility. He concluded by saying the Waldorf School has been ready since June 2002 to purchase the property and they would like to see the district declare the property for sale and close by April. (See Section V of the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

Dave Zavaleta, 3050 NW Taylor Avenue, Corvallis, chose to reserve his comments for the budget

forums that were announced to be held later in the month.

Kathleen Higdon, 3610 NW Oleander Place, spoke to the cutting of school days to balance the district's reduced budget, which she sees as a last choice. She would instead choose to decrease the technology and contingency budgets and asked for justification for not cutting the non-teaching portions of the budget. She added that with the facilities improvements the district will have beautiful buildings with no money to operate them.

Patricia VonGlahn, 3341 NW Goldenrod Place, also chose to reserve her comments for the budget forums that were announced to be held later in the month.

## **VII. STAFF PARTICIPATION**

Business Services Director Kathy Rodeman requested Consolidated Action Item B.3., Resolution No. 03-0102 – PERS Unfunded Actuarial Liability Bonds – Series 2003, be withheld as she is awaiting further information, though it does need to be adopted prior to end of January. To that end, she requested a business-meeting portion be added to the January 27 Board work session so that action may be taken on this resolution.

## **VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS**

### **A. ENROLLMENT UPDATE AND PROJECTION**

Business Services Director Kathy Rodeman referred to an enrollment handout (filed as Supplemental Item #VII-8 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes) and stated the district's current enrollment was below the lowest predictions made in October 2001 by Portland State University's Population Research Center. Portland State had provided the district with low, medium, and high projection ranges. She is predicting a slightly higher enrollment than was predicted for next year, based on this year's kindergarten enrollment increases. She made the point that though there are relatively a large number of students in private schools in our district, less than half of those students actually reside in our district.

### **B. JOINT LABOR/MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Assistant Superintendent Ron Corbell, Business Services Director Kathy Rodeman, Corvallis Education Association union president Peg Cornell, and Oregon School Employees Association union co-presidents Linda Keller and Marta DeCoster presented information to the Board regarding proposed calendars for cutting school days in order to balance the district's budget. (See Supplemental Item #IX-1 of the Official 2002-2003 Board minutes.) Ron Corbell expressed appreciation for their meetings since November.

Kathy Rodeman explained there has been extreme uncertainty regarding the revenues the district can expect from the state for this school year. Since July 1 the district has had about \$5.9 million of the district's revenues come into question due to the state's economic decline or the measures the state has chosen to take to deal with the economic decline. Measure 28, coming up before voters January 28, will affect about \$1.2 million of the district's revenues. The schools have to operate as best they can and need to prepare for worst-case scenarios. In line with that, the Board authorized staff to pursue negotiations with both unions. In order to maintain flexibility, cutting days was the preferred focus versus cutting staff. If additional funding were found days could be added back more easily than re-hiring possibly unavailable staff and re-rearranging classes to fit staffing. It is anticipated each cut day will save about \$155,000.

Ron Corbell reviewed the four proposals presented and added input should be collected from staff, students, and parents by the end of January. He explained that grouping cuts days together, such as all at the end of the year, is not fiscally efficient as unemployment and legal issues come into play rendering the cut days ineffectual; hence Proposal #1 was eliminated.

#### Other Points Made Regarding Cutting Student Contact Days

- Childcare is a concern and the Boys and Girls' Club has been contacted.
- If days are scheduled to be cut and additional funding is found, the earliest cut days will be added back first, providing the greatest opportunity for the remaining cut days to be funded.
- The State of Oregon has said it is okay for Special Education students' days to be cut, provided they are not all together and the school population as a whole is also experiencing the same number of cut days.
- Cutting equivalent days for both semesters is a consideration as they affect the high school alternate day scheduling.
- Other districts in Oregon are also cutting school days.
- In March 2003, the state will release its new economic forecast.

#### C. DIVISION 22 STANDARDS

Teaching and Learning Director Dawn Tarzian reported on the district's compliance with the Division 22 standards, which are reviewed annually each January. These include such items as diploma requirements, health requirements, assessment, and record keeping. She stated a letter had been written to the state showing how the district had added instructional time, a point brought into question last year. She stated the district is in compliance with reviewed issues and added the district, along with others in the state, may seek a waiver of instructional time if the proposed cut days were scheduled.

#### D. DISTRICT GOALS UPDATE/DISCUSSION

Superintendent Ford requested this item be reviewed at another time.

**IX. CONSOLIDATED ACTION**

**MOTION #23:** Considering Item B.3., Resolution No. 03-0102 - PERS Unfunded Actuarial Liability Bonds – Series 2003, withdrawn, Director Johnson moved, Director Baldwin seconded, to approve the remaining Consolidated Action Items. The motion passed unanimously.

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of November 18, 2002 and December 9, 2002 were approved as presented. (Filed in the Official 2002-03 Board Minutes.)

**B. SUPPORT SERVICES ITEMS****1. SUPERINTENDENT'S LICENSED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Board approved the recommendations. (Filed as Supplemental Item #IV-23 of the Official 2002-03 Board Minutes.)

**2. RESOLUTION NO. 03-0101 - PERS ACTUARIAL EQUIVALENCY FACTORS**

This Resolution adds the district to the pool of other districts in the state that are authorizing the Oregon School Boards Association to appeal PERS rate increases on their behalf. These rate increases are seen as defying a judge's order and detrimental to the district's financial well being. (See Supplemental Item #III-15 filed in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

**3. RESOLUTION NO. 03-0102 - PERS UNFUNDED ACTUARIAL LIABILITY BONDS – SERIES 2003**

Withdrawn at the request of district staff.

**4. RESOLUTION NO. 03-0103 - GENERAL OBLIGATION CONSTRUCTION BOND MEASURE – AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE**

This resolution authorizes the Business Manager to issue bonds related to the \$86.4 million November levy passed by voters to construct/remodel/repair district facilities in the manner that best fits the school district's needs. (See Supplemental Item #III-16 filed in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

**5. RESOLUTION NO. 03-0104 - LBL ESD RESOLUTION SERVICES**

Oregon laws require the Linn-Benton-Lincoln Education Service District to perform certain duties, services, and functions. This resolution adopts the agreements and understandings for regional services. (See Supplemental Item #III-17 filed in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

6. BOARD POLICY BBB—BOARD ELECTIONS – REVISION – SECOND READING

The change in this policy aligns it with recently amended state legislation, moving the standing date for school board elections from the second Tuesday in March to the third Tuesday in May. (See Supplemental Item #XII-29 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

7. BOARD POLICY BBBA – BOARD MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS—REVISION –SECOND READING

The change in this policy adds language that prohibits charter school employees from serving as a member of the board of the district in which the charter school is located. (See Supplemental Item #XII-29 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

8. BOARD POLICY BBE—VACANCIES ON THE BOARD – REVISION – SECOND READING

The change in this policy also aligns it with recently amended state legislation, moving the standing date for school board elections from the second Tuesday in March to the third Tuesday in May. In addition, it prohibits charter school employees from serving as a member of the board of the district in which the charter school is located as well as prohibiting district employees to serve on their district’s board. (See Supplemental Item #XII-29 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

9. BOARD POLICY IGBHA -- ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS—REVISION-SECOND READING

Changes in language to this policy reflect the statutory language change from “alternative programs” to “alternative educational programs” as well as broadening and simplifying the language. (See Supplemental Item #XII-30 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

10. BOARD POLICY IGBHB -- ESTABLISHMENT OF ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS – REVISION - SECOND READING

Changes in language to this policy reflect the statutory language change from “alternative programs” to “alternative educational programs” as well as adding broadening language. (See Supplemental Item #XII-30 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

11. BOARD POLICY IGBHC--ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION NOTIFICATION—REVISION—SECOND READING

Changes to this policy simplify the language and procedures as well as adding notification methods of alternative education programs and exceptions to notification. (See Supplemental Item #XII-30 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

12. BOARD POLICY JGEA -- ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION NOTIFICATION – REVISION/CODE CHANGE-SECOND READING

Changes in language to this policy reflect the statutory language change from “alternative programs” to “alternative educational programs” as well as changing its coding from JGEA to JGEAA to prevent duplication of coding of another separate policy, JGDA/JGEA. (See Supplemental Item #XII-30 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

13. BOARD POLICY II/IIA—INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS –REVISION – SECOND READING

Changes to this policy instruct teachers to notify administration and/or seek parental permission when using instructional materials with mature themes with regard to the grade level in question. Alternative assignments will be made available if permission is not granted. (Filed as Supplemental Item #XII-31 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

14. BOARD POLICY IIABB--USE OF FEATURE FILMS/VIDEOS/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS –NEW – SECOND READING

This policy outlines age-appropriate use of commercially available rated media for classroom use and when parental permission is required. Alternative assignments will be made available if permission is not granted. (Filed as Supplemental Item #XII-31 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

15. AGREEMENT WITH LBL ESD FOR TMR SERVICES

This agreement for the 2002-03 school year provides supplemental support dollars to the district through the Educational Service District for the instruction of Trainable Mentally Retarded students in the district. This funding represents a \$200 decrease from last year. (Filed as Supplemental Item #I-25 in the Official 2002-2003 Board Minutes.)

16. IN-KIND DONATIONS

The Board accepted the donations. (Filed as Supplemental Item #X-18 of the Official 2002-03 Board Minutes.)

C. OTHER

There were no other Consolidated Action Items.

**X. CONSOLIDATED INFORMATION**

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Filed in Section V of the Official 2002-03 Board Minutes.

**B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES ITEMS**

**1. EXTENDED FIELD TRIP INFORMATION**

The Board received information on one extended field trip. (Filed as Supplemental Item #IV-24 of the Official 2002-03 Board Minutes.)

**2. INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER INFORMATION**

The Board received information on 7 interdistrict transfers.

**C. SUPPORT SERVICES ITEMS**

**1. NON-LICENSED PERSONNEL INFORMATION**

(Filed as Supplemental Item #IV-25 in the Official 2002-03 Board Minutes.)

**2. UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Board received the unaudited statements of revenues, expenditures, and fund balances of the various funds of the District for the period ending November 30, 2002. (Filed as Supplemental Item #X-19 in the Official 2002-03 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-20 in the Official 2002-03 Board Minutes.)

**XI. OTHER DISTRICT BUSINESS**

There was no other district business.

**XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, Vice Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

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Ronald Miller, Vice Chair

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Jim Ford, Superintendent

Prepared by: Jolene Shute  
(super/julie/board/minutes/2003/january 6.doc)