

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Corvallis School District 509J
1555 SW 35th Street
Corvallis, Oregon

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gable at 7:03 p.m. in the Central Office Board Room, 1555 SW 35th Street. Chair Gable dispensed with the calling of the roll and asked the secretary to record those present as listed below:

Board Members Present

Cyrel Gable, Chair
Bill TenPas, Vice Chair
Robert Baldwin, Member
Jay Dixon, Member
Robert Johnson, Member
Barbara Ross, Member

Executive Staff Present

James P. Ford, Superintendent
Ron Corbell, Assistant Superintendent
Rod Aust, Chief Information Officer
Tass Morrison, Student Services Director
Deborah Dineen, Human Resources Director
Kathy Rodeman, Business Manager
Jane Stevens, Communications Director
Fred Wright, Auxiliary Services Director
Jeanne Holmes, Communications
Julie Catala, Board Secretary

Excused

John Friday, Member

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Gable led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chair Gable exercised her prerogative to change the order of the agenda. She moved Other District Business, Vote to Ratification of Contract with Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA), to follow Staff Participation.

Chair Gable announced that Board Policy JFCJ-Weapons in the Schools-Revision-Second Reading under Consolidated Action, Support Services Items, requires further staff work and would, therefore, be held.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Ford referenced the District's energy program and announced that after the first year, the District had a cost avoidance of over \$261,000, well above the goal set by energy education.
- Dr. Ford called upon Assistant Superintendent Ron Corbell to recognize James Wickman, principal of Highland View Middle School, for his designation as State of Oregon Educator of the Year by the ARC of Oregon. Mr. Corbell outlined the qualities Mr. Wickman possesses which led to his nomination. Mr. Wickman shared comments he had made at the recognition ceremony.

Director Ross joined the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

- Dr. Ford called upon Steve Kunke, principal of Corvallis High School, to introduce Joyce Wahl, newly chosen assistant principal of Corvallis High School. Mr. Kunke outlined the selection process and the qualifications which led to the choice of Ms. Wahl for the position.
- Dr. Ford referenced the impending retirement of Student Services Director Tass Morrison and indicated that he hopes to be able to name a replacement at the May 15, 2000, Board meeting.
- Dr. Ford discussed his recent testimony at the House Interim Education Committee regarding CIM and CAM. He read from a letter he subsequently received from the Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction regarding efforts to address the concerns expressed by teachers and administrators relating to CIM, CAM, and statewide assessment systems.
- Dr. Ford announced that the District will host a Leadership Institute for administrators August 7-9, 2000, and invited Board members to attend. He outlined some of the topics which will be addressed at the institute, and added that they will be reflective of the living systems themes that staff have been working on all year.
- Dr. Ford outlined topics which were discussed at last week's Linn Benton Lincoln ESD Superintendent Retreat, and shared insight into the direction the group is heading.
- Dr. Ford said that he met with Corvallis City Manager Jon Nelson to discuss the four joint task forces. Three of the four task forces will provide written reports to the Board on June 26, 2000. The fourth, the activities levy, will be pursued as a separate entity. Dr. Ford will meet further with Mr. Nelson regarding the activities levy.

IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE(S)

No students gave reports.

V. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Nancy Golden, director of the Administrative Licensure Program at the University of Oregon, presented the Excellence in Educational Leadership award from the University Council of Educational Administration to Dr. Ford. She explained that Dr. Ford has been teaching for the University for the past six years and has had a tremendous impact on the administrators who have participated in their program.

Patty Collins, 457 SW C Street, Corvallis, supplied the Board with a letter signed by 22 Western View Middle School (WVMS) parents. She explained that she represents parents who wanted the Board to know how its approval of the Inavale School expansion to K-8 impacted WVMS. She referenced the Board's commitment to help parents and requested clarification of the Board's intentions. She recommended that a task force be formed to find out from WVMS what would help most. Dr. Ford said he will look into the concerns raised by the parents and report back to the Board.

VI. STAFF PARTICIPATION

No staff gave testimony.

RATIFICATION OF CONTRACT WITH OREGON SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (OSEA)

Business Manager Kathy Rodeman led review of a summary document regarding costs for the proposed OSEA contract, and added that the tentative agreement is within budget parameters. (See Supplemental Item IV-5 of the Official 1999-2000 Board Minutes.) She highlighted savings from turnovers, which is not reflected in the document. (See Supplemental Item I-8 of the Official 1999-2000 Board Minutes for a copy of the tentative agreement.)

Chair Gable indicated that this contract was discussed during executive session of the Board on May 1, 2000.

Motion #35: It was moved by Director Ross and seconded by Director Baldwin that the contract between Corvallis School District 509J and OSEA be ratified as presented.

Director Ross said she appreciates the work of the bargaining team in preparing this contract.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Gable thanked members of the bargaining team for the months of hard work they put into preparing this contract. She applauded the amicability of the process.

VII. SPECIAL REPORTS**1. SUPERINTENDENT'S RESPONSE TO THE BOARD REGARDING WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL (WVCS) CHARTER APPLICATION**

Dr. Ford addressed concerns raised at the May 1, 2000, public hearing regarding the WVCS charter application. He called upon Business Manager Kathy Rodeman, who presented information regarding funding.

Ms. Rodeman referred the Board to a hand out with cost information and said the issue of funding is very complicated and very detailed. (See Supplemental Item IV-6 of the Official 1999-2000 Board Minutes.) She explained that funds from the State will be based on kindergarten enrollment, and added that enrollment is expected to decline. She continued that State funding will be based on 1999-00 enrollment numbers, therefore, whether or not the WVCS charter is approved, the funds received from the State will be the same. She explained that if the WVCS charter were approved, the District will start to recover some of the money fronted to the school over a five year period (2003-04 and 2004-05). She explained that after year three, the costs to the District begin to decline, and between years seven and eight, the District will break even. She stressed that the District would pay more if it denied the charter and forced the State to become the chartering entity.

In response to a question posed by Director Ross, Ms. Rodeman said the charter school is responsible for the cost and location of a facility. Director Ross asked about safety assurances required by the District; Ms. Rodeman said the District's responsibility is outlined under the agreement and the charter can be revoked at any time an unsafe situation arises.

Dr. Ford referenced a question regarding waivers which was raised at the May 1, 2000, public hearing. He explained that waivers will not affect overall costs.

Dr. Ford called upon Sharon Thornagle, director of the Center for Alternative Learning (CAL), to respond to a question raised at the public hearing regarding possible duplication of effort with CAL. Ms. Thornagle said the programs are very similar (80-85%) but WVCS is not a total duplication of CAL. She outlined some of the similarities and differences.

Dr. Ford referenced the \$10,000 State Implementation Grant WVCS received as well as the application WVCS has submitted for a \$100,000 Implementation Grant. He believes that WVCS has a good chance of receiving the grant, primarily due to feedback he has obtained from a State Department representative that the WVCS application is the finest they have received to date.

Dr. Ford reminded the Board that by reviewing the charter application, they are responding to a new State law. He added that District staff has scrutinized the

application; Assistant Superintendent Ron Corbell visited the current location of WVCS and found no violation of law.

Dr. Ford referenced a document submitted by WVCS Director Leslie Crisp, responding to concerns relating to Board insurance, teachers hired, etc. (See Supplemental Section V of the Official 1999-2000 Board Minutes.)

Vice Chair TenPas asked what the current budget is for WVCS. The response by WVCS was that the current budget is approximately \$146,000, although fund raising has not been finished.

Director Ross asked for clarification regarding which students would be allowed to attend WVCS. Dr. Ford said no waiver rights would be granted to currently-enrolled students, all prospective students would enter a lottery-based system. Chair Gable pointed out that there exists a restriction on out-of-district students until the year 2004. Dr. Ford clarified that his understanding is that WVCS is not requesting a waiver for currently-enrolled students.

Director Dixon said one concern he heard from the Oregon School Board Association (OSBA) attorney is the separation of church and state. Mr. Corbell said that his research has revealed no concerns.

In response to Vice Chair TenPas' earlier question regarding the code of conduct, Ms. Crisp said the code of conduct refers to the section in the application entitled *Rights and Responsibilities*.

In summation, Dr. Ford said the Board began the move from "one size fits all" to a consumer-driven model when they approved open enrollment several years ago. People are wanting and demanding options and they desire choices, even in the public school system. He said we should let choices like WVCS begin and see what we can learn. Dr. Ford recommended that the Board approve the WVCS charter school application.

Ms. Crisp addressed the Board, saying that her goal is for WVCS to become the finest charter school in Oregon, hopefully in partnership with this District. She spoke about the positive aspects of granting charter status to WVCS and encouraged the Board to allow currently-enrolled students to attend WVCS if they desire. She spoke about the limitations of the current facility as well as the difficulty in finding new space.

Director Johnson said he strongly supports the approval of the charter, but will be unable to attend next week's meeting to cast his vote. He added that these kinds of experiences are positive and will show all a broader path.

Director Ross requested further information from Dr. Ford regarding "grand-fathering" current WVCS students. Dr. Ford said he believes granting such a waiver would be in the best interests of the students and would be a sensible thing to do. He said one of the

positive aspects of grand-fathering include the population of people who have developed a strong level of commitment to the school. He indicated his concerns that if current students are not guaranteed enrollment they will find other options. Chair Gable explained that the reason the grandfather option was removed was on advice of the OSBA attorney, as a point of law, that the enrollment opportunity be open and equal to all. She said the way the legislation was written was assuming that all charter schools would be arising as brand new entities.

Director Ross indicated support for grand-fathering in part because of the unique spirit and atmosphere in the school and the importance of maintaining a group of students who buy in to the school.

Chair Gable asked about the possibility for expanding the enrollment cap for first year to allow more space for students who are not currently enrolled in WVCS. Ms. Crisp responded that such an increase is desirable, but the size of the existing facility does not allow it.

Vice Chair TenPas outlined issues which are causing him to strongly consider denying the charter. His concerns include his belief that approving the charter would in essence cause public funding of a private school; his belief that the WVCS curriculum is very loose; his belief that WVCS can use teaching methods which allow students to be successful, but which are methods public school teachers are prevented from using due to State codes; his concerns about the costs to the District in this time of scarce funding and his belief that "choice" is draining away from the majority of the students in the District; his disagreement of the grandfather waiver; and his concern about the vagueness of the WVCS budget.

VIII. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

No reports were given.

IX. CONSOLIDATED ACTION

Chair Gable drew the Board's attention to the items on the consolidated consent agenda.

Vice Chair TenPas requested that the transportation contract be held for discussion.

Chair Gable entertained a motion on the remaining items.

Motion #36: It was moved by Director Johnson, seconded by Director Dixon, and unanimously carried to approve the following:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 27 and April 10, 2000, meetings were approved as presented.

B. SUPPORT SERVICES ITEMS

1. SUPERINTENDENT'S LICENSED-PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

New Hires

Joyce Wahl: Assistant Principal, 1.0 FTE, Corvallis High School; effective July 1, 2000 (Probationary).

Cindia Wells: Speech and Language Therapist, 0.35 FTE, Inavale Elementary School; effective April 7, 2000 (Temporary).

Terminations

Margaret Bernhard: Special Education Teacher, 1.0 FTE, Corvallis High School; effective June 19, 2000 (Retirement).

Jerri-Lynn Otto: Leave Without Pay, 1.0 FTE, Inavale Elementary School; effective March 31, 2000 (Resignation).

Requests for Leave

Sandra Baumgartner: Third/Fourth Grade Teacher, 1.0 FTE, Fairplay Elementary School; effective January 24, 2000 (through June 30, 2000).

Alice Ann Eberman: Language Arts, 1.0 FTE, Crescent Valley High School; effective March 27, 2000.

Amanda Hoffman: Leave Without Pay, 0.9 FTE, Highland View Middle School; effective April 11, 2000 (extended leave through May 5, 2000 – returning May 8, 2000).

2. BOARD POLICY JHFCA-STUDENT SKATEBOARD/ROLLERBLADE USE-REVISION-SECOND READING

Policy JHFCA was approved. Policy JHFCA is being revised because there are physical education (PE) classes and free time activities at elementary and middle schools which use skateboards and/or rollerblades.

3. BOARD POLICY JFC-STUDENT CONDUCT-REVISION-SECOND READING

Policy JFC was approved. Policy JFC-Student Conduct was revised upon the advice of district legal counsel. The revision expands the District's authority for student misconduct.

4. CONTRACT FOR SEISMIC ANALYSIS AND CONCEPTUAL RETROFIT DESIGN

The Board approved a contract with Degenkolb Engineering in the amount of \$62,000 to complete/finalize the Seismic Analysis and Conceptual Retrofit Design for 11 District facilities. (See Supplemental Item I-8 of the Official 1999-2000 Board Minutes.)

5. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

Held for discussion: Chair Gable called upon Auxiliary Services Director Fred Wright to discuss the transportation contract process.

Mr. Wright explained that a Request for Proposal (RFP) was developed and advertisements were placed in newspapers with local and statewide circulation. The RFP proposal form(s) were developed to reflect four different types of proposals: Option A, Basic Rate Table; Option A-1, Rate Table including identified driver compensation schedule; Option B, Basic Rate Table if awarded City Transit Contract; Option B-1, Rate Table including identified driver compensation schedule/if awarded City Transit Contract.

Mr. Wright explained that three firms chose to submit proposals. He said that after reviewing the proposals, it was apparent that all three firms were capable of providing the District with the appropriate transportation services as identified in the RFP. However, one firm, Laidlaw Transit, Inc., provided the most economically feasible proposal of the three.

Mr. Wright referenced spreadsheets which were given to the Board prior to the meeting, which showed the differences in proposals submitted by the three vendors, as well as a summary comparing Laidlaw's current rate tables for the 1999/2000 fiscal year and the proposed rate table for the 2000/2001 fiscal year.

Mr. Wright referenced a requirement of the proposal process which states that bidders must submit four scenarios; Laidlaw submitted two of the four. Mr. Wright also referenced the District's rights in the proposal process which allows the Board to waive irregularities or minor informalities in proposals if they do not prejudice other bidders.

Mr. Wright said staff recommends that the Board award the contract to Laidlaw Transit, Inc., as per Option B-1, Rate Tables 1, 2 and 3.

Motion #37: It was moved by Director Johnson and seconded by Director Baldwin to award the student transportation contract to Laidlaw Transit, Inc.

All present, except Director TenPas voted in favor of the motion; Director TenPas voted in opposition.

The motion carried.

6. 2000-01 TAX AND REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTES (TRANS)

The Board approved Resolution No. 00-0501, authorizing the business manager to negotiate a sale of tax and revenue anticipation notes in an amount not to exceed \$5 million. (See Supplemental Item III-8 in the Official 1999-2000 Board Minutes.)

7. DONATIONS

- Kermit and Lilly Smith donated a 1985 Toyota to Crescent Valley for use in the auto program.
- James Miller donated a 1982 Chevrolet to Crescent Valley for use in the auto program.
- Green and White Rock Products donated concrete and materials totaling \$903 to Crescent Valley for the baseball program.
- Mr. & Mrs. Charles Steinmetz donated an HP Vectra 586 computer and accessories for use at Cheldelin Middle School.
- Mr. & Mrs. John Wagner donated 267 paperback novels and three reference books totaling \$857 to Cheldelin Middle School.
- Hewlett-Packard donated two OfficeJet printers for a total value of \$1,202 for use at Wilson Elementary School.
- Hewlett-Packard donated computer equipment for a total value of \$32,220 for use at Fairplay Elementary School.
- Hewlett-Packard donated computer equipment for a total value of \$12,988 for use at Corvallis High School.

C. OTHER

1. Interdistrict Transfer Requests

The Board took action on 19 interdistrict transfer requests.

X. CONSOLIDATED INFORMATION

Chair Gable drew the Board's attention to the items on the Consolidated Information Agenda.

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Filed in Section V of the Official 1999-2000 Board Minutes.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES ITEMS

1. INFORMATION ON EXTENDED FIELD TRIPS

- April 16-18, 2000, six Corvallis High School Future Business Leaders of America students, under the direction of Ron Sather, traveled to Portland, Oregon. The purpose of the trip was to attend a state competition. Students traveled by van, accompanied by one teacher chaperone. Scholarships were available for students who could not afford the cost of the trip.
- April 26-28, 2000, 39 Corvallis High School students, under the direction of Jim Dort, traveled to Portland, Oregon. The purpose of the trip was to attend the Model Political Convention. Students traveled by van and bus, accompanied by one teacher and one parent chaperone. Scholarships were available for students who could not afford the cost of the trip.
- May 5-6, 2000, 22 Western View Middle School Leadership Class students, under the direction of Shari Maksud, traveled to Portland, Oregon. The purpose of the trip was to attend a Service Learning Project celebration for students from Oregon and Southwest Washington who raised funds for Doernbecher Children's Hospital. Students traveled by bus, accompanied by two teacher chaperones. Costs for the trip were borne by a Serve-Oregon Grant.
- Thirty Harding Elementary School students, under the direction of Dennis Frates, will travel to Bend, Oregon, June 5-9, 2000. The purpose of the trip will be to attend the Cascade Science School and reinforce topics studied this year: geology, ecology, and Native American history. Students will travel by car, accompanied by one teacher and six parent chaperones. Scholarships are available for students who could not afford the cost of the trip.
- Two Highland View Middle School students will travel to Athens, Georgia, June 7-11, 2000. The purpose of the trip is to attend the International Competition for Community Problem Solving. Students will travel by airplane, accompanied by one teacher chaperone, at their own expense.

C. SUPPORT SERVICES ITEMS

1. INFORMATION ON CLASSIFIED AND NON-REPRESENTED PERSONNEL

New Hires

Karen Berg: Artist in Residence, 25.5 hours (17 weeks), Franklin Elementary School; effective January 3, 2000 (Non-Teaching Professional).

Cynthia Burgeson: Educational Assistant 2, 4.0 hours, Franklin Elementary School; effective April 3, 2000 (Limited Term).

Michael Cassidy: Lead Custodian, 8.0 hours, Highland View Middle School; effective April 17, 2000 (Probationary).

Julie Catala: Executive Assistant, 8.0 hours, District Office; effective March 20, 2000 (Confidential).

Robin Fielder: Catering Manager, 8.0 hours, Western View Middle School; effective March 16, 2000 (Probationary).

Molly Hanley: Educational Assistant 2, 8.0 hours, Farm Home School; effective April 4, 2000 (Probationary).

Jenni Locey: Fiscal Clerk 1, 4.0 hours, District Office; effective April 10, 2000 (Probationary).

Anne McCormick: Educational Assistant 2, 4.0 hours, Crescent Valley High School; effective March 27, 2000 (Temporary).

Sally Pellett: Food Service Assistant 1, 3.50 hours, Cheldelin Middle School; effective April 13, 2000 (Probationary).

Natalie Rees: Educational Assistant 2, 3.25 hours, Crescent Valley High School; effective March 28, 2000 (Temporary).

Christi Shannon: Educational Assistant 2, 3.25 hours, Crescent Valley High School; effective March 27, 2000 (Temporary).

Michelle Wolf: Educational Assistant 2, 5.25 hours, Crescent Valley High School; effective April 3, 2000 (Temporary).

Anthony Wright: Maintenance 1, 8.0 hours, Crescent Valley High School; effective April 26, 2000 (Probationary).

Terminations

Theresa Dawley: Child Care Provider, 1.2 hours, Adams Elementary School; effective June 14, 2000 (Resignation).

Richard Eddy: Maintenance 1, 8.0 hours, Crescent Valley High School; effective April 4, 2000 (Resignation).

Robin Fielder: Catering Manager, 8.0 hours, Western View Middle School; effective April 24, 2000 (Resignation).

Kim Sleeper: Maintenance 1, 1.6 hours, Aquatic Center; effective November 29, 1999 (Resignation).

Request for Leave

Kela Lynn: Leave W/ Pay, 4.0 hours, Western View Middle School; effective April 24, 2000 (effective through the end of the 1999-2000 school year).

Jacqueline Stricklan: Food Service Assistant 1, 4.0 hours, Highland View Middle School; Maintenance 1, 2.0 hours, Franklin Elementary School; effective February 21, 2000.

Coaches

Sara Avery: Boys' Tennis Co-Coach, Crescent Valley High School; New Hire.

John Harrison: Track Coach, Highland View Middle School; Re-Hire.

Clyde Marshall: Track Coach, Crescent Valley High School; Re-Hire.

Assistant Coaches

Jeffrey Holmes: Baseball Coach, Crescent Valley High School; Re-Hire.

Doug King: Track Coach, Highland View Middle School; Re-Hire.

Becky Mohr: Track Coach, Highland View Middle School; Re-Hire.

2. MARCH 31, 2000, 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 March 31, 2000. (See Supplemental Item X-13 of the Official 1999-2000 Board Minutes.)

3. CHECK REGISTER

The detailed check distribution ledger is on file in the Business Services Office and is available for information at any time.

XI. COMMITTEE/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Chair Gable announced three new members of the Budget Committee, as well as their reason for participating on the committee.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board did not hold an Executive Session.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Chair Gable adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Cyrel Gable, Chair

James P. Ford, Superintendent

Prepared by: Julie Catala
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