

MINUTES

**NOTE: THIS IS A
SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES**

Regular Meeting of the

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. in Western View Middle School Library, 1435 SW 35th 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 Johnson, Member
Cyrel Gable, Member
Joan Demarest, Member
Sara Gelser, Member
Robert Baldwin, Member

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Jim Ford, Superintendent
Ron Corbell, Assistant Superintendent
Jeanne Holmes, Assistant to Superintendent
Kathy Rodeman, Business Services Director
Fred Wright, Auxiliary Services Director
Laverne Pitts, Foundation Director
Michael Ann McIlvenny, Special Education
Coordinator
Dawn Tarzian, Teaching and Learning
Director
Duane Jager, Information Services Manager
Kim Finch, Student Services Director
Karen Smith, Administrator for Instructional
Services
Debbie Bell, Accounting Supervisor
Julie Catala, Board Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED

Bill TenPas, Chair

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

None present

PRINCIPALS PRESENT

Cathi Alden, Corvallis High School
Lois Rawers, Hoover Elementary

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

Vice Chair Miller announced Agenda Item VIII.A., Peer Tutor/Mentor Program, would be moved up to follow Item III, Student Representatives.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

III. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

No report was given.

VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS (This item had been scheduled to follow Agenda Item VII, Staff Participation, but Vice Chair Miller used his prerogative to adjust the schedule to accommodate the presenters, moving the item to follow Agenda Item III, Student Representatives.)

A. PEER TUTOR/MENTOR PROGRAM

Teacher Ginny Merriman gave a power point presentation on the peer-tutoring program she oversees which pairs Corvallis High School Students, who serve as tutors, with Western View Middle School students. The 36 tutors assist in classes such as math and science, helping students in groups and one-on-one. The volunteer tutors each received an award.

IV. COMMITTEE/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Director Gable gave an update on the bond campaign. A committee has been organized with Julie Manning and Sam Stern serving as co-chairs, with several others heading various positions. The campaign is up and running.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Ford reported two staff members have been recognized with awards. Garfield Principal Lynn Lahey has been selected Oregon Elementary Principal of the Year by the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators. Ms. Lahey began a Spanish Immersion program at her school. Meg Grear has been selected by ARC as their teacher of the year.

A. UPDATE ON CORVALLIS HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN PROCESS

Jeanne Holmes, Assistant to the Superintendent, provided an update on the Corvallis High School Design Process. A Design Committee of 50 members had their first meeting last week. Attending were community members, parents, students, and staff. Ms. Holmes distributed the committee's charge to the Board and noted its organizational chart (both filed in Section IV of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes). There will be opportunities for input from neighbors, seniors, district partners, and community leaders regarding their vision for high school education and the related building design implications.

VI. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Vice Chair Miller requested speakers keep their comments no longer than five minutes.

Betsy Glenn, 2757 NW Taylor, Corvallis, of the Corvallis Green Schools Alliance stated her group would like to assist in the design process for the proposed new high school. Her group believes in casting a smaller ecological shadow, sustainable designs, and energy efficiency. She would like to introduce the Board to similarly interested persons in the community, arrange a

field trip to recently built “green” Clackamas High School, perform cost/benefit analyses, as well as assist in seeking out grants. She provided the Board written information about her group (filed in Section V of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes).

Superintendent Ford responded he is very interested in the concept and added one of the qualifying questions architects were asked when interviewed was if they were familiar with the LEED program. He stated he would love to have the group’s representation in the design process and Mr. Wright, Auxiliary Services Director, would be in touch.

Michele Bojanowski, 2245 NW 14th, Corvallis, asked the Board to reconsider their expected decision to disallow in-person recruitment at elementaries and middle schools as younger students will not be able to read posted flyers.

Kacy Cotton, a Crescent Valley student, spoke to the new daily schedule to begin next year. She feels the disadvantages are that with some classes meeting every other day, that the first part of the period will be spent in reviewing what was covered two days ago and that the format may lead to more skipping. One seen advantage is that some classes will meet year around hoping to alleviate the long break between class series the current scheduling contains. She feels if one were to forget, one would forget just as much during the summer break. Her solution is to add five minutes to each current block to achieve the in-class time needed.

Caeley O’Shea, a Crescent Valley student, also spoke to the new daily schedule. She reported 80-85% of students polled were willing to sign her petition to keep the same scheduling system. (Filed in Section V of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes.) She feels the current system offers more focus on fewer classes and the opportunity of more academically inclined students to double their core classes.

Mandy Riffe, a Crescent Valley student, also spoke to the new daily schedule. She performed a random poll of activities that would interfere with the new schedule. Top on the list was athletics at 70% with only 4% having nothing affected. She also noted that more Crescent Valley students than Corvallis High School students pass their Certificates of Initial Mastery.

Fred Decker, 827 NW 31st, spoke to his opposition to what he referred to as the severe restriction of organizations to access to students in non-class hours. He noted that the Portland School District recently welcomed representatives of the defense forces and felt the gesture should be emulated in all districts for organizations that foster learning after school or after graduation.

Joanne Sorte, 526 NW 35th St., Corvallis, board member of the proposed Harding Community Charter School, spoke to the proposal. She stated that though charters have sometimes been met with fear and resistance studies have shown a positive affect on the community in 56 out of 60 cases. She stated the Review Team had positive things to say for all criteria items except the financial affect. She asked when would there be a time when it would cost nothing to educate 276 children. She stated over the last four years the general fund has increased from 17-22%, teachers have decreased in number by 16, and fewer students are enrolled. She is confused about the cost to the district. She said the proposed charter meets the four District goals. It was designed with the input of 350 community members and concerned parents. She believes a charter contract could be negotiated to everyone’s satisfaction.

Jeanne Loudon, 2641 NW Foothill Drive, of the Willamette Valley Community School parent organization, spoke to the district’s decision not to renew their charter. She stated it has been a

rough two years. It could be looked at as an experiment failed or that the bugs have been worked out and the charter is ready to go. One of the reasons cited for non-renewal is their lack of meeting the objectives. She felt no one had analyzed this, so the parent group prepared their own review and it was provided to the Board. (Filed in Section V of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes.)

Ciel Sander, opposes discrimination of sexual orientation. She stated having a non-discrimination policy is the first step in ensuring that does not happen. She feels discrimination because of sexual orientation should not be allowed in schools or by those who use the district's facilities. She feels the schools should be safe and welcoming for everyone.

Barbara Bull, 3744 NW Van Buren, Corvallis, board member of the proposed Harding Community Charter School, stated the district's legal counsel had noted one district in Oregon was able to remove the financial impact to their district. She reminded the Board that they could approve the charter with the condition that finances be negotiated to the District's satisfaction. She added the charter applicants would like to work with Board.

VII. STAFF PARTICIPATION

Doug Eldon, 8008 Cardwell Hill, Corvallis, stated he has taught for thirteen years and relies on the Central Instructional Media Center (CIMC) as an important part of his instruction. Having it available locally allows for more flexibility in service and the opportunity for teachers to retrieve items themselves if needed. He stated that in the past ten years teachers have had more and more required of them with fewer and fewer resources. He feels the expected savings are not worth it.

Penny Fulton, a teacher from Crescent Valley High School, stated she had much the same message as Mr. Eldon. She said that larger class sizes and the number of classes she teaches have certainly made her job less manageable, but the larger contributor has been the removal of supports for teachers, such as the CIMC. She has taught in Corvallis for 20 years. She savors the ability to browse the CIMC shelves, allowing ideas to germinate for many units. She said it is a fabulous collection. She is concerned she may not be able to count on a particular set of materials to use to begin her seniors' honors class that she has used the last six years, as the first date reservations can be made is September 1 and classes begin September 3. She feels the sale of the CIMC will cause teachers to buy their own materials, resulting in duplications. She asked the Board to carefully consider the decision to sell the CIMC.

Alan Taylor, a Corvallis High School history teacher, said he echoed the previous comments regarding the CIMC sale. He expressed his hope that people would come forward to purchase replacement collections for teachers who rely on particular items for their instruction. He feels the power of learning in the district will be massively impacted if teachers are unable to obtain materials easily through the new arrangement.

Superintendent Ford responded by saying it was a difficult decision that was precipitated by the fact that the district cannot keep the collection up to date. It had gotten to a crisis point.

VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS - Peer Tutor/Mentor Program

(This item was moved to follow Agenda Item III, Student Representatives, per Vice Chair

Miller's prerogative to adjust the schedule to accommodate the presenters. See immediately following Item III in these minutes for a synopsis of this item.)

IX. CONSOLIDATED ACTION

Vice Chair Miller directed the Board's attention to the Consolidated Action agenda. Director Gable requested that Item B.3. "2002-03 Board Meeting Schedule" and Item B.8. "Process for Superintendent's Evaluation" be held for discussion.

Vice Chair Miller then entertained a motion on the remaining items.

Motion # 45: It was moved by Director Johnson, seconded by Director Baldwin, and unanimously carried to approve the following.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Regular Meeting minutes of April 1, 2002; the Special Meeting minutes of April 8, 2002 and April 22, 2002; and the Work Session minutes of April 22, 2002 were approved as presented. (Filed in the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes.)

B. SUPPORT SERVICES ITEMS

1. AMENDED JUNE 26, 2000, AND JANUARY 28, 2002, MINUTES

The June 26, 2000 minutes were amended to include language reflecting the approval of past minutes and the January 28, 2002 minutes were amended regarding clarifying language referring to year-round classified employees.

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S LICENSED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board approved the recommendations. (Filed in Section IV of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes.)

3. 2002-03 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Director Gable drew the Board's attention to the July 15 and August 19 meeting dates, noting the July date is the annual organizational meeting, which generally occurs earlier in the month. She wanted to make sure the Members were aware of the dates, enabling any suggestions for alterations at this time. No discussion took place. (The Board meeting schedule for 2002-03 is on file in Section IX of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes.)

Motion #46: It was moved by Director Gable, seconded by Director Johnson, and unanimously approved to adopt the 2002-03 Board Meeting Schedule as presented.

4. AGREEMENT BETWEEN CORVALLIS EVEN START AND LBCC

This agreement fulfills the commitment to Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC) for the adult education component of the Even Start Program. It also assists in the continuation of the

Even Start Family Literacy Program. The \$18,727.00 fee to LBCC is paid through the Even Start Family Literacy Grant. No general funds are required.

5. ODE DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

This agreement extends a previous contract by 20 days. There is no cost impact to the district.

6. APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES – CVHS, REMODEL/MODERNIZATION BOND PROJECT

After interviews, a review of services offered and proposed fee schedules, reference checks, and negotiations with two architectural firms, selected from ten firms submitting proposals, Superintendent Ford and Auxiliary Services Director Wright are recommending to the Board the district enter into a contract with LRS Architecture for the Crescent Valley High School Remodel/Modernization Project, Phase One. Completion of this phase will enable staff to prepare the necessary information for public review prior to the November bond election. The remodel/modernization project is slated for construction by the beginning of the 2004/05 school year.

7. IN-KIND DONATIONS

The Board accepted the donations. (Filed in Section X of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes.)

8. PROCESS FOR SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION

Director Gable announced the Board needs to publicly adopt the process they will use in evaluating the Superintendent. This action item requests the Board use the process as outlined (Filed in Section IV of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes) which calls for the Superintendent to submit a written narrative to the Board in May describing his progress in addressing the district's goals and completion of an Oregon School Boards Association questionnaire by Board members regarding the Superintendent's performance. She recommended that improvements to the process with objectives for concreteness be addressed this summer or early next fall.

Motion #47: It was moved by Director Johnson, seconded by Director Gable, and unanimously approved to adopt the Process for Superintendent's Evaluation as presented.

C. OTHER

There were no other items included in this meeting's Consolidated Actions.

X. CONSOLIDATED INFORMATION

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Filed in Section V of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES ITEMS**1. EXTENDED FIELD TRIP INFORMATION**

The Board received information on seven extended field trips. (Filed in Section IV of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes.)

2. INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER INFORMATION

There were no interdistrict transfers reported this month.

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

Filed in Section IV of the Official 2001-2002 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 March 31, 2002. (Filed in Section X of the Official 2001-2002 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.

4. RENAMING INTERIM CONSOLIDATED MIDDLE SCHOOL

Board members received written information on the process and recommendation for naming the consolidated middle, resulting from the combining of Western View Middle School students and many of the Highland View Middle School students. Highland View Middle School will be closed at the end of this school year. The recommendation was to name the school Westland Middle School, a combination of the two names. The recommendation left open whether to choose another name for the proposed replacement middle school or to continue with the suggested name, though several committee and Board members expressed using the name only for the interim school. Superintendent Ford stated the Board was scheduled to meet prior to the May 20, 2002 work session to formally adopt the name for the consolidated middle school.

5. CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES RFP

For several years the district has had a partnership with the Albany School District and Linn Benton Community College to solicit bids for a Custodial Stockless Requirement Contract. It was determined that by joining the combined purchasing power of the three agencies it would be much more beneficial regarding product pricing. Since that time there have been a total of 22

other public agencies that have been added to the contract.

The district's current joint contract for Custodial Supplies expires on June 30, 2002. Staff has developed a new Request for Proposal (RFP) to seek competitive pricing for the next contract period. Staff will be making a recommendation for Board consideration at the regularly scheduled June Board Meeting.

6. FAIRPLAY AND DIXIE SCHOOLS RENTAL/LEASE RFP

Based on the decisions to close Fairplay Elementary and the old Dixie School, housing the Central Instructional Media Center, staff developed a Request for Proposal (RFP) to allow interested individuals and/or organizations to submit proposals for the rental or lease of either or both of these facilities. The deadline for submitting proposals for consideration is set for May 14, 2002. A recommendation will be submitted to the Board at their regularly scheduled meeting on June 24, 2002 for their consideration and action.

7. SALE OF CENTRAL INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA CENTER (CIMC)

Teaching and Learning Director Dawn Tarzian provided the background and process that lead to the decision to recommend the sale of the CIMC to the Willamette Educational Service District (Willamette ESD). The District can no longer afford to either add to the collection or facilitate its use. In looking for solutions, organizations were approached who were thought to have an interest in assisting the preservation and use of the collection, such as the Corvallis Library and the Linn-Benton Educational Service District. None were interested. Consideration was also given to locking up the collection until the district could afford to maintain it or distributing it amongst staff. The Willamette ESD proposed allowing the district to use their circulation service without charge for five years in exchange for the collection. At the end of the five years, the district would have the option to contract with them at the same rate as other schools in their district. At this time, a rough estimate of \$6.95 per average daily membership would be in the ballpark of \$60,000 per year. The value of the 4,500 titles in the collection when purchased was \$573,501. As the district is unable to invest in the collection it will become less attractive to prospective buyers with time. The Willamette ESD will also take over the district's automated library circulation system in the exchange.

Due to the lateness of the hour, with several topics yet to follow, and the desire of the Board members to continue the discussion, Vice Chair Miller suggested returning to this topic at a future meeting.

8. SALE OF PRINT SHOP

The discussion of the sale of the District's print shop to the Willamette ESD to alleviate District losses was also postponed to a future meeting that would allow time for a more full discussion.

9. BOARD POLICY IGBAJ--SPECIAL EDUCATION - FREE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION (FAPE)--FIRST READING

This policy was inadvertently omitted from the agenda listing for the October 8, 2001 Board Meeting. It is part of a set of replacement policies that supercedes outdated ones relating to Special Education.

10. BOARD POLICY IGBAK--SPECIAL EDUCATION - PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF STATE APPLICATION--FIRST READING

This policy was also inadvertently omitted from the agenda listing for the October 8, 2001 Board Meeting. It is part of a set of replacement policies that supercedes outdated ones relating to Special Education.

XI. OTHER DISTRICT BUSINESS

A. HARDING COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION

Assistant Superintendent Corbell provided a summary to the Board of the charter application and review process that had taken place for the proposed Harding Community Charter School (HCCS). Though comments were expressed by the District's Charter Review Committee regarding valuable concepts of the Charter, the Committee recommended denial. A letter to the Board from the Committee summarizing Assistant Superintendent Corbell's comments is filed in Section VII of the Official 2001-2002 Board Minutes. Jim Green of the Oregon School Boards Association stated the process was fair and thorough. He reported that as a body most of the Charter Review Committee members felt the Charter met all the criteria but did not feel the Charter could outweigh the adverse impact to the district.

Motion #48: Director Johnson moved, Director Baldwin seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the report from the district's Charter Review Committee.

Motion #49: Director Gable moved, Director Johnson seconded, to deny the Harding Community Charter School proposal due to its value being outweighed by a greater adverse impact to the district. Vice Chair Miller recommended a friendly amendment that would direct the denial reasons to the applicants within five days. Director Gable agreed.

Board members expressed their comments regarding the proposed Charter, which included the following:

- Concern with financial stability and community support of the Charter,
- Seems was born as a response to closure decisions, it grew to an educationally sound proposal, but much of its attractiveness is due to the location of the Harding building which is not available,
- The proposal is thorough but not sufficiently distinctive, will not clearly and unequivocally raise choices in the district,
- There is an increase of uncertainty in the district's bleak financial picture due to the May ballot measure,
- This is an era of declining enrollment and revenue,
- With regard to decisions made last spring (consolidation and closure of two elementary schools and one middle school), irresponsible to approve,
- Heard from many, many people who are not in support,
- We are stewards of 7000 students to educate, as praiseworthy as the charter is, have no option but denial,
- Hopes the applicants will bring their ideas to the district,
- Cannot in clear conscience support at this time,
- The choices for students are at such a low level they are asking for more math classes not funding for extraneous items such as band uniforms.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. BOARD POLICY KG AND KG-AR--COMMUNITY USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES
- REVISION - SECOND READING

Vice Chair Miller announced that subsequent to the first reading, that he and Directors Johnson and Gable had met to clarify the language. Superintendent Ford stated the policy is a result of a compromise between the Human Rights Coalition and the Boy Scouts. He is working on arrangements for insurance for school groups that will hopefully be acceptable to the Boy Scouts and the groups affected. He will return to the Board if a solution cannot be found. He added the related Administrative Regulation is included due to the sensitive nature of the regulation.

Motion #50: Director Gable moved, Director Johnson seconded, to adopt the policy as presented.

Superintendent Ford confirmed the utility fee would be the same for all user groups though there are different categories of fees for building use. Director Demarest stated she would be voting against the motion due to the fact that some groups would be paying less than it costs the district to provide the service.

Director Demarest voted in opposition to the motion; all others voted in favor. The motion carried.

C. BOARD POLICY KJA AND KJA-AR--DISTRIBUTION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION - REVISION - SECOND READING

Motion #51: Director Johnson moved, Director Gable seconded, to adopt the policy as presented.

Director Demarest made the comments that this policy and administrative regulation confers a district benefit even if the advertiser does not comply with district policies. She also feels the policy is too vague regarding the removal of the material.

Director Demarest voted in opposition to the motion; all others voted in favor. The motion carried.

D. BOARD POLICY KK--VISITORS TO DISTRICT FACILITIES - REVISION -
SECOND READING

Motion #52: Director Johnson moved, Director Baldwin seconded, to adopt the policy as presented.

Director Demarest feels that groups that do comply with the district's policies should have access to students during non-class time and the policy should be consistent between elementary, middle, and high schools.

Director Demarest voted in opposition to the motion; all others voted in favor. The motion carried.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Vice Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Ronald Miller, Vice Chair

Jim Ford, Superintendent

Prepared by: Jolene Shute
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