

**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**

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Bill TenPas, Chair  
Ron Miller, Vice Chair  
Robert Baldwin, Member  
Joan Demarest, Member  
Cyrel Gable, Member  
Sara Gelser, Member  
Robert Johnson, Member

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

James P. Ford, Superintendent  
Ron Corbell, Assistant Superintendent  
Fred Wright, Director of Auxiliary Services  
Jeanne Holmes, Assistant to Superintendent  
Kathy Rodeman, Business Services Director  
Laverne Pitts, Foundation Director  
Julie McCann, Community and Resource  
Development Coordinator  
Kim Finch, Student Services Director  
Michael Ann McIlvenny, Special Education  
Coordinator  
Dawn Tarzian, Teaching and Learning  
Director  
Duane Jager, Technology Integration  
Manager  
Julie Catala, Board Secretary

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Tyler Storie, CHS  
Stacey Mitchell, CV

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**III. COMMITTEE/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS**

Chair TenPas related that Superintendent Ford, Facilities Director Fred Wright, and he met with Councilors Betty Griffiths and Charlie Tomlinson, Mayor Berg and City Manager Jon Nelson to

discuss matters mutually important to the school district and city, such as use of facilities and issuance of bonds. They meet about every quarter.

#### **IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Ford relayed current district activities.

- K-8 Middle School Sub-Committee is about done with their work. They will meet tomorrow for the last time to deal with possible consolidation of Western View and Highland View middle schools prior to next school year. They have held three public forums and will bring their recommendations, including a site for the combined proposed middle school, to the October 22, 2001 Board Work Session.
- The Long-Range Committee is about to be activated. Board members on this committee include Bob Johnson, Sara Gelser, and Joan Demarest. Kari Reich and Greg Perry are two community members. The committee will revise the district's long-range facilities plan and recommend dates for bond elections. Their charge is also to review the recommendations of the Consolidation and Closure and K-8 Middle School Subcommittees and make a recommendation to the Board in January 2002.
- Possible uses for the Harding site are beginning to emerge such as a new home for CIMC, CAL, or Wings. The district is also shy on meeting facilities and the city may be interested in its use as a park.
- There will be an orientation meeting this Wednesday for new Board members.
- Dawn Tarzian will be holding an indoctrination for new teachers on October 18 at Dixie. Thirty-seven new teachers have been invited.
- The second New Principals Institute will be held this Wednesday. This is a monthly instructional meeting for our administrators. Last month's topic was teacher evaluation. This month's topic is making sense of test scores.
- The Alternative High School Program concept will be returned to at a meeting on October 23. There was a pause in its discussion due to the Consolidation and Closure issues.

#### **V. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

Eleven citizens chose to speak before the Board, all regarding Administrative Regulation KG and its related policy, Community Use of District Facilities.

Jane Newton, 31409 Peterson Road, Philomath, felt the second paragraph of the policy should be eliminated, as it appears to be unconstitutional. She felt the Board should encourage groups such as the Boy Scouts. Factors listed as being given non-discriminatory status such as age and race are unavoidably public but sexual orientation is not. It is private and should be kept that way. Ms. Newton provided a written statement of her views to the Board. (Filed in Section V of the Official 2001-2002 Minutes)

Guy March, 4666 S 28<sup>th</sup> Place, Philomath, is the Benton District Chair for the Boy Scouts of America. He said the Boy Scouts would like to increase access to the club. As a mentor for Oregon Youth Challenge he stated that in speaking to at-risk youth, 80% of them had not participated in any activities. He said Boy Scouts gets the word out about their organization through the schools because most of the community youth are there, including low income. It will be a hardship on the Boy Scouts to pay facilities fees. He said it takes a whole village to raise a child, not just the schools. In June 2000 the Supreme Court said the scouts have freedom of association. Mr. March also provided a written statement of his views. (Filed in Section V of the Official 2001-2002 Minutes)

Larry Heacock, 2990 NW Princess Street, Corvallis, brought Federalist Papers to the meeting and spoke to the right for citizens to be protected from government, the Declaration of Independence, the right to peaceably assemble, and our freedom of speech. He said the government cannot play favorites by granting lower rates.

Fred Decker, 827 NW 31<sup>st</sup>, Corvallis, provided a written statement to the Board from former Board member Karl F. Drlica, requesting the Board allow the scouts to continue to recruit and meet as in the past, not demanding the scouts “bow to the demands of the militant activists.” (Filed in Section V of the Official 2001-2002 Minutes)

Melanie Place, 638 SE Alexander, Corvallis, spoke to the fact that many in her family had been Boy Scouts and she spent many volunteer hours helping them help others. She sees Scouts as having integrity and honor and it hurts her to see them take a stand against gays and lesbians. She said it would hurt to see classmates encouraged to join a group that would exclude you.

Michelle Bojanowski, 2245 NW 14<sup>th</sup> St., Corvallis, stated she is the Benton District Commissioner of Scouting. She said the spirit of service is the heart of scouting. She wonders why politics has to be chosen over students and how are low income youth going to be served if not allowed contact through school? Why should children who attend churches or youth groups be the only ones who have the opportunity to be a scout?

Lee Vasche, 885 W 15<sup>th</sup>, Apt. #204, Corvallis, stated all groups should be able to use the district’s facilities with equal, non-tiered fee, access.

Bob Veazie, 4840 NW Bruno Place, Corvallis, stated the Supreme Court case was about leaders, not youth. The Boy Scouts have a valid financial need for incurring minimal expenses. He stated they only spend a couple of hours in each school recruiting and asked to have a joint meeting where interested parties could discuss the situation.

Paul Daghlian, 1850 Larch, Corvallis, believes a charge is akin to a tax and a tax on a belief is unconstitutional. He said it is a very divisive issue in the community that will polarize it. He said a reasonable accommodation should be made for scouts to have access on schools just as for others such as After 8 and the Sierra Club.

Jim Draper, 1811 NW Menlo, Corvallis, wants the district to respect the right of all and not discriminate against gays and lesbians.

Karuna Neustadt, 1640 NW Emperor Drive, Corvallis, is the president of After 8 and submitted a written letter to the Board in lieu of speaking. (Filed in Section V of the Official 2001-2002 Minutes)

Jennifer Wright, 1230 NW Garfield, Corvallis, stated she is a mother, Girl Scout leader, legal scholar and an advocate for the Human Rights Coalition. She stated she provided a legal memorandum to Joe Richards. She said the district could not have a policy it only applies sometimes though it could have a stated exception. If the district allows a group to use its facilities at less than cost then they are subsidizing that group. She said it is true that the district can't charge according to group's viewpoint. She said the Board needs to make choices to protect our children and that nobody's challenging the Scouts right to choose association, though she hopes the Board would not throw the doors wide open and allow groups such as the KKK to use the facilities during the school day. She believes one of the values that Scouts teaches is to accept the consequences of actions. In openly stating they do not allow admitted gay youth or leaders they need to accept the consequences of that choice.

Cheryl Rosine, 963 NW Jackson, #203, Corvallis, stated she is affiliated with After 8. She was surprised to hear the focus had come to After 8 versus the Boy Scouts. She stated the City has a right of non-discrimination it should be very proud of. She said it becomes a civil rights issue. Students look to school as a model. More and more young people are questioning their sexual identity, which is fairly unprecedented. She said it is important not to discriminate against gays and lesbians so that students see that they can be accepted, as suicide rates are higher for those questioning their orientation.

Ken Miller, 2826 NW Sunny Lane, Albany, Benton County, stated he spends most of his time in Corvallis because this is where he is employed. He respects the Scouts values of patriotism, citizenship, honesty, morality, responsibility, and respect for authority. He believes the Boy Scouts are being discriminated against because they refuse to join a new movement, that they are being punished because they are not politically correct. He said he would hate to see a Muslim punished tonight because they're not Christian. He doesn't believe public schools are about sexuality. He believes the Scout values named above should be encouraged. Teachers need help. They have a tough time in the classroom. Respect for authority is needed in our schools.

Nathaniel Gillman, a minor, Corvallis, said scouting provides opportunities boys might not otherwise have such as camping, first aid knowledge, and service projects.

John Pugsley, 3090 NW Christine, Corvallis, stated he was a representative of the Benton County Democrats and he was speaking to show support for the Human Rights Coalition. He said the issue is not about pitting one group against another. He said the proposed policy does not prohibit groups from using the district's facilities; they just have to pay more for not following the non-discrimination policy. He said twelve is a tender age to decide whether or not to belong to an organization based on all its beliefs. Mr. Pugsley submitted a written statement reflecting his views. (Filed in Section V of the Official 2001-2002 Minutes)

Michael E. Prentiss, 121 NW 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Corvallis, said the arguments are very compelling on both sides though the issue is, is the district going to put up barriers to stop Boy Scouts from assembling. He stated the US Constitution overrides school Board policy.

## VI. STAFF PARTICIPATION

No staff presented information.

## VII. SPECIAL REPORTS

### A. OREGON STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT TEST SCORES

Teaching and Learning Director, Dawn Tarzian presented each member a packet of information entitled, "Corvallis School District 509J 2000-2001 Oregon Statewide Assessment Results, District Overview." (Filed in Section VII of the Official 2001-2002 Minutes) The report has three sections: 1) our district compared with the state, 2) each school compared to one of similar socio-economic background, and 3) each school's track record over time for each subject area and grade tested. This is the first time the state provided test results which included disabled students.

She said the district and Board should be seriously impressed with results. Our scores compare very favorably with other districts she has been in. In the month and a half she has been here she has heard much more about other things than test scores. She compared it to perhaps learning to drive a car. At first you concentrate on the mechanics. When those are down you can look ahead.

Director Miller requested Ms. Tarzian obtain similar information regarding Willamette Valley Community School.

Director Gable stated she appreciates having the information. Though this is only one measure of how our students are doing she believes it is the purview of the Board to say what they expect of our students and be leaders in putting those expectations out, not as a bar, but as support.

Student Tyler Storie observed the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are well above targets while the 10<sup>th</sup> graders are just there, and wondered if that had been looked into. Ms. Tarzian said some feel the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade standard should be much higher.

Director Johnson stated the test scores might be a point of discussion and celebration for the Board Retreat and noted we may have plateaued. Chair TenPas thanked Ms. Tarzian for making the scores real and relevant.

## VIII. CONSOLIDATED ACTION

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

**Motion #14:** It was moved by Director Johnson, seconded by Director Baldwin and unanimously carried to approve the following.

### A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of January 22, 2001; February 8, 2001; February 26, 2001; March 5, 2001; April 16, 2001; May 7, 2001; May 21, 2001, Work Session and Special Sessions; June 4, 2001; and June 13, 2001 were approved as presented.

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

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

**2. SPECIAL EDUCATION REPLACEMENT POLICIES – SECOND READING**

The Board approved the replacement policies as listed below.

GCL - Staff Development – Licensed  
 IGBA – Students with Disabilities (Version 1)  
 IGABAB – Records of Students with Disabilities  
 IGABAC – Special Education – Personnel Development  
 IGBAE – Special Education – Participation in Regular Education Programs  
 IGBAF – Special Education – Individualized Education Program (IEP)  
 IGABAG – Special Education – Procedural Safeguards  
 IGBAH – Special Education – Evaluation Procedures  
 IGBAI – Special Education – Private Schools  
 IGBAL – Special Education – Services for Home-Schooled Students with Disabilities  
 JB – Equal Educational Opportunity  
 JGDA/JGEA – Discipline of Disabled Students  
 JO – Education Records  
 JOA – Directory Information  
 JOB – Personally Identifiable Information

**3. THERAPEUTIC COUNSELING AGREEMENT**

The Board approved a Letter of Agreement between the district and Trillium Family Services for the school year 2001-2002.

**4. DONATIONS**

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

**IX. CONSOLIDATED INFORMATION**

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

**A. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

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

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

2. INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER INFORMATION

The Board received information on twelve interdistrict transfers.

C. SUPPORT SERVICES ITEMS

1. NON-LICENSED PERSONNEL INFORMATION

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

2. UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statements ending June 30, 2001 and July 31, 2001 are 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 at any time.

4. CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT COMPLIANCE

The Board received information on the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), which outlines what districts must do to comply and receive federal funding for technology. A revised Administrative Regulation related to this act will be brought before the Board in November as an information item.

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

The Board had previously received a proposed revision of this regulation. The proposed regulation sets up a fee structure for use of school buildings after hours.

**X. OTHER DISTRICT BUSINESS**

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

Superintendent Ford stated the district Nondiscrimination Policy AC applies to employees and educational extra-curricular activities, that the district cannot impose its values on others. Outside groups, such as the Boy Scouts of America, church groups, and other non-profits, do not have to comply with district policy if their activities are legal. He feels Policy KG should be approved with the second paragraph omitted. He stated usually administrative regulations based on our policies do not come before the Board but in this case he would like guidance on issues

such as recruitment. He noted in particular on Page 4-9 of the regulation, the second bullet, "Non-district groups shall not be allowed to recruit in schools during the school day at elementary and middle schools," as well as Policy KJA, Distribution of Announcements and Community Information. He feels the Board can go one of two directions: either allow recruitment during the school day by non-profit groups who sponsor student activities and agree to comply with our non-discrimination policy or, as he recommends, allow recruitment during the day by non-profit groups that sponsor student activities that advance educational values or precepts of the district such as service learning, citizenship, or project based-learning and that they not be required to sign a non-discrimination policy. He ended by recommending to the Chair that several Board members meet with interested community groups to work towards an acceptable solution.

The Board then began discussion of the policy with views shared on omitting or retaining the second paragraph, "The District shall not rent or lease space at reduced fees to any group or organization whose local or national policy or practice does not comply with the District's non-discrimination and harassment policy." Some members felt it should remain to reflect the district's non-discrimination policy while others felt it should be omitted feeling that it amounts to punishing organizations that do not embrace the district's belief system and wish to use public facilities. It was noted we are custodians of the public facilities, not owners. Some Board members will be meeting on this issue with interested community groups to discuss recruitment.

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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Bill TenPas, Chair

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Jim Ford, Superintendent