

SWEET HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55

Sweet Home, Oregon

7A

Board Chairman Reynolds called the regular meeting of the board of Directors of Sweet Home School District No. 55 to order at 6:30 p.m. on January 9, 2017 in the District Office Conference Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members in Attendance

Mike Reynolds, Jason Redick, Debra Brown, Chanz Keeney, Jenny Daniels, Angela Clegg, Carol Babcock: Absent: Jason Van Eck

Staff Members in Attendance

Superintendent: Tom Yahraes; Administrators: Kevin Strong, Luke Augsburg, Todd Barrett, Josh Dargis, Colleen Henry, Andy Price, Ralph Brown, Steve Brown, Mark Looney, Jennifer Sedlock, Rachel Stucky, Cheryl Hicks, Josh Darwood; Certified: Lisa Canaday; Board Recording: Secretary Julie Emmert

Other Attendance

Sean Morgan, representing *the New Era*, parents and grandparents of ESPY winners, Mike Adams, Sherrie Ingram

2. ESPY Awards

Every month two students are selected from each school and presented with an ESPY Award at the Board Meeting. The award is presented to students who are doing well academically and have an exceptionally positive attitude about school. They demonstrate respect and responsibility towards staff and their peers. They show courage by not conforming to peer pressure and refuse to accept anyone who bullies. Selections for the month of January are: Foster School – Christian Romero, Ryder Cummings; Hawthorne School – Bailey Newens, Gage Pettner; Holley School – Taryn Abbott, Kyle Zajic; Oak Heights School – Brodie Starha, Tawni Banta; SH Jr. High School – Jerusalem Jimenez-Ramon, Carsen Perry; and SH High School – Sunhee Bitter, Chase Boyd. Congratulations to all of this month's ESPY Award winners! Carol Babcock handed out the awards.

3. Agenda Approval/Changes

Chairman Reynolds called for changes and/or approval of the agenda

Motion No. 17-01: Board Member Debra Brown moved to approve the agenda. Board Member Jenny Daniels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comments: None

5. Student & Personnel Reports/Comments

A. **Sweet Home High School Student:** None

B. **Certified and Classified Representatives:** None

C. **Director of Teaching and Learning Report:**

Rachel Stucky briefly updated the Board on the progress/status of the transition team. The first transition team meeting took place on January 5th. The central objective of this core transition team is to recommend the best 5-day instruction schedule that is in the best interest of students and student learning, being mindful of:

- Increasing student achievement;
- Serving Sweet Home Students and Family Demographics;
- Increasing attendance, graduation rates, participating in thriving citizen extra and co-curricular activities;
- Doing what is in the best interest of students while being mindful of all things associated to organizational wellness and effectiveness.

Ms. Stucky and Barbi Riggs gave an update on the ALT Team's mission and what the team has done so far this year. Some background: the ALT team is a joint leadership concept used for academic achievement improvement. The basic concept is to identify Sweet Home exceptional teachers who have shown student learning success and who wished to jointly lead our district. There are two teachers from each elementary, three teachers from the Jr. High and four teachers from the High School. This team reviews data, and develops our district wide professional development agenda and in-service lesson plans for our PD Fridays. This team and process addresses many issues which need to be corrected. The process has unified our PD Fridays, set across the board expectations, broken "islands" of practice and participating at the building levels. So far the team has provided district wide in-services regarding our 3-12 assessment results; all K-12 teachers have taken the SBAC, they have drilled down identifying essential learning standards per grade level collaboratively.

D. Superintendent's Report:

1. Attendance Rate and Recognition: Holley Elementary received the attendance award this month with an attendance average of 94.72.
2. Bond Exploration: Update and next steps;
 - A. The State Capital Matching funding will remain intact until the end of this biennium. The status of the State Capital Matching funds beyond May 2017 remains mostly unclear. We believe with a fair amount of certainty if the funds remain for the next biennium there will be additional qualifications or strings attached. Currently as a district we have applied for the state matching funds for this biennium. We should know by Mid-January where we are positioned in terms of the likelihood we would gain access to these funds if we should pursue and pass a bond. The best case scenario we discussed is that the state would fully match a potential 4 million bond, for a facility fund total of 8 million dollars without raising our current tax rates.
 - B. Regarding community facility needs feedback, so far over 551 people responded to our survey—that's paper and electronic survey combined. Highlights of the survey:
 - 93% would support a bond to make safety and security improvements throughout the district and to replace facilities which have exceeded their lifespan if there were NO Increase to Tax Rates.
 - In addition, some respondents ranked making learning spaces more inspiring and upgrading technology as an important goal.
 - In the comment section, multiple respondents were concerned about building access and security at the junior high—needing better visual and monitoring abilities.
 - Multiple respondents also said that the state matching funds is an important selling point. A respondent said, they would "only support a bond if the State matches the fund."

Next steps regarding Bond Exploration: In the next week weeks, Mr. Yahraes, Kevin Strong and Josh Darwood are scheduled at every school where staff and the community are invited. They will present information regarding the Bond and Matching Fund opportunities as well as ask for feedback. By February's Board meeting, we hope to have a detailed update regarding State matching funds, refined feedback results, and facility improvement recommendations. These recommendations may include phase I, II, III facility improvement plans. At this point we are still leaning towards, if we pursue a bond:

Phase I:

- A) Jr. High receives lion share of facility improvement funds to address: Safety and Security; and Renovation of buildings at the end of their lifespan or that have exceeded their lifespan
- B) The five remaining sites receive improvements defined by priority areas

Phase II: We pursue other funding sources to continuously maintain and improve sites

- A) Seismic Grant
- B) E-Grant
- C) Long Term Maintenance Plan

Phase III: Before the end of Bond (approx. 12 yrs) we continuously assess and determine next best steps.

3. Division 22: Report of Standing

Superintendent Yahraes explained that School districts must annually assess if they are in compliance or out of compliance with each Oregon Administrative Rule, Chapter 581, Division 22, *Standards for Elementary and Secondary Schools*. The status of compliance is reported annually to communities/School Boards no later than January 15th and reported to Oregon Department of Education on or before February 15, 2017.

The district's status of compliance with the 55 Standards of Division 22 was reviewed. This process has been an opportunity for the district to refocus on compliance and issues and to participate in discussion how the district and schools meets specific requirements. The Sweet Home School District is in compliance with 54 out of 55 standards. Our area of noncompliance is under the standards set for Media Programs. In that standard under OAR 581 022 1520 section 1 c, Sweet Home School district does not have the required Media licensure oversight. To be in compliance our remedy is to work with our ESD to gain proper licensure oversight.

A Statement of Assurances will be submitted to Oregon Department of Education on or before February 15, 2017.

6. Consent Agenda

- A. Approved minutes from December 12, 2016 School Board Meeting
- B. Approved retirement of Nancy Keesecker, Kindergarten Teacher at Hawthorne Elementary as of January 31, 2017 and return on a post retirement agreement for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year
- C. Accepted a \$25,000.00 contribution from a donor that wishes to remain anonymous. The funds are to be spent on a new play structure at Foster Elementary School

Motion No. 17-02: Board Member Jenny Daniels, moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Board Member Angela Clegg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Information/Discussion

- A. Kevin Strong presented a budget update and safety report. There were no recordable incidents in the month of December.
- B. Linn County Pending Class Action Suit – Mr. Strong explained the Linn County class Action lawsuit against the State of Oregon and the Oregon Department of Forestry. Linn County has filed a \$1.4 billion class action lawsuit against the State of Oregon and the Oregon Department of Forestry. The county claims that the state has an obligation to manage state-owned forest to maximize revenue for counties and other taxing districts. According to the lawsuit, taxing districts are owed hundreds of millions of dollars because the state has not maximized revenue through industrial timber practices.

The Sweet Home School District has a small amount of state owned timberland within its boundary. Therefore, we are eligible to be a part of the class action lawsuit. The District does not need to take any action to participate and potentially share in any recovery of damages. However, the School Board may take action to exclude itself from the case.

8. Action Items

1. Adopt the 2017 Budget Calendar

Motion No. 17-03: Board Member Chanz Keeney moved to adopt the 2017 Budget Calendar. Board Member Debra Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Board Vacancy – Mike Adams

Motion No. 17-04: Board Member Jason Redick moved to appoint Mike Adams to board position #8 At Large. Board Member Jenny Daniels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Appoint a new Secretary of the Board

Motion No. 17-05: Board Member Chanz Keeney moved to accept nomination of Angela Clegg as the Secretary of the board. Board Member Debra Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Approve Resolution #01-1617 - LBL ESD Local Service Plan

Motion No. 17-06: Board Member Jason Redick moved to approve Resolution #01-1617 LBL ESD Local Service Plan. Board Member Jenny Daniels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Board Comments – None

10. Late Items – No late items

11. Future Agenda Items

Next Board Officers Meeting February 6, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. DO

Next Board Meeting February 13, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in DO Board Room

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Signature, Board Chairman

Julie Emmert, Board Recording Secretary

This meeting was also recorded and saved supt/board/audio