

SWEET HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55

Sweet Home, Oregon

6A

Board Chairman Mike 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 September 11, 2017 in the District Office Conference Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members in Attendance

Mike Reynolds, Debra Brown, Carol Babcock, Jim Gourley, Ben Emmert, Chanz Keeney Absent:
Angela Clegg, Jason Van Eck, Jason Redick

Staff Members in Attendance

Superintendent: Tom Yahraes; Administrators: Kevin Strong, Steve Brown, Terry Augustadt, Colleen Henry, Todd Barrett, Luke Augsburg, Josh Dargis, Cheryl Hicks, Josh Darwood, Barbi Riggs, Ralph Brown, Mark Looney, Thad Holub, Rachel Stucky; Certified: Michelle Snyder, Jim Costa; Classified: Lisa Gourley, Mike Helms; Board Recording: Secretary Julie Emmert

Other Attendance

Sean Morgan, representing *the New Era*, Jennifer Moody, representing *the Albany Democrat Herald*

2. Agenda Approval/Changes

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

Motion No. 17-56: Board Member Chanz Keeney moved to approve the agenda. Board Member Jim Gourley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comments: None

4. Student & Personnel Reports/Comments

A. Madelyn Neuschwander and Chase Boyde both attended the Board meeting. Chase will be our new 2017-2018 Student Representative and Madelyn Neuschwander will be his replacement when he cannot make it. They reported that next week is homecoming and the theme is the Wizard of Oz.

B. Administrators/Staff Reports:

All Administrators introduced themselves and shared start of the school year events that are happening in their schools. Cheryl Hicks, Rachel Stucky and Thad Holub also shared department updates.

C. **Certified & Classified Representatives:** Michelle Snyder, Certified Representative introduced herself and thanked the board for their role in such a positive bargaining year. Ms. Snyder also shared what her goals are for the year one being teacher retention. The High School has started a mentoring and welcoming program at the beginning of the year and it has been a great success. Mike Helms, Classified representative reported that all was going well.

D. Superintendent's Report

Enrollment Updates:

Superintendent Yahraes reported on enrollment numbers in comparison to the beginning and ending of last year's enrollment. Mr. Yahraes celebrated 2000 plus students and 300 plus staff coming together as an organization to kick the year off successfully, including bell schedule changes, new preps, 5-day week adjustment, and early release Wednesdays.

Facilities Project Report:

Superintendent Yahraes introduced Josh Darwood and the Foster Elementary playground project. Mr. Yahraes said that this particular project is a great story to report, as multiple efforts came together:

- a. Foster Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) started the playground fund-raising initiative
- b. Foster received an anonymous donation of 25 K
- c. Lowes contributed 5 K
- d. PTC raised another 5 k
- e. The District held up its end in contributing District funds to provide the necessary labor and materials
- f. Completed an item from the bond priority areas list we announced to the community last spring
- g. Our in-house talent delivered above average workmanship: they delivered a high quality unique project.

Josh Darwood updated the board on other projects with a powerpoint:

- Electrical fixes on the high school field, HVAC controls, LED lighting in the new gym at the HS. Networking etc.
- Painting – step faces, baseball dugouts, hand rails, Holley and Oak Heights; halls and classrooms
- Pressure washing all over the district
- New concrete walks at the High School pad for the dumpsters
- Trimming and pruning of shrubs
- New tile at Oak Heights
- Fosters new play structure
- Cover on the metal shop at the High School
- Auditorium project- Mr. Darwood showed some of the updates that have been made so far. Should be complete October 1, 2017.

2. Employability Scores:

High School Teacher Jim Costa (yearbook, publications and history teacher) and Principal Ralph Brown shared that the high school adopted and is implementing “other measurements” to assess and speak to students about regular core academic scores.

The high school team shared that the Employability Scores represent how well students work cooperatively and complete tasks, combined with the records the school keeps on attendance, tardiness and behavior referrals. The grade is meant to reflect the “soft skills” that employers say are important for success in the workforce — essentials such as working well with others, willingness to show up on time, and ability to complete tasks. Every student will have a score but the school is not responsible to hand it out. Each student will be able to choose if they want to use this tool. Each term the students will be able to look at their score.

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Approved minutes from the August 14, 2017 School Board Meeting
- B. Approved hire Tifinie Hadley, Special Education Teacher at the Sweet Home High School, for the 2017-2018 school year
- C. Approved hire Laura McCaffrey, 1st grade teacher at Hawthorne Elementary, for the 2017-2018 school year
- D. Approved hire Barbi Riggs, Principal at Hawthorne Elementary, for the 2017-2018 School year

Motion No. 17:57: Board Member Jim Gourley moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Board member Debra Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Information/Discussion

- A. **Budget/Safety Information/Bond and Seismic Update:**
Business Manager Strong provided a budget and safety report. Year to date - budget is up from last year. There were no recordable incidents in the month of August.

Bond Update: Mr. Strong shared that the Sweet Home School District’s bonds were sold on August 15, 2017. The bonds were sold at a premium meaning we received more in proceeds than

the face value of the bonds. Bonds sell at a premium when the bond's coupon rate is higher than the bond's yield. In our case, the bonds had a 3 percent coupon rate with yields ranging from 2.05 percent to 2.35 percent depending on the maturity.

Since the bonds sold at a premium, we only had to issue \$3,820,000 in bonds to receive \$4,003,406 in net proceeds after all bond issuance costs.

Bond funds will be deposited into the district's account next week. The next step is to select an architect.

Auditorium Seismic Grant update:

Seismic upgrades and roofing work are nearing completion. Window installation in choir room is underway. There is quite a bit of wall and ceiling repair work that will be taking place in the auditorium during the next week. Once this work is completed, painting can begin. New LED lights will be installed once the painting is completed. This work is on schedule to be finished in October.

Wall acoustical panels will be installed later this fall during a time period that does not interfere with performances scheduled for the auditorium.

Mr. Strong shared some open houses for new schools in our area if anyone is interested in attending.

B. Board Training will be September 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the board room.

7. Action Items

8. Board Comments

9. Late Items – No late items

10. Future Agenda Items

- A. Board Training Monday, September 18, 2017 at 6:00 in the DO Board Room
- B. Next Board Officers Meeting October 2, 2017 at 3:30 in Superintendents Office
- C. Next Board Meeting October 9, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in DO Board Room
- D. OSBA Annual Conference – November 9-12, 2017

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Signature, Board Chairman

Julie Emmert, Board Recording Secretary

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