

# SWEET HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55

Sweet Home, Oregon

6A

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 October 10, 2016 in the District Office Conference Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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## Board Members in Attendance

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

## Staff Members in Attendance

Superintendent: Tom Yahraes; Administrators: Kevin Strong, Luke Augsburg, Todd Barrett, Terry Augustadt, Josh Dargis, Colleen Henry, Andy Price, Ralph Brown, Steve Brown, Mark Looney, Jennifer Sedlock, Rachel Stucky, Cheryl Hicks, Josh Darwood; Certified: Lisa Canaday, Elizabeth Beckett; Classified: Velma Canfield, Brenda Tunnell, Lindsay Walker, Sara Briggs, Shea Sitton; Board Recording: Secretary Julie Emmert

## Other Attendance

Sean Morgan, representing *the New Era*, Jennifer Moody, representing *the Albany Democrat Herald*, parents and grandparents of ESPY winners and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students at Hawthorne Elementary

## 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 October are: Foster School – Brooklynn Goodwin, Rylee Markell; Hawthorne School – Kyler Bondesen, Peyton Porter; Holley School – Kaden Zajic, Moriah Winn; Oak Heights School – Harley Dobbs, Daniel Goodwin; SH Jr. High School – Kailey James, Everett Luna; and SH High School – Kenzi Adams, Gracie Olson. Congratulations to all of this month's ESPY Award winners! Debra Brown handed out the awards.

3. Hawthorne's first grade students from Mrs. Riggs and Ms. Liermann's classrooms performed an attendance song

## 4. Agenda Approval/Changes

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

***Motion No. 16-47: Board Member Jason Van Eck moved to approve the agenda. Board Member Carol Babcock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

## 5. Public Comments

Ralph Brown commented as a parent thanking the Forest products team and Dustin Nichol for having the correct equipment to keep the students safe. His son was injured during a competition and because the school provided the students with good, safe equipment his injuring minimal.

Vern Tunnel shared his concern with the state test scores and feels that students would benefit by returning to a 5 day school week

## 6. Student & Personnel Reports/Comments

- A. Sweet Home High School Student Representative was absent but Ralph Brown reported that Homecoming began this week with many fun events planned every day. Coming soon will be the Thanksgiving baskets to help the needed families in Sweet Home.

B. Directors Report

Josh Darwood presented a report on summer projects. He provided an extensive list outlining projects per school for the Board. He also provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting major improvements and renovations per school. The board commented on various projects and aspects of improvements. Mr. Darwood will report on the five year plan at another time.

C. Certified and Classified Representatives - none

D. Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Yahraes shared the following information:

1. **Enrollment:** Highlights -- Sweet Home School District enrollment increased from last month by 27 students. The increase is fairly evenly dispersed across our schools. In comparing our September 2016 enrollment to last year's September 2015, Sweet Home School District has increased by 44 students. Again, enrollment has increase in 3 elementary schools, Jr. High and High School—subtracting the 5 year ACT program enrollment, which state-wide has been drastically reduced.
2. **Attendance Rate and Recognition:** Holley Elementary received the attendance award this month with an attendance average of 97.30%. For the record, Holley's September of 2016 attendance rate exceeds all of last year's monthly rates. Also, Holley ended last year with the highest overall attendance average at 94.28. And for the month of June 2016 (our last month of the 2015-16 school year) Holley ended strong with a 95% attendance rate. As of this October Board meeting, Holley retains the Golden Shoe Award. This award represents school staff, students, and parents coming together making attendance and being ready to learn a priority.
3. **Bond Exploration and Next Step:** September 26, 2016, we had a well-attended Board Work Session with the goal of informing and educating ourselves to the State Matching Facility Funds program, targeted to help districts in low income areas improve their learning environments and repair or replace class room spaces and facility systems that are nearing the end of their life span. Indications are the Facility Grant Matching funds will expire after the May 2017 elections. We are exploring the possibilities of being able to put a bond before the community which does not raise taxes, and which may be fully matched by the State. Our next steps in educating and informing ourselves is a facilities tour, followed by another work session to weigh the pros and cons of pursuing a potential of up to 4 million in state matching funds. Julie Emmert has set two possible facility tour dates for: Thursday, October 20 in the afternoon/evening and Friday, October 21 in the morning. (times TBA)
4. **Drug Testing Policy Feedback:** At the September 2016 Board Meeting, the superintendent was asked to review previous Board Meeting Minutes and Policy regarding Student Drug Testing—Extracurricular Activities and its implementation with High School and possibly Jr. High school athletes. In reviewing Student Drug Policy JFCIA, the policy intent is directed for grades 9-12. Also, in reviewing the audio tape of the May 9, 2016 Board Meeting, it was decided to implement the testing policy at the High School level to “see how it goes” and then discuss possible implementation the following year at the Jr. High. The superintendent was also asked at the September 2016 Board Meeting to look into aligning our Jr. High Athletic Code of Conduct with our High School. We will put together a team to review and make recommendations to me for Code of Conduct alignment by January 1, 2017. Board Chairman Reynolds asked if the Jr. High was OSA sanctioned. Mr. Yahraes responded no but he will look into what our options are for drug testing at the Jr. High level.
5. **Student Athlete Drug Testing update:**  
After our first round of testing, we are re-testing all athletes due to a number of procedural errors we made. The safety, health, wellness of our students comes first, along with the

integrity of our test and how we test. Our goal is to ensure our testing is fair, accurate, and follows the intent of our policy to guard the safety, health and wellbeing of our student athletes.

Examples of our implementation learning curve:

- Larger cooler of water
- Understanding completely our measuring panels and dark shaded lines vs light
- Procedure check list to follow for measuring panel variables

The High School Admin team has reviewed, refined, and corrected testing procedures. Enhanced procedures have been outlined, and a coaches meeting was held last week, communicating testing enhancements/corrections. Parent notification to student athletes has been sent, outlining why we are retesting. We want to be clear, transparent, and fix mistakes and any unintended misconceptions.

Again, our goal is ensure our testing is fair, accurate, and follows the intent of our policy to guard the safety and health our student athletes.

- 6. Assessment and Learning 101:** Director of Learning, Rachel Stucky, provided a brief background on the types of assessments we used for student learning and informing our instruction: formative, interim, and summative. Also, Director Stucky discussed our State Summative Assessment's expectations and its connections to rigorous state standards.
- 7. SHSD Assessment Report:** The superintendent provided a State Assessment presentation which summarized our 2015-16 performance in Science, English Language Arts, and Math. The PowerPoint presentation scores showed various ways to analyze our levels of grade level proficiency: comparison to state averages, "like districts", pockets of Sweet Home success, and areas of concern. The review showed Sweet Home across nearly all grade levels has signification drop in levels of proficiency as well as below state averages to most all districts we were compared to. The review generalized grade levels, without naming a particular school and their grade level performance. The presentation concluded with beginning action steps we need to take as a district to address our need to improve student learning. The central corrective action must be to focus on improving our core instruction district-wide: our standards alignment, instruction engagement, and use of instructional time, and our alignment of assessment/feedback systems. A Board discussion followed discussing the use of instructional time. A central question arose from the board, questioning if the 4 day week has influenced the drop in scores. It was discussed that all scores in the state had dropped since the implementation of the new state summative assessment. A Board Member asked Mr. Yahraes if he had reviewed the data previous and post implementation of four day week. Mr. Yahraes had done this and produced a trend line since 2010. The trend line showed in math and reading that Sweet Home did perform at state level proficiency averages, and at times above-- with a sharp decline and widening of the gap over the last few years. The superintendent was asked to provide a report for the next board meeting regarding 4 vs. 5 day week analysis.

## **7. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approved minutes from September 12, 2016 School Board Meeting and September 26, 2016 Board Special Work Session Meeting
- B. Approved/appropriated \$3,403 for ODE IDEA SPRI&I (System Performance, Review, and Improvement) Grant 2016-17. This grant will be used for required trainings and completion of all state and federal components of the SPR&I System
- C. Approved/appropriated \$1,548 for ODE IDEA Part B, Section 619 Supplement 2016-17 Grant. This grant will be used for instructional costs associated with Kindergarten students receiving special education
- D. Accepted resignation of Ryan Lamb, Temporary Intern Science Teacher at the Jr. High effective immediately

- E. Approved hire of Holly Farrimond, Temporary 5<sup>th</sup> grade Teacher at Foster Elementary for the 2016-2017 school year

***Motion No. 16-48:*** Board Member Jason Redick moved to approve the consent as presented. Board Member Jason Van Eck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **8. Information/Discussion**

### **A. Budget Update/Safety Information**

Safety: There was one recordable incident in September; a staff member fractured his fibula during a PE class while demonstrating how to play a variation of a tag game called “sharks and minnows.” The staff member was walking backwards and he lost his balance and tried to catch himself. In the process, he rolled his ankle and fell onto his foot with all of his weight.

Budget: Business Manager Strong gave a brief budget update

## **9. Action Items**

- A. Jennifer Sedlock Reviewed Alternative Education Programs for 2016-17 school year.

***Motion No. 16-49:*** Board Member Jason Van Eck moved to approve the Alternative Education Programs for 2016-17. Board Member Jenny Daniels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Approved purchase of a new in-ground lift to take the place of a 40 plus year old lift that has been taken out of service at the bus garage. Kevin Strong discussed three funding purchase options; enterprise fund, long term maintenance, general fund. 1/3 from each funding source would be Mr. Strong’s recommendation. There could be more cost when they start removing the old lift. Will start digging up the old lift in December.

***Motion No. 16-50:*** Board Member Carol Babcock moved to approve the purchase of a new in-ground lift at the bus garage. Board Member Jason Redick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**10. Board Comments** – Angela Clegg gave a short report on the Salmon watch

**11. Late Items** – No late items

## **12. Future Agenda Items**

Next Board Officers Meeting November 7, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. DO

Next Board Meeting November 14, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in DO Board Room

OSBA Annual Convention November 10 – 13, 2016

## **13. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

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*Signature, Board Chairman*

Julie Emmert, Board Recording Secretary

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