

## SWEET HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55

Sweet Home, Oregon

Board Chairman Jason Redick called the **regular meeting** of the board of Directors of Sweet Home School District No. 55 to order at 6:30 p.m. on December 11, 2023.

---

### **Board Members in Attendance**

Jason Redick, Mike Adams, Dale Keene, Mary Massey, Jenna Northern, Floyd Neuschwander, Amanda Carter: Absent: Sara Hoffman, Jim Gourley

### **Staff Members in Attendance**

Administrators: Kevin Strong, Barbi Riggs, Brian Brands, Darel Bidwell, Josh Darwood, Todd Barrett, Josh Dargis, Mark Looney, Darrin Perry, Ralph Brown, Luke Augsburger Certified: Steve Thorpe; Classified:, Michelle Keene; Board Recording Secretary: Julie Emmert (ZOOM)

**Other Attendance:** Ethan Hoagland; New Era, Emanuel Grajeda, Linda Cutright, ESPY/SPARK Award Winners and parents

### **1. Call the meeting to order/pledge**

### **2. ESPY/SPARK Awards - Announced the December award winners from each school**

### **3. Agenda Approval/Changes**

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

***Motion No. 23-78: Board Member Dale Keene moved to approve the agenda as presented. Board Member Mike Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously***

### **4. Student & Personnel Reports/Comments**

- A. Certified & Classified Representatives: Steve Thorpe- Shout out to Tomas Rosa, High School Leadership- 52 families were served with Thanksgiving baskets. Building updates. No Classified representative.
- B. Student Report: High School Student, Max Klump, reported on Spirit Week, Winter Sports. Bank/Choir concerts coming up. Post card writing to Elementary school students.

Superintendent's Report:

1. Enrollment/Attendance Award - Kevin Strong gave the enrollment and Barbi Riggs shared the attendance report. Hawthorne is the attendance award winner this month.
2. Strategic Plan Progress
  - A. Pillar 1 - OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT - Character Ambassadors at Holley Elementary: Character education is part of everyday life at Holley. Each month students focus on a different character trait. At the *end* of each month teachers choose "Character Ambassadors" to represent their class. These are students who embodied that month's character trait. The ambassadors take a leadership role, serving as ambassadors for ***the following month*** and its character focus.
    - **September:** responsibility - *\*Start of Year*
    - **October:** compassion (compassion is empathy in action)- *\*Anti-Bullying Month, Stop Bullying Day*
    - **November:** gratitude- *\*Thanksgiving*
    - **December:** service (generosity)- *\*Holidays*

- **January:** honesty/integrity- \*1/24 Compliment Day
- **February:** kindness- \*2/17 National Random Acts of Kindness Day
- **March:** optimism- \*Read Across America Day
- **April:** respect- \*Finishing Strong
- **May:** perseverance- \*State Testing
- **June:** teacher's choice- \*End of Year

## 5. Consent Agenda

- A. Approved minutes from the November 13, 2023 School Board Meeting, November 29, 2023 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- B. Accepted retirement of Steve Thorpe, Math Teacher at the High School effective December 31, 2023 and rehired back January 1, 2024 under a post retirement agreement
- C. Approved hire of William (Mick) Bittick, Mentor/Mentee Substitute Teacher for the District effective January 2, 2024

***Motion No. 23-79: Board Member Dale Keene moved to approve the revised consent agenda as presented. Board Member Jenna Northern seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

## 6. Information/Discussion

- A. Budget Update- Kevin Strong gave a budget update on the year to date spending
- B. Swimming Pool Levy Renewal Update- Gave a summary of the November election; passed. There were many questions that came up this election due to a flier that was passed out to community members in Sweet Home. Keven explain - summary attached.
- C. Board Policies - 1st Reading
  - BD/BDA - Board Meetings
    - Discussion: Sentence on possession of weapons, strike of Agenda item suggestions.
  - BDC - Executive Sessions
  - EFA - Local Wellness
  - GCBDA/GDBDA - Family Medical Leave
  - GCPC/GDPC - Retirement of Staff
    - Discussion: Highlight addition, purpose
  - LBE - Public Charter Schools
  - LBEA - Resident Student Denial for Virtual Public Charter School Attendance

## 7. Action Items:

- A. Approve the 2024-2025 Budget Calendar

***Motion no. 23-80: Board member Floyd Neuschwander moved to approve the 2024-2025 budget calendar as presented. Dale Keene seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

- B. Approve SIA Grant Agreement

***Motion no. 23-81: Board member Dale Keene moved to approve the Student Investment Account grant agreement as presented. Jenna Northern seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

- C. Voting for OSBA Legislative Policy Committee candidate Sara Finger McDonald, Position 10

***Motion no. 23-82: Board member Floyd Neuschwander moved to take no action for Sara Finger McDonald to be appointed to the OSBA Legislative Policy Committee. Mary Massey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

- D. RESOLUTION 1: Creates the Oregon Rural School Board Members Caucus and designate a seat on the OSBA Board of Directors and Legislative Policy committee

***Motion no. 23-83: Board member Floyd Neuschwander moved to adopt the Oregon Rural School Board Members Caucus and designate a seat on the OSBA Board of Directors and Legislative Committee. Dale Keene seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

- E. RESOLUTION 2: Adopt the proposed amendments to the OSBA Bylaws

***Motion no. 23-84: Board member Floyd Neuschwander moved to take no action on the proposed amendments to the OSBA Bylaws. Mary Massey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jason Redick; No Action, Mike Adams; No Action, Mary Massey; No Action, Jenna Northern; No Action, Floyd Neuschwander; No Action, Amanda Carter; No Action Dale Keene; vote no***

**8. Public Comments:**

- a. Manuel Grajeda - Academic reports
- b. Eva Journey; Maintenance of the pool

**9. Board Comments: NONE**

**10. Late Items** – Discussion; Response to Sweet Home High School Academic Standards Report 2023, 11th grade - Kevin Strong provided the response.

**11. Future Agenda Items**

- A. School Resumes January 2, 2024
- B. Next Board Officers Meeting TUESDAY, January 2, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. Superintendent's Office
- C. Next Board Meeting January 8, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in DO Boardroom

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

---

*Signature, Board Chairman*

*Julie Emmert, Board Recording Secretary (This meeting was also recorded and saved supt/board/audio)*