



**Ontario School District 8C
Work Session of the Board of Directors
September 28th 2026 at 4:00 PM at the Ontario School District Board Room**

This meeting was broadcasted via Zoom to the public, the Board of Directors met in person at the Ontario School District Boardroom, with an audience of about 4

Board Members Present:

Abby Apodaca joins via Zoom

Mike Blackaby

Jenna Mejia

Lisa Reeser

Bret Uptmor

Administrators in Attendance:

Superintendent Nicole Albisu

Director of Personnel Eric Norton

Director of Public Relations and Communications Taryn Smith

Director of Technology Kenneth Monson

Director of Finance Devin Collins

Director of Special Education Jose Marquez

Director of District Improvement Initiatives & Grants Jodi Elizondo

Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Andrea Salazar

Chair Uptmor starts the meeting and states that the Board will have a couple of presentations for their Work Session this evening.

Fall Benchmark Report

Literacy Coach Christi Swam shares some of the fall benchmark, so far in the school year. This data will be presented to the School Board four times during the school year. Since it has been a little over a two months of school, we don't have all of the data available. Some of the new tools that teachers and coaches are using are Literacy Tasks, Easy CBM is now in iReady data. Each grade has different tasks that we are making sure students aren't just memorizing, but actually grasping that information. There has been some great progress so far with our first-grade students, for 3rd grade the scores are a bit low, and we are going to continue to monitor that data. Throughout the year, we are hopeful that our practices help students succeed in learning and not just trying to memorize everything, Literacy Coach Christi Swam states.

Integrated Programs Annual Report

Director of District Improvement Initiatives & Grants Jodi Elizondo shares some of strategies that have been implemented in the district. We are focused on helping students in strengthening their early literacy, and remove any barriers families may have in helping students succeed in the classroom. The district has made safety a huge priority in the past couple of years, we want students to feel safe in the classroom, have access to earning college credits, and CTE courses. On top of everything else, the district has done many other strategies to make sure we are doing everything we can to help students. The district has our Student Safety and Prevention Officer Mike Padilla. There are many opportunities that teachers can offer to students outside of the traditional classroom as well. We have Reading Nights at our schools, Link Crew for students to be more involved in their school and support school spirit! As for safety, we



have implemented exterior doors being secure, visible ID badges, emergency radio, and cameras as well. Students also have paid CTE courses available, the TAG program is also very beneficial to students, making extra curriculars a priority. As stated before, Director of District Improvement Initiatives & Grants Jodi Elizondo shares that the district dropout rate has decreased, and the graduation rate has increased. That has been done by emerging Restorative Practice initiatives, supporting the common message of student's importance in their community. This ties into last strategy which is providing resources for students if they are needing support with their mental health. This also ties into the districts restorative practices and community building circles that are conducted weekly in the classroom. Also this year is an engagement year, so surveys will be sent out to the public to gather feedback on these strategies.

Division 22 Standards

Director of District Improvement Initiatives & Grants Jodi Elizondo states that Division 22 entails the basic framework for how public schools run, there has been a plan put in place to ensure we meet the new state requirements. There are assurances that we must confirm are getting done, and there are also some waivers that must get done. Also included in the new requirements is TAG which is implemented in the district already, there are some new instructional time reporting and graduation requirements that the state has implemented. Lastly, there are requirements now for emergency and safety programs being apart of the district structure, a lot of these plans the district has already been doing for a while.

Public Comment

Chair Uptmor states that in order to meet Division 22 requirements, we must have a public comment section available for Division 22. The Board opens the time for Public Comment on Division 22, and there are no public comments.

EdFlex Oregon Update

Director of District Improvement Initiatives & Grants Jodi Elizondo states that EdFlex Ontario is a program that students spend some time in the school building, and online. This is a very selective program and we do not offer this option to just any student. As for EdFlex Oregon, there are about 50 students currently enrolled, and all of their work is being done remotely. Soon there will be implemented a new platform for EdFlex Oregon. The new online school has we still monitor student work daily, send progress reports, and ensure special education needs are met. There has been a lot of communication with families and students on what works best for each student. The district ensures that we want to make sure we do what is best to support students.

Meeting Ends at 4:57 PM

Chairman

Clerk