

The Port Orford-Langlois School Board met in a regular session on September 16, 2024, at 6:00 pm. The Board met in person at the Pacific High School Library, 45525 Highway 101, Sixes, Oregon, and simultaneously online via “Zoom”. Board members present in person were Judy Miles, Carol Hacherl, Korinn Hockett, Bob Brown and Angel Ashdown. Staff present in person were Superintendent Aaron Miller, Business Manager Tara Garratt, Principal Shane Brown, and Administrative Assistant Stephanie Griffith. IT Director Jered Rush operated and recorded the Zoom meeting.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

- 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance – the meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.
- 1.2 Staff and Visitors

2.0 AGENDA CHANGES

Item 6.1 was added to New Business, “Suicide Prevention Month Proclamation”.

3.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 3.1 Approve Minutes August 19, 2024 Regular Meeting
- 3.2 Approve Hire Courier (part-time) Rusty Raymond

Carol Hacherl moved and Angel Ashdown seconded to approve the agenda changes. Judy Miles, Korinn Hockett, Carol Hacherl, Bob Brown and Angel Ashdown voted in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

4.0 PUBLIC INPUT and EDUCATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

Judy Miles read aloud the district’s policy on public input.

Bella Stephan from the Port Orford Rotary asked to speak about the Rotary youth programs. One program is Peaceful Schools, in partnership with the 2CJ school district and counselor Ashley Jones. Peaceful Schools Program promotes and supports safer, more respectful, bully-free environments for children and youth. Using social-emotional curriculum developed by experienced educators, Rotary volunteers work with teachers and students to modify the perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors that often lead to ridicule, bullying, and even violence.

Speakers in Public Input are allowed 3 minutes to speak, Chair Judy Miles asked the board at the 3-minute mark if they would vote on allowing Bella to continue. Bob Brown moved and Carol Hacherl seconded to extend the public input beyond 3 minutes. Judy Miles, Korinn Hockett, Carol Hacherl, Bob Brown and Angel Ashdown voted in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Bella went on to describe how the Port Orford Public library participates in the program. Two meetings per month are held at PHS with students and Rotary volunteers. They look forward to partnering with Driftwood School as well.

A second public input sign-up was Gordon Clay, who presented data regarding suicides in Curry County. He mentioned the SOS crisis text line, and the “Are You OK” campaign. He asked that brochures be displayed at the high school office.

EDUCATIONAL SPOTLIGHT: Principal Shane Brown gave a presentation regarding this year’s expanded electives at PHS, held on Fridays. These classes are 1.5 hours long. Some classes include Social Dance, which is the most popular, Portrait Drawing, Drama, 3-D Printing, Culinary Class,

Automotive, and IT/Tech Support taught by IT Director Jered Rush. We are looking at other options for next year, perhaps offering two periods of the most popular classes. Judy Miles was impressed with the “grow your own” aspect for the district and the town; teach kids valuable skills that they can transfer into trade school and local businesses. Bob Brown encouraged Shane to let news outlets know of the popularity of these classes and their positive impact on the community. Aaron suggested approaching COSA to give a presentation of how small rural communities expand student opportunities and entice them to return to and work in the community when they graduate. Suggestions for other classes include Food Handling and Coastal Foraging. Programs could be expanded to include local businesses.

5.0 REPORTS

5.1 Superintendent Report

Aaron Miller’s report is included in the board materials. Aaron will be meeting with Gary Burns to discuss a local emergency planning effort. The district currently has a shipping container with emergency supplies specifically for 2CJ students. Gary wants to expand that effort to include the community. Aaron has submitted the COPS grant which would contribute to additional district facility upgrades. A future bond is a possibility; Aaron will work with a financial group specializing in that arena. It would take significant community buy-in to make it happen. A long-range facilities assessment plan must be done prior to making that application. Aaron will be organizing that group. Aaron reminded board members OSBA elections are open and distributed a hand out. He reminded the board that South Coast ESD has their legislative road show on October 30. Aaron will also be including more information in future reports about events that take place in the schools.

5.2 District Principal’s Report

Shane Brown’s report was included in board materials. PHS currently has 106 students and DWS has 134. The kindergarten class is to the point of needing to be divided. The goal is to keep kindergarten as all day, with two teachers. Unless or until a second teacher is found, the class will be divided into two half days (AM and PM). Shane met with parents on September 11 and explained the issue to them; they were supportive of efforts to accommodate the large class size. If a second teacher is hired, Shane and Aaron believe there is enough work to retain them into the following year, should the incoming kinder class be smaller. Shane would like to look at the district graduation policy at October’s meeting. This will be added to the October agenda. Judy Miles would like to look at the district’s cell phone/personal device policy at October’s meeting as well, in light of the new policy that students do not have access to their phones during class hours. This will be added to the October agenda. Overall response to the no cell phone policy has been positive, both from students and parents.

5.3 Transportation and Maintenance

Chad Berry was at the meeting; there was no written report. He reported the crew had been busy reorganizing and moving classrooms, and the DWS office and library. There were some issues with construction over the summer, but less than expected. Judy Miles expressed her appreciation for the maintenance and custodial team, who work so hard.

5.4 Technology Report

Jered Rush's report is included in the board materials. He stated the phone system upgrade is complete. He thanked Shane Brown for allowing him to teach the Technology elective class. This will allow him to train potential helpers.

5.5 Financial Report

The report is included in the materials. Tara Garratt stated next months reported would be more inclusive, as she is currently working on grant narratives. Carol Hacherl asked if the ending fund balance of \$1.8 million includes pay for new teachers. Tara stated it did. Carol asked if the \$318,000 for construction had been expended; Tara stated it is encumbered and accounted for.

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Proclamation – Suicide Prevention Month

Judy Miles read aloud the proclamation of District 2CJ designating September as Suicide Prevention Month. Bob Brown moved and Angel Ashdown seconded to approve the Proclamation as presented. Judy Miles, Korinn Hockett, Carol Hacherl, Bob Brown and Angel Ashdown voted in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

7.0 OLD BUSINESS

None.

8.0 REOCCURRING BUSINESS

8.1 School Board Timeline Review

The timeline was included in the materials and reviewed.

8.2 OSBA Self-Assessment

Stephanie Griffith is working on scheduling this.

8.3 School Board/Superintendent, Operating Agreement

The draft agreement was in the meeting materials. The board will review and discuss at the October meeting.

9.0 FIRST READING OF POLICIES

None.

10.0 SECOND READING OF POLICIES

None.

11.0 BOARD COMMENTS/REPORTS

Judy Miles reminded board members of the November OSBA annual meeting.

12.0 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

13.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Angel Ashdown moved and Carol Hacherl seconded to adjourn the meeting. Judy Miles, Korinn Hockett, Carol Hacherl, Bob Brown and Angel Ashdown voted in favor. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Judy Miles
Board Chair

Aaron Miller
Superintendent/Clerk