



# PHOENIX-TALENT SCHOOLS

EXCELLENCE *for* EVERYONE

Regular Board Meeting at OHES  
Thursday, February 20, 2025 6:00 PM Pacific

Orchard Hill Elementary School  
1011 La Loma Drive  
Medford, OR 97540

Michael Campbell:	Present	Rick Nagel:	Present
Nancy Castillo-McKinnis:	Present	Dawn Watson:	Present
Sara Crawford:	Present	Rebecca Weathers:	Present
Polly Farrimond:	Present	Present:	7

A. **Executive Session** –This session was closed to the public under ORS 192.660 (2)(i)

B. **Regular Session Call to Order - 6:00 p.m.**

C. **Accentuate the Positive**

**Chair Campbell** said that he had asked Supt. Barry and Jon McCalip to have some members of the maintenance team come to be recognized here today. We wanted to acknowledge that they came to work on the Thursday of the last snow day and worked hard to get the district properties ready for school the next day, clearing the buildings, sidewalks, and driveways. In addition, several of the maintenance staff members worked with the Ashland School District on Saturday, February 8th, to help them get their properties ready for staff and students to return to school on Monday the 10th.

**Supt. Barry** introduced Robert Blood and said that Robert was one of the team members who worked on Saturday to help the Ashland School District and also Rich Brown, who was not present. Supt. Barry thanked Robert Crawford, who was present, and the other maintenance staff for their help and to Jon McCalip for his leadership.

**Javier del Rio shared the following on behalf of Principal Kent Vallier for OHES:**

- Javier thanked the behavior support staff for continuing to refine their practices. Javier highlighted Richard Mauldin and Juanita Hernandez for embracing a difficult situation with a child and getting the child to respond to the intervention.
- Javier thanked Ashley Sims for her help with a student that Javier was working with and for allowing that student to participate in recess with her class.
- Javier thanked the office support staff for acting upon the concept of radical calmness. They are amazing and always willing to help with a calming demeanor.

**PES Principal Shawna Schleif shared the following:**

- Ms. Schleif highlighted the heroes at PES stating that last week we had our Love of Learning event, which was a family engagement event, and we had a great turnout. The heroes of that event were: DJ: Brianna Miller; Junior, who is our mascot: Andrew Valdez; Dance Party Chaperones: Christi Dixon, Shawn Spillane, Liz Saxbury (parent volunteer); Child Care providers: Bertha Wengler and Crisol Mesa; Dessert Bar coordinators: Wendy Duffie, Myrna Wulff, Shelly Akins and Laura Millette, Presenters: grade-level teachers.

- Ms. Schleif said that we have been having an After-School Math Intervention and this is the first year of doing this. The PES heroes for the after-school math intervention are Jamar Boyd, Jerilyn Bourdon, Court Anderson, Myrna Wulff, Maggy Bird, Jose Villalobos, Dalacey Traeger, Hanna Bromagem, Kimberley Steffen, Leilani Morris, Bubba Rylance, Brionna Fuller, and Stephanie Flores.
- In addition, Ms. Schleif recognized Lori Delgado for her help in ensuring that all our students had their immunizations in time for the cutoff date and that we had no exclusions. Lori also does a great job with our attendance incentives.
- Lastly, Laura Millette has been a great resource for families during these times and for her help in supporting our community.

**TES Principal Heather Lowe shared the following:**

- TES hosted Love of Learning Night last Thursday. Ms. Lowe thanked family engagement leads, Jodie Yeamans and Nuvia Piñeda, for helping make that event a success.
- Congratulations to the Fantastic Four team of students from ODP on their win in the Oregon Battle of the Book contest. Many thanks to Linnaea Funk Morales, Heather Wulff, Kim Saurman, and Glenna Roberts for their leadership and efforts with this fun activity.
- Ms. Lowe gave a shout-out to First Student and to Jonel and her team for shifting gears on Monday, the first day of the snow. The drivers did such a great job ensuring the safety of our students. This is also bus driver appreciation week, and we so appreciate all that Jonel and her drivers do.
- TES is hosting a very special assembly tomorrow highlighting the importance of inclusion in schools and the wider community. Luke and his mother, Jane, will be joining us at 10:00 a.m. and the board is cordially invited to attend.

**PTRA Principal Aaron Santi shared the following:**

- We had a great turnout for our Pollinator Project science & art workshop last Friday. We learned that there are over 700 species of bees just in Oregon. Everyone was able to dissect flowers and create art from their flower parts.
- Mr. Santi thanked First Student and Jonel for making our open classrooms more successful. They have created bus routes for us to be able to get kids who don't live in Phoenix to come in for our Open Classroom on Tuesdays.

**TMS Principal Casey Olmstead shared the following:**

- Mr. Olmstead said that they have just started an After School Academic Program (ASAP) for tutoring and support for our students. Mr. Olmstead gave a shout-out to Clyde Bell for his support to help make this program happen.
- Mr. Olmstead spoke about the Momentum Program with Talent Maker City and that we have 36 students who take part in this once a week. The aim of the Momentum program is to provide opportunities for marginalized youths to have access to hands-on STEAM activities and learn about career options in these areas.
- TMS received a \$400 grant from Figaro's for new football uniforms. Shout out to Brent Bowker for applying for the grant and thanks to Micah from Figaro's.

- Today was the Black Youth Leadership Summit at Southern Oregon University, and we had 16 students attend. Mr. Olmstead gave a shout-out to Peter Edwards and Cynthia Rutherford, who are our BSU advisors.
- Mr. Olmstead gave a shout-out to Sue Barragan for being an advocate of creating a safe space for our students.

**PHS Principal Kalin Cross shared the following:**

- Ms. Cross said that we have had 241 students make the Honor Roll. We increased our students, earning a 4.0 GPA, having 121 students in Q2 and 110 students during Q1.
- Ms. Cross said that it is CTE month and last night we hosted a CTE night. Ms. Cross gave a shout-out to Tami Ingwerson for organizing an amazing CTE event. We had a great turnout of prospective families who came to check out our CTE programs.
- Ms. Cross gave a shout-out to the CTE teachers who are not only experts in their field, but who also do a lot of extra curricula's including: Celine Farrimond- Business and Marketing teacher and DECA advisor; Jesse Holcomb - Welding and Manufacturing; Chris Plouhar- Digital Media; Cameron Noble - Automotive Technology; Melissa Madsen- Agriculture; David Ford- Construction; and John Barber – Culinary.
- Last week was SRO appreciation week and Ms. Cross gave a shout-out to Sgt. Aaron Hull, who is the best. Ms. Cross referenced an article that SOU wrote about a recent grad of ours, Annabelle Delgado. Annabelle attributes her next steps to conversations and interactions she had with SRO Aaron Hull who provided inspiration and guidance.
- PHS also sent students to the BSU summit at SOU and our crew came back super excited. Our students started talking about their next event, hosting other BSU's from the valley at PHS for some community and brainstorming about how we can empower our students to be great allies.
- Ms. Cross gave a shout-out to our coaches, advisors, and Asst. Principal and Athletic Director James Joy for being extremely flexible during the snow days.

**Tiffanie Lambert** said that immunization exclusion day was yesterday and she thanked all of our office staff for their work in ensuring that almost all students were up-to-date in their immunizations. We had all but one of our schools who had zero exclusions and we only had 10 total exclusions district wide. Ms. Lambert also thanked Charlene Patten at the district office and Jackson County, who worked closely with Health and Human Services. Ms. Lambert also thanked Douglas ESD who we contract our early childhood special education services with. Next Tuesday at 5pm we will have our first ever introduction to our incoming students, who will be on IEP's from early childhood and the board is invited to attend. Ms. Lambert thanked Figaro's Pizza, who is doing a fundraiser for our Family Math Night on Monday, February 24th.

**Amy Honts of Sodexo Food Service shared the following:**

- Ms. Honts thanked the elementary principals, office managers and especially Joe Zavala for all their help in sharing the news about the Future Chef recipe entry portal. The participation entry is now closed, and we had 18 wonderful entries and 9 of those kids will be going on to cook their favorite main dish recipe with a Sodexo staff helper on Thursday, March 20th.

- Ms. Honts shared the results from all three of our elementary school's student voting events and gave a shout-out to all the lunch aides who helped direct the kids to vote. We had 90 - 97% of the kids say they liked or loved their lunch meals.
- Ms. Honts thanked Yazmin Karabinas, Debbie Rogers, Brissia Morales and Rachel Townsend at the district office for their partnership and working with her to help make sure our national school lunch program (NSLP) admin review goes off without a hitch. There's a lot of work that goes into these reviews, and Ms. Honts is very grateful to have such a great team to work with through this process.
- Chair Campbell thanked Amy and her staff for pivoting and stepping up during the delayed start date to serve breakfast.

**Director Dawn Watson** thanked Supt. Barry, Tiffanie Lambert, and Yazmin Karabinas for all of their help in answering her questions and helping her to prepare for her trip to Washington D.C. Ms. Watson gave kudos to Jessica Rollins for our art program. Every year when Ms. Watson travels to D.C. she looks forward to going into the tunnel and seeing the student art and every year we have student art displayed from PHS.

**Chair Campbell** thanked Dawn for taking all of these trips and for advocating for us on a national level.

**Sara Crawford** thanked all the admin for the information provided at the JAB meeting and their transparency in how the board could help support them. Ms. Crawford said that we had three Phoenix alumni on the Cabaret Theater stage last week; Julia Funk, Rigo Jimenez, and Courtney Crawford. This is a testament to the longstanding theater program we have at PHS.

**Nancy Castillo-McKinnis** expressed her gratitude to the incredibly coordinated, sophisticated and fun group of players that make our education system so rich. For all the dedicated individuals who show up so fiercely with such a heart of service and love and kindness. As a parent, Nancy is grateful for all the opportunities that her kids get to have to participate and engage and learn. Nancy is also grateful to board secretary, Denise Skinner, who is our silent angel who makes things happen for us and for all of the student representatives who are here and show up and participate.

#### **D. Student Representative Report**

**Edynn Latvala** attended the CTE event and helped to give tours. Edynn gave a shout-out to Ms. Robin for doing so much for leadership. Our President and Vice President have done such a huge part in organizing everything and making sure we stay on track. Edynn said that the tennis courts are pretty much finished, and students in the tennis program are thrilled. Last night at the CTE event, Mr. Ford talked about how we were getting a pizza oven.

**Rachel Pepin** said that she and Abbie Corona are co-chairs of our sparrow club. For our sparrow, Emiliano, we are putting together a gift basket. Our cheer group went to state last weekend, and we placed 4th out of 13 teams. Rachel gave a shout-out to the coaches and all the girls that made that possible and to Mr. Joy for organizing all the postpones due to the snow. Rachel spoke about the therapy for students that is available through La Clinica and told a story about a friend who was going through a hard time and how La Clinica really helped her. Rachel

thanked La Clinica for the work they do to support students. Rachel spoke about a BBQ night that they are organizing with the other BSU groups for Friday the 28th and everyone is enthusiastic about it. We had our Valentine's Day sale for leadership, and it was a success.

**Javier Quintana** said that boys' basketball is tied for 1st in Skyline, and ranked 12th, and girls' basketball is 2nd in Skyline, and ranked 15th. Boys wrestling is traveling to the district championships at Henley on Saturday. In our English classes we have a new program called Brisk. It helps improve your writing using AI that generates responses and critiques your writing and gives good feedback. Javier said that we had an early bird deadline with the Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) on February 18th to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship. Javier said that the swim team had a lot of records being broken - River Delco in the 100 Breast, and Makaio Potts, River Delco, Quin Davis, Cail Decker in the 400 relay. Javier said that 20 DECA members are leaving for state conferences on Saturday.

**Aubrey Emry** said that last week we started the Science SBAC state testing. Aubrey said that they are testing a new software program called Naviance and gave examples of some of the highlights of the program.

**E. PTEA & OSEA Associations Representative Report** – There were no reports

**F. Citizen Comments** – there were none

### **G. Superintendent Report**

- Supt. Barry spoke about our Integrated Guidance Plan and Student Investment Account (SIA) and said that our outreach has begun. We are getting ready to distribute a survey and are making plans to meet with focus groups to get feedback on the communities' desires on how we utilize our integrated guidance funding. Currently, some of those funds have been going to our music programs, especially at the elementary level, and to our counselors and our mental health support, so those are the things we want to get feedback on. Supt. Barry thanked Aaron Santi for facilitating that process. We hope to have a plan to share with the board at the second meeting in April.
- Supt. Barry thanked Kelly Soter for being present at the Heart of Phoenix event last night at the community center. There were quite a few attendees and organizations that had tables, including PTS. Supt. Barry enjoyed walking around the other organization's tables who have been partners with our school district for many years and meeting new people.

### **H. Consent Agenda**

I move to approve the consent agenda as presented. This motion, made by Sara Crawford and seconded by Nancy Castillo-McKinnis. Hearing no objections, the consent agenda was approved.

H.1. Approval of Revised Agenda

H.2. Approval of Minutes from 2/6/2025

H.3. Personnel Report

### **I. Information and Discussion**

#### **I.1. Legislative / OSBA Update**

- Director Watson said that this week there was a hearing on special education and talk about raising the cap.

- Dawn and Sara sent out a call to action about SB916 - this bill would change the way staff would be compensated during strikes and could cost the district a lot of money.
- Our district, which is district 2 under Cliff Benz's district, receives the most federal funding.
- On Sunday, March 9th from 3-5, Kristen Miles from OSBA will be coming to Medford and giving a presentation on running for a school board position and what the board's role is.
- Director Crawford said that they are sending out a weekly email of a recap of the bills in the house and senate education committees. There are 2500 bills this year and 600 of those have to do with education.
- Supt. Barry shared his appreciation for Dawn and Sara and some of the PTS leadership who were at the capital on Monday. Supt. Barry was asked by the Children's Institute to advocate for early learning resources.

## **I.2. Financial Report**

Accounting Director Yazmin Karabinas gave an updated financial report and explained the differences in revenues and expenditures. Director Watson thanked Yazmin for all she does and for providing her with information when requested. Supt. Barry said that we are continually working on shifting funds to take advantage of all our resources.

## **I.3. Academic Calendar for 25-26**

Supt. Barry shared some highlights of the differences in this 25-26 calendar versus this year's calendar.

- 1) We had been doing a seven-day inservice, but we are moving two of those days in August back into instruction in this calendar, thus making the return to the 5-day August inservice.
- 2) We typically have our inservice day on a Friday. However, in October, inservice is now on a Monday, which is Indigenous People's Day. Banks and other federal offices are closed, and we have heard from families and the community about aligning a day off of work/school. This is still a PTS inservice day for classified and licensed staff, but students will be off.
- 3) November 10th is a non-contract day due to how Veterans Day lands in the week. We moved our current non-contract day of May 23rd in our calendar to Nov. 10th.
- 4) We started everyone on the Tuesday after Labor Day and will continue to work to make sure we have our incoming 6th and 9th graders ready for that.

## **I.4. Renewal of Teacher's and Administrator's Contracts**

Supt. Barry said that there may be some changes as we are still working with some staff members. We will have the final list up for action at the next meeting.

## **I.5. Snow Day Make-Up Days Calendar Options**

There are two different calendar options.

Option 1: May 23rd (currently shown as a non-contract day) would become a regular school day. June 6th (currently a minimum day) will become a regular full school day. These two changes would get us into compliance with instructional hours.

Option 2: May 23rd (currently shown as a non-contract day) would become a regular school day. June 6th (currently shown as a minimum day) will become a regular full school day. June

9th and 10th (currently shown as minimum days) will become regular full school days. June 12th will be the last day of school and a minimum day (currently June 10th is the last day). June 13th will be Teacher Inservice day (currently June 11th).

#### **I.6. Budget Committee Application**

Chair Campbell said he had the pleasure of meeting with Mark Krause and that he was fantastic. Mark works at SOU and is a very involved parent of some students in our district and is very interested in serving.

J. Recess - 7:24 - 7:33

#### **K. Action Items**

##### **K.1. SOESD Local Service Plan & SSA Comprehensive Support Plan**

I move to approve the SOESD 25-26 service plan & SSA comprehensive support plan as presented. This motion, made by Rick Nagel and seconded by Rebecca Weathers, Carried.

Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly

Farrimond: Yea, Rick Nagel: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Supt. Barry said that Scott Beveridge, Supt. of SOESD, was present to answer any questions the board may have and that this plan is very similar to this year's.

Directors Watson and Crawford and Chair Campbell asked several questions, including topics on the possibility of sharing staff, district allocations of the SOESD's state school fund, utilizing AI in instructional technology, gaps in boards and collaboration, support of smaller districts who struggle with reporting, and serving students with special needs. Supt. Barry presented Scott with a gift basket for his upcoming retirement and all his years of service in education.

##### **K.2. Health Education Curriculum Adoption**

I move to adopt the health education curriculum as presented. This motion, made by Rebecca Weathers and seconded by Nancy Castillo-McKinnis, Carried.

Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly

Farrimond: Yea, Rick Nagel: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Director Watson said that she had reviewed the curriculum and spoke in depth with Tiffanie Lambert about questions she had and feels good about the curriculum.

##### **K.3. Board Policy AC - Nondiscrimination and Civil Rights**

I move to approve changes to board policy AC - Nondiscrimination and Civil Rights as presented. This motion, made by Dawn Watson and seconded by Rebecca Weathers, Carried.

Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly

Farrimond: Yea, Rick Nagel: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

##### **K.4. Board Policy GBNAJ-JHFF - Suspected Sexual Conduct with Students and Reporting Requirements**

I move to approve changes to Board Policy GBNAJ-JHFF - Suspected Sexual Conduct with Students and Reporting Requirements as presented. This motion, made by Sara Crawford and

seconded by Dawn Watson, Carried.

Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly Farrimond: Yea, Rick Nagel: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**K.5. Board Policy GCAA - Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of Oregon Educators**

I move to approve changes to Board Policy GCAA - Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of Oregon Educators as presented. This motion, made by Polly Farrimond and seconded by Dawn Watson, Carried.

Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly Farrimond: Yea, Rick Nagel: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**K.6. Board Policy JHFF-GBNAA - Suspected Sexual Conduct with Students and Reporting Requirements**

I move to approve changes to Board Policy JHFF-GBNAA - Suspected Sexual Conduct with Students and Reporting Requirements as presented. This motion, made by Rebecca Weathers and seconded by Sara Crawford, Carried.

Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly Farrimond: Yea, Rick Nagel: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**L. Review of the Next Meeting Agenda**

**M. Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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Michael Campbell, Chair

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Brent Barry, Superintendent