



Work Session of the Board of Education

Thursday, April 10, 2025 5:30 PM

Oakdale Middle School Room 230
815 S. Oakdale Ave.
Medford, OR 97501

Michelle Atkinson:	Present
Lilia Caballero:	Present
Kendell Ferguson:	Present
Jeff Kinsella:	Absent
Suzanne Messer:	Absent
Michael Williams:	Absent
Cynthia Wright:	Present

A video recording of the Board meeting can be found on the district website at [this link](#). The slide presentation can be viewed by clicking on Extras listed next to the meeting at [this link](#).

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call

Board Chair Cynthia Wright called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called. *(It was verbally noted that Board Director Michael Williams would attend virtually. He was unable to join the meeting and therefore his attendance was recorded as absent.)*

Chair Wright welcomed the public and stated the district's vision statement.

2. Agenda Adjustments and Approval

Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

3. Recognitions

3.a. High School Artists Shine in Medford's Community Art Contest

Superintendent Bret Champion invited North Medford High School (NMHS) Art Teacher Lindsey Stout and South Medford High School (SMHS) Art Teacher Elizabeth Null to the podium to speak on the student art awards. Students were

presented with certificates of recognition.

High School Alpine Ski Racing State Championships

Superintendent Champion invited SMHS Coach Gary King to the podium to speak on the state championships and present students with certificates of recognition. Assistant Coach Tucker Houck was also present.

3.b. Oregon's 2024-25 School Communicator of the Year

Superintendent Champion spoke regarding the Oregon School Communicator of the Year award that was presented at the Oregon School Public Relations Association (OSPRA) conference to Communications and Community Relations Director Natalie Hurd and commended her leadership in the district's family engagement and communication.

Hurd provided an overview of her journalism career that evolved into public relations for the district. She expressed thanks to the communications team; leadership coach; the Board for supporting the work and hiring Superintendent Champion; and to Superintendent Champion for supporting communication.

4. Recess

The Board took a short break to take photos with those recognized.

5. Work Session Items

5.a. Board/District Goals & Priorities - Students are Engaged / Student & Family Engagement Update

Communications and Community Relations Director Natalie Hurd and Assistant Director of Family Outreach and Community Engagement Marisa Poling provided an overview of the YouthTruth survey results as it relates to the Board/District Goal – Students are Engaged.

Topics of the presentation included:

- why the district conducts the survey
- student and family survey grade levels
- number of survey responses; defining student and family engagement
- understanding the survey results
- student and family trend data by level
- highest and lowest rated question by categories

Jefferson Elementary Principal Dan Jones and North Medford High School Principal Allen Barber shared what is working in their schools in the area of culture, relationships, safety, resources, and communications.

Board Directors put forth questions and comment regarding result similarities across all three middle schools; clarification between Oregon and National averages; role of career and technical education programs; improvement in school safety; number of years the district has conducted the survey for the elementary level; culture building events and engagement at Jefferson Elementary; noticeable improvement in culture at NMHS; opportunities to improve engagement at the middle school level; and the effect on data due to moving sixth grade students to middle school.

5.b. North Medford High School (NMHS) Gymnasium Update

Executive Director of Security, Leadership and Facilities Ron Havnear and Facilities Manager Andy Chasteen provided an update on the NMHS gymnasium. Updates since the last Board meeting included:

- demo phase I - *complete*
- professional services team selection - *complete*
- engineer assessment - *in progress*
- weather in and shoring contractor - *in progress*
- temporary – permanent structure - *in progress*
- engineer assessment of remaining structure - *scheduled*
- weight room - equipment removal - *complete*
- athletic equipment retrieval - *in progress*
- locker clean out - *scheduled*

Board Directors put forth questions and comments regarding the extent of damage and how much of the building was salvageable.

5.c. School Board Policies – *first reading*

Board Directors reviewed the policies and administrative regulations and determined to move them forward for a second reading and approval at the April 24 Board meeting, including the proposed revisions.

6. Consent Agenda

- 6.a. Staff Assignment Report
- 6.b. Minutes from previous Board meetings
- 6.c. Foreign Exchange Programs

Hearing no objections, the consent agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

7. Announcements

7.a. Professional Development Opportunity for Teachers - Ag Industry

Grazioli explained the process for sharing professional development (PD) opportunities for teachers and staff. She noted that the opportunity for the agriculture industry PD would be included in the current newsletter.

7.b. April 17 - Budget Committee Meeting at Oakdale Middle School - 5:30 PM

7.c. April 24 - Board Meeting at Oakdale Middle School - 5:30 PM

7.d. May 8 - Community Share Out at Work Session - 5:30 PM

Chair Wright acknowledged the upcoming Budget Committee and Board meetings.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Chair of the District School Board
Medford School District

ATTEST:

Superintendent-Clerk