

Board of Directors Meeting

December 11, 2024

7:00pm

The board meeting began with a performance by the EHS Ranger Choir, followed by reports from directors. Key points included the success of the Ranger Classic wrestling tournament with 282 participants, and the music department's achievements, including 10 students qualifying for all-state choir and two for the Western choir. The district's enrollment is at 1,956, with a 22-student increase from last month. Financial reports showed a general fund balance of \$5.7 million and a capital improvement fund balance of \$1.4 million. The superintendent discussed potential rebounding due to overcrowding and plans for a new career and workforce development center. The meeting discussed the future of education in South Clackamas County, focusing on collaboration with the Molalla School District and Clackamas Community College (CCC) to enhance Career Technical Education (CTE) programs. Plans include specializing in manufacturing, electrical internships, and auto mechanics. Overcapacity issues at the Middle School and wrestling programs were addressed with a discussion to build a 50x60 pole barn behind the High School, costing around \$250,000. The board approved a three-year calendar for 2025-2028, emphasizing predictability and community feedback. The importance of project management for projects over \$150,000 was debated, with a consensus on needing expertise for complex projects.

Action Items

- Explore community partnerships and internship/apprenticeship opportunities for CTE programs.
- Gather feedback from local manufacturers on their workforce needs and potential collaboration with the district.
- Investigate the feasibility and cost estimates for the proposed pole barn structure.
- Determine the district's policy on when to utilize a project manager for construction projects over a certain threshold.
- The 3 year calendar as presented was approved.

Outline

Board of Directors Meeting Commencement and Roll Call

- Chair Wheeler calls the board of directors meeting to order at 7 o'clock.

- Chair Wheeler welcomes everyone and requests a roll call.
- Roll call confirms the presence of Director Martinez, Director Walper, Director Lohmeier, VC Riedel and Chair Wheeler. Absent: Director Behrman and Director Johnston
- Motion to approve the agenda is made by VC Riedel seconded by Director Walper, and approved unanimously. 5-0

EHS Ranger Choir Performance

- Chair Wheeler introduces the EHS Ranger Choir for a Christmas holiday music performance.
- The choir performed 3 songs
- VC Riedel praises the choir's performance and the work of Mr. Rendell Frunk
- Director Walper and Director Martinez express their admiration for the choir's enthusiasm and performance.

Board of Directors Reports

- Director Lohmeier discusses the Ranger Classic high school wrestling tournament, highlighting its success and the participation of 282 students.
- VC Riedel mentions the achievements of the choir students, including qualifications for all-state and western choirs.
- Chair Wheeler shares observations from visits during conferences at the school district, emphasizing the positive atmosphere and the efforts of teachers and administrators.
- Chair Wheeler discusses the challenges of explaining Standards based grading to the community and the need for better communication.

Communication and Community Engagement

- Maggie Kelly provides an update on the video communication series at The Middle School, highlighting the positive feedback and plans for future videos.
- Maggie Kelly discusses winter weather communication, including snow routes and bus compass app updates.
- Maggie Kelly mentions a family night for Spanish-speaking families with great attendance and the upcoming community mailer.
- Maggie Kelly talks about the success of a Facebook Live event and the parent poll on growth and capacity.

Elementary Events and Family Engagement

- Dani Randall highlights music performances and family breakfast events.
- Dani Randall mentions ongoing community outreach and the upcoming Destination High Performance event in March.

- Director Walper suggests tracking parent responses to the calendar and capacity surveys.
- Maggie Kelly agrees to provide a summary of parent feedback and the importance of community input.

Buildings and Facility Report

- Mike Waer provides updates on Capital Improvement Projects, including the baseball and softball turf field and the press box at the baseball field.
- Mike Waer discusses the completion of fencing at the baseball field and the progress on the seismic rehab project.
- Mike Waer highlights the success of the Thanksgiving meal for students and the state and county free reduced numbers.
- Mike Waer mentions the quarterly cybersecurity test and the positive results, including zero external breaches.

Financial and Accountability Report

- Mike Waer presents the general fund and capital improvement fund balances and expenditures.
- Mike Waer provides an enrollment report, highlighting the total enrollment and the trends in various schools.
- Mike Waer discusses the financial impact of the Summit Learning Charter school and the annual audit process.
- Chair Wheeler inquires about the impact of enrollment on the biennium budget and the state school fund.

Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent Carpenter commends the communications department for the upcoming community mailer.
- Superintendent Carpenter introduces the new interactive school district boundary map on the website.
- Superintendent Carpenter updates the board on the Red Barn preschool acquisition and the decision to abort the project due to high renovation costs.
- Superintendent Carpenter discusses the results of the parent survey on rebounding and the need to address overcrowding in elementary schools.

Transportation and Student Behavior

- Superintendent Carpenter commends the transportation department for testing a new middle school pick-up schedule to improve efficiency.

- Superintendent Carpenter acknowledges the challenges faced by educators and staff during the holiday season and the importance of policy in handling complex situations.
- Superintendent Carpenter updates the board on the weight room and restroom capacity issues and the potential solution of a pole barn.
- Superintendent Carpenter introduces Erin Gardnerhire, the new district improvement coach, and her role in enhancing Career Technical Education Programs.

CTE Program and Future Vision

- Erin Gardenhire introduces the Career and Technical Education Program and its importance in preparing students for high-demand fields.
- Erin Gardenhire outlines the current CTE offerings in manufacturing, automotive, and agriculture and the plans to expand to electrical systems and education pathways.
- Erin Gardenhire discusses the vision of creating a career and workforce development center in Estacada supported by the City of Estacada and industry partners.
- Erin Gardenhire emphasizes the need for community input and support in developing the CTE program and the future center.

Community Feedback and Next Steps

- Director Walper suggests reaching out to the manufacturing community to understand their needs and potential partnerships.
- VC Riedel appreciates the forward-looking approach and the importance of community and industry partnerships.
- Director Walper and other board members express their willingness to participate and support the CTE program and the future center.
- Erin Gardenhire thanks the board and community for their support and looks forward to the next steps in developing the CTE program and the workforce development center.

Future Vision for Education in South Clackamas County

- Superintendent Carpenter emphasizes the bright future of education in the area, highlighting the passion of the board and the efforts of Erin's organization.
- The Molalla School District is also overhauling their CTE programs, aiming to funnel students to CCC pathways in state-of-the-art buildings.
- A collaborative effort is being made to create hubs or centers in both communities, specializing in different areas like aviation, manufacturing, electrical internships, and auto mechanics.
- The goal is to create a cohesive process for all kids in rural Clackamas County, with more school districts expected to join soon.

Proposal for a Pole Barn to Address Overcapacity

- Superintendent Carpenter discusses the overcapacity issues in the Middle School physical education departments and the wrestling programs.
- A discussion to build a 50x60 pole barn behind the High School is presented, with existing footprint and electrical stubbing available.
- The pole barn would include boys and girls restroom facilities, with the possibility of cutting these out if cost becomes an issue.
- The structure would face the practice soccer field, track, football field, and baseball field, with garage doors that can open and close based on weather conditions.

Detailed Design and Cost Considerations

- Superintendent Carpenter provides a detailed rendering of the pole barn, including the front entrance, three garage doors, and restroom facilities.
- The discussion is inspired by the Stayton High School, which built a similar structure to address their overcapacity issues.
- The estimated cost of the pole barn is compared to the cost of a new portable classroom, with the pole barn being seen as a more economical and permanent solution.
- The pole barn would accommodate various activities, including wrestling, track, cheer team, and youth organizations, while ensuring Title IX compliance.

Discussion on Project Management and Policy

- VC Riedel raises the possibility of subcontracting a project manager for projects over \$150,000 to ensure thorough execution.
- Director Martinez suggests establishing a standard policy for project management based on cost, to avoid frequent requests for approval.
- VC Riedel emphasizes the importance of expertise and the need for a project manager for complex projects.
- The board agrees on the need for a policy to determine when to hire a project manager, considering the complexity and cost of the project.

Approval of the Three-Year Calendar

- Chair Wheeler introduces the next agenda item, the approval of the three-year calendar for 2025-2027.
- Superintendent Carpenter clarifies that the calendar has been thoroughly reviewed and approved by a community work committee and a Facebook Live session.
- The board discusses the importance of the three-year calendar for predictability and planning, with no major changes to the calendar.
- The motion to approve the three-year calendar was made by VC Riedel, seconded by Director Martinez with the board acknowledging the benefits of the consistent schedule for parents and students. Motion Carries 5-0

Public Input and Community Support

- Tom McEaney shares a personal story about a local military member deployed to Iraq and asks the community to keep deployed service members in their thoughts and prayers.
- The board thanks Tom for his efforts and acknowledges the importance of community support and prayer during challenging times.
- The meeting concludes with a reminder of the upcoming Christmas break and a final thank you to all participants.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm