



# PHOENIX-TALENT SCHOOLS

EXCELLENCE *for* EVERYONE

Regular Board Meeting  
Thursday, April 17, 2025 10:00 AM Pacific

Talent Middle School  
102 Christian Avenue  
Talent, OR 97540

Michael Campbell:	Present	Rick Nagel:	Absent
Nancy Castillo-McKinnis:	Present	Dawn Watson:	Present
Sara Crawford:	Present	Rebecca Weathers:	Present
Polly Farrimond:	Present	Present: 6; Absent: 1	

**A. Regular Session Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

## **B. Program Report: Discussion with TMS Students**

Supt. Barry welcomed Andrew Kemp's eighth grade social studies class to the meeting and then the Board introduced themselves. The students asked the board the following questions and board members took turns answering them:

1. What does it take to become a school board member?
2. What is your most memorable moment as a member and why?
3. How do you believe our schools should be involved in helping the community?
4. What is the most successful decision that the school board has made, and why?

## **C. Accentuate the Positive**

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

- Mr. Olmstead shared his appreciation for Carrie McDonald and the vital role she takes on as our nurse. The support she provides for our students and her heart for kids in general is something I am grateful for.
- Mr. Olmstead gave a track update saying that we had a meet yesterday and had 76 student athletes participate. Mr. Olmstead thanked John Cornet for his support of our students.
- Next Friday we have our Movie Night for our sixth graders that our WEB Leaders are putting on. Mr. Olmstead gave a shout-out to Liz Fletcher and Bry Bates for their support in helping make this happen.
- Mr. Olmstead gave a shout-out to the high school Link leaders. They were here last week to meet with our all of our eighth graders to get them excited about transitioning to high school.

**OHES Principal Kent Vallier shared the following:**

- Mr. Vallier gave a shout-out to Dianne Wolff, Holly Swift, Heather DeGrandis, Danielle Lea, and Holly Tamplin for creating and decorating our SBAC testing rooms.
- Mr. Vallier thanked Holly Swift, our building secretary, for implementing an attendance incentive program. Holly has put together fun raffle prizes, and on Fridays, we have several drawings for those prizes.

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

- We are in testing season and I want to thank our Title 1 and Special Education departments for their work to provide supports for our students. In addition, thanks to teachers for everything they are doing to prepare our kids.
- Día del Niño is tonight, from 5:00-7:00. It is the 100th year anniversary of the holiday and you are all are welcome to join this very special event.
- Next week on April 22, we have our first Walk and Roll event. Thanks to the work of the new Safe Routes to School coordinator, Lara McCormick, she is helping us get this event off the ground.
- Several classrooms are participating in the City of Talent Art Walk on April 25 from 5:00-7:00. We will have student art on display.
- TES is hosting an Arbor Day tree planting on April 26.

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

- This has been an exciting and full week at PTRA. Between state testing, the iReady Diagnostic, and an upcoming field trip, our students and staff have been busy and engaged.
- Navigating state testing from home can be challenging, but thanks to the support and encouragement from Maddie Macias and Heather Ayers-Flood, our amazing teachers, testing is off to a strong start.
- We are also looking forward to our annual visit to Wildlife Images on Friday. This trip is always a school favorite, and we are happy to have beautiful weather in the forecast.

**PES Principal Shawna Schleif shared the following via Aaron Santi:**

- Last week, our family engagement team hosted our first PES Talent Show in many years. We had held tryouts with 50 acts and selected 24 acts, including singers, dancers, piano performers, joke tellers, a Rubik's Cube solver, and many more. One thing to point out is that because our IA, Aubrey Cary, teaches students dances during recess, our final act consisted of a group of students from across many classes and grades who performed together. This is an example of removing barriers to ensure all students have something to showcase.
- Jenny Brown's 2nd-grade TWI class wrote persuasive essays for ideas of a new ice cream flavor to Harper's Ice Cream Shop in Phoenix. Isla Wilkerson's persuasion worked; Harper's will be featuring her creation of Apple Flash. We encourage all of you to stop by to try this tasty treat.
- Upcoming events including Kinder Launch on April 30; Walk and Roll to School on May 13; Spring Showcase on May 21.

**Pre-School Early Learning Director Kelly Soter shared the following:**

- Ms. Soter gave a shout-out to Rosario Medina, Diana Martinez, Sandra Munoz, Danna Morales and Sara Bello.
- Our theme this month is Creative Me - we have had gardening week, construction week, spring week, flowers and all kinds of fun stuff.
- Ms. Soter gave a shout-out to Diana Martinez will complete her Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education this summer and to Sandra Munoz who has just completed her Child Development Associate Credential.

- We have continued to contract with Family Nurturing Center for Preschool Promise but we also have an opportunity to apply to be our own grantee and our own program provider. We are in the process of submitting our application with the Department of Early Learning.

**PHS Assistant Principal Erica Ochoa shared the following:**

- Ms. Ochoa gave a shout-out to our student outcome teams, which all certified staff participated in this year. Staff chose high leverage practices that they felt would make a direct input on student outcomes in their classrooms. They worked in cross-curricular groups to develop lessons and tools that would engage students more deeply. Last Wednesday, we listened to presentations by each group and will continue those presentations on May 7. It is amazing to see what teachers have created and developed. In addition, it resulted in teachers visiting one another while they were teaching, doing classroom observations, and getting ideas for their own classrooms. Shout-out specifically to our curriculum and engagement specialist, Alyssum Barber for making those groups happen and facilitating the learning for those groups throughout the year.
- Similarly, yesterday we finished up our distributed leadership teams for the year. These groups were created after staff decided what we wanted to direct our attention to. We talked about creating the culture we want in our buildings, not just letting it happen, so teachers decided to join groups to transform and or carry on positive culture at PHS. Those group range from adult learning and professional development, all the way to spirit and legacy. We had great conversations yesterday about what successes we have had and where we want to go with these groups next year.
- We are beyond excited to start the transitions for our 8th grade students who will board the pirate ship officially next fall. We are coordinating several events over the next few months to engage those students and their families and to ensure a warm hand off from TMS to PHS. We would like to invite you all to our Future Pirate Night at 5:30 next Thursday.
- We have had many student activities and are excited for spirit week and prom week coming up soon. We are also celebrating the second year of skills USA and the potential that organization and our participation brings to our CTE programs.
- Ms. Ochoa gave a shout-out to Maggie Taylor Cheek for her support in SBAC testing and Maria Lee for helping students cross the finish line in getting their Biliteracy Seal.

**Amy Honts from Sodexo shared the following:**

- Ms. Honts gave a shout-out to Jon McCalip and his maintenance team for being so prompt in responding to her work orders.
- Ms. Honts gave board members a recipe book from the Future Chef event this year.
- Next week we will be celebrating Earth Day with some fun little dessert puffs.
- On Thursday, Ms. Honts will be attending a Rogue Valley Farm to School procurement day to learn more about some of our local food options. We will be ending this year with local muffins from Miffy's Muffins.

**Director Dawn Watson** thanked Canyon Fuchs and Joe Zavala for their IT support and video production of our board meetings. Ms. Watson said that a friend of hers who works at a different school district wanted to give kudos to the staff at TES for providing data and information in

getting a student enrolled in their district and implementing his IEP. Ms. Watson recently toured an elementary school in a different district. A conversation led her to appreciate the fact that our schools in our district allow our Board members to visit. She appreciates the openness, and being welcomed and for the trust in allowing us to come into our district classrooms so we can help advocate for our students.

**Student Representative Javier Quintana** had heard from several students that the tennis courts grand opening was great. Students talked about how they would love to have a boy's tennis team next year. The staff versus student game in support of our Sparrow went really well. We had two track meets here at the high school and a track meet for the middle school. John Cornet was a big help as well as other volunteers. Seniors have a lot going on right now with college registration, housing, etc. and the Future Planning Center has been a big help with that. Senior dates have been announced for several upcoming events including senior awards night, senior diplomas, senior capstone, and others. DECA leaves for internationals next week on the 25th to Orlando FL. We are preparing to do our best at the conference. There is a challenge going on right now on Instagram called the USC buying challenge, aka the Ice Bucket Challenge. It is for bringing awareness to mental health and suicide prevention and many students are participating in that.

#### **D. PTEA and OSEA Associations Update**

Lori Evans, engagement and curriculum specialist at TMS, said that PTEA is feeling very positive and good about the collaborative and respectful nature of this years bargaining. Our members will be completing the admin surveys to give feedback to the administrators, and the results will be shared with the AdTeam. PTEA elections are coming up in May. Laura Latham is running for Vice President and we wish her well. PTEA is planning a spring appreciation and recognition event for our members at the end of May.

**E. Citizen Comments** – There were none.

#### **F. Superintendent Report**

- Supt. Barry recognized and welcomed Diana Rasmussen who is running for Sara Crawford's board seat as she has chosen not to run again.
- Supt. Barry gave a shout-out to Joe Zavala for all of the information he shares about our district and for getting his videos out in such a timely fashion.
- We have been feverishly working on the 25-26 budget. We will have some information sessions on the budget for any board member who would like to attend. The first one will be April 21, and the second one is May 5 from 4-5pm.

#### **G. Program Report: Integrated Guidance**

Supt. Barry said that we have been working the past few weeks on wrapping up our integrated guidance information and we are required to share this with the board.

Administrator of Magnet Programs, Assessment, and Evaluation, Aaron Santi, gave a presentation on the 2025 Integrated Application process. This process combined community engagement, needs assessment, planning, budgeting and evaluation for nine programs. The nine programs included:

- Continuous Improvement Planning
- Every Day Matters
- Career Connected Learning
- High School Success
- Student Investment Account
- Early Indicator and Intervention Systems
- Early Literacy Success School District Grants
- Career and Technical Education
- Federal School Improvement for Comprehensive/Targeted Supports

Mr. Santi explained each programs purpose, the required planning processes, using an equity lens, and tools in the decision-making, community engagement, and highlights from a needs assessment. Mr. Santi described what our intended outcomes are, what key strategies we will use and what our key investments are to help us achieve those intended outcomes. Mr. Santi described the next steps in this process including presenting the plan before the board and for public comment at the next meeting on May 1. There was further discussion regarding funding, testing, and accountability.

#### **H. Consent Agenda**

I move to approve the consent agenda as presented. This motion made by Dawn Watson and seconded by Sara Crawford. There being no objections, the consent agenda was approved.

H.1. Approval of Agenda

H.2. Approval of Minutes from 4/3/2025

H.3. Personnel Report

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

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

Director Dawn Watson talked about several bills including the accountability bill and the cell phone bill. OSBA is having an advocacy day and there are a few people from southern Oregon going up. The Ways and Means roadshow is in Klamath Falls on the 25th. There are some public meeting laws bills having to do with work sessions and public comments. Ms. Watson provided a summary of her visit to NSBA.

Director Nancy Castillo-McKinnis said that during their time at NSBA, they had an opportunity to vote on the policies. Ms. Castillo-McKinnis experienced the value of having conversations and learning about others perspectives and being able to support one another. There was conversation around having Student Representatives and the value that brings to the board. Nancy received valuable information on how to support and engage students. Something Nancy would like to consider for next year is building the pathway to start to coach youths to talk to adults so that students feel comfortable. Both Dawn and Nancy spoke highly of the student performances. They were awesome in all that they did whether it was music, dancing, singing and playing instruments. Ms. Castillo-McKinnis said that the Key Note speaker who wrote the book 'Pivot' was so good and we had heard him at an OSBA conference as well.

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

Supt. Barry said that the financial report is through March. Yazmin Karabinas, Director of Accounting, shared highlights regarding the report. There was conversation around the ADM security bill and Supt. Barry said that it is essentially on hold for now and is in Ways and Means. The bill is for a one-year period.

### **I.3. Review Student Handbooks**

Copies of all student handbooks for 25-26 were provided to the board for their review.

### **I.4. Declaration of Surplus Items**

There was some discussion regarding the possible use of some of these items for Career Pathways and Supt. Barry said he would confer with Jon McCalip but he believes all these items are very old and would most likely not be of use.

### **I.5. OSBA Targeted Feedback Survey**

Director Crawford would like to see the board do this for next year as she feels this would give the board more information for the superintendent evaluation. Director Watson said that having this targeted feedback survey would help set us up for accountability down the road.

## **J. Recess**

## **K. Action Items**

### **K.1. Interdistrict Transfer Slots**

I move to approve the interdistrict transfer slots as presented. This motion, made by Polly Farrimond and seconded by Dawn Watson, Carried.

Rick Nagel: Absent, Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly Farrimond: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea  
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

### **K.2. Food Service Contract**

I move to approve Sodexo as the successful proposer and the contract for 25-26 as presented including any changes requested by ODE and/or Sodexo. This motion, made by Polly Farrimond and seconded by Rebecca Weathers, Carried.

Rick Nagel: Absent, Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly Farrimond: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea  
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

There was some discussion regarding insurance requirements and Yazmin Karabinas said that PACE said that the insurance requirements listed were fine. Yazmin has submitted the contract to Sodexo for their review and will still need to submit it to ODE.

There was more discussion about having quarterly reports from Amy including the use of local foods such as Rogue Valley Farm to School.

### **K.3. Board Meeting Calendar for 25-26**

I move to approve the 25-26 Board Meeting Calendar as presented. This motion, made by Polly Farrimond and seconded by Dawn Watson, Carried.

Rick Nagel: Absent, Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly Farrimond: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea  
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

There was discussion about possibly adding another work session but not at this time. There was a suggestion that during the work session in July we outline what we want for the different work sessions.

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

We will open with a Public Meeting regarding the Integrated Guidance.

**M. Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

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Michael Campbell, Chair

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Brent Barry, Superintendent