



**Minutes  
The Board of Education  
Molalla River School District**

**December 12, 2024**

**I. BUSINESS MEETING - Molalla River School District Office (Board Room)**

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Amy McNeil called the business meeting to order at 7:00pm and proceeded with the pledge of allegiance.

Board members attending included: Chair Amy McNeil, Vice Chair Craig Loughridge, Rob Cummings, Terrie Stafford, Mark Lucht, Linda Eskridge, and Student Representative Madison Talarico. Absent: Neal Lucht

MRSD Administrators present: Dr. Tony Mann/Superintendent, Jennifer Ellis/Director of Human Resources, Tamara Jackson/Director of Teaching & Learning, Andy Campbell/Chief Financial Officer, Andrea Watson/Director of Communications, Dr. Robin Shobe/Director of Student Services, Chris Shaw/Director of Technology, Ron Stewart/Capital Projects Manager, Dr. David Atherton/Principal Molalla High School, Amy Chapin/Associate Principal Molalla High School, Randy Dalton/Principal Molalla River Middle School, Cathy Mitchell/Principal at Mulino Elementary, Les Womack/Principal at Molalla Elementary, Larry Conley/Principal at Rural Dell Elementary, Christy Newman/Principal at Clarkes, and Lauree Nelzen/Executive Administrative Assistant

Also present: Mackenzie Behrle/Teacher Molalla High School, Debbie Halter and friend Lois, Molalla High School FFA students, John Meyer

**A. SPECIAL RECOGNITION – MACKENZIE BEHRLE HONORARY NATIONAL FFA DEGREE**

Chair McNeil congratulated Ms. Behrle on the receipt of her Honorary National FFA Degree in October and presented her with flowers. Dr. Mann thanked Ms. Behrle for her time devoted to Molalla High School Students. Ms. Lauree Nelzen read a statement from former student and current Oregon State FFA President Mr. Dale Nelzen.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

**C. CONSIDER CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

There was none.

**D. STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Ms. Madison Talarico stated the play “Mean Girls” was a lot of fun and raised \$3,000 for thespian state competition. The second trimester has started and leadership decorated the commons with snowflakes. Choir had a concert on December 10<sup>th</sup>. A raffle for choir raised \$400 for an upcoming tour to San Francisco. Winter sports have started and are doing well. Students are prepping and excited for winter break.

**E. ACTION ITEMS**

*1. Consent Agenda – November Meeting minutes, personnel report*

Vice Chair Loughridge made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Ms. Eskridge seconded the motion. Mr. Mark Lucht declared he would abstain from voting due to

a family member listed in the personnel report. There was no discussion and the motion passed 5 yes, 1 abstention via a hand vote.

2. *Recommendation for Approval – Job Description – Assistant Superintendent/Director of Human Resources*  
Ms. Eskridge made a motion to approve the job description as presented. Dr. Mann explained the strategic organization of the District Office and the new position is a clear line of delegation from the Superintendent's Office. Ms. Jennifer Ellis will provide coverage when Dr. Mann is gone and recently completed her administrative licensure. Vice Chair Loughridge asked for clarification on what is being asked of the Board. Dr. Mann stated the job description approval is tonight, and the contract will be brought to the work session next week for approval. Ms. Eskridge stated her approval of Ms. Ellis and appreciates her detailed attention to her work. The Board asked to add the legal requirements for licensure to the job description. Vice Chair Loughridge amended the motion to approve the job description with the addition of legal licensure requirements to be added. Mr. Mark Lucht seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously via a hand vote.
3. *Second Reading of Policy – JHFE/GBNAB – Reporting Child Abuse, JHFE/GBNAB-AR(1)*  
There was discussion about the type of abuse the policy covers, and the purpose of the policy and AR revision. Mr. Mark Lucht made a motion to approve the policy JHFE/GBNAB and associated AR(1). Ms. Eskridge seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously via a hand vote.

## **F. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

1. *Middle School Capital Project Update*  
Dr. Ron Stewart stated the project is currently on time and on budget. He gave the Board an update on the meeting with the City regarding the development codes and the variances needed for the middle school. He also stated there will be a traffic study coming up for improved infrastructure and safety. Dr. Stewart stated there were 9 proposals turned in for the CM/GC (Construction Manager/General Contractor) RFP and Monday December 16<sup>th</sup> the committee will review and rate all proposals with interviews for finalists to be held on Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Ms. Andrea Watson for her communication efforts to the community. He stated he and Dr. Mann met with Middle School staff today and received a lot of input. There was discussion about security for the building site as well as insurance requirements.
2. *Elementary School Capacity Discussion*  
Dr. Mann and Dr. Stewart gave the Board a brief history of District enrollment studies and data. They stated the District has not seen the projected growth in the district that the 2015 Portland State University study predicted, but enrollment has increased. This is due to an increase in the overall population in the City of Molalla. The City plans to expand their UGB (Urban Growth Boundary) soon, so Dr. Mann and Dr. Stewart want to discuss how we solve the issue of full capacity at Rural Dell and Molalla Elementary. There was discussion about 3 different options: a satellite campus, a district boundary adjustment, or adding modular classrooms. There will be an advisory committee convening soon to look at solutions, as Dr. Stewart said this process can take up to a year to figure out. There was discussion about the current high school enrollment and capacity. Dr. Mann stated there will be a new demographics study to be completed in March 2025, and he will come back to the Board with those preliminary results in March or April.

3. *Communications Report*

Ms. Andrea Watson stated this is her 12<sup>th</sup> report to the Board. She stated the communication around the bond is going well, and has been getting out there to show the community the draft design. She stated a sign with the new logo for the board room has been ordered and should be ready for the next meeting. Ms. Watson also gave an update on the new website and the implementation of Rooms, a feature that the high school will pilot after the new year. She also discussed the FirstView app, a new feature from First Student, and how it is going.

4. *Facilities and Deferred Maintenance Report*

Mr. Tony Tiano was not present, so Dr. Mann asked if there were any questions regarding his report. There was discussion about the road map presented a few months ago. Dr. Mann stated that will be part of the District Scorecard presentation at the work session in January.

5. *Financial Review*

Mr. Campbell reported on the latest audit, which is on track for submission to ODE. He stated he is hopeful for an update for the State School Fund projections for 25-26 in January, and he is still working on the PERS increase and the impact for the District. He also stated there is a District enrollment analysis underway, and reviewed the report from the Bond Oversight Committee meeting on December 3rd. There was discussion regarding the project budget summary and what the extra revenue can and cannot be spent on.

6. *Teaching and Learning Report*

a. **Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

Ms. Tamara Jackson gave an overview for the Integrated Report, a requirement from ODE. She reviewed the required questions and gave a brief summary for each, highlighting the work with Defined Learning and the Early Literacy Grant initiatives that began a few weeks ago. There was discussion about the challenges and barriers to success for the Integrated Report, and if ODE responds to them.

b. **25-26 High School Course proposals**

Dr. David Atherton gave a short overview of each course proposal, answering questions about staffing and materials and possible internships in the community. He also discussed the redesign of current English courses, with a Career Communications course as a highlight. Dr. Mann thanked Dr. Atherton for his work on keeping new courses relevant to life skills needed by high school students and discussed the work with Estacada School District and a possible centralized CTE (Career and Technical Education) Center for Clackamas County School Districts. There was discussion of new foreign language courses in the future.

c. **Student Services**

Dr. Robin Shobe discussed the new format of the Student Services report and gave an update on data collection for the ODE Child Find Report. She stated the preliminary numbers show an increase in students on IEP's.

**G. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Mann thanked Ms. Watson for her work in Communications and acknowledged she has been with the District for 1 year.

**H. BOARD COMMENTS**

Ms. Talarico commented on her acceptance to the University of Oregon, where she will major in Psychology and work as a Law intern. Vice Chair Loughridge commented on possible new foreign language courses at the high school and thanked the Board for their gift of flowers for the passing of his step-father. Chair McNeil stated her pride in working with the Board and the District and the hard work they all perform for the students. Mr. Mark Lucht agreed.

**I. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Work Session December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the District Office
- Business meeting January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the District Office
- Work Session January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm at the District Office

Chair McNeil also reminded the Board of the upcoming Oregon Government Ethics Commission training at Clackamas ESD on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

**J. ADJOURN**

Mr. Mark Lucht made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cummings seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously with a hand vote at 8:48pm.

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*Chair*

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*Superintendent*

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*Board Secretary*