

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J, LANE COUNTY, OREGON**

May 1, 2019

The Board of Directors of School District No. 4J, Lane County, Eugene, Oregon, held a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Education Center, 200 North Monroe Street, Eugene, Oregon. Notice of the meeting was mailed to the media and posted in the Education Center on April 25, 2019, and published in *The Register-Guard* on May 1, 2019.

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS:

Alicia Hays, Chair
Anne Marie Levis, Vice Chair
Eileen Nittler (excused)
Judy Newman
Evangelina Sundgrenz
Jim Torrey
Mary Walston

STAFF:

Dr. Gustavo Balderas, Superintendent of Schools
Charis McGaughy, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
Kerry Delf, Associate Director of Communications
Brooke Wagner, Director of Elementary Education
Andy Dey, Director of Secondary Education
Cheryl Linder, Director of Student Services
Cydney Vandercar, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services
Christine Nesbit, In-House Counsel
Ryan Spain, Director of Facilities Management
Steve Menachemson, Director of Technology
Oscar Loureiro, Director of Research and Planning
Lisa Fjordbeck, Executive Assistant / Board Secretary

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Claire Shepard, Churchill High School (absent)
Jude Ruff, ECCO
Jane Brinkley, IHS
Zoe Chilhorek, IHS (alternate)
Hannah Mitchell, North Eugene High School (absent)
Ainsley Abraham, Sheldon High School (absent)
Tiffany Huang, South Eugene High School

MEDIA: KRVM, Register Guard.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The board will convene in executive session to evaluate the employment related performance of the chief executive officer, pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(i).

All matters discussed during this executive session are confidential and shall not be disclosed by any representative of the news media without authorization of the school board.

II. REGULAR BOARD MEETING

III. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE

Chair Hays called the regular meeting of the 4J board of directors to order at 7:03 p.m.

Chair Hays led those present in the flag salute.

IV. AGENDA REVIEW

There were no changes to the agenda.

V. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Balderas said that board members may have noticed that there are a few students and families in the audience tonight. Dr. Balderas said they would be recognizing student achievement in excellence for Winter athletics and activities.

Dr. Balderas asked District Athletic Director, Kelly Bokn to join him for the recognitions. Dr. Balderas said it takes a lot of personal commitment and dedication on the part of our students to participate in activities and athletics. Participating successfully at the school level takes a commendable amount of focus. To represent their schools at the state level is an honor.

Dr. Balderas honored state champions including: Anzo DeGiulio from South Eugene High School, who won the 100 in free style swimming; Charles Page-Jones from Churchill High School, who won the 50 free style and 100 fly in swimming; and Kylie Taylor from Churchill High School who won the 100 backstroke and was 3rd in the 100 fly.

Dr. Balderas said that the following evening, the district would honor 117 nominees (made of 4J staff and volunteers) during the ACE Awards (A Champion in Education) Celebration. These nominees made a daily difference in the lives of students.

Dr. Balderas acknowledged the day of action planned by the Oregon Education Association (OEA) for May 8, 2019. OEA encouraged its members to participate in a walk out, to support increased funding for education so Oregon schools had enough money to plan for all activity. Due to the walk out, 4J has no choice but to cancel school because there would not be enough staff to cover classrooms. The day would be an unpaid day for teachers; classified staff would continue to work, and the district would hold professional development activities for classified staff. Dr. Balderas noted the district advocated for additional funding but could not condone actions that disrupted student learning. Canceling school impacted families who depended on services provided by 4J during the weekdays. The district would offer free lunches at select school sites and provide its usual student transportation services to non 4J programs. Athletics would continue as planned and high schools would administer Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) tests as scheduled. The district was also exploring options to keep outdoor school going for that day.

The district encouraged local organizations to offer childcare. The YMCA, as well as a couple of other sites, would offer extended services on May 8, 2019. Dr. Balderas reiterated the district was unified with staff in the desire for Oregon to fix the lack of school funding. There had been long term disinvestment; it

was time for leaders to reverse the trend and provide the resources students needed. He explained the school board and administration continued to engage with elected officials to advocate for stable and sufficient funding. Dr. Balderas stated the district encouraged staff to advocate for beliefs in their own time and in ways that didn't interrupt student support or learning time. Dr. Balderas thanked staff who worked on the topic of disinvestment.

Lastly, Dr. Balderas congratulated Ms. Kerry Delf for being recognized as communicator of the year by Oregon School Public Relations Association.

VI. RECEIVE REPORTS FROM HIGH SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

Jane Brinkley presented on behalf of IHS. She stated lead teacher Brian Kuzma had been busy, while first exams for IB were on May 7, 2019 and would continue throughout the following weeks. Ms. Brinkley invited folks to the May 21, 2019 IHS celebration at Oakway Center where there would be lots of activities for families, current students, and alumni. Ms. Brinkley noted that IHS was trying to expand its feminist unit to have an intersectional lens and to be more inclusive of different experiences. IHS was also working to reshuffle staff between campuses for the next academic year.

Tiffany Huang reported the South Eugene High School student government had a successful Green Week. Students raised funds to "adopt" a penguin. Student government was also currently accepting applications for next years' positions. Ms. Huang said that beginning May 2, 2019, student government would provide care packages for those taking IB and AP exams. The project was part of several put on for Mental Health Awareness Month. They were also working on an assembly, spirit week, and spring fest. Orchestra was headed to a state competition the following week and South Eugene High School theater opened its spring production. In other news, South Eugene High School hired three new athletic coaches, and the parent counsel was hosting an evening to discuss suicide prevention with families.

Jude Ruff was co-representative for ECCO with Chris. Mr. Ruff reported the ECCO ESSA team began visioning work, as well its five-year vision with the district ESSA coach, Rob Hess. He continued on, noting the entire student body was excited to learn more about ECCO's new building (to be located on the Monroe Street property) as the permitting process progressed. Mr. Ruff shared that over the past few months, student leadership worked to identify values and specific school improvement goals. Leadership was happy to read that ECCO's values around healthy meals aligned with recent board action. He explained many families relied on those meals, so the school was grateful for the support. That week, students were invited to participate in the interview process to select a new administrator. Students were grateful for district administration recognizing the importance of student voice in such a decision. Mr. Ruff reported prom was cancelled due to low participation. Instead, ECCO would shift money to something everyone could enjoy, an end of year barbeque and field trip. Due to the large demand for graduation tickets the last year, ECCO was moving the graduation commencement to Silva Concert Hall. The ECCO young parent program started releasing monthly newsletters. That month's edition focused on reading and the importance of access to books in the home.

Mary Walston provided a report on behalf of Claire Shepard. Ms. Shepard shared via email that midterms happened that week and graduation was quickly approaching, along with prom and IB/AP tests. Spring sports wrapped up successfully, while the spring musical was launching. Ms. Shepard also acknowledged Mental Health Awareness Month and stated activities throughout the month of May were meant to help end stigma when talking about mental health.

Ms. Newman provided a report on behalf on Hannah Mitchell, who was participating in a track meet at North Eugene High School. Track district competitions would happen that month. Ms. Mitchell stated

North Eugene High School celebrated official decision day, which brought a lot of excitement. Seniors commemorated all their hard work prior to graduation and celebrated their after-graduation plans. North Eugene High School was the only school in Lane County to celebrate such a day. Finally, the Highlander Pageant was set for May 4, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

VII. ITEMS RAISED BY THE AUDIENCE

Chair Hays read the district and board policy on providing public comment.

Janelle McPherson was a founder of Coburg Community Charter School (CCCS). She thanked the board for its careful consideration of the school's prior request to approve CCCS to operate under the revised ORS.338 which granted charter schools permanent authority to provide priority enrollment for students living within a previously established attendance boundary. The new law HB 3313 recognized the unique position of CCCS compared to other charter schools in Oregon. Coburg Elementary School, the only school in town, was closed by the district, leaving no community schools for residents and those living in nearby rural areas. The new law said schools where a charter school had begun within two years of the district closing said school should give priority status at the once a year lottery to students residing in the former attendance boundary. She thought it was fair, considering Oregon charter schools were small, allowing for unique needs. In addition, many Coburg families chose 4J over CCCS for a number of reasons, and many families from 4J applied to CCCS for the same number of reasons.

Ms. McPherson explained that historically, an average of 38.5% students were from Coburg, while the rest were from 4J or out of district. Allowing CCCS to offer priority status was a win for 4J because it promoted good will toward the district among the Coburg residents. Ms. McPherson explained those at CCCS developed a unique and successful program that met ORS.338 requirements. Because of its success, the CCCS community was asking the board to show support and approve CCCS to operate under the revised ORS.338.

VIII. COMMENTS BY EMPLOYEE GROUPS

No representatives of employee groups were present.

IX. COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS BY INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Newman had several recent experiences that underscored the district's great partnerships within the community. For example, she attended the Eugene Concert Choir show where the Dorians from South Eugene High School joined in and performed together.

Ms. Newman highlighted an article in the paper about the South Eugene High School Robotics Club partnering with Go Baby Go. In the partnership, Students adapted toy trucks into fun activities for students with motor impairments. It was a wonderful collaboration that made huge difference in lives of little kids. Lastly, Ms. Newman attended the Art Sparks fundraiser for arts in school. It was a collaboration of Lane Arts Council, the Eugene Rotary, and 4J to raise money so schools could host artists in residences. That year, they would be able to have two artists conduct a lesson series in every 4J elementary school.

Ms. Walston noted the annual census would be on April 1, 2020. She represented 4J on the LCOG board and received a presentation about the census and how important it was. The community would be asked to create groups called complete count committees. LCOG suggested the committees consist of local representatives like school board members and district employees because the census was so important in terms of receiving Eugene's fair share of federal monies. She hoped to participate and passed on information to the superintendent.

Ms. Walston attended Beat the Odds event, sponsored by Stand for Children. The event celebrated kids facing some major obstacles by awarding them with a scholarship. That Monday, she attended the

budget committee meeting and walked away feeling hopeful in where the district was headed. On Sunday, she attended Hack for a Cause, put on by Technology Association of Oregon.

Ms. Walston appreciated Ms. Levis sending board members information on white nationalism. Ms. Walston hoped to continue discussing the critical topic. She reminded all present and listening in on the radio to vote yes for the levy on May 21, 2019. The levy made about 9% of the district's budget.

Ms. Levis attended the Stand for Children dinner and expressed appreciation for community partners elevating the cause for public education by awarding several kids scholarships. Recently, she also felt appreciation for budget committee meetings, and the community volunteers who combed through the budget and asked questions.

Ms. Levis was part of the long-range planning committee, which was working to plan out the future of buildings and construction in the district. The long-range plan would outline the project for future bond packages. She felt lucky that the community was so supportive and passed the 2018 bond. Ms. Levis noted a levy, another way to fund the district, would be on the May 2019 ballot. The levy made up 9% of the district's budget and affected class size and staff salary. So far, she heard 100% endorsement from organizations that were approached, including Stand for Children, the Democratic Party of Lane County, the Women's League, the RegisterGuard, the Chamber of Commerce and more.

The previous week, Ms. Levis and Dr. Balderas attended the Eugene Rotary meeting to discuss the levy. That day, she was invited on a future visit to Coburg. She expressed wanting to involve Coburg more, as resources were shared with charter schools, and they played an important role in the community. She wanted to support them as much as possible.

Ms. Sundgrenz called into the recent budget committee meeting. She was heartened and excited to see possibilities the district was moving toward. She had been on the committee for a few years, and the increase in funds was a positive testament to the district's fiduciary leadership and how it handled funds. Over the past two weeks, Ms. Sundgrenz spent time visiting schools, including Buena Vista where she was one of four judges for a student art showcase. While visiting schools, it came to her attention that parking lot needs were different from school to school. Specifically, Ms. Sundgrenz noticed some safety issues during drop off and pick up times and had concerns around student safety. She wanted the board to think about how to assist individual schools with those needs. Then, at beginning of the 2019-2020 academic year, they could look at those needs.

Ms. Sundgrenz reported Ramadan started May 5, 2019 and ended June 5, 2019. It included a month of fasting from sunrise to sunset. She noted some students participated in Ramadan and it could be a hard month.

Finally, Ms. Sundgrenz reminded folks about the May 21, 2019 election. Renewal of the 4J levy was on the ballot. Voting yes for the levy was the only way the community could help bring additional funds to classrooms.

Mr. Torrey acknowledged organizations within the community that saw how important it was for young children to know how to read by the time they reached 4th grade. EEF, United Way, and the City of Eugene's library program made elementary level reading a priority. Secondly, Mr. Torrey mentioned that the mentorship program by Stand for Children needed lunchtime mentors.

Ms. Huang thanked Ms. Newman and Ms. Walston for giving South Eugene High School Robotics a shout out. She shared a class for Go Baby Go that was being taught for students who traditionally didn't find a lot of success in Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) programs. She reiterated anyone could become involved.

Ms. Newman added that the joint committee on student success passed a bill that added \$2 million to the education budget. It was a comprehensive bill that was a result of legislators traveling the state and

asking what schools needed, acknowledging the state funded schools less and less. The bill passed successfully out of the House of Representatives and would go to the Senate.

Chair Hays said there was a fundraiser BBQQueer that Saturday to raise money for LGBTQ+ youth and the UO teach out

X. CONSENT GROUP - ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Ratify Awards for Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Bond Funded Projects
2. Approve Corrected Meeting Minutes from August 15, 2018 Board Meeting
3. Approve Minutes from the Board Work Session and Regular Board Meeting on April 3, 2019
4. Approve Memorandum of Agreement with OSEA Concerning Release Time for Membership Drives
5. Approve Memorandum of Agreement with OSEA Concerning the Role of Union Representation in Investigatory Interviews
6. Approve Memorandum of Agreement with EEA Concerning Outdoor School

MOTION: Ms. Walston moved, seconded by Ms. Levis, to approve the consent group.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously, 7:0.

XI. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. FY19 General Fund Financial Reports

Ms. Belz provided a report on the FY19 current status.

Ms. Belz highlighted revenue and explained the common school funds line item. Only 53% of funds were collected. She explained it was typical to receive a half payment common school fund at the beginning of year, and the second half at the end of the year so the district was right on track.

Ms. Belz moved onto the Education Service District flow through funds, which looked low; however, the district actually received its two catch up payments in April 2019. All line items within the revenue sections were in line and expected to meet forecast levels.

Ms. Belz moved onto expenditures, which was also on track. Interfund transfers out happened at the end of the year, so it would appear negative until the 4th quarter.

Ms. Belz explained appropriation limitations and highlighted the debt service fund which made 21% of the district budget. Interest payments for bonds and levies occurred at the end of the year to ensure all funds were available to make those payments.

Finally, Ms. Belz shared the 3rd quarter nutrition services status report. Currently, the department had a year to date shortfall of \$324,000; however, that figure did not reflect the general fund transfer into the fund. The district did expect that additional supports would be needed if the program continued to shortfall. Ms. Belz explained that when preparing that year's budget, staff didn't know they would transition into self-operating model.

XII. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Approve School Construction Plan and Timeline

Ms. Delf and Mr. Spain presented on Agenda Item XII.

Ms. Delf explained the board needed to finalize a few decisions about the timeline and plan for in constructing the new Camas Ridge and Edison elementary schools. She noted there still needed to be

community discussion around design, but at that point the district was looking at how to create a swing school and the general timeline.

At that time, the superintendent recommended that a temporary school location be constructed at the Willard site, and consist of a combination of prefabricated and portable building. The site would be used to build the new Edison Elementary School building first; students would move there for about two years, and then transition into their new building

The Willard site would then be used as swing site for Camas Elementary School during construction. The option allowed both schools to be constructed at their current sites with as little disruption as possible to the school communities as possible. Additionally, the site could be repurposed after both schools were complete.

Ms. Delf noted transportation would be provided for students.

Ms. Delf explained next steps, which consisted of releasing an RFP for Edison Elementary School. An architect would be hired in June 2019, who would work with the community and have conversations moving forward about design options. A design would be created by late August or early September 2019.

Chair Hays stated the board had a work session two weeks ago on the topic, and again at the general session. The board previously discussed the decision a lot and would now vote.

MOTION: Mr. Torrey moved, seconded by Ms. Walston, to approve the School Construction Plan and Timeline, at the Superintendent's recommendation.
VOTE: The motion passed unanimously, 7:0.

XIII. ITEMS FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING

1. Consider Board Statement of Values

Chair Hays stated the idea for a resolution regarding climate change was brought forward by Ms. Walston.

Ms. Walston thanked leadership for bringing the item to the meeting, and staff for preparing the document. She wanted the district to do its part in addressing climate change. Ms. Walston thought the board and district should incorporate sustainability when making decisions. Ms. Walston read some suggested initiatives, included in the resolution (within agenda packet).

Ms. Levis appreciated the item coming forward. It could become disheartening to hear news at the national level, but it was important to act locally. While reading the resolution, she felt hopeful.

Ms. Newman said it was important for the district to model sustainability. She also thought it was important for teachers to highlight climate change and challenge classrooms to take action.

Ms. Sundgrenz also thanked Ms. Walston for bringing up the issue. The most recent statistics she read indicated humans had 12 years or less to turn things around before there were serious, irreversible effects on the planet. She noted that as nutrition services were being moved in-house, the district could use renewable resources like stainless steel trays rather than plastic. Additionally, she saw many teachers at various schools incorporated eco-friendly classroom activities and homework assignments.

As a student, Mr. Ruff acknowledged climate change would affect him. He was fairly surprised and happy at the amount of attention and focus the district placed on the issue. If every school district acted in such a way, the nation as a whole would go much farther.

Chair Hays introduced a Statement of Values Regarding Community Benefit Construction Projects. Chair Hays explained it was brought to the board's attention that the district could potentially enter into a community benefit contract for construction projects passed by the bond. She stated Ms. Walston brought the issue forward, and this was a first read.

Ms. Walston said community benefit agreements allowed districts to directly support the community. She thought it was important to live and illustrate district values, specifically in terms of contracts with different companies. Ms. Walston said the district would undertake an extremely complex set of projects, which made it important to outline values ahead of time. The statement of value indicated that throughout the projects, the board hoped to incorporate sustainability and resiliency; employ local businesses and local contractors; pay prevailing wages, and support learning efforts.

Ms. Levis thought the statement reflected the district's vision when constructing buildings. Ms. Levis said 86% of money spent on construction stayed locally. The district partnered with people when looking for ways to build at a certain level of sustainability and resiliency. Ms. Levis highlighted the board discussed wanting to ensure the new North Eugene High School was a place people could gather in case of an emergency.

Ms. Levis thought codifying those values within a statement was a critical part of what the district should do, as board members would come and go.

Mr. Torrey appreciated that the statement was the type of transparency expected by the community.

2. Adopt Resolution #2019-12 for Supplemental Budget No. 2, Making Appropriations for the 2018-19 Fiscal Year

Ms. Belz presented the current, and final, supplemental budget of the year. The budget recognized smaller miscellaneous revenue sources and appropriated the amounts. Ms. Belz highlighted some numbers, including \$99,000 for IB testing fees, provided by the state and \$53,000 for the district's multi-tiered system of support coach.

For transportation, Ms. Belz explained the district had an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with smaller districts without full maintenance shops to provide repairs and maintenance. The funding helped support the mechanics' salaries, as well as related parts and supplies for the service. In addition, there was about \$700 for recycling of scrap metal, which was put back into maintenance. Finally, about \$16,400 came from surplus bus sales and disposals. That year, the district was fortunate enough to receive a grant, related to the dirty diesel settlement with Volkswagen. The district was able to replace 13 buses, with additional help from the state.

Ms. Walston commended the district on recycling of scrap metal, as fit with sustainability goals. She was also happy to see the diesel buses off the roads.

3. Approve Revisions to Board Policies:

Board Policy BBAA - Individual Board Member's Authority and Responsibilities

Board Policy BG - Board Staff Communications (and new GBD/BG)

Board Policy GBEBA - Staff - HIV, AIDS and HBV

Board Policy ECACB- Unmanned Aircraft System aka Drone
Board Policy IGDJ - Interscholastic Activities

Ms. Nesbit introduced a set of updates to board policies. She broke the updates into sections: revised policies and new policies.

Ms. Nesbit explained revision of policies was largely driven by the Oregon School Board Association recommendations. The internal district process was to have the leadership team look at the recommendations. They were then shared with board leadership, and then presented to the entire board. If needed, additional revisions could be made.

Ms. Nesbit ran through changes to policies. BBAA, individual board member authority and responsibilities had proposed revisions. Those were to change wording and use gender neutral terminology, clarify that board leadership may request legal opinion without board action, and clarify that no individual board member may direct the superintendent to action without board authorization. Policy BG on board/staff communication had one change, which was re-lettering the policy to BG/GBA and adopt GBA/BG so the policy could be readily located in Section G.

Policy GBEBB addressed staff with HIV/AIDS or HBV, and proposed revisions were to remove outdated language, and extend accommodations on the same basis as any other illness. Gender neutral language was also incorporated.

Policy ECACB, was called unmanned aircraft systems (also known as drones). Proposed revisions used gender neutral terminology, so the name would be changed to "uninhabited" aircraft systems; however, "unmanned" would still be used throughout the policy so people could find the section when searching particularly for that word.

The final policy revision was to IGDA, interscholastic athletics. The revisions would ensure the policy was in line with state law and make clear that resident homeschooled, and charter school students may participate in available interscholastic activities. Additionally, the revision was expanded to include that persons involved in athletics were inhibited to induce student attendance at a particular school, solely for an activity.

Ms. Nesbit explained board options. The board could approve the policies as currently worded; approve revisions after changes were made, or after a public comment period; or not approve the policies and/or revisions. Staff recommended approving updates as best practice, and to reduce risk to the district.

4. Adopt Policy JHCD-JHCDA - Medications

Ms. Nesbit said the policy committee previously reviewed and approved the proposed policy. The policy was required by law. Due to an oversight, the materials were not included in the November 2018 review process by the board. Ms. Nesbit explained staff recently discovered the issue and wanted to correct it.

5. Adopt policy GCBDC GDBDC - Domestic Violence Leave and Safety Accommodation

Ms. Nesbit explained the final policy for review, GCBDC-GDBDC, around leave for domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault cases. The policy was recommended by OSBA and would essentially outline the contours of Oregon law on the subject and include language about employee rights to take leave and seek safety accommodations. It also included some administrative requirements related to that, including a certification.

Ms. Levis commented that it was critical to continuously bring policies up to date and ensure they were inclusive as possible. She was appreciative of the work done by staff and the policy committee.

Mr. Torrey asked if efforts made over the past year made it easier to update policies. Ms. Nesbit said yes, absolutely. There would be more updates to come. It also made administration of policies easier as well.

XIV. SUGGESTIONS BY THE BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS AT A FUTURE MEETINGS

Ms. Newman inquired about the planned value statement about kindness. Chair Hays said it would come forward at the next meeting.

a. Meeting dates:

- May 15, 2019 - Work Session, Executive Session and Regular Meeting
- May 22, 2019 - Work Session
- June 5, 2019 - Work Session and Regular Meeting
- June 19, 2019 - Work Session and Regular Meeting
- June 26, 2019 - Work Session - CANCEL

XV. ADJOURN

Chair Hays adjourned at 8:26 p.m.
(Recorded by Marina Brassfield)

Dr. Gustavo Balderas
District Clerk

Alicia Hays
Board Chair