

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

August 15, 2018

The Board of Directors of School District No. 4J, Lane County, Eugene, Oregon, held a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. and an executive session at 8:35 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 August 10, 2018, and published in *The Register-Guard* on August 15, 2018.

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

STAFF:

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

MEDIA: KRVM, KEZI, KMTR, Register Guard, Eugene Weekly

I. REGULAR BOARD MEETING

II. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE

Chair Hays called the regular meeting of the board of directors to order at 7:00 p.m. and led those present in the flag salute.

III. AGENDA REVIEW

Dr. Balderas asked the item “Approve Personnel Action” be pulled from the consent agenda.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Balderas thanked district staff for their efforts over the summer to prepare for a new school year. He announced South Eugene High School had been recognized as the best high school in Oregon by a national research website (Niche.com) and noted the Board had just conducted their annual retreat. Dr. Balderas also referenced the air quality issues caused by the smoke. Sports practices were held indoors or postponed in order to keep the participants safe.

V. ITEMS RAISED BY THE AUDIENCE

Chair Hays reviewed the District’s policy on public comment.

Mellani Ocampo described her commitment to the North Eugene region. Her children had started in its dual-immersion program. Referring to the upcoming decision regarding the bond measure, she advocated North Eugene High School be included at the 1200-student level.

Rita Gillihan supported building a new North Eugene High School with a capacity for 1200 students. She questioned the fiscal wisdom of building a smaller school now and then having to expand it at a later date.

Kari Parsons encouraged the Board to renew the facility for Edison Elementary School at the current location because it was a great neighborhood school and community asset. She noted the facility did not support current teaching methods nor was it earthquake resilient.

Kami Hendrix, Milagra Tyler, and Kimberley Parzuchowski chose not to provide public input, noting their concerns regarding North Eugene High School had been raised by the previous speakers.

Sabrina Gordon, North Eugene High School parent and teacher, emphasized the importance of strengthening the North region. The proposed new high school needed

to be large enough to offer technical and career education classes and have the capacity to house as many students as the other high schools in the District.

Carrie King submitted written comments, advocating for the larger North Eugene High School option, the expansion of Gilham Elementary School, and a permanent home for Yujin Gakuen Japanese Immersion Elementary School.

VI. COMMENTS BY EMPLOYEE GROUPS

Tad Shannon, President of the Eugene Education Association (EEA), endorsed the inclusion of the larger North Eugene High School facility on the proposed bond measure. He thought building the new facility would strengthen the region and encourage more North region students to stay at their neighborhood high school. More students led to more funding which allowed for more teachers and classes.

VII. COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS BY INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Levis referred to the recent Board Retreat where members determined their focus for the next year. There was consensus to place a bond measure on the November ballot, but all the specifics had not been settled. She appealed to those attending and listening to the meeting to work together to get the bond measure passed.

Mr. Torrey added once the bond measure had been placed on the ballot, the District was limited to providing neutral public information. People interested in getting the bond measure passed needed to campaign for it, either on their own or through a Political Action Committee (PAC).

Ms. Hays described a recent visit to the KRVM radio station. She thanked those who had provided public comment and encouraged them to carry their advocacy onward to the election.

VIII. CONSENT GROUP – ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Ratify Awards for Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Bond Funded Projects

MOTION: Ms. Walston made a motion, seconded by Mr. Torrey, to approve the consent calendar.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously, 7:0.

Ms. Hays reminded the Board the second item had been moved to Items for Action.

IX. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were no items for information discussed.

X. ITEMS FOR ACTION

0. Approve Personnel Action

Dr. Balderas amended the list of teachers. Daniela Dey, Spanish teacher at South Eugene High School, was in a .5 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) position, not 1.0 FTE as submitted.

MOTION: Ms. Levis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Sundgrenz, to approve the personnel actions as corrected.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously, 7:0.

1. Approve Oregon School Board Association (OSBA) Membership for 2018-19.

Dr. Balderas noted the \$10,823 annual dues included the OSBA membership, participation in the OSBA Legal Assistance Trust, and a subscription to OSBA Web Hosting Services.

MOTION: Ms. Newman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Nittler, to approve the annual membership dues to OSBA.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously, 7:0.

2. Approve the Purchase by Lane County of the Drainage Easement at Awbrey Park Elementary School.

Mr. Spain explained the County was expanding the culvert and wanted the easement in order to add a sidewalk.

MOTION: Ms. Nittler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Sundgrenz, to approve the sale of the drainage easement at Awbrey Park Elementary School.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously, 7:0.

3. Approve the Revisions to Board Policy Section “E”

Dr. Balderas thanked Mr. Torrey and Ms. Walston for their assistance in reviewing the policies in Section E: Support Services. Proposed revisions were included in the agenda packet.

Ms. Nittler raised concerns regarding section ECACB, “Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) a.k.a. Drone”. When she asked why the policy was included, Dr. Balderas explained the OSBA had so recommended because it was a liability issue.

MOTION: Mr. Torrey made a motion, seconded by Ms. Walston, to approve the proposed revisions to Board Policy Section “E” as submitted.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously, 7:0.

4. Approve YMCA’s Material Progress in Fundraising Efforts and Intent to Exercise Second Option of the Land Purchase Agreement

Ms. Levis recapped previous discussions regarding the YMCA’s purchase of the property, previously the site of Roosevelt Middle School.

Mr. Torrey added his support, noting the importance of the YMCA in the South district.

MOTION: Ms. Levis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Newman, to approve the YMCA’s intent to exercise the second option of the land purchase agreement.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously, 7:0

5. Approve a Resolution to Place a Bond Measure on the November Election Ballot.

Dr. Balderas emphasized the importance of deciding tonight. Measures for the November ballot needed to be submitted to Oregon’s Secretary of State’s office by the end of the day on Friday, August 17, 2018.

Ms. Hays recalled that at last week’s work session, the Board had discussed proposing a smaller North Eugene High School as one way of lowering the amount of the bond measure. The Chair asked Board members to share their current thinking regarding the bond measure.

Ms. Levis acknowledged she had changed her mind about North Eugene High School and now supported a facility that would serve 1200 students. She was still concerned about the amount of the bond measure and asked if there were any other options to contain costs.

Dr. Balderas suggested streamlining the design process for North Eugene High School and looking at different options for construction materials. He had consulted with Mr. Spain and they thought it feasible to construct North Eugene High School with a capacity of 1200 students for \$135 million. When Ms. Walston asked for assurances

the quality of the school would not suffer from the cost reduction, Dr. Balderas assured her it would still be a top-notch school.

Mr. Torrey also supported including North Eugene High School with the 1200 student capacity. He did not want to put something on the ballot that would be at capacity when first open. Mr. Torrey noted enrollment had increased at all the new schools funded by the last bond measure, with the exception of Roosevelt Middle School (which was capped).

Ms. Newman concurred. Given the anticipated population growth in the North region, the larger high school made sense. She referenced the District's track record of building schools at or under budget. Ms. Newman stressed the importance of investing in the community.

Ms. Sundgrenz agreed. She advocated for continued mindful investment and opined it foolish to build a facility that was at capacity when opened. Ms. Sundgrenz asserted it was an equity issue to have the high school in the North region smaller than the others.

Ms. Nittler referenced the North Region Visioning Process recently completed. She said the new high school at the larger capacity was part of the vision. The additional \$7 million to build North Eugene High School for 1200 students was a good investment and improved regional equity. Ms. Nittler observed the bond only met one-third of the projected need.

Ms. Hays observed the Board had listened to the community and changed their mind regarding North Eugene High School.

Ms. Walston suggested a number of changes that lessened the overall amount of the bond to under \$320 million, including reductions in maintenance, program relocations, and curriculum.

When Dr. Balderas suggested instead using the modified design process for Edison Elementary School and Camas Ridge Elementary School, Ms. Delf summarized that those changes brought the amount of the bond measure to \$319.3 million.

Ms. Levis favored using the modified design process for all the schools. She thought the design principles used for Howard Elementary School, River Road/El Camino del Río Elementary School, and Roosevelt Middle Schools could inform future school designs.

When Ms. Newman asked for examples of how the design process or construction materials choices might change, Mr. Spain explained they planned to get community input early in the process to determine clearly the specific needs for each facility. He

also gave examples of construction choices that could save resources, e.g., using wood or concrete instead of steel.

Ms. Sundgrenz spoke against lowering the amount for maintenance and Ms. Walston agreed Dr. Balderas' proposal was preferable.

Mr. Torrey advocated for career and technical education across the district. Noting the inequity in sports facilities between boys and girls, he wondered if the Board should add an additional \$1 million or \$2 million to the bond to address the discrepancy.

Responding to Ms. Walston's question as to why the amount was \$319.3 million and not \$319.8 million, Ms. Delf said the \$.5 million reflected the difference of an \$8 million grant from the State of Oregon minus the \$7.5 million cost to issue the bonds.

The revised bond package total would include \$135 million for North Eugene High School; \$42 million for Edison Elementary School; \$40 million for Camas Ridge Elementary School; \$9 million for the Gilham Elementary School expansion; \$10 million for program relocations; \$31 million for maintenance, repairs, and improvements; \$16 million for school safety, security and seismic upgrades; \$12 million for facility equity, access and health; \$8 million for curriculum; \$6 million for career and technical education; \$6 million for technology; and \$4.8 million for school bus replacements.

MOTION: Ms. Nittler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Torrey, to approve Resolution 2018-06 and submit to the electors of the District the question of contracting a General Obligation bonded indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$319.3 million.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously, 7:0.

Ms. Delf said the next steps included recalculating the estimated tax rate and cumulative tax rate before submitting the bond measure to the State for inclusion on the November ballot.

XI. ITEMS FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING

1. Approve Board Policy JBA/GBN—Sexual Harassment and GBN/JBA—Sexual Harassment

Ms. Nesbit provided background information for the proposed changes. She emphasized the importance of having a comprehensive policy, which applied to both staff and students.

2. Approve Board Policy JFCF—Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Cyberbullying, Hazing, and Teen Dating

Ms. Nesbit reviewed the key changes in the policy: the addition of domestic violence education and assistance; clarification of when the policy applied; and elucidation that the tracking and reporting focused on major incidents.

When Ms. Levis and Ms. Walston advocated adoption of the policy changes immediately so that they might be incorporated into the fall training programs, Ms. Hays explained Board policy allowed the Chair to move an item from “items for action at a future meeting” to “items for action” at their discretion if no Board member objected.

MOTION: Ms. Levis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Sundgrenz, to approve Board Policy JBA/GBN—Sexual Harassment and Board Policy GBN/JBA—Sexual Harassment as submitted.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously, 7:0.

MOTION: Ms. Levis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Walston, to approve the Board Policy JFCF—Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Cyberbullying, Hazing, and Teen Dating as submitted.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously, 7:0.

XII. SUGGESTIONS BY THE BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS AT A FUTURE MEETING

No suggestions were made.

XIII. 2018-2019 MEETING CALENDAR

Although no changes were proposed for the meeting calendar, Ms. Nesbit noted an error in the date materials were to be delivered to the Board for the September 5, 2018 meeting.

XIV. ADJOURN

Chair Hays adjourned the regular board meeting at 8:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

The board convened in executive session to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations, pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (d).

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

Executive sessions are not open to the public. Executive sessions involving deliberations with persons designated to carry on labor negotiations are not open to the news media.

(Recorded by Beth Bridges)

Dr. Gustavo Balderas

District Clerk

Alicia Hays

Board Chair