MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION & REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

June 5, 2019

The Board of Directors of School District No. 4J, Lane County, Eugene, Oregon, held a community forum at 5:30 p.m., an executive session at 6:30 p.m. and 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 May 31, 2019, and published in *The Register-Guard* on June 5, 2019.

ROLL CALL
BOARD MEMBERS:
Alicia Hays, Chair
Anne Marie Levis, Vice Chair
Eileen Nittler
Judy Newman
Evangelina Sundgrenz
Jim Torrey
Mary Walston

STAFF:
Dr. Gustavo Balderas, Superintendent of Schools
Charis McGaughy, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
Kerry Delf, Chief of Staff
Brooke Wagner, Director of Elementary Education
Andy Dey, Director of Secondary Education
Cheryl Linder, Director of Educational Support 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
Andrea Belz, Associate Director of Finance

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:
Ainsley Abraham, Sheldon High School
Jude Refe, ECCO
Hannah Mitchell, North Eugene High School
Zoe Chihorek, IHS
Jane Brinkley, IHS
Claire Shepard, Churchill High School

MEDIA:

OTHER: Tad Shannon, Eugene Education Association President; Jennifer Broadous-Scurlock, National Education Association Director; Kelly Bokn, Athletic Director

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board convened in executive session to consider records that are exempt by law from public inspection, pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(f).

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

Executive sessions are not open to the public. Executive sessions involving deliberations with persons designated to carry on labor negotiations, or to consider expulsion of a student or matters pertaining to a student's confidential medical records, are not open to the news media.

II. REGULAR BOARD MEETING

III. CALL TO ORDER ROLL, ROLL CALL, AND FLAG SALUTE

Chair Hays called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Hays led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

IV. AGENDA REVIEW

There were no changes to the agenda.

V. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Balderas began by recognizing student achievement for excellence in academics, athletics, and music. Dr. Balderas introduced the South Eugene High School String Ensemble, which gave a performance.

Ms. Broadous-Scurlock presented the winners of the Cesar Chavez and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Poetry Contest hosted in partnership with Eugene Education Association.

Mr. Bokn recognized athletes that were state champions in their sport, including the Sheldon High School Softball Team.

Mr. Dey recognized the district's Ford Scholarship recipients as well as the National Merit Scholars.

Dr. Balderas announced that this would be the last board meeting of the year for the student board representatives. He highlighted that the students had the opportunity to learn about district decisions, funding, and policies that directly affect student learning.

Dr. Balderas said staff was hopeful after the passing of the Students Success Act. He estimated that if the Students Success Act was fully implemented it would mean about 14 million dollars would go to 4J each year. He stated that they would continue to work within the budget to address needs in their schools.

Dr. Balderas acknowledged that they had seen growing behavioral and mental health concerns, and highlighted that they had added counselors to every school. He added that the district had hired over 100 support staff since 2014-15, adopted social-emotional learning curriculum to support students, and culturally-responsive Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). He emphasized that if they received additional funding, they would focus on four buckets of improvement: expanding student learning time, reducing class sizes, student health and safety, and well-rounded education. He stated that he was excited to work with community to spend the money correctly.

VI. RECEIVE REPORTS FROM HIGH SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Refe reported for ECCO High School. He thanked the board for the progress made at their school. He reported that students and staff at ECCO were curious to find out how they would learn more about their new school over the summer, including how they will deal with transportation and child care as well as what their start dates would be.

Ms. Mitchell reported for North Eugene High School. She noted that all seniors had come to school in their decorated caps and gowns. She shared that they just got done with their last band and choir concert. She recognized the track team members that went to state, and announced that she was running for ASB President.

Ms. Chihorek reported for IHS. She was excited to announce that she and Ms. Brinkley were elected to serve as student board representatives again next year. She shared that student government had change in leadership, and that IHS graduation programs would be held later in the week. She said two new IHS teachers had been hired to accommodate the growing student population. She thanked Ms. Sundgrenz for her support of herself and her classmate Ms. Brinkley.

Ms. Shepard reported for Churchill High School. She shared that everything was wrapping up: they had their last band and choir concert and senior awards night happened last week. She thanked everyone on Board for the opportunity to serve as a student advisory panel member.

Ms. Abraham reported for Sheldon High School. She congratulated the girls' softball team for becoming state champions. She announced the new representative for Sheldon High School was Cassey Hampton, and thanked board members for the learning experience.

Ms. Levis gave a report on behalf of Ms. Huang for Sheldon High School. She stated that ASB candidates had been voted on. They were organizing a school supply drive to collect unused supplies and would give them to students in need next year. She noted that the spring play, titled "Be More Chill," would be performed on June 15 and 16.

VII. CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2019-20 BUDGET

In accordance with Oregon's Local Budget Law, the District has held four Budget Committee meetings this year, beginning in January, to review, discuss, revise and approve the 2019-20 budget. A public comment period was offered at each of the budget meetings.

Chair Hays opened the public hearing at 7:53pm.

Debra Johnson said she had been a nurse in 4J school district for over twenty years. She noted that she had little to add from her statements at previous meeting. She stated there was a

landmark study published in 2011 in the Journal of School Health that quantified the total direct cost of personnel handling the duties of a school nurse at about $133,000 per school, per year in dollars from 2011. She highlighted that not having a school nurse can cost more than having one. She strongly encouraged the Board to add nurse positions to the budget for the health and safety of students.

Katie Davis said she was a parent of a first grader and incoming Kindergartener. She stated that her son at Camas Ridge was attacked by another student during project time. She shared that her son was choked by another Kindergartener who went on to choke other students. She said this was not an isolated incident, and urged the Board to provide additional funding for behavior programs and support staff.

Amanda Robinson said she was a parent of three children that attended Camas Ridge. She thanked the Board for helping to pass the Levy. She stated that she appreciated the recommendation to add one additional behavioral support staff to each school, but urged them to consider piloting programs at schools with more behavioral support needs.

Mya Rabase said she recognized and appreciated the district's responsiveness to growing behavioral issues in 4J schools. She urged the district to allocate TOSA (Teacher on Special Assignment) funds. She proposed Camas Ridge, Awbrey Park and Mc Cornack Elementary Schools host a pilot program to explore solutions to ongoing behavioral challenges. She urged the Board to use data from these pilot programs to help make decisions.

Chair Hayes closed the public hearing at 8:02pm.

VIII. ITEMS RAISED BY THE AUDIENCE

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

Jennifer MacPherson said she was a 4J parent and employee at Camas Ridge. She thanked the Board for the work on the levy, and said she was glad some schools were piloting programs to help deal with behavior issues. She said that as a school secretary, she typically only had time to do administrative work before and after students were present at school because of the increasing behavioral issues. She said she welcomed a TOSA pilot program to deal with behavioral issues.

Jaime Hock said she had been a school psychologist for the past fourteen years. She applauded the Board for starting to pay attention to the increase in behavior and health issues. She shared that on a typical day, she did not have time to sit down the entire day. She stated that she saw significant positive changes from having an additional staff, and advocated for having a behavioral TOSA.

Larry Lewin said he was a retired 4J school teacher. He asked the Board to share with the public their replacement process, procedure, and timeline for replacing Ms. Sundgrenz for the two years left in her Board office time.

Roscoe Caron said he no longer wished to speak.

David Abramowitz said he was a retired 4J special education teacher and a member of the 4J Equity Committee. He shared that he was here to talk about an action for a future meeting because he was concerned about the decision to purchase a property for the rehousing of the

Community Living Program (CLP), which had been based in apartment complex near Sheldon for over thirty years. He questioned why that there was a disconnect between the vision of Education Support Services and CLP staff.

IX. COMMENTS BY EMPLOYEE GROUPS

Tad Shannon, president of Eugene Education Association (EEA), said he was optimistic about the passage of the Student Success Act. He thanked the members of EEA and the Oregon Education Association members across the state who worked hard to convince legislatures this was the time to pass the Student Success Act. He thanked the community for voting to support the local levy. He urged the board and district to seek the advice and counsel of people responsible for the day-to-day work in the classrooms. He highlighted that individual stories shared at Board meetings illustrated the results of a lack of investment in adequately staffed buildings.

X. COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Torrey told members of the budget committee that he was most likely going to bring up an amendment to what the Budget Committee submitted to the Board for passage at the next meeting. He said he would recommend that they use reserve funds in the amount of $750,000 (7 FTE) to set up a side account to be used for additional nurses, help for behavior concerns, and help for emotional support.

Ms. Levis said she was excused from the last budget meeting to attend a community meeting to understand and confront white nationalism as it applies to schools. She said she felt good about the community members who were present to address the issues raised. She thanked the community for voting for the levy. She shared that they cut over 76 million dollars out of the 4J district in the past ten years she was on the Board, and she believed with this new money they would be able to dream again.

Ms. Nittler thanked people for the work they did to pass the levy, Camas Ridge families in particular. She said she was curious about the issues raised by the public related using TOSA to address behavioral issues, and wanted to learn more about it. She stated that papers had already been filed against the Student Success Act, so they should prepare for that. She shared that she attended the Eugene Education Fund Grant Night, and highlighted that every school would receive at least one grant.

Ms. Walston thanked Ms. Sundgrenz for her service on the Board. She thanked all of the student advisory panel members. She hoped they would continue to talk about lunch times as they rolled out the self-managed nutrition program next year. In reference to the possibility of additional funds from the Student Success Act, Ms. Walston hoped there could be continued discussion about increasing the amount of time allocated lunch time for students and staff, beyond the current 30 minutes; she also stated she hoped there would be consideration of adding additional music instruction in middle schools.

Ms. Newman said it was heartening to have lawmakers that passed the Student Success Act and community members who passed the levy. She highlighted that Senate Bill 13 was another important piece of legislation. She stated that she was happy to see that 20% of revenue from Student Success Act was going to be invested in early learning.

Ms. Sundgrenz asked the Board to accept her resignation effective June 30. She said it was a privilege to serve on the Board. She emphasized that she was most proud of the strong community partnerships that were built to pass the levy and re-build three aging schools. She noted that the remaining Board members would accept applications and appoint a replacement for remaining two years in her term.

Chair Hays said they would be moving into the process of finding someone to serve the remaining two years in Ms. Sundgrenz's term now that they had received her resignation. She shared that she had just attended the first graduation ceremony of the season, and hoped that the Board would continue to be invited to graduation ceremonies throughout the district.

XI. CONSENT GROUP - ITEMS FOR ACTION

MOTION: Ms. Levis, seconded by Ms. Nittler, moved approval of the Consent Group.
VOTE: The motion passed unanimously, 7:0.

XII. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Receive Superintendent's Evaluation

Chair Hays said the Board's evaluation focused on his overall performance as well as his performance on five key goals: educational excellence with equitable access and outcomes for every student, multiple pathways to student success, connection with the community, world-class workforce, and sustainable stewardship. She shared that Dr. Balderas had scored well in all of these areas. She said he worked to support student success in all ages, and had an eye for leveraging resources through partnerships. She noted that he did an excellent job with connecting with the community, and also had success in improving the district's financial security as well as using targeted funds to address emerging issues. She concluded that Dr. Balderas demonstrated excellent leadership for the district as well as the community of Eugene.

Ms. Hays asked the Board if there was any objection to the Chair and Vice Chair working with the Superintendent on his contract update. There was no objection.

2. Bond Update: Edison Elementary School

Ms. Delf shared that the two South Eugene elementary schools would be constructed consecutively using a combination of prefabricated space and portable classrooms. She said before they began work on school design, they would hold community meetings to provide information about the process as well as to discuss the input they heard from the community about the building design.

Mr. Spain said they were currently in the selection process for the architects, and had interviews scheduled for the following week.

Ms. Delf noted that once they had architects on board, they would have a second community meeting to continue to conversation.

Mr. Torrey asked how they would communicate with people in North Eugene about the transition periods during construction.

Ms. Delf responded that they had been in communication, and would continue the conversation into the fall. She clarified that the move would happen the following summer, not this summer.

Ms. Walston shared that she thought the forum they had in March was effective, and wondered if the forum at these meetings would be similar.

Ms. Delf replied that there would be some similarities.

XIII. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Approve Resolution 2019-21 - Relating to Coburg Community Charter School's Request To Give Priority Enrollment To Students Residing Within Previously-Established Attendance Boundaries

Ms. Nesbit said the key questions on the table was whether they should allow the Coburg Community Charter School to give priority enrollment to students residing within particular attendance boundaries, and if so, to what degree. She stated that the amendment would address how the geographic priority in combination with the sibling priority would be administered. She clarified that the Board would not be granting a permanent authority to Coburg Community Charter to give priority enrolment based on geography.

Mr. Torrey said they passed a one-year resolution in March, and asked how this proposal differed from what they passed previously.

Ms. Nesbit replied that in April, the Board approved Coburg Community Charter to use the geographic preference of 50% for one year. She clarified that the current resolution was a contract amendment for a longer term. She added that it would provide Coburg and 4J with more stability.

Mr. Torrey asked if the charter school had the option to ask for future amendments.

Ms. Nesbit answered that parties could always come back to the table to modify agreements.

Ms. Newman asked if that meant the 4J Board could come back and modify this agreement as well in the future.

Ms. Nesbit clarified that they would need to incorporate a provision that would allow them more flexibility, and cautioned that this provision would apply to both parties.

Ms. Walston said she thought this was a good compromise to move forward.

Ms. Nittler said she would support the resolution, but shared that she did not believe one school should be able to have an exception with regards to geographic preference.

Ms. Sundgrenz said she believed this resolution was a way to help Coburg attract more diversity.

Mr. Torrey said he believed Coburg Community Charter would very quickly exceed 50% and was considering amending the amount to 55%.

Ms. Walston provided a second for the purpose of discussion.

Mr. Torrey said he believed they would eventually need to have an open discussion in Coburg about whether or not Coburg Community Charter School would become a community school.

Ms. Newman said she wondered if their intent was to increase the percentage of geographic priority until it reached 100% or if ther intent was to look at an equitable approach to charter schools that would benefit the community. She added that she hoped there was a way for them to have this conversation before the end of the ten-year contract.

Ms. Levis said she would not support the amendment, and reminded everyone that although there was a 50% preference, Coburg community members could still apply to attend the schools even if they were not included in the 50%.

Ms. Nesbit said the Board did not need to make a decision at the meeting, but should provide clarification to staff about whether or not they wanted an agreement in the contract to come back to the table and discuss it before the end of the ten-year timeline.

Chair Hays said she believed this was an important conversation, and replied that the Board would put it on their long-term plan to discuss.

Dr. Balderas said he believed it was implied in the proposal that there would be an ongoing discussion about the contract.

MOTION: Mr. Torrey moved, seconded by Ms. Walston, to amend Resolution 2019-21 – Relating to Coburg Community Charter School's Request To Give Priority Enrollment To Students Residing Within Previously-Established Attendance Boundaries – to increase the percentage of geographic priority to 55%.
VOTE: The motion failed, 1:6.

MOTION: Ms. Walston moved, seconded by Ms. Levis, to approve Resolution 2019-21 – Relating to Coburg Community Charter School's Request To Give Priority Enrollment To Students Residing Within Previously-Established Attendance Boundaries.
VOTE: The motion passed unanimously, 7:0.

2. Approve Revised Board Letter of Support for the Kindness Campaign.

Chair Hays said she had revised the letter to include signatures from all Board members. She noted that in the future she would prefer they not require all Board members sign letters.

Ms. Newman said she was thankful for having all signatures, so the community knows that the full Board was in support of the letter.

Ms. Levis said she thought they needed clarity in the future, so that there was not a situation in which Board members were pressured into signing something they did not support.

MOTION: Ms. Newman moved, seconded by Ms. Sundgrenz, to approve Revised Board Letter of Support for the Kindness Campaign.
VOTE: The motion passed unanimously, 7:0.

XV. ITEMS FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING

1. Consider Initiating the Process for Middle and High School Social Studies Curriculum Adoption

Ms. Penrod said they came to ask the Board to initiate the 6-12 social studies curriculum adoption. She shared that their last adoption for social studies was 2004, and the materials they had were very dated. She said they had an opportunity to align their curriculum at this time, and noted that the instruction department had allocated resources to adopt this new curriculum.

Ms. Nittler asked if they had talked about delaying curriculum adoption for elementary.

Dr. Balderas replied that they had discussed delaying curriculum adoption for elementary, and clarified that this was core adoption.

Ms. Walston shared that she hoped they would start teaching Civics again.

Dr. Balderas replied that it was one of his goals.

2. Consider for Approval the Purchase of Real Property – Community Living & Connections Programs

Mr. Spain stated that he went on a search for a property to fulfill majority of requirements of the Community Living and Connections programs. He said the property they found was commercially zoned property, and the process of changing the zoning would take six months.

Ms. Linder shared that they had students in a post-high school program that fostered independent living. She added that there was a program in the community that was focused on job-readiness as well. She said when they were searching for a property, they had asked for the potential to have model kitchens and living spaces as well as a close proximity to stores and bus stops. She added that they had a great experience working with the previous apartment complex, but were looking to grow and expand the program.

Ms. Levis asked about testimony earlier in the evening that the program was required to be in the Sheldon area.

Ms. Linder replied that she did not believe the program was required to be in the Sheldon area.

Ms. Levis asked how many employees would be working in the building.

Ms. Linder replied that it depended on how quickly they combined the two programs, but noted that they currently had seven staff members.

Ms. Levis asked about impact of the property on the surrounding community and if there would be a need to have community meetings.

Mr. Spain replied that they immediately thought of a duplex or triplex property when they began the search because of the kitchen and living space requests. He added that there was an adjacent elementary school property with bus drop-offs that they would use.

Ms. Levis asked for information to address an email the Board had received.

Ms. Walston asked if they could get more clarity on the reference to the program needing to be in the Sheldon area.

Ms. Newman asked about Career Technical Education opportunities.

Ms. Linder replied that in school year 2021, they may have a preschool located on the property. If that were the case, it would be an opportunity for their students to work with the preschool program and provide some level of support.

Ms. Newman asked what the staff involvement in the design was.

Ms. Linder replied that they had not started that process, but the next step would be to walk through with staff.

3. Consider Board Resolution to Improve Access and Efficiency of Safety Information by Designating the District's Public Safety Office as a Law Enforcement Agency

Ms. Vandercar said they wanted the ability to access information that is available to police departments. She shared that Oregon law allows the district to request the Board designate the district public safety office as a law enforcement agency, which would give them access to information they do not currently have and easily facilitate background checks.

Ms. Delf said this was effectively an administrative change that would allow the district to have access to law enforcement criminal information systems. She clarified it was not intended to change the district's stance on working with the local police department.

Ms. Nittler asked if their job would be to conduct background checks on all volunteers.

Ms. Delf required that it was their job now, and clarified that this resolution would allow them to have direct access to additional information, making it more cost effective and efficient.

Ms. Nittler asked how this would affect grants the district had received to provide background checks to volunteers.

Ms. Delf replied that the grant did cover the required background check for volunteers, but added that if there was a need for fingerprinting, the district would have to cover that cost.

Ms. Newman asked when they would need fingerprinting.

Ms. Vandercar responded that they would need it when they were fairly certain someone could be alone with a student as well as contractors.

Ms. Sundgrenz asked who would have access to the database.

Ms. Vandercar replied that whoever had access would need to go through some type of required training.

Ms. Delf added that information in the database would be confidential.

4. Consider Approving Revisions to Board Working Agreements

Ms. Levis shared that the Board had asked a subcommittee to look at working agreements. She said the subcommittee had compiled instructions for working agreements to help onboard new members. She noted that she would like to take another look at the draft before sharing it with the Board, and highlighted that categories included governance, meeting agreements, leadership, planning and evaluation.

Ms. Walston added that in reorganizing the working agreements, they aimed to be more closely in alignment with Board policy. She noted that they also attached the Oregon law pertaining to public meetings.

Ms. Sundgrenz asked that they clarify the email policy to reflect that the Board Chair should respond to all emails with the exception of emails addressed to a specific member.

Ms. Nittler said she believed the sections that address visiting facilities and communication should be clarified to reflect whether or not something can be done in an official or unofficial capacity.

5. Consider Adopting Resolution 2020-01 Adopting the 2019-2020 Budget, Making Appropriations, Imposing and Categorizing Taxes

Dr. Balderas said the Board had already gone through numerous meetings on this topic, and stated that the budget resolution would be up for adoption at the next meeting.

Ms. Levis asked Mr. Torrey to provide a draft of the proposed amendment to the budget that he mentioned earlier in the meeting.

6. Approve Revisions to Board Policy GCDA/GDDA – Criminal Records Checks and Fingerprinting

Ms. Nesbit said they already had a district policy on criminal records checks and fingerprinting, but needed to update it to be compliant with current law. She noted that the law permitted

districts to use discretion with regard to which volunteers were required to submit their fingerprints.

Ms. Newman asked if this change would include the mentor program.

Ms. Nesbit replied that the mentor program would not be included in the new policy because the volunteers were supervised.

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

1. Meeting Dates:
    a. June 19, 2019 – Regular Meeting

Dr. Balderas said he would work with staff and Board leadership for a process for Board member replacement.

XVII. ADJOURN

Chair Hays adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

(*Recorded by Erin Hagen*)

_____	_____
Dr. Gustavo Balderas	Anne Marie Levis
District Clerk	Board Chair