MINUTES OF THE RETREAT
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

September 10, 2020

The Board of Directors of School District No. 4J, Lane County, Eugene, Oregon, held a virtual Emergency Board Meeting from 1:00–2:00 p.m. Notice of the meeting was mailed to the media and posted in the Education Center on September 10, 2020 and published in *The Register-Guard* on September 10, 2020

ROLL CALL
BOARD MEMBERS:
Mary Walston, Chair
Judy Newman, Vice Chair
Alicia Hays
Gordon Lafer (absent)
Anne Marie Levis
Alicia Hays
Martina Shabram
Jim Torrey

STAFF:
Cydney Vandercar, Interim Superintendent
Kerry Delf, Chief of Staff
Christine Nesbit, General Counsel
Charis McGaughy, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Kyle Tucker, Chief Operations Officer
Lisa Fjordbeck, Executive Assistant / Board Secretary

MEDIA: KRVM
I. CALL TO ORDER
Board Chair Mary Walston stated that the reason for the emergency board meeting is to review proposed changes to the academic calendar. The board is responsible for approving the academic calendar and any amended changes. Chair Walston said that the calendar adopted by the board provides that students' first day of school will be Monday, September 14, 2020, which no longer appears possible in light of wildfires in our area. In order to consider changes to the first day for students, which also impacts staff work-days, and to communicate changes to staff, this emergency meeting is necessary and a delay of 24 hours was not feasible.

Chair Walston asked Superintendent Vandercar to provide more information.

Superintendent Cydney Vandercar said that the districts instructional model this fall requires the district to ensure that students have technological devices and access to remote education before the start of school. Technology devices were scheduled to be distributed through out this week and to take place outdoors due to the coronavirus pandemic. Superintendent Vandercar went on to say that due to the wildfires east of Eugene have resulted in hazardous air quality conditions. On Tuesday, Wednesday and again today, the extremely poor air quality resulted in the cancellation of technology distribution. As a result, the district has not been able distribute student learning devices to about half of our students – approximately 7000 elementary

students and about 1,000 middle and high school students. Current air quality conditions remain in a hazardous state. The district will not be able to start instruction for students on September 14 as previously planned and to meet ODE state requirements for prior access to remote instruction.

Superintendent Vandercar asked Christine Nesbit, General Counsel, to walk the board through the proposed changes to the academic calendar.

Ms. Nesbit explained the changes to the calendar days and provided the board with an outline of that reflected and explained the proposed changes. Ms. Nesbit explained that by moving the start date from September 14 to September 21, the district would have the opportunity over the next week to ensure that all students had received their technology devices. This would also ensure staff would be able to safely distribute the devices as it is anticipated that the hazardous air quality would lift next week.

Ms. Nesbit confirmed that both EEA and OSEA leadership had been contacted and the district confirmed that both associations were in support of the change to the calendar.

MOTION: Ms. Newman made the motion to accept the proposed changes to the school calendar. Ms. Levis seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passes unanimously with all six board members voting to approve the motion to change the academic calendar.

Chair Walston adjourned the board meeting at 1:12 p.m.

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Cydney Vandercar
District Clerk

Mary Walston
Board Chair