

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

Date: September 1, 2021

The Board of Directors of School District No. 4J, Lane County, Eugene, Oregon, held a work session at 5:30 p.m. and a regular meeting at 7 p.m. at the Education Center, 200 North Monroe Street in Eugene, Oregon. Notice of the meeting was mailed to the media and posted in the Education Center on August 27, 2021, and published in *The Register-Guard* on August 31, 2021.

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS:

Judy Newman, Chair
Martina Shabram, Vice Chair
Alicia Hays
Gordon Lafer (via zoom)
Laural O'Rourke (via zoom)
Maya Rabasa
Mary Walston (via zoom)

STAFF:

Cydney Vandercar, Superintendent
José Salgado, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Kerry Delf, Chief of Staff
Brooke Wagner, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services
Christine Nesbit, General Counsel
Steve Menachemson, Director of Technology
Kyle Tucker, Chief Operations Officer
Kari Skinner, Director of Public Safety
Lisa Fjordbeck, Executive Assistant / Board Secretary

MEDIA: KRVM, Eugene Weekly

EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATIONS:

EEA Sabrina Gordon (via zoom)

OTHER:

Katie Stiles, Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA)
Tammy Steeves, TOSA
Lynette Williams, TOSA
Dawn Strong, Administrator, Human Resources

I. WORK SESSION

Discuss Board Goals for 2021-22

Presenters: Board Chair Judy Newman and Vice Chair Martina Shabram

Chair Newman called the work session to order at 5:30 pm. All board members were present either on zoom or in person.

There was consensus among the Board that the goals for the 2021-22 school year as listed in the Board packet were what they had agreed upon at the Board Retreat.

1. Conduct a thoughtful national search that results in hiring a permanent superintendent.
2. Complete a comprehensive and timely evaluation of the interim superintendent's performance.
3. Perform our fiduciary responsibilities in a timely manner by participating in the budget committee process and appointing new members to vacancies.
4. Establish the next steps of our multi-year All Students Belong Initiative including the goals and workplan for this year, then implement the workplan.
5. Create a plan for the North Eugene Region that includes where Yujin Gakuen and Kelly schools will be located, and other programming and plans.
6. Decide on and/or create an equity lens for the district and use it for all decision-making. (With Equity Committee)

Board members then acknowledged that staff and two Board members would work on tasks that had been discussed at the Board retreat:

1. Expand student engagement and voice in the district by appointing student Board Members, choose students to sit on the Equity Committee, and provide leadership training; and
2. Integrate the goals, activities and outcome measures of the High School Success Plan, the Student Success Plan and the 2020 Strategic Plan.

Next, Chair Newman referred to the goal the Board had discussed to consider in a future year: Ensure that any testing required by the district is for the purpose of helping students learn and make progress and is kept at the lowest amount of time to do what is needed.

The Board was in agreement that the above goal would be prioritized when they revisited the list in January 2022.

Chair Newman then led the Board in a prioritizing activity to determine which of the following additional goals would be chosen for the 2021-22 year:

1. Identify and implement climate change initiatives;
 - a. Identify what is currently happening and develop a plan
2. Develop a district-wide communication plan to improve communication and transparency with stakeholders and the community
3. Create a pandemic/disaster policy
4. Create a metric of teacher morale and retention
 - a. Create and implement a district-wide climate survey to improve teacher retention
5. Create a Community Benefits Agreement that will work for the district.

There was discussion about certain items on the list and how the final decision would be made. In reference to Item 2, Chair Newman remembered that the Board wanted to be sure that parents received timely communication in their home language. Ms. Rabasa included internal communication and the district website. There were additional comments on what a communication plan would encompass, and what the process would be to avoid retaliation for speaking out.

The group moved on to the remaining items in the list. Mr. Lafer commented on goal number four: he suggested that there were two metrics: one regarding morale and the other retention. He said that if the Board agreed to prioritize goal 4, staff would be asked to create a proposal for how the work would be implemented in future years. Ms. Walston asked whether a professional group would be

hired to create the metrics and survey. Mr. Lafer responded that he hoped the district in collaboration with EEA would carry out the work. There was discussion about what the Board would ask to be done. Mr. Lafer responded to a question that the goal for the current year would be to ask the district and EEA to determine a metric and measurement to be implemented at a later time.

Mr. Lafer considered the completion of goal 5 a necessity. Ms. Rabasa considered goal 5 to be a task to complete, not a goal. Ms. Hays emphatically stated she had not received enough data regarding the Community Benefit Agreement in the area of equity for all students regardless of race, gender or ability, to consider moving forward on it. Mr. Lafer and Ms. Rabasa discussed the use of the equity lens in regards to all the above tasks.

Ms. Shabram referred to the Board Calendar to initiate a discussion about the time available in Board meetings and work sessions to get the work done. She added that additional Wednesdays could be used if the Board agreed. The Budget Committee and the Superintendent Search would be additional requirements of Board time.

There was a discussion about the validity of using dots to prioritize tasks, the amount of work the board would be able to accomplish in the year, and whether some of the items on the list were not more important than the six already agreed upon.

After the prioritization activity, it was determined that Items 1 and 2 each received 4 dots, Item 3 received 2, Item 4 received 1, and Item 5 received 2 dots. Ms. Newman said that the Board would have a chance to vote on the Items in public at the Board meeting on September 22.

Moving on, Chair Newman asked the Board to read the sections in the packet on working agreements and bullying and harassment to Board members, and send comments to herself and Ms. Shabram so that they could discuss it at a future date. Ms. Walston shared her concerns about the section on bullying and harassment. Ms. Shabram shared some reasons why she brought the issue to the Board, including ensuring the safety of Board members, and clear lines of communication. Chair Newman reiterated that the topic was included to start a discussion.

Chair Newman closed the work session at 6:41 p.m.

II. REGULAR MEETING – CALL TO ORDER

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

III. ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE, LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Newman noted that all board members were present either via zoom or in-person. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Newman read the Land Acknowledgement.

IV. AGENDA REVIEW

There were no changes to the agenda.

V. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Vandercar shared that on Monday, August 30, licensed staff returned from summer break and attended a presentation by Mr. Keith Jones who's advocacy aligns with the work the district wants to do around equity and inclusion for all of our students

Along with Chair Newman, district leaders, and staff from Lane County Public Health, she met with Senator Wyden to discuss the mental health needs of students and families in 4J. Senator Wyden would return to the district to speak on how the crisis was affecting families. Staff had an opportunity to share with him the work that had been initiated during the pandemic. In addition, Superintendent Vandercar shared that the district has hired a translation specialist who will assist the district in its plan to implement translation services from English to Spanish for all communications.

She report that the district had added additional air purification (bipolar ionization) to all buildings as well as portable units that were available to staff upon request.

Superintendent Vandercar added that the bus driver shortage resulted in consolidated routes. Families that were experiencing hardship in getting their students to school could contact the district for financial relief. More information was coming. She added that students would be required to wear facial coverings on school buses, windows would be kept open at all time, and additional cleaning and sanitization would occur.

Dr Wagner would be providing an enrollment update during the Back-to-School update. Additionally, Dr. Serena Black, PeaceHealth Pediatrics Medical Director and Dr. Bob Pelz, PeaceHealth Medical Director for Infection Prevention, would answer questions from the Board about COVID-19 variants and protocols. She shared that all staff would need to be fully vaccinated by October 18. Staff would receive information within the week.

VI. COMMENTS BY BOARD CHAIR

Chair Newman gave her report on the meeting with Senator Wyden and the work he was doing to enact a bill that addressed barriers to access for support with behavioral health. She heard presentations on different approaches and programs that staff were sustaining, expanding and implementing, such as teaching social emotional skills, suicide prevention strategies, adding staff, wraparound services and more. She added that the district was considering adding behavioral health education to the health profession CTE, and hiring a mental health provider in-house. She affirmed the dedication and talent of staff. She thanked all the Board members for their time and commitment.

VII. ITEMS RAISED BY THE AUDIENCE

There were ten speakers randomly chosen from those who requested to speak, and who also had not made public comment at recent board meetings. Chair Newman read the requirements for making public comment.

Lindsey Frye thanked staff for their work to start school. She referred to the information distributed by OSAA regarding athletes wearing masks. She asked the district to require proof of vaccination and to require masks during athletic activities.

Andrew Scheidt extended his support to the school district. He advocated for a delay to the start of school. He also asked for increased communication about changes being made in buildings to mitigate COVID.

Melissa Olson said that she received very little information regarding the district's plans to mitigate COVID in the schools: ventilation, masking, etc. She also said that masking should be required and asked for outdoor mealtimes.

Janine Benner asked that the district provide resources to every schools to support outdoor mealtimes, such as picnic tables and shelter.

Bobbie Willis was concerned about statements made in prior meetings that indicated families were unwilling to follow best practices for COVID. She also commented on the negative behavior demonstrated by people at recent board meetings and asked to require decorum. She stated that school is a cooperative.

Skyla Chavez spoke as a student. She asked that meals be taken outdoors and that classes cohort in their own tents. She requested that the district provides masks for those who needed them. She also advocated for testing in schools with prizes given to the classes that had the best participation.

Amanda Hvass returned to the idea of having a separate school for deaf and hard of hearing students who find it challenging to learn when others were wearing masks. She also asked that people communicate with more integrity and respect in the Boardroom and listen to understand.

Harry Sanger asked that the Board create a time to hear more of the parents who are trying to speak at meetings. He also asked that the school not require vaccinations for those who do not need them, and allow choice in masking, and provide an online school option.

VIII. COMMENTS BY EMPLOYEE GROUPS

Sabrina Gordon, President of the Eugene Education Association referred to a comment made at the August 18 Board meeting. She stated that EEA did not engage in bargaining with individual Board members but did communicate with Board members what EEA believed was in the best interest of students.

She said that staff continued to have questions regarding distancing, ventilation, outdoor meals, and separate modes of instruction. She hoped that there would be safety and sound educational practices.

IX. COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS BY INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

Alicia Hays met with staff and fellow subcommittee members to work on the IRFP. She had attended the Board retreat and a meeting with Dr. Pilar Bradshaw regarding effect of COVID on young children.

Gordon Lafer said that masking was an act of solidarity. He thanked all educators for their readiness to start school and to cope with all the changes happening. He thanked Sabrina Gordon for her comments. He commented on transportation issues. He supported a separate space for deaf and hard of hearing students, masking for OSAA activities, and outdoor mealtimes, to reduce exposure to COVID. He ended with a concern about large class sizes.

Maya Rabasa thanked the community for sending their emails and presenting in-person about their concerns. She added that there were still those who were not being heard because of barriers in

communication and was glad to hear that the district had updated their translation services to allow parents to communicate in their native language.

Mary Walston thanked the staff for the accommodation to participate online instead of in-person. She thanked Bobbie Willis for her comments. She welcomed back all students and staff. She had attended the Eugene Education Foundation retreat as well as the School Board retreat.

Martina Shabram thanked everyone for their comments, in particular Skyla Chavez. She reminded everyone that September was Suicide Awareness Month and appreciated that the district was adding supports for mental health. She commented on her own experiences with anxiety.

X. CONSENT GROUP - ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Approve Meeting Minutes: August 4, 2021 and August 18, 2021
Presenter: Cydney Vandercar, Interim Superintendent

Martina Shabram moved to approve the consent agenda. Maya Rabasa seconded the motion. **The motion passed 6:0** (Ms. O'Rourke had a technical issue and was not able to vote, but returned to the meeting later.)

XI. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Receive Update on District Plans for Return to School in Fall 2021
Presenter: Cydney Vandercar, Interim Superintendent

Superintendent Vandercar asked Dr. Brooke Wagner to present on enrollment. Dr. Wagner shared that the data had been prepared by Oscar Loureiro, Director of Research and Planning. The district was on track to reach projections at all levels on average. Staff were waiting to determine how many kindergarten students would be enrolling as typically parents did not enroll their students until September. There were 964 students enrolled in online programs and there were students on a wait list that would be placed as soon as staffing was determined. She gave data regarding the distribution of online attendance by region.

She shared that the district would highly encourage students to eat outside and school principals would communicate with families. The district was experiencing staff shortages and was working to ensure there would be adequate supervision for outdoor mealtimes. Lunch and breakfast would be served in the cafeterias at the middle and high schools and seats would be assigned to ensure COVID protocols were followed.

Superintendent Vandercar introduced Dr. Black and Dr. Pelz to answer questions that had been sent to them ahead of time by the Board. Dr. Pelz answered a concern about distancing. He said that three feet of spacing in tandem with other precautions did provide protection. He continued by answering that single layer cloth masks were not as effective as double layer cloth masks, surgical masks or KN95 masks, but was concerned about having to police students as they came in. He suggested that the district create a policy for the least adequate face covering and suggested providing masks for students who did not meet that least requirement. He said that persons should be wearing masks at all time except when eating and drinking. Dr. Black agreed that bandanas and "gaiters" should be discouraged.

Dr. Pelz described the efficacy of different COVID tests and asked whether the district had opted into BinaxNOW testing. Ms. Nesbit and Ms. Strong said that the district has opted into screening for students and staff. Dr. Black answered a question regarding mealtimes. She said that outdoor mealtimes with some degree of distancing, masking in between eating and drinking, and hand hygiene before and after were best practices. Dr. Pelz and Dr. Dawn Strong discussed timely contact tracing. Dr. Strong said that the district had their own contract tracing program. After being informed of a positive case, they communicated to families and determined who might need to quarantine. They also worked with Lane County Public Health to do additional contract tracing and reached out to all close contacts: students, parents, and staff. Dr. Strong said that the process usually took 1-2 days to begin, compared to up to seven days for the county.

Dr. Black, pediatric hospitalist and medical director for PeaceHealth's children services formally introduced herself and said that although there were children's facilities in Eugene and Springfield, intensive care facilities for children were available in Portland if a case was severe enough to warrant a move to intensive care. There were also telehealth options available.

Ms. O'Rourke asked whether there was a plan for the first few weeks of school until all staff were vaccinated if there were to be an increase in cases and hospitals were full. Dr. Pelz shared his concern that there might be an increase in cases in adults.

In response to Chair Newman's question, Dr. Pelz said that modeling data showed that the peak in cases and hospitalizations would occur within the next few weeks, and added that bed availability in hospitals was reaching capacity.

Dr. Black answered that there was a potential for new variants.

Dr. Pelz said that he had confidence that the Oregon Health Authority was giving good guidance on precautions against COVID.

Responding to a question regarding safety on buses and mealtime, where space would be tight, Dr. Black said that masking and hand hygiene would be important and added that if parents could assist in providing alternate transportation to school, it would lessen the risk.

Ms. Rabasa thanked the presenters for coming. She asked if Drs. Black and Pelz could offer comments on social distancing. Dr. Pelz shared information on how rapidly the Delta variant spreads, and agreed that it would be wise to remain distanced as much as possible, but both he and Dr. Black stressed that wearing a mask was the most important protection and that they needed to be worn at all times. Dr. Pelz added that much of the spread of the virus in students was as a result of informal after-school activities.

Mr. Lafer asked what to expect with regard to infection rates given the reality that schools would not be able to maintain best practices at all times. He also asked Dr. Black whether she would be willing to share her plans for sending her own children to school. Dr. Black responded that she intended to send her children to school because they needed to be in school for learning and socializing. She said that she would be most comfortable knowing the district had created a solid response plan. Dr. Pelz said that the state had many resources available. Dr. Black added that she would expect students to get sick for a variety of reasons and the district would need to minimize illness and quarantine students.

Ms. Rabasa thanked Dr. Black for her answers. She asked whether it would be worth the district to provide masks, ask students to double mask inside, and also keep their masks on while outside. Dr. Black and Dr. Pelz responded that the district would need to stand firm on following the guidelines already set (masking, distancing, and hand hygiene). She recommended that when students and adults were outside, students should wear their masks when they were close together, such as during game times and passing times, and that adults should wear them at all times.

Ms. O'Rourke asked about the dangers of the vaccine wearing off. Dr. Pelz responded that there were too many factors (age, already weak immune systems, preexisting conditions, overexposure to the virus, variants, etc.) to determine whether the efficacy of the vaccine was waning. He reasserted that getting vaccinated was still the best way to reduce the effects of the virus and avoid hospitalization.

Chair Newman thanked Dr. Black and Dr. Pelz for their thoughtful responses to questions and asked the Board members whether they had additional questions of staff regarding school reopening plans.

In response to a series of questions from Mr. Lafer, Dr. Strong said that all schools had the option to have outdoor mealtime but was not sure of the particulars. Dr. Strong said that each school site is unique and just because it works to set up outside eating space at one school, it may not work at another school for a variety of reasons. Because of an employee shortage, increasing needs for staffing in other areas of the district, and the uncertainty of how many staff might not be willing to return to work because of the vaccine mandate, it would be challenging to add bus monitors. Ms. Strong continued that there was not an online plan specifically for sixth graders at the moment.

She continued that school leadership would be able to assess class sizes after they determined how many students would be attending online school, and added that a modular building had been delivered to the YG/Kelly campus to reduce overcrowding.

Ms. Rabasa asked for the data regarding requests for online classes. She added that she hoped that outdoor mealtimes would be made a requirement instead of an option. Superintendent Vandercar responded that they were encouraging it when possible and that Schools with garage-style doors in the cafeterias would be opening them to add ventilation. Superintendent Vandercar was planning to put data regarding the distribution of students planning to enroll in online school in the Friday memo.

Mr. Lafer asked whether all families that had requested Connect K5 would be placed. Dr. Wagner said they had finalized staffing and were working to place all students from the wait list.

Ms. Shabram asked for any information that the staff received regarding parent funding drives for additional support to schools. Dr. Wagner responded that the district would be providing elementary schools with supplies, and all students would be receiving lanyards to secure their masks. All schools would be able to distribute masks to those who needed them. Schools were working on pre-teaching and welcome back messages that reminded students when and how masks should be worn.

Chair Newman finished the discussion by thanking the district for all the work they had done to make sure back-to-school was successful.

In response to a question from the Board, Ms. Nesbit said that they still planned to allow elementary students to remove their masks outside during recess. Mr. Lafer asked what plan was in place for alternative education should a large number of students need to be quarantined. Ms. Nesbit responded that the district was in conversation with EEA and would have more information at a later date.

Ms. O'Rourke asked whether the district had created talking points to ensure that parents received the message regarding safety requirements in their native language. Dr. Strong responded that staff were working on creating and translating materials which included visuals, stories and routines for parents and their students.

2. Review Board Committee Assignments
Presenter: Judy Newman, Board Chair

Chair Newman referred everyone to the information provided in the Board packet and asked whether there were any Board members who disagreed with their assignments. Seeing and hearing none, she declared that the assignments were final.

XII. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Approve Informal Request for Proposal (IRFP) for Superintendent Search Firm
Presenter: Christine Nesbit, General Counsel

Ms. Nesbit gave introductory remarks, and referred to the draft proposal in the Board packet. She reviewed the timeline. She added that Mr. Lafer would be discussing changes made in the scope of work. Mr. Lafer shared that the subcommittee had changed some of the questions regarding: a firm's experience; practices and track record regarding equity and diversion; knowledge regarding the specificities of school finance in Oregon; addressing challenges in a Superintendent search; recruiting candidates whose skill sets align with specific Board goals; and how the search might be affected by COVID-19, in particular engaging the community. He added that they made minor changes to the answer weighting system.

There were no questions for Ms. Nesbit or the Subcommittee. Ms. Shabram moved, and Ms. O'Rourke seconded the motion to approve the IRFP. **The motion passed 7:0.**

2. Approve Revisions to Board Policies: IIBGA Electronic Communications Systems; INDB Flag Displays and Salutes; JGA Corporal Punishment
Presenter: Christine Nesbit, General Counsel

Ms. Nesbit said that there had been a first read of all the policies at the August 4 Board meeting, and since then the district had received no public comment on the revisions. She referred to the Board packet, asked for questions from the Board, and said that the Superintendent recommended that the Board approve revisions to the three listed policies.

There was no discussion. Ms. Shabram moved and Ms. Rabasa seconded the motion to approve revisions to Board Policies: IIBGA Electronic Communications Systems; INDB Flag Displays and Salutes; JGA Corporal Punishment. **The motion passed 7:0.**

3. Initiate Adoption Process for Elementary Language Arts and Social Studies Curriculum
Presenters: Eric Anderson, Director of Curriculum; Sarah Knudsen, Teacher on Special Assignment; Katie Stiles, Teacher on Special Assignment; Jose Salgado, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Superintendent Vandercar referred to State Requirements and Board Policies and extensive discussion and information that had been provided to the Board in prior meetings by staff. She then recommended that the Board approve the initiation of the adoption process for a single, complete K-5 language arts and social studies suite of materials for implementation in the 2022-23 school year, which would provide consistency of across the elementary level and would be research-based, aligned to ODE ELA and Social Studies standards.

Ms. Shabram moved that the Board approve the adoption of the above process. Ms. Hays seconded the motion. Chair Newman asked for discussion. Mr. Lafer stated that he hoped that teachers would be able to teach through their strengths so that students learned not only how to read, but to learn to read and be curious about the subjects they were learning. He expressed that he was concerned that equity not be an argument for uniformity. He asked to amend the motion to empower the committee to come back to the Board with one or two curricula and the adoption would include flexibility of materials and methods for teachers. Ms. O'Rourke seconded the amendment. Ms. Shabram appreciated the concept of a suite, which would provide options on how to address the required standards. She agreed that the decision would be up to the teachers and committee whether it was one or two suites. Ms. O'Rourke said the amendment provided more choice. Ms. Walston asked that the Board listen to the professionals who created the recommendation and approve it as written. Chair Newman also referred to the overwhelming agreement by staff in the proposal that the Board approve one curriculum. Ms. Rabasa wanted to leave the door open to two curricula. Mr. Lafer gave additional comments. Ms. Hays felt it was disingenuous to offer an amendment to a recommendation that represented the staff's best work. Ms. Shabram referred to comments made by some of the teachers regarding one or two curricula.

Ms. Walston called to end the debate. Ms. Hays seconded. After a vote, the motion failed and discussion continued.

In response to a question by Ms. Rabasa, Ms. Nesbit reminded the Board that they were not voting to approve an adoption but to initiate a process which would include selection, piloting, discussion by licensed staff, community input, after which staff would bring to the Board their recommendation for adoption. Ms. Rabasa was trying to determine whether or not there was flexibility for district staff to recommend two curricula if the Board did not pass the amendment to the motion. Superintendent Vandercar responded that it was possible that staff might recommend more than one curricula for adoption.

Mr. Lafer also asked for clarification on the question of one or two curriculum. Ms. Nesbit responded that the original motion was to approve the initiation of the process to adopt a single suite of curricula. She gave history of the 2007 curriculum adoption that resulted in the adoption of two curricula. She continued that it was likely that the 2022-23 adoption of a suite of materials would include materials from multiple publishers. She reiterated that the process to determine one suite of materials was what staff had asked the Board to approve.

Chair Newman called for the vote on the amendment as proposed By Mr. Lafer and seconded by Ms. O'Rourke. **The motion did not pass 3:4.**

Ms. Rabasa made a motion to remove the word "single" in the original motion (a single, complete K-5 language arts and social studies suite). Mr. Lafer seconded the motion. Ms. Hays commented that she hoped that the district would arrive at a single curriculum, but amending the recommendation might provide flexibility.

Chair Newman called for a vote on the amendment. **The motion to amend the original recommendation passed 4:3.**

Ms. Shabram moved that the Board “approve the initiation of the adoption process for a complete K-5 language arts and social studies suite of materials for implementation in the 2022-23 school year.” Ms. O’Rourke seconded. There was no discussion. **The motion passed 4:3.**

4. Initiate Adoption Process for Secondary Language Arts Curriculum
Presenters: Eric Anderson, Director of Curriculum; Tammy Steeves, Teacher on Special Assignment; Jose Salgado, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Ms. Shabram moved that the board approve the initiation of the adoption process for a single, complete suite of core and supplemental language arts materials for implementation at the secondary level in the 2022-24 school year. Ms. Walston seconded the motion. Ms. Rabasa moved to amend the motion by striking the word “single”. Ms. O’Rourke seconded the motion to amend. **The motion to amend passed 4:3.**

The motion as amended, to approve the initiation of the adoption process for a complete suite of core and supplemental language arts materials for implementation at the secondary level in the 2022-24 school year, **passed 4:3.**

XIII. ITEMS FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING

1. Approve Resolution 2021-22-09 Concerning Masking and Other Protective Measures to Ensure Safe Public Meetings
Presenter: Christine Nesbit, General Counsel

Ms. Nesbit introduced a resolution to ensure safe public meetings that was intended to fill a gap in state law regarding masking in certain situations. It would empower the Chair to make health and safety rules during the pandemic. In response to a question, Ms. Nesbit said that the rules would only apply during public meetings involving the Board such as Board meetings, forums, retreats and work sessions.

2. Consider Revisions to Board Policy KGB Public Conduct on District Property
Presenter: Christine Nesbit, General Counsel

Ms. Nesbit introduced revisions to Board Policy KGB that would create restrictions for animals on district fields and grounds. She offered that it was up to the Board to determine when and where animals would be allowed. The revisions would allow people to bring animals on grounds when students were not present and outlined the behavior expected and the reasons for it. Ms. Walston said that she was aware of an issue at Crest Elementary School where district property abutted city property. Ms. Nesbit said that if the revisions were approved, the district would place signage at the boundaries of district property indicating the expected behaviors.

3. Receive Information on Instructional Time and Discuss Approval of Instructional Allowances
Presenter: Christine Nesbit, General Counsel

Superintendent Vandercar referred to details regarding instructional minutes in the Board packet. She added it might be possible that instructional allowances would be used in case school was interrupted because of the ongoing pandemic or because of a fire, and that if approved, Eugene Education Association would need to enter into bargaining to determine the scope of the use of allowances.

She continued by saying that it would be challenging to find staff in every building to cover for teachers when they took breaks during their day as provided under the allowances. She referred to Ms. Nesbit who described the process that had occurred in years prior. Ms. Nesbit also gave some background regarding the Oregon Department of Education definition of a parent-teacher conference. Ms. Rabasa commented that she appreciated knowing that there was a fund of time available in case the district decided to postpone school or change to a different mode of teaching. Ms. Vandercar agreed that authorizing the allowances in advance for emergency cases such as stated prior, would give the district more flexibility. Mr. Lafer asked what situations would count under ODE guidance. Ms. Nesbit said that in the prior year, ODE had allowed more situations for parent-teacher contact to be included as instructional time. She gave information regarding additional recess time without an instructional goal.

In response to a question from the Chair, Ms. Nesbit said that the Superintendent could request the Board to approve allowances when needed. Ms. Rabasa clarified that if approved at a future meeting, it would allow the Superintendent the option to use the allowances as needed. Superintendent Vandercar agreed and added that she would not use the allowances without informing the Board and the community.

4. Consider For Approval Board Goals For 2021–22
Presenter: Judy Newman, Board Chair

Vice Chair Shabram read into the minutes the goals agreed upon during the Board Retreat.

1. Conduct a thoughtful national search that results in hiring a permanent superintendent.
2. Complete a comprehensive and timely evaluation of the interim superintendent's performance.
3. Perform our fiduciary responsibilities in a timely manner by participating in the budget committee process and appointing new members to vacancies.
4. Establish the next steps of our multi-year All Students Belong Initiative including the goals and workplan for this year, then implement the workplan.
5. Create a plan for the North Eugene Region that includes where Yujin Gakuen and Kelly schools will be located, and other programming and plans.
6. Decide on and/or create an equity lens for the district and use it for all decision-making. (With Equity Committee).

Vice Chair Shabram then read two additional goals that had received majority support during the work session earlier in the evening.

1. Identify and implement climate change initiatives;
 - a. Identify what is currently happening and develop a plan
2. Develop a district-wide communication plan to improve communication and transparency with stakeholders and the community.

She read the additional goals that did not receive majority support. She added that at the next meeting the Board would vote to approve the list of goals for the upcoming year.

5. Consider Approval Of Board Working Agreements

Presenter: Judy Newman, Board Chair

Chair Newman referred briefly to the item for action. Ms. Walston hoped that they would have time for more discussion prior to voting on the working agreements.

6. Consider Nominations for Oregon School Board Associations (OSBA) Elections

Presenter: Cydney Vandercar, Interim Superintendent

Superintendent Vandercar referred to the Board packet for the process to nominate persons to open positions on the Board of Directors and Legislative Policy Committee of the Oregon School Boards Association. She reminded the Board that the nomination of a candidate by the Board and submission of materials would need to happen prior to October 1, 2021. Ms. Walston gave comment on the process. Chair Newman encouraged Board members to indicate their interest.

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

Ms. Hays asked for information regarding the definition of a serial meeting. Mr. Lafer supported the idea and suggested inviting someone from OSBA to present regarding all the particulars of public meetings.

The Board had a discussion regarding decorum at meetings and agreed to work on providing information to the community.

XV. ADJOURN

Chair Newman adjourned the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

(Recorded by Eliza Drummond)

Cydney Vandercar
District Clerk

Judy Newman
Board Chair