

Regular School Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 20, 2024 7:00 PM
Board Approved: _____

CMS and via ZOOM/Owl
31520 E Woodard Rd Troutdale OR 97060

A Regular School Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Corbett School District was held Wednesday, November 20, 2024, beginning at 7:00 PM at the CMS/ Board Room and via ZOOM-Owl virtual platform. Board members present were Todd Mickalson, Chair; David Granberg; Dylan Rickert; Bob Buttke; Ben Byers; Todd Redfern and Leah Fredericks, Board Vice Chair. Also present were Administrators Derek Fialkiewicz, Ed.D., Superintendent; Jeanne Swift, Assistant Superintendent/Director Student Services; Brie Windust, Business Office Assistant/ZOOM moderator; Robin Lindeen-Blakeley, Deputy Clerk/HR Lead and Regina Sampson, Business Manager. Both CHS Student Representatives were in attendance at the Board table. NOTE: The minutes are prepared to coincide with time scheduled matters and the numbering system of the agenda and is not necessarily the actual order of happenings at the meeting.

1. Preliminary Business – approximately 164 online attendees. Many folks also attended in person.
 - 1.1. Call to Order / Flag Salute
2. 7:01 p.m. Todd Mickalson, Board Chair – called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

1.2. Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Todd Mickalson, Board Chair announced that agenda was OK as written.

1.3. Board Chair Report Information/Discussion/Advertise

Chair Mickalson was glad that we had a large group turn up at this meeting, and explained he was upset that budget issues were not caught. It has been a practice of the district for outside accounting for quite a while. We have to right the ship, so we will have discussion and lots of information, so that everyone has better understanding of where we are.

Applications for three vacant budget committee positions will be received in the District Office or by email to rlindeen@corbett.k12.or.us by December 15, 2024. Discussion at December 18, 2024 Board meeting.

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/AB/BBE%20D1.PDF>

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/AB/BK%20D1.PDF>

a. Budget Committee Vacancy - Budget Committee Position No. 3, was vacated. The term expires December 31, 2024, and can be renewed for a three-year term after that.

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/D/DBEA%20D1.PDF>

b. Budget Committee Vacancy - Budget Committee Position No. 4, will be expiring December 31, 2024, and will start a three-year term from January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2028. <https://policy.osba.org/corbett/D/DBEA%20D1.PDF>

c. Brad Garrett, Budget Committee Position No. 1, resigned effective October 18, 2024. The term expires December 31, 2025.

Attachments: (1)

1.3.a. OSBA Elections Action Items

Todd Mickalson, Board Chair

The Board discussed how they should vote for the OSBA candidates and Resolutions as attached in the Board packet. Deadline for ballot submission to OSBA is December 15.

Resolution No. 11.49-24 - 11.53-24

Attachments: (9)

1. Ben Byers moved to abstain on **Resolution No. 11.49-24** for Board of Directors Position 17 and Bob Buttke seconded.

The vote of the Board was 7-0 in favor of abstention.

2. Ben Byers moved to abstain on **Resolution No. 11.50-24** for Board of Directors Position 19 and David Granberg seconded.

The vote of the Board was 7-0 in favor of abstention.

3. Ben Byers moved to vote no – do not adopt on **Resolution No. 11.51-24**, OSBA Resolution 1 – Amends the OSBA dues schedule, and Bob Buttke seconded.

The vote of the Board was 7- 0 in favor of a no vote.

4. Ben Byers moved to adopt on **Resolution No. 11.52-24**, OSBA Resolution 2 – Creates the Oregon School Board Members PRIDE Caucus and designates a seat on the OSBA Board of Directors and Legislative Policy Committee and Leah Fredericks seconded. Board discussion.

The vote of the Board failed with a vote of 2 – 5; Todd Mickalson, Bob Buttke, Dylan Rickert, David Granberg and Todd Redfern opposed.

The amended **Resolution No. 11.52-24.1** for OSBA Resolution 2 – to abstain on, “Creates the Oregon School Board Members PRIDE Caucus and designates a seat on the OSBA Board of Directors and Legislative Policy Committee” was moved by Todd Mickalson and Bob Buttke seconded.

The vote of the Board was 6-1 in favor of abstention; Leah Fredericks opposed.

5. Ben Byers moved to abstain on **Resolution No. 11.53-24**, OSBA Resolution 3 – Adopts the proposed amendments to the OSBA Bylaws and Bob Buttke seconded.

The vote of the Board was 7-0 in favor of abstention.

2. Approval and Extension of Minutes Action Item

Todd Mickalson moved and Bob Buttke seconded;

RESOLUTION NO. 11.54-24 - RESOLVED that the Board approved the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting of September 18, 2024, and extended the approval of the meeting minutes of the Regular School Board meeting of October 16, 2024, and Special School Board meeting minutes of November 5, 2024.

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/AB/BDDG%20D1.PDF>

Attachments: (1)

The vote of the Board was 7-0 in favor of Resolution No. 11.54-24.

7:28 p.m. 3. Introduction and Comments of Guests – Chair Mickalson read policy parameters regarding comment protocols:

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/AB/BDDH%20D1.PDF>

- a. Desiree Chiu - parent/teacher/patron – asked questions about accounting error, and asked about MESD's statement about the deficit.

Dr. Fialkiewicz announced that he and the board saw financial statements from January 2023 through June 2023, with overspending of \$620,000.00 but, changes and steps to correct were not done, clearly, so the contract with MESD ended in June 2024. In July – September 2024, our in-house hire/CFO found bookkeeping errors. We then revealed to staff the need for reductions in staff and since then changes and plans are underway for furlough days.

has two kids in our school and been here all their grades. He served two years on Troutdale City Council and was on their budget committee. Looked back at budget and feels 110% avoidable, with decisions not making sense. Keeping kids out is not generating revenue, so need to help with out of district students, as out of district parents help with PTA, coaching, etc. All need to give.

- b. Caroline Oakley - parent/teacher/patron – spoke about payroll through January, vendors not paid, State take, letter, cutting students 2020, not one person's fault, Dr. Fialkiewicz and school board not taking accountability.

7:30 p.m. c. L. Beeson – 6th grade teacher, received a phone call without letter, and without union representation, about being laid off. Then about November 13 found out he was going to keep his job. Also disgraceful that students knew before parents.

- d. Audrey Winebarger - parent/SPED Asst. FLS/ patron – suggested that this year feels unsafe for students, with an uptick in their behaviors. She works with two challenging students in the District.

- e. Adam Larsen – parent – As an advocate for many other families, teachers and staff, he wished that families would support our teachers. He requested expansion of students and recognized the petition that 148 signed in the last 48 hours.

7:46 – 7:47 p.m. f. Nick Moon – parent/patron - has two kids in our school and been here all their grades. He served two years on Troutdale City Council and was on their budget committee. Looked back at several years of our budgets and feels 110% avoidable, with decisions not making sense. Keeping kids out is not generating revenue, so need to help with out of district students, as out of district parents help with PTA, coaching, etc. All need to give. He plans to run for the school board in spring 2025, and hopes that county or state doesn't get involved because of trend of downward finances.

7:48 p.m. g. Kathie Freund – patron- resident for 58 years and has attended 51 years of school board meetings. Stay and ask questions, and quit blaming. ZOOM meetings can be done from anywhere. If you really care you will take an interest. The school board are volunteers that work very hard for us. Volunteer in the schools by reading or help out by caring through involvement with PTA, music, football, etc., and arts will be affected. The music concert has 98 students in CMS and CHS and was wonderful. Only 10% of this community shows up.

7:54 p.m. h. Adam Larsen – parent – Have heard a lot about in district and out of district, and document of \$600,000.00 low on February 21, 2024. Yet Superintendent says it kept him awake at night, and he is captain of the ship. The keep Corbett small agenda was a choice, and now choice to bring children here. We live in Troutdale and love the teachers and staff. Superintendent took an 8% salary increase for 2024-25.

7:57 p.m.

Todd Mickalson reminded staff of last contract negotiations, that we value our teaching staff, students and all who work here. As a volunteer coach he doesn't know about nine out of ten kids as to whether they live in district or not. There is no agenda, no bad options now.

7:58 p.m.

3.1. Principal / Director/ Supervisor Report

Derek Fialkiewicz, Ed.D., Superintendent, had nothing to report at this time.

3.2. Student Representative to the Board Information Item

7:59 p.m. Kaylee Moore and Haley Potts, CHS Representatives to the Board – Kaylee reported that they are finishing up trimester 1 with fall sports ending and winter sports started, with activities ongoing for (Corbett Performing Arts Club (CPAC) and Robotics.

Haley reported that CHS has been focused on massive budget issues, and some unaffected by current budget deficit. She has been stressed out and embarrassed by it, and it is affecting families and those 22-32 AP Spanish students, four-year string students and those with choices to make between music/strings. She hopes the Board and Superintendent are open and transparent for the student body.

8:02 p.m.

4. FINANCIAL REPORTS / MATTERS

8:03 p.m. Dr. Fialkiewicz appreciated all that were at the meeting and especially the student body and Administration. He wished we had same support each month. It seems as though we should have caught (financial) with a professional in position, you believe those numbers, so main reason we're in that position. When you contract with someone you are not their boss, so went to her boss and was assured it was double checked. Then, have to believe numbers. In the spring decided couldn't handle not supervisor or business manager in office. That's why we cut the position contract and were lucky to find Regina Sampson. In August she started to see accounting errors, and with some shifting, took care of. Board was made aware. We started cutting at that time, starting with maintenance position we were going to hire for and camera order. Not fraud, just bad accounting.

More expenditures than revenue is a larger problem. If we did nothing, \$3 million in hole by end of the year. Doing payroll cuts of three administrators, 1.5 teachers and four classified staff. Percentage of total salaries cutting is 30% administrative, 5-7% teaching and 15% classified costs. We are asking each employee to take furlough days to minimize staff costs.

Ms. Sampson established payroll review processes, balance sheets reconciliation, as it was not being done. Working on the following: purchasing process for purchase orders instead of p-cards, reviewing contracts that were established and subscriptions not being used, like Forecast 5 that offers better protections, Corrective Actions from 2023 audit, and working to change software we currently use is outdated and doesn't do encumbrances, and asking staff and unions to check on their own contributions as a start.

8:13 p.m. Dr. Fialkiewicz heard and understood the need for better transparency and communication. This is perfect opportunity to come together.

4.1. Report Information Item – Ms. Sampson noted that final statement for 2022-23 auditors helped resolve corrective action on page 74 of the board packet. To summarize, understanding the roles of the staff and that software doesn't allow grant accounting properly.

Board discussion.

Dr. Fialkiewicz added that MESD and Corbett SD are only two using this system.

Ms. Sampson referred folks to page 101 of the Board packet. The regular report begins on page 81. We have not yet changed projected fund balance (PFB) at this time. Adjusting for furlough days and TAN Borrowing that was not budgeted.

Board discussion.

Ms. Sampson noted that would need to be over 10% of appropriations to reconvene budget committee, so we are reducing budget.

Board discussion.

Ms. Sampson explained that auditors start with board policy and current year. She can't speak to past years. They have access to all transactions and postings. They ask for a list of transactions they want to see.

Board discussion.

Ms. Sampson reiterated that auditors are looking for fraud. Their responsibility is to make sure we are following policies and digging in.

Dr. Fialkiewicz said a lot of questions asked, as multiple years of audits did not bring up the issue.

Board discussion.

8:35 p.m. Chair Mickelson reminded audience to present questions.

Ms. Sampson opined that processes increase our staff level needs. Membership with OASBO and worked with Ms. Windust and Christie Dillard, Business Office Assistant, on findings, adding Dr. Fialkiewicz to processes, trying to add and balance. The Board financial report shows the Food Service Fund on pages 83-84 with the first CEP claim. Pages 85-86 are Federal Fund. Pages 87-88 Student Body Fund. Pages 89-90 G.O. Bond Fund, holding cash account with property taxes, held harmless. Pages 91-92 Energy Projects Fund.

Attachments: (3)

4.2. Budget Committee Calendar for 2024-2025 for the 2025-2026 Budget

Action Item

Ms. Sampson mentioned the budget calendar reviewed by TSCC on pages 206-207. Input sessions to be held December 5-19 and online with surveys collected for direction at January 8 Special Board meeting. January 15 the Board will adopt the budget priorities.

Board discussion.

The board workshop on March 19 could focus on three general questions. Focus on if there are extra monies, no monies, or just enough. This could be in person or on ZOOM. Budget document will be published prior to first meeting so they can review.

Several questions from audience were answered.

Funds that are automatically transferred out, how is that reported?

Ms. Sampson answered that there is a process of automatic pulls for OEGB, PERS, payroll and open enrollments. They let us know how much and then detailed per employee. Liability and cash was not recorded on payroll and not being adjusted correctly with contribution offsetting liability, not catching accruals, under reporting expenditures and leaving a balance in liability account.

Board discussion.

9:00 p.m. Sis Childs asked about current revenue versus expenditures. The big picture is revenue from students and when she was Chair she sat down with Superintendent on budget. This is a house on fire, accounts, training, how can we prevent? Need higher numbers coming in. We are on brink of losing District, so plan is now.

Chair Mickelson said numbers obviously changed and we're talking with Dr. Fialkiewicz.

Board discussion.

Leah Fredericks moved and Bob Buttke seconded:

RESOLUTION NO. 11.55-24 - RESOLVED that the Board confirmed and approved the calendar for the 2025-26 budget fiscal year.

The vote of the Board was 7-0.

Attachments: (1)

9:02 p.m. The Board recessed from public session for a break.

9:10 p.m. The Board reconvened back into public session.

Ms. Sampson answered another question about reconciliation. The February cash did not come to zero. June of 2023 was the last time done. We are now current as of October 31, and reconciliation for cash is done daily.

Board discussion.

Dr. Fialkiewicz added that since Ms. Sampson came on board in July, we've tried to shore up responsibilities.

Kit Dixon, patron, asked if the taxpayers of Corbett are ultimately responsible financially for said losses of \$3 million?

No, only G.O. Bond. The cash flow, we make sure that losses/overspending is corrected.

9:16 p.m.

5. Superintendent Fialkiewicz's Report Information Item(s)

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/C/CI%20D1.PDF>

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/C/CCB%20D1.PDF>

Dr. Fialkiewicz gave shout outs: to the Community Patrol that volunteers at the school every morning and afternoon. Thanks to Ron Cannon in the room, and appreciate Rick Ashford, who has only missed a couple of days. Ms. Karki, 4th/5th grade teacher, was named Fox 12 teacher of the month for December. The CPAC group that just put on "Clue" is absolutely amazing. The students prepare for the theater show working 20 hours per week. Thanks to all of the community members that helped the "Trunk or Treat" event. There was lots of participation and the kids were dressed up nicely in their Halloween costumes. December 7 is Corbett community tree lighting and bonfire. MPB Santa breakfast, and earlier craft fair and book fair events.

5.1. Enrollment/Application Process Update – 1089

Another question from the audience – how soon can we increase enrollment?

There are limitations on the buildings with septic, etc. so we are looking at this.

Dr. Fialkiewicz is working with Steve Salisbury, Maintenance/Custodial Supervisor, and Principals for Ideal numbers in the buildings and class sizes, to see if we can add.

Board discussion.

Ms. Lindeen-Blakeley said the charter agreement is up in January for renewal and a maximum of 1300 is the number it stated.

Board discussion.

Dr. Fialkiewicz said by January 10 we will have expected enrollment, when State needs to know for estimating next year's funding. If we wait past that date, we won't get the funding and if we added students today, it would not impact.

Board discussion.

Dr. Fialkiewicz explained open enrollment application with wait list usually closed the second week of September.

Board discussion.

Dr. Fialkiewicz said with online students, always open.

5.2. Update on Corbett School campus upgrades and/or grants –

- a. Integrated Programs Q4/Annual Reporting open for 2023-24 and due November 30, 2024.

Nothing to report at this time.

5.3. Future Planning/Strategic Planning – nothing to report at this time.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Todd Mickalson moved and Bob Buttke seconded:

6.1. **Consent agenda **Resolution items 11.56-24** through 11.63-24** Action Items**

11.2RESOLUTION NO.11.56-24** - RESOLVED** that the Board confirmed that Jeanne Swift, 1.00 FTE Assistant Superintendent/Director of Student Services/CAPS Learning Specialist, is taking FMLA effective December 5, 2024 - January 6, 2025.

11.3RESOLUTION NO. 11.57-24** - RESOLVED** that the Board reconfirmed the intermittent FMLA for Lindsey Henson, 3rd-5th Grade CAPS Teacher, effective September 3 to October 3 and October 8

- November 22, 2024, and December 2-20, 2024 pending OR PFML.

11.4RESOLUTION NO. 11.58-24** - RESOLVED** that the Board reconfirmed the pending FMLA From October 14-November 22, 2024, and December 2-20, 2024 for 1.00 FTE 4th/5th Grade Teacher, Jeff Bunte.

11.5RESOLUTION NO. 11.59-24** - RESOLVED** that the Board confirmed the winter season 2024-25 coaches as attached in the board packet.

11.6RESOLUTION NO. 11.60-24** - RESOLVED** that the Board confirmed the resignation of 1.00 FTE CAPS Counselor, Vanessa Knight, effective January 30, 2025, last day of work.

11.7RESOLUTION NO. 11.61-24** - RESOLVED** that the board confirmed the FMLA for 1.00 Culinary Arts Teacher, Christopher Shaw, effective January 6-9 and January 13, 2025.

11.8RESOLUTION NO. 11.62-24** - RESOLVED** that the Board recommended the layoffs of the following staff with positions eliminated as of December 20, 2024:

Jacqueline Brandow, 1.00 FTE Director of School Based Mental Health (SBMH); Victoria (Tori) Maehara, FTE K-12 Assistant Principal; Amber Villa-Zang, 1.00 FTE Director of Curriculum, Assessment and School Improvement; Richard Littledyke, 1.00 FTE K-12 Music Teacher; Nafeesa Pascu, .83 FTE Educational Assistant, and currently restricted substitute teacher at 1.00 FTE in CAPS 3rd-5th Grade; Vicki Savoy, .85 FTE SPED Asst. FLS; and Samantha Sanchez, 1.00 FTE Building Secretary/CAPS.

11.9 **RESOLUTION NO. 11.63-24 - RESOLVED that the Board confirmed the following position reductions or changes effective January 6, 2025:

Tesla Strine, 1.00 FTE to .5 FTE Secondary Spanish Teacher; Summer Bell-Watkins, 1.00 FTE Intervention Teacher to .5 FTE Learning Specialist; Angela Davis, 1.00 FTE Athletic Director to .5 FTE Athletic Director /.5 FTE HS English Teacher; and Mark McIntire, 1.00 FTE K-8 CAPS Intervention Specialist/Spanish Teacher to .5 FTE CAPS Spanish Teacher/.5 FTE Learning Specialist.

Attachments: (2)

The vote of the Board was 7-0 for Consent Agenda **Resolution Items 11.56-24-11.63-24**.

7. CURRICULUM

Derek Fialkiewicz, Ed.D., Superintendent – nothing at this time in the meeting.

8. STUDENTS

Derek Fialkiewicz, Ed.D., Superintendent- nothing at this time in the meeting.

9. TRANSPORTATION, BUILDINGS AND MAINTENANCE

9.1. Road Maintenance/School Zone Updates –Stark Street bridge is set to open in March. There is a potential to have one lane open in February. Still working on school zones, but dependent on sidewalks, etc.

☐ 10. CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Derek Fialkiewicz, Ed.D., Superintendent – announced that CPAC has three more showings on November 22, 7:00 pm. and November 23, 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. In fall sports:

Volleyball is rated 5th in state and was undefeated in the regular season. Rebuilding year for girls' soccer with a 1-13 season. Boys soccer and 8-6 season, with state playoffs in the most difficult

division, finishing 7th and top 20 in state. Football season was 3- 5, cross country had a great season with each meet bringing personal bests.

11. Personnel – Dr. Fialkiewicz announced information on the agenda and Chair Mickalson read: Amanda Johnson, .85 FTE Special Education Assistant to be reclassified to (FLS) effective retroactively to hire date August 20, 2024. (CGS)

Patrick Carey, .43 FTE Bus Driver, resigned effective November 1, 2024.

Sandra Gabriel, .85 FTE SPED EA FLS, taking FMLA effective January 6, 2025-February 10, 2025.

Transfer of Kristen Ashburn, .83 FTE CAPS SPED/Educational Assistant to .85 FTE HS SPED Asst. FLS, effective on January 6, 2025.

Transfer of Talida Lui, .85 GS Educational Assistant to .5 FTE SPED Asst. FLS, effective on January 6, 2025.

11.1. Vacant Positions Information Item – Chair Mickalson announced we have no positions open.

<https://corbett.tedk12.com/hire/Index.aspx>

11.2. See 6.0

☐ 11.3. See 6.0

☐ 11.4. See 6.0

☐ 11.5. See 6.0

☐ 11.6. See 6.0

☐ 11.7. See 6.0

11.8. See 6.0

11.9. See 6.0

12. Policy – no information at this meeting.

9:31 p.m.13. Matters for the Good of the Order

a. Todd Mickalson said we are in a rough patch, but should be OK at the end of the year and solvent and set up for next year.

b. Leach Fredericks reminded all about the PTA led December 4 budget event and conversation to be at the Community Church.

c. David Granberg thanked Regina Sampson for doing a fantastic job.

d. Dylan Rickert thanked ?

e. Ben Byers is very sorry that additional teachers cut.

<https://policy.osba.org/corbett/AB/BBAA%20D1.PDF>

14. COMING EVENTS

Board Chair Mickalson read aloud:

14.1. November 21, Thursday, end of 1st Trimester

November 22, Friday, Assessment

November 25-29 Thanksgiving break - no school Monday-Friday (but there will be athletic practices)

December 18, Wednesday, Regular School Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. MPB/ ZOOM virtual

The student representatives reminded all that movie night is on December 8, with "Home Alone" and others.

The board recessed from public session at 9:35 p.m.

All Board members as listed at the beginning of the meeting were in attendance, as well as Dr. Fialkiewicz, Ms. Sampson and Ms. Lindeen-Blakeley. Attorney Richard Weill joined too, into:

15. Executive Session held pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (h) to consult with counsel concerning current or possible litigation.

The board recessed from Executive Session at 10:30 p.m.

The board reconvened into public session at 10:32 p.m.

16. ADJOURNMENT-

The board adjourned at 10:33 p.m.