

Minutes

The Board of Education

Molalla River School District

November 13, 2014

Chair Neal Lucht called the regular business meeting to order at 7:03PM on Thursday, November 13, 2014 and established that a quorum was present.

Board members present: Chair Neal Lucht, Vice Chair Calvin Nunn, Craig Loughridge, Linda Eskridge, Mark Lucht and Ralph Gierke. Members absent: Liz Cruthers

Present from the administration were Tony Mann/Superintendent and Missy Wesley/Board Secretary

Chair Neal Lucht proceeded with the pledge of allegiance.

Review changes to agenda

There were no recommended changes to the agenda.

Community Member of the Month

Ms. Eskridge read a statement to the public acknowledging Dan Force as the November Community Member of the Month. Ms. Donna Carlson said a few words about Mr. Force and presented him with a plaque. She stated he has volunteered at Molalla Elementary for eight years as a crossing guard and has been a joy to have.

Public Comment

Steven Clark commented to the board that he had serious concerns about the high school math program. He stated that we are short changing our students and parents by not providing them with the materials needed. He said that his son took a picture of his classes' grades and stated that 90% of the class is failing. He commented that he hopes we have a bigger failure rate so kids can retake classes down the line for critical skills.

High School Board Report

Mr. Vandenbroeder reported to the board some of the events taking place at the high school. He highlighted the standings of the fall sports, FFA National Convention, Showcase Night, Singing Christmas Tree, School Senate, Leadership Conference and upcoming Veteran's Day assembly. He spoke of the most recent guest speaker, Dr. Lewis, and his presentation on the history of the Molalla Tribe and compared the presentation to a college lecture. He read through the upcoming Share the Love (STL) events. He explained that they are in the process of accepting applications, with a deadline of December 9th. After that date the committee will determine the recipient.

Mr. Gill explained to the board that there is a new process in place around the STL event. He stated that it is a rather unusual situation because there are three entities involved (MHS Leadership, STL Organization, and money being filtered through the Molalla River Education Foundation for tax benefit). He stated that the insurance company recommended the board approve the list of activities taking place and acknowledge all entities have liability. He explained this is not punitive but for the success of the event. Mr. Mann explained that this list will be brought back for the December meeting.

Action Items

Minutes from September 11, 2014

Mr. Gierke moved to approve the corrected version of the September 11, 2014 minutes. Ms. Eskridge seconded and all members approved as presented.

Minutes from October 9, 2014

Mr. Loughridge proposed a change to the October minutes. He suggested removing the first line of the first paragraph under Superintendent's Report to say, "Ms. Cruthers offered to contact Confederation of

Grand Ronde.” Mr. Loughridge moved to approve the minutes with this correction. Mr. Gierke seconded the motion and all members approved the minutes with the stated correction.

Personnel Report

Mr. Gierke moved to approve the personnel report as presented. Mr. Mark Lucht seconded the motion and all members unanimously approved the report.

Approval of District Strategic priorities

Ms. Eskridge moved to approve the district strategic priorities as presented. Vice Chair Nunn seconded the motion. There was no discussion and all members approved the District Strategic Priorities as presented.

Transportation Services Procurement Findings

Mr. Gill gave members background information around transportation services and explained that the district needs to determine whether they can afford to provide this service our contract out. He explained that the district has not been in a position to cover this cost in the past and currently cannot afford cost of transportation. Mr. Gierke moved to approve the transportation service procurement. Ms. Eskridge seconded the motion and all members unanimously approved the procurement as presented.

Transportation RFP Board Committee

Mr. Gill stated he has been working on the transportation Request for Proposal (RFP) and now that procurement has been established; it was his understanding that the board would be interested in reviewing the RFP prior to the advertisement stage. He asked if the board wanted to form a committee to review and evaluate the RFP. He explained the goal was to advertise the RFP by December 1st and have proposals back by January 15th. He stated he hoped the committee could meet prior to the work session next week for about an hour and half. The members asked clarifying questions around scoring and chosen committee members. Mr. Gill explained that the committee will be made up of board members, administrators, Mr. Mann, Mr. Salitore, and himself. Chair Neal Lucht stated that he didn't think it was a good idea for him to sit on the committee as board chair. Mr. Loughridge stated he was interested. Chair Neal Lucht appointed Mr. Loughridge, Vice Chair Nunn and Ms. Eskridge to this committee. Mr. Gill stated this meeting will take place at 5:00 pm next Thursday, November 20th at the district office. He explained that the committee should be getting a draft version in the next day or two and asked the group to pay attention to the evaluation and expectation sections.

Financial Review

Mr. Gill reviewed with the group the key indicators for the month of November. He pointed out that one of the items has moved to the red. He explained this is in our supported education department and is due to the increased number of students in high cost placements. He stated they are in the process of building solutions to address this issue but at this time it is still in the red. Mr. Gill reviewed the trend report with the members and commented that it is still early in the year.

Teaching and Learning Report

Math Curriculum Renewal

Ms. Sanders came to the board to report on the math curriculum renewal. She stated that during a work session last year she presented to the board the process for curriculum renewal and pointed out that our secondary group has our biggest need. She explained that this process has begun and the committee has had their first meeting looking at current research and discussing what the perfect program looks like for our district. She stated that the group is meeting again tomorrow to look over materials. She explained a parent survey has been launched to get feedback and the committee will use this information to discuss and come up with the best proposal to present to the board. Ms. Sanders stated that the group will determine which materials they feel is best and they will then be available for the public to view for approximately two weeks. Mr. Mann stated that the whole process

boils down to a recommendation and the school board ultimately has the final say as to what materials are adopted.

Supported Education Report

Mr. Salitore began his report by stating that he will be providing regular communication from his department to the board. He commented that the motto in his department is that “Special Education is a service not a placement.” He reported that there are 430 students in the district that his department serves. Mr. Salitore explained how students are assigned to outside agencies, how many students he has in each program and the associated costs. He gave an example of a family that is currently enrolled, whom have extreme costs associated to their care. He explained he is working to provide these needed services within district to give students opportunities to be with their peers and lower outside placement costs. He reported the ODE has flagged the district in a few areas; one being our outside placements assignments. He explained that we are a little over 4% and according to the state we should be around 1.5%. He stated has already restructured some of our programs, specifically MES, and has gotten positive feedback from the community and staff. The second flag was for least restrictive environment for those students with learning disabilities. He explained he is working with staff to become more creative and getting students in general education classes.

Mr. Salitore announced that they are planning to host the Exceptional Learner Resource Fair on January 15th at 5pm. He will be asking MHS leadership to assist in promotion. He explained that this event will be a conference style, with various presenters to come and talk to parents about students with disabilities. He has contacted Colton to participate and it is open to all families whom have children from birth to 21. He is hoping to have 300-400 families and invited the board to attend. He stated he is very excited and plans to make it an annual event.

Long Range Planning Committee Update

Mr. Mann gave the board an update of the long range planning committee. He stated that the group will have a final recommendation to present to the board at the January meeting. He explained the group has visited all facilities, has provided clear input on deferred maintenance, and has determined direction on grade configuration. He reminded the group that part of the committee’s charge was to get a consensus on grade configuration. He shared with the board the process used to determine group consensus and reported that it was unanimous amongst the group to maintain our current structure. He stated that there was some interest in the K-6 structure, however the clear choice is what we currently have in place. Mr. Gierke shared his observations of the work the committee has done.

First Reading of Policies

Members reviewed the following policies:

- GAB – Job Descriptions
- GBN/JBA – Sexual Harassment
- IK – Academic Achievement
- JGAB- Restraint and Seclusion
- JECF – Inter district Transfer of Resident Students

Ms. Eskridge pointed out a missing item on policy JGAB, page 35. Mr. Mann stated he would go back and review the original OSBA version and make the correction. There was no other discussion of the policies presented.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Mann stated that he appreciated the work of the board at the summer retreat and thanked the group for approving the strategic priorities. He explained this is an annual process and highlights the boards focus for the community. Mr. Mann commented that today was one of the most difficult days to determine inclement weather. He stated they began assessing the situation at 2:30 this morning and called a two-hour delay to allow some time to determine the weather. He explained that after review of

the forecast and reports from the field he went on the side of caution and cancelled school. Mr. Mann explained the use of communication through the Flash Alert system. He stated that he understands there were some technology issues with text messages, but the most reliable way is through media outlets. Mr. Mann stated he had the pleasure of attending the FFA National Convention and was amazed with the performance of our students and he was glad students had this opportunity to participate. He announced that the FFA Auction is on the 22nd and hope that everyone can attend. Mr. Mann explained that Ms. Blair and the participants will attend the December meeting to give an update of their experience.

For the Good of the District

Mr. Loughridge stated that he had heard tickets could be purchased on line only for the Singing Christmas Tree and was wondering how to get them. Mr. Mann stated we could post a link on the website and it is also advertised in the Molalla Pioneer. Chair Neal Lucht stated that if anyone was interested in the FFA Auction, send him an email and he will get tickets.

Review/Public Comment

No one from the public signed up to speak.

Upcoming Meetings

Chair Neal Lucht reviewed the upcoming board meeting dates and times. Mr. Loughridge confirmed the transportation RFP subcommittee will meet at the district office, but the work session is going to be at Rural Dell Elementary. Mr. Gill confirmed the subcommittee meeting will be held prior to the work session at the district office, with enough time being left for members to commute to Rural Dell.

Adjourn

Mr. Gierke moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm. Ms. Eskridge seconded the motion and all members unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.

Chair

Superintendent

Secretary