



SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT (CONTINUED)

The board's first goal *'The district will provide an engaging, broad curriculum centered on core academic excellence and offering enrichment opportunities'* is illustrated in our district on a daily basis. She looked back over the last thirty days and attached four agendas so they have an idea of the work that is being done at an elementary, middle school, high school and Director meetings. The work and the focus that they are working on do match to what the Board believes is important.

RECOGNITION OF  
EXCELLENCE

Hidden Valley High School Principal Daye Stone appreciates the district taking the time to recognize some of the excellent things going on in our district. Mr. Stone explained that they have a student-led foundation that's called Josephine County Foundation (JCF). Forward thinking has gone into creating this 501C3 organization which has some very powerful individuals that are giving guidance to a student-led board. The purpose of the organization is to give opportunities for students to learn through service-learning and also give back to the community with money and effort and vision and passion from a kid's perspective. They have put down two community service learning projects; the last one that they just did this fall was the Sunny Wolf event. He introduced Anthony Strangis to present on the Sunny Wolf project.

Hidden Valley High School teacher Chris Pendleton stated Anthony is one of a group of about 12-15 students engaged in the Josephine County Foundation. They have five high schools involved: Illinois Valley HS, Grans Pass HS, New Hope, Hidden Valley HS and North Valley HS. Anthony, along with his partners Bethany Rice and Nicole Lee, coordinated with Hidden Valley's FBLA and JCF to put on an event that would benefit members of the Wolf Creek and Sunny Wolf communities. They decided that something needed to be done to help solve the lack of basic necessities in the area. The Care Fair consisted of health and dental providers, activities for children, lunch and children's clothes. The entire event was free of charge and welcome to all members of that area. Anthony explained how they conducted their PR to get the word out, and the logistics of organizing the event. The event took place in Wolf Creek on October 11th and they provided clothes, doctors, dentists, health services and food and drinks at no cost to those who needed it.

Mr. Stone, on behalf of the School Board, recognized two Hidden Valley teachers Dale Fisher and Chris Pendleton for the outstanding work they do with students and the FBLA and JCF programs.

STUDENT BODY  
REPORTS

Students from each of the high schools gave a report on the programs and activities going on at their schools.

- Illinois Valley High School Erica Butler-teacher advisor, Emily Deters/ASB representative and John Mason/ASB Vice-President
- Hidden Valley High School Dale Fisher-teacher advisor, Megan York/ASB President and Reyna Gregory/ASB Secretary
- North Valley High School Tristan Walden/President and Kaitlin Bell/Junior Class Secretary

## FINANCIAL REPORT

District Accountant Lisa Cross stated the Cash Report is going on just as usual, but some of the Federal grants have not yet come through at the State level yet so we are still funding them in the amount of \$200,000, but it should come through within the next month. The year-to-date ending fund balance estimate is about what we budgeted. We received a new State School Fund estimate, the Federal Forest fees were reinstated. Initially last year the State said we would not be getting those dollars—but they came through. The Common School Fund was also increased; unfortunately the General Fund funding went down—one offset the other.

Board Chair Ron Crume presented the Consent Agenda. All items on the Consent Agenda may be approved by a single motion unless a member of the Board or the Superintendent requests an item be removed and voted on separately. Member Lengwin made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Member Dwyer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Before moving on Member Dwyer commented that we have been laboring under some uncertainty about what the finances of our district were going to look like going forward because of settling with the Labor Relations Board. We have reached a point where we have an answer to that and where we have been advised financially how we will go forward settling that and therefore no longer in the tremendous position of uncertainty. She spoke for the Board in saying that they are really looking forward to now settling the contract.

Jennifer Parsons, 7th grade teacher at Lincoln Savage MS—thanked the Board for all of the work, effort and time put in. Educators understand time and how precious it is. She asked the board to please sign the contract. She stated that after attending last month's board meeting she walked away with the impression that the Board and the District think everything is wonderful, which isn't the case. She reiterated that the board sign the contract. She believes morale in this district has never been lower. The paperwork has increased, prep periods do not cover the time involved and Social Studies text do not match State Common Core standards and they must create the curriculum themselves. "Please sign the contract".

COMMUNITY  
COMMENTS

Board Chair Crume responded that there is a contract on the table and he asked that they sign the contract.

Claudia Dow, 2nd grade teacher at Manzanita—stated she was very humbled and impressed by what she heard earlier in the meeting about the hard-working, productive and inspiring things that happen in our district. It is very stressful for them to not have a contract and would like to move forward—"Please sign the contract".

Dave Marks, Special Education teacher and TREA President—brought forward the frustration that continually bombards his email and phone. He related a story regarding distractions and the need to focus. He stated they don't have a contract, then commented on all of the things that "get in the way" - Common Core, and not having enough time to write the curriculum, Smarter Balance, the Unfair Labor Practice, lawyers, schedules that are challenging due to 'Highly Qualified' and the new grade book system which all relates to the need to support the teachers and sign a contract. He asked that the Board support the teachers "Not in words but in actions—please sign the contract".

Polly Valle, Ft. Vannoy parent—complained about a fundraiser flyer that was sent home with her kids regarding a young mother of two Ft. Vannoy students. The mom has leukemia and treatment requires a bone marrow transplant and the flyer was asking for donations. Ms. Valle was eager to help the mom, and called to find out where to bring her donations and was told that Saturday morning was the only time that she could drop the donations off at the Ft. Vannoy parking lot, which is outside. She then inquired as to why the fundraiser was not being held at Ft. Vannoy and they said that it was going to be there but the district said that they had to pay a facility use fee to use the school. She stated "it is 'our' school—its not the district's, not one particular person's—it's our school". They then moved the fundraiser to Ft. Vannoy Market. She is disappointed that her whole family has been involved in fundraising efforts for other things, and the school should be available for fundraisers at no charge. She doesn't want this to happen for future fundraisers and this be an issue again. She requested there be a no charge policy for fundraisers involving school families. If the people making the policies disagree with what she said, then she doesn't want them educating her kids.

## COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Board Chair Crume responded that he has kids at Ft. Vannoy school also and his wife is also involved in the fundraiser so he is aware of what happened in this scenario. He believes there were some mistakes made by the administration. He apologized to Ms. Valle and the other parents that were involved and stated there is definitely time that policies should be overruled by common sense. He suggested the staff at the school put something together in the future to help with this family.

ELEMENTARY MATH  
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Director Valenzuela introduced the elementary school principals to inform the Board about math. Principal's Kirk Baumann, Renee Hulst, Heather Yount, Jessica Durrant, David Regal and Lise Van Brunt shared about math instruction, math curriculum and mostly math strategies and interventions that they use to excel our students in the area of math at the K-5 level.

Board Chair Crume stated at the end of the meeting they will be talking about Common Core and so many questions that are coming up. He reported that his phone rings continually and he receives tons of emails, and gets parents taking pictures of their third graders homework and texting it to his phone. He is unable to figure the math out, he took it to the high school principal and superintendent who were also unable to figure it out. He asked "What's going on—how do you feel about our math? Are we teaching Common Core math and what are the problems you see with it" - he doesn't get it. Principal Durrant responded she sees it from all of the different angles and feels it is exciting. She sees practices in her classrooms utilizing the 'Envision' math program in which they hit the problem four different ways and know that one of those different ways a student is going to catch on—and it's not traditional, it's thinking outside the box. She loves it as a principal as she gets to see kids thinking about it in different ways, she gets to see them attack a problem from five different angles, use different parts of their brain, six of them learn six different ways and in a math lesson using Common Core, it allows for that. She loves it as a parent, as a principal and a former teacher.

Member York commented that he sees a lot of frustration from his son when he approaches the math problems. The frustration comes from the answer not being the important part.

Principal Durrant responded that in traditional math settings it's either right or wrong, but the way that we are teaching our kids to be higher level thinkers is "can you explain how you got to that problem?" It is frustrating, especially for kids that are black and white, they need to know if they got it right or wrong. But they are teaching those kids bigger picture things about being good thinkers and problem solvers, and working in the work force and working together.

Member Dwyer stated she had reviewed some elementary math materials and can see how some people are flummoxed by the transition and how some parents are confused by the language, but wished her kids had this from the beginning.

MIDDLE AND HIGH  
SCHOOL MATH  
IMPROVEMENT

Director Valenzuela introduced the middle and high school principals to report on the huge success from the middle school folks and the high stakes pressures that the high schools deal with this year. They included: John George, Rachael George, Damian Crowson, Dennis Misner, Daye Stone, Casey Alderson and Brent Workley. The ninth graders that entered school in 2009-2010 are going to be responsible for meeting essential skills in mathematics to graduate. They are faced with a bit more difficult challenge as, unlike the elementary level which had a curriculum purchase, they haven't had one at the secondary level in quite some time. The change to the Common Core represents a significant shift in the concepts and when they are offered at the different grade levels. Their people have spent a tremendous amount of time and energy in working through those challenges and developing curriculum. They shared information regarding curriculum, assessment, supports, intervention strategies and homework help.

They are in their third year of math collaboratives. High school principals also shared information on their enrichment programs.

MIDDLE AND HIGH  
SCHOOL MATH  
IMPROVEMENT

Newbridge Principal Brent Workley shared some statistics: 90% of their students enter Newbridge with half a credit of Algebra 1 or above with math and 80% of their seniors do not graduate in their cohort year. Their students can also be very difficult to deal with. Due to the high turnover it is very difficult to track student's progress. He explained the math teaching schedule, teaching strategies and the utilization of math in their hands on programs such as woodworking and CTE class.

Member Dwyer asked if the schools are utilizing information on the assessment offered by the Job Council on the National Career Readiness Certificate in any of our schools and offering it as an opportunity to any kids in the guidance offices to give an experience of what real-world math in jobs is like? The three high schools are connected to the STEM project and they have shared some of that data with them and participate in real-world projects and activities that include science and math.

Member Olmo asked about the level of computer skills of students graduating from high school that would transfer into the work force. The principals reported that all students receive some level of computer training. The area of computer programming and computer science is of high interest to the students and it would be really awesome if we had more opportunities for students to learn that type of thing. There was some discussion regarding the integration of Excel and math. Member Olmo would like to work towards all of our graduates leaving the district with strong computer skills.

A five minute break was taken at 8:05

BREAK

Board Chair Crume reconvened the meeting and stated there are three remaining action items on the agenda and we could ask for a motion to approve items 12 A, B and C unless anyone wants them pulled for discussion.

Member Dwyer made a motion to approve:

- 12A) Resolution to transfer appropriations
- 12B) Third reading of revised/new policies:
  - ◆ ECAAA/GACA "Employee Identification Badge System"
  - ◆ KGB "Public Conduct on District Property"
  - ◆ KL "Public Complaints"
  - ◆ KL-AR "Public Complaint Procedure"
  - ◆ JFCF "Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Menacing/Bullying/Cyberbullying/Teen Dating Violence - Student"
  - ◆ JFCF-AR "Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Menacing/Bullying/Cyberbullying/Teen Dating Violence - Complaint Procedures - Student"
  - ◆ GBNA "Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing - Staff"
  - ◆ GBNA-AR "Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing Complaint Procedures - Staff"
  - ◆ GBNA/JFCFA "Cyberbullying" to be DELETED
- 12C) First reading new policies:
  - ◆ IGDF "Student Fund Raising Activities"
  - ◆ IGDF-AR "Fund Raising Approval Form"

Danny York seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Board Chair Crume stated he has received many comments, e-mails and concerns regarding the Common Core . There have been some meetings in town in regards to it. He believes it is something that should be added to one of our future agendas, hopefully

FUTURE MEETING  
DATES & AGENDA  
ITEMS

FUTURE MEETING DATES  
& AGENDA ITEMS

next month. Member Olmo requested some history on the transition to Common Core and would like to find out what all of our schools, teachers, students and parents need to make this transition as successful as possible (computers, curriculum, textbooks?).

Board Chair Crume reported that some of the concerns that he has heard, more than anything, is the curriculum and a lot of the negative comments about what the core values of it are. The information-gathering part of it they are starting to see in New York—a lot of the resistance and push-back from some of the teachers there. He has read a lot about it and encouraged the other board members to do the same. There have been some community members that have asked to come and speak. He believe it's something that the public should be involved with. There was discussion about the upcoming meeting schedule and topics.

It was determined that Common Core and an update on ParentVue and StudentVue will be added to the December 17<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda. There will not be a work session on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## ADJOURN

Adjourn at 8:33 PM

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Ron Crume  
Chairperson of the Board

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Patricia Adams  
Superintendent-Clerk