

NEAH-KAH-NIE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 56

Special Board Meeting 6:30 PM

February 25, 2025

Virtual Meeting

504 N. Third Ave.

Rockaway Beach, OR 97136

PRESENT

Board Members

Sandy Tyrer, Chair

Renae Scalabrin

Michele Aeder

Mike Wantland – 6:35 p.m.

Marisa Bayouth-Real

Joe Carr

Randy Schultz

District Office Staff

Dr. Tyler Reed, Superintendent

Kari Fleisher, Business Manager

Kathie Sellars, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Neah-Kah-Nie School District Board of Directors was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Tyrer.

APPROVE AGENDA

M-Aeder/2nd Bayouth-Real to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously by the six board members present at the time. Yes – Carr, Scalabrin, Aeder, Bayouth-Real, Shultz and Tyrer.

Mr. Wantland joined the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Discussion on a Five-Year Operation Levy

Dr. Reed shared that handwriting has been on the wall for over a year now. He shared with the Board the budget projections for the next few years at the February 10 board meeting. We have cut back on spending within the buildings in the district. We have still had to deal with things that come up, such as the boiler at Nehalem.

As we begin the budget building process, we have already cut building budgets and operating budgets by 10 percent. Personnel is the largest expense in a school district. The next step would be to begin cutting staff and programs.

There are two different kinds of levies that a school district can request, 1) for a building project, and 2) is for operating expenses. Our construction bond expires this spring. Right now, the tax that people are used to paying is about .47/1000 of assessed valuation. He shared that a .50 operating levy would amount to approximately \$100 per year. The .50/1000 levy will not get us to a balanced budget, and we could end up cutting staff and programs. The other option would be a .75/1000 of assessed valuation would amount to approximately about \$150 per year. The community has already approved a .77 levy when they approved the bond for the construction of the middle school.

Dr. Reed stated that the reason for the special board meeting is to discuss a way to avoid cutting staff and programming. Operating levies are not uncommon for districts like ours. Seaside School District has an operating levy, and every five years they go to the public to request the continuation of the operating levy. Dr. Reed shared that we have a deadline of this Friday to get an operating levy on the ballot. We can remove it from the ballot next month if we want to. If the Board approves the operating levy he would spend March, April and selling it to the public, going to town halls and City Council meetings.

Mr. Carr asked for a one-page document on timber funding and how we got here.

Ms. Tyrer stated that what Dr. Reed is looking for is the permission to move forward. She sees no downside to moving this forward, and does not see any reason not to do the .75 cents.

Ms. Aeder asked if we could put a motion on the table and then have discussion. Ms. Tyrer agreed.

M-Aeder/2nd Tyrer to Approve Resolution 25-4(a) for a .75/1000 Five Year Local Option Tax Levy for School Operations.

Discussion occurred. Some of the issues raised was the concern for the financial impact to our constituents, whether the public would support and operating levy, if the amount was levied and the district did not need the full .75/1000 could we reset to a lower rate. The Board agreed to adopt Resolution 25-4(a), an operating levy of .75/1000 of assessed valuation.

After discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Reed stated that we will have a presenter at the next board meeting to explain the science behind an operating levy. The information would not only be for the board, but also for our staff and patrons of the district.

ADJOURN

Hearing nothing more to come before the Board the meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

March 10, 2025