



PHOENIX-TALENT SCHOOLS

EXCELLENCE *for* EVERYONE

Board Meeting
Thursday, November 14, 2024 6:00 PM Pacific

Talent Middle School
102 Christian Avenue
Talent, OR 97540

Michael Campbell:	Present	Rick Nagel:	Absent
Nancy Castillo-McKinnis:	Present	Dawn Watson:	Present
Sara Crawford:	Present	Rebecca Weathers:	Present
Polly Farrimond:	Present	Present: 6, Absent: 1	

Present: 6, Absent: 1.

Present: 5, Absent: 2. - Director Weathers left the meeting at 8:05 PM prior to the last resolution vote.

A. **Executive Session-5:15 p.m.** This session is closed to the public under ORS 192.660 (2)(e)(i)

B. **Regular Session Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

C. Accentuate the Positive

TMS Principal Casey Olmstead shared the following:

- Mr. Olmstead shared a staff activity to better understand student's needs which impacts their academic and social experiences.
- Mr. Olmstead said that TMS is having an assembly tomorrow around the importance and power of inclusion. Guest speakers Jane and Luke Laersonson will come and share their story. Luke was born quadriplegic, with cerebral palsy, and a speech and language disability, and Jane was told by doctors he would never walk or talk and most likely spend his life in an institution. Jane and Luke have continually defied the odds and have served as an inspiration to so many. I'm excited about our school community to hear their story.
- Our new bulldog mascot is named Murphy!
- Mr. Olmstead gave a shout-out to Sandra Tringolo and the activity she did with her kids having them write about what they are grateful for.

OHES Principal Kent Vallier shared the following:

- Orchard Hill is participating in the Battle of the Books this year. Principal Vallier thanked Holly Swift, secretary, and Katy McCormick who are leading about 25 of our students in this great program. Not only will this provide a great experience for kids, but it will likely help support the strategic plan's goals for increased third grade reading results.
- Mr. Vallier spoke about our partnership with the Rogue Valley Manor and thanked residents Judy Blue and Barb Field. Twice a month, they provide our staff with some great snacks for staff meetings on Wednesdays. I know the staff appreciates the tangible "thanks" for the work they do.

- Our family engagement event is on Nov. 25th at 5:30. Our theme this year is "Attendance Equals Achievement".
- Mr. Vallier thanked Joe Zavala and Jordan Ruiz at PHS for helping him with a video production about good attendance, being on time, and work ethic.

PTRA Principal Aaron Santi shared the following:

- Mr. Santi said that their recent field trip to the pumpkin patch at Pheasant Fields Farm was a terrific start to our family engagement events this year. We had a great turnout, with not only our students but also siblings, parents, and grandparents joining us. We had perfect weather for a lot of fun activities and also some hands-on science lessons about corn and wool. It was a fun and educational event for everyone.
- We have made a concerted effort at the district level and at each school to improve attendance this year. I'm happy to report that we are seeing a noticeable difference this year. Our district's rate of regular attenders has increased 3% this year as compared to the same time period last year, going from 67% to 70%. While this looks like a relatively small number, it represents more than 70 students who are regular attenders, who were not regular attenders last year, which translates to significant increases in instructional time for those students.

TES Principal Heather Lowe shared the following:

- Ms. Lowe thanked Joe Zavala, who helped coordinate a digital safety webinar for families to engage in.
- Ms. Lowe said that Sherry Wilson, who is our consultant on family engagement, came and attended our PTA meeting and did a 4 core beliefs activity about families and schools.
- Ms. Lowe gave a shout-out to our district instructional and implementation coaches, Jamar Boyd, Karinn Calhoun, Lori Evans and Alyssum Barber. They are all doing magical things, especially at the K-8 level. They are the boots on the ground making things happen.
- Ms. Lowe gave a shout-out to all the teachers. It is grading season, and we are preparing for conferences, and they are working very hard and are showing up every day for the kids.

PES Principal Shawna Schleif shared the following:

- Ms. Schleif said that this is the month of gratitude and PES has two character traits per month. Ms. Schleif gave a shout-out to her entire staff for all they are doing, as this is a traditionally busy time for teachers between report cards, conferences, holidays, time changes, weather changes and such. During our meeting this week, I asked the entire staff to share stories of the impact on themselves or with each other that happen daily in our schools. Big and small, it all matters.
- Ms. Schleif gave a huge shout-out to Laura Millette for her contributions to the Dia de los Muertos event we had a couple of weeks ago. It was such a remarkable event, and it brought in so many of our community partners. It was a great time celebrating this cultural tradition that honors the people in our lives that we have lost. Laura really empowers our families to make this come alive.

PHS Principal Kalin Cross shared the following:

- Tonight is our fall sports award night and that is why several of our student representatives are not here.
- We are proud of our cross-country team and John Cornet. Mr. Cornet has built a legacy with our cross-country team, who finished seventh at State last week and second in our conference. We had a girl's cross-country participant who also ended her season seventh in conference.
- Our boys' soccer team won the game against North Bend.
- We start our winter season for sports next week.
- Our Marching Band and Color Guard competed so well this last season.
- We are partnering with Mercy Flights this year and our students who are in those classes with Carolena Campbell are getting some hands-on experiences that have never happened before.
- DECA competed and represented us well at OIT yesterday.
- FFA is doing an ag tour at OSU and exploring careers and next steps.
- Tomorrow is our Sparrow assembly, and we are inviting Matt and Kena Sampson to come and introduce us to our Sparrow. Last summer, we lost one of our students to the battle of cancer, and we'll honor him during that event as well.
- Ms. Cross thanked Talent and Phoenix police departments. We had our first lockdown drill today and it went great.

Tiffanie Lambert, Asst. Supt. of Teaching and Learning said that this week is National School Psychologists Appreciation week, and she gave a shout-out to Derek Rodman. Derek is our only psychologist for the district this year, and he is working really hard to make sure that all five of our schools are being covered. Ms. Lambert gave a shout-out to the entire special education staff. December 1st is when our special education child count report is due and our special education staff are working very hard during the month of November. Also, Charlene Patten at the district office for her work on the report.

Amy Honts-Stark with Sodexo shared the following:

- Ms. Honts thanked Abigail Blinn & Rogue Valley Farm to School for looking into and helping her source some new local products for our food service program. I'm really excited about working together to switch over some of our products to some more local items. I'm also excited to share that this month we will be highlighting their harvest of the month; Cranberries from Black Moon Farms in our salad bars mixed with applesauce. We will also get to enjoy some watermelon radishes from Red Buttes farm in our FFVP program this month.
- In the cafeteria these last few weeks we have gotten to celebrate Halloween with homemade pumpkin chocolate chip muffins & a special cookie treat. As well as National Nacho day with extended nacho bars with homemade salsas and additional toppings in all the schools.
- We are looking forward to our Thanksgiving meal on Thursday, November 21st in elementary schools and middle school and Monday 18th - Wednesday 20th at the high school with some featured new additional items like pork green chili stew, elote corn and

cornbread along with some of the traditional favorites like turkey and gravy & mashed potatoes, cheesy broccoli and cranberry apple sauce.

- We are also currently making progress on switching over our free and reduced campaign to complimentary meals for our first menu committee meeting. As well as looking into dates for getting some kids' feedback from tastings together for review at our next menu committee meeting.
- Ms. Honts shared that we have signed up for our district for our annual future chef event & I anticipate that we will be holding the event in March again. More information will be shared soon.

Director Polly Farrimond said she was grateful for the opportunity to attend the OSBA conference this past weekend. It is nice to see people that we don't get to see very often and to reconnect with them; also to be able to meet all the other board members across the state and find out what is happening in other districts. This Saturday is Girls on the Run, and there are 42 girls and their running buddies participating. Polly is proud of this program and the mentorship that happens there. Polly and Nancy will be there to help hand out bibs. Polly gave a shout-out to Katie McCormick and how grateful she is for this program and how it empowers the young women in our schools. Ms. Farrimond was able to attend the DECA competition in Klamath Falls. We had 29 students participate in every single event except for one, and she is very proud of all of them.

D. Student Representative Oath of Office and Report

Chair Campbell gave the Oath of Office to Edynn Latvala for her new position as student representative.

Edynn Latvala shared the following: The leadership class took 15 students, including herself, Rachel Pepin and Javi Quintana, to the conference in Seaside for three days. We came back with a lot of good ideas for spirit competition, and a lot of great ways to help achieve more interaction at assemblies. Our cheer program has about 30 people trying out for teams this year and our goal is to have three teams. Our varsity cheer team will be going to a state competition to compete in a game day competition this year.

E. Associations Update

Jennifer Bakker, teacher at TMS, gave an update for the Phoenix-Talent Education Association (PTEA). Jennifer shared that conferences at TMS are coming up and students and teachers are working hard to get things ready. The conferences at TMS are student driven so the students are working hard to put together portfolios of all the things they have been learning about. So when conferences come, it's not the teachers who are talking, it's the students showcasing the things they have been working on. Jennifer said that during these conferences, they set goals, and then they just don't have a way to circle back to them in the spring, so she would like a way for the kids to have a spring conference.

PTEA leadership has been doing a lot of equity work lately. Laura Latham and Rosario Medina presented at the "I Hear Summit". Rosario Medina and Angelica Mendoza attended the Oregon Collective Summit stating that they came away with some ideas on how they can support educators through an equity lens, as well as how the association can create a safe and inclusive environment for students and families through the work that we do to support our members.

For the second year in a row now, we will have a tree at the Festival of Trees for Providence. Last year our tree was auctioned off for \$300 for work with cancer patients. The bargaining team has been conducting listening sessions ahead of the upcoming bargaining season. These sessions are a way for us to connect with our members and find out what is on their minds, how they are feeling, and how we can help support them before we get started on bargaining.

F. Citizen Comments

Scarlet Runnells, who is a 7th grader at TMS, addressed the board and spoke about her desire to have a theater and arts program for the middle school.

G. Superintendent Report

- Supt. Barry introduced Canyon Fuchs, who is a new member of the IT department. Canyon will be providing audiovisual expertise in our district for our board meetings, for our complex sound system in the theater, and also some digital curriculum and digital communication.
- Supt. Barry said that the band wrapped up their fall season. The band scored within 1.5 points of their all-time high back in 2011. They will be the featured band in the Victorian Parade in Jacksonville on Dec. 7th.
- Supt. Barry shared an article with the board from the Oregon School Facilities Management Association (OSFMA). TMS was on the cover of their fall 2024 publication. The article featured our facilities department and the completion of our bond projects highlighting the work at TES and TMS. It was nice to be recognized in that regard.
- Supt. Barry said there is momentum for a regional CTE center in our region led by a staff member of the ESD. We have the momentum now starting with health occupation careers that are needed in our region. There will be more information on this in the coming months.

H. Consent Agenda

I move to approve the consent agenda as presented. This motion, made by Dawn Watson and seconded by Nancy Castillo-McKinnis, Carried.

Chair Campbell declared a conflict of interest with the personnel report. Hearing no objections, the consent agenda was approved as presented.

H.1. Approval of Agenda

H.2. Approval of Minutes from 10/17/2024

H.3. Personnel Report

I. Information and Discussion

I.1. Legislative / OSBA Update

- Director Dawn Watson thanked board secretary Denise Skinner for providing the OSBA policy update summary and information on the upcoming webinar for the policy updates.

- Ms. Watson said that OSBA had a meeting on Sunday and had a great recap of the year and the convention. There was talk about changing legislation to allow schools to invest their money differently.
- Dawn congratulated board member Nancy Castillo-McKinnis on her new position with the Color Caucus on the NSBA.
- Nancy Castillo-McKinnis said that she is one of two regional representatives at large for OSBA representing a variety of different districts.
- Nancy will also be a delegate for the National School Board Association (NSBA).
- Dawn and Sara will work on the legislative reception. It will most likely be the week of January 6th.
- Supt. Barry said that we had a regional meeting in Portland last week, and people seem to love the regional reception. It allows them to have intimate conversations with our legislators. Supt. Barry thanked Nancy for stepping out in her new leadership roles.

I.2. Financial Report

Yazmin Karabinas gave an update on the financial report, which is reported through September. Ms. Karabinas said that it is still early for her to start moving the projections for the year as we just received a levy letter from the county today and it appears as though we may be receiving less in property taxes. In addition, she will need to adjust the state school fund numbers once our ADM has been updated. We have not received the ADM security grant yet for the 23-24 allocation. The high school success fund was able to fund an additional \$73,000 to our district. Ms. Karabinas also gave an update on the unemployment claims through the summer and how it is impacting the budget now and in the future.

Chair Campbell asked about the increased PERS costs and Yazmin said that the rates would be increased by over 9% for our district. Supt. Barry said that it would cost our district \$1.8 million dollars for that increase right off the top.

I.3. Integrated Program Plan Annual Report

- Supt. Barry said that this report used to be just the SIA report, but now it is integrated into and consolidated with other programs.
- Principal Aaron Santi shared with the board that the state integrated six different programs into one application process now. That includes the HSS, SIA, EIIS, CTE, Perkins, and Everyday Matters. As part of that process, we report quarterly. Aaron does the narrative side, and they require that we share with the board our progress annually. Mr. Santi worked with Javier del Rio on the narrative of the report for the outcomes and the strategies and challenges. Some of the topics Mr. Santi spoke about was our work in the area of the science of reading, our curriculum implementation and engagement strategies and our push with our special education students. In regard to our challenges, there were two main issues that were identified; student attendance and the deficit of time that we have with our staff to do the work that we need to do to continue to do better.
- Director Crawford asked about the affinity groups that were listed on the personnel report and asked more about the purpose of those groups. Supt. Barry said that this came out of the work that we did during the information gathering part of the SIA work and found that this provided a safe space for our students and staff. We have had

advisors for the affinity groups for several years, but it was decided to incentivize that to make sure we do have the advisors in those spaces.

- Tiffanie Lambert explained more about the affinity groups and student representation. These groups were requested by the students and families when we did our outreach. There are many who participate in the groups who don't necessarily identify with the group but are there to support and empower those who do.
- Student Representative Edynn Latvala shared her perspective on affinity groups and feels that everyone who wants to join is invited.

I.4. Board-Student Representative Mentor

- Chair Campbell asked for discussion about being a mentor for the student representatives and who might want to do that.
- Edynn Latvala said that, being a new representative, she thinks it would be very helpful to have that support.
- Nancy and Sara would like to volunteer to be board mentors. Sara mentioned getting together a day or two after the agenda and documents had been posted.

J. Recess

Recess from 7:33 - 7:40 P.M.

K. Action Items

K.1. OSBA Board of Directors Vote for Southern Oregon, Position 5

I move for the board to cast their vote for Southern Oregon Position 5 for Dawn Watson. This motion, made by Sara Crawford and seconded by Nancy Castillo-McKinnis, Carried.

Rick Nagel: Absent, Dawn Watson: Abstain (With Conflict), Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly Farrimond: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

K.2. OSBA Resolution 1 - Amends the OSBA Dues Schedule

I move to adopt OSBA Resolution 1 amending the OSBA dues schedule as presented. This motion, made by Polly Farrimond and seconded by Rebecca Weathers, Carried.

Rick Nagel: Absent, Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly Farrimond: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Director Watson shared some perspectives on the need for the increase in dues.

K.3. 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

I move to adopt OSBA Resolution 2 - Creating the Oregon School Board Members PRIDE Caucus and designating a seat on the OSBA Board of Directors and Legislative Policy Committee. This motion, made by Polly Farrimond and seconded by Rebecca Weathers, Carried.

Rick Nagel: Absent, Sara Crawford: Nay, Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Polly Farrimond: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea, Rebecca Weathers: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 1, Absent: 1

Sara Crawford: Nay

Director Crawford asked a question regarding the mention of staff in the resolution and was it meant for all staff or OSBA staff in particular? There was discussion, and it was determined that it was referenced to all staff. There was additional discussion about the different caucuses and Director Watson gave explanations about the process and thoughts behind them. Director Castillo-McKinnis asked about the budget decrease for the caucuses and Director Watson gave an explanation.

K.4. OSBA Resolution 3 Adopts the Proposed Amendments to the 2023 OSBA Bylaws

I move to adopt OSBA Resolution 3 amending the OSBA 2023 Bylaws as presented. This motion, made by Polly Farrimond and seconded by Michael Campbell, Carried.

Rick Nagel: Absent, Rebecca Weathers: Absent, Michael Campbell: Yea, Nancy Castillo-McKinnis: Yea, Sara Crawford: Yea, Polly Farrimond: Yea, Dawn Watson: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Director Crawford asked a question about the first bullet point on page one regarding an additional director and Director Watson provided an answer.

L. Review of the Next Meeting Agenda

There was discussion about starting the meeting at 5pm for dinner and then 5:30 for the work session and it was agreed for those times.

M. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Michael Campbell, Chair

Brent Barry, Superintendent