

Board of Directors Meeting

Special Meeting

February 4, 2025

The Board of Directors meeting discussed amending the agenda to approve Tanner Simmons and Nancy Hall as authorized signers for financial transactions from February 5, 2025, to June 30, 2025. They also amended resolution 2024-25. Concerns were raised about the \$275,000 budget for a fitness center, which was deemed insufficient. The board considered halting the project and explored alternative funding options, including a potential bond for \$12.6 million or \$24.7 million. They also discussed reconfiguration efforts due to growing enrollment and the need for additional portables, with a final bond proposal deadline in February 2025.

Directors Present: Director Walper, Director Behrman, Director Lohmeier, Director Johnston, VC Riedel and Chair Wheeler. Also present Superintendent Carpenter and Board Secretary Denise Pemberton

Action Items

- Provide more detailed plans on how \$12.6 million or \$18 million bond measure could be utilized to address capacity issues.
- Discuss bond measure proposal and reconfiguration plans at the next board meeting on February 15, 2025.

Outline

Amendment of Agenda and Resolution Approval

- Chair Wheeler opens the meeting with a motion to approve or amend the agenda.
- VC Riedel clarifies Item C to approve Tanner Simmons as the secondary authorized signer and Nancy Hall as an authorized signer in reserve for the period of February 5, 2025, through June 30, 2025.
- Chair Wheeler confirms the motion and second, and the new language for Item C is accepted.
- VC Riedel moves to amend resolution 2024-25, which is seconded by Director Behrman and approved 6-0
- VC Riedel reiterates the need for a two-step process to approve the amendment and the resolution.

Discussion on Signing Authorities

- Superintendent Carpenter explains the necessity of having proper signatories due to the departure of Mike Ware, Director of Finance and Operations.
- Tanner Simmons will co-sign checks and other authorizations, and Nancy Hall will be the emergency signer.
- Nancy Hall is described as a reputable and experienced professional supporting other districts in Oregon.
- Chair Wheeler inquires about Nancy Hall's availability, and Superintendent Carpenter confirms she is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays in person and remotely on Wednesdays.
- The motion to approve Tanner Simmons and Nancy Hall is made by VC Riedel and seconded by Director Lohmeier, motion carried 6-0

Emergency Session and Fitness Center Concerns

- Superintendent Carpenter thanks the board for an emergency session to ensure operational stability and mentions a handout regarding the fitness center approved in the most recent board meeting.
- Concerns are raised about the \$275,000 budget for the fitness center, which is deemed insufficient for the necessary upgrades.
- Superintendent Carpenter suggests halting the project temporarily to reevaluate the budget and ensure it meets the community's expectations.
- Director Behrman emphasizes the need for a detailed project plan and accurate cost estimates, including long-term operational costs.
- Director Walper proposes obtaining quotes from contractors to get a better understanding of the project's true costs.

Reconfiguration and Growth Capacity Issues

- Superintendent Carpenter discusses the need for a fitness center due to growth and capacity issues, Title IX responsibilities, and state law requirements for physical education.
- The board is informed about the formation of a committee to address reconfiguration efforts, including the potential addition of portables.
- Superintendent Carpenter highlights the final opportunity to propose a bond package for the May election, with a deadline for submitting in February 2025.
- The potential impact of a bond on the community and the need for a robust communication campaign are discussed.
- Director Walper suggests considering staggered sessions as a temporary solution to address capacity issues.

Financial Considerations and Bond Proposal

- VC Riedel emphasizes the importance of fiscal responsibility and the need to balance short-term needs with long-term financial planning.
- The potential cost of additional portables and the impact on school facilities and community activities are discussed.
- Director Walper expresses concern about the bond being a temporary solution and the need for a more comprehensive plan.
- Superintendent Carpenter suggests exploring options for a five-year bond to address immediate needs and avoid long-term financial strain.
- The board discusses the historical context of bond proposals and the increasing tax base in the community.

Final Remarks and Next Steps

- Superintendent Carpenter reiterates the need for a detailed plan for the bond proposal, including potential uses of the funds and the impact on the community.
- The board is encouraged to consider the broader implications of the reconfiguration efforts and the need for a long-term solution.
- VC Riedel requests plans for different bond amounts to ensure the proposal addresses the district's most critical needs.
- The board is reminded of the importance of clear communication and community engagement in the bond proposal process.
- The meeting concludes with a discussion on the timing and logistics of the next steps, including the potential inclusion of the bond proposal in the February board meeting.