

SHERMAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 14, 2013

The Board of Directors of Sherman County School District met in the Sherman County Public/School Library Meeting Room in Moro, Oregon on October 14, 2013. The following were present: Chair, Bill Martin; Vice Chair, Angie Thompson; Directors: Liz Mills, Kyle Blagg, Jim Macnab; Superintendent, Brian Metke; Business Manager, Kim McKinney; Board Secretary, Jeanie Pehlke; Administrators: Bill Blevins, Todd Swan; Staff Members: Gerald Casper, Kathy Thompson, Sheri Sharp, Janet Pinkerton; Visitors: Ed Champagne, Kristy Coelsch, Bryce Coelsch, Courtney Coelsch, Bailey Coelsch

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN

Motion by Director, Elizabeth Mills with second from Director, Kyle Blagg to adopt the consent agenda as amended. **Action:** The motion carried with Chair, Bill Martin abstaining from the vote.

Motion by Director, Angie Thompson with second from Director, Kyle Blagg to temporarily approve the Payments in Lieu of Transportation Policy to reimburse the two families that are involved for one month while we further evaluate the situation. **Action:** The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Director, Jim Macnab with second from Director, Liz Mills to appoint Kirky Stutzman, Donna Lohrey and Erin Stone to the Scholarship Committee. **Action:** The motion carried unanimously.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Bill Martin opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag at 7:03 p.m., and welcomed all those attending the board meeting.

Student Body Report

A written Jr./Sr. High School Student Body Report highlighted the homecoming events.

AITC Calendar Art Project

Educator, Sheri Sharp introduced Sherman Elementary Student, Courtney Coelsch whose artwork was chosen as a winner among 1,500 entries for the 2013-14 Oregon Agriculture Artwork in the Classroom Calendar. In addition to featuring Courtney's drawing of a pink pig for January 2013, Courtney also received \$50.00 and free tickets for her family to attend the state fair. Ms. Sharp praised art in the classroom and cited some research that included students involved in art have higher reading and math skills and art students have fewer behavior problems.

Recognition of Students, Staff and Community

Sherman County Schools are off to a great start thanks to the efforts of so many supportive people in our community. We are extremely fortunate to have gracious staff and community members who support our school and students. This school year we will be continuing the tradition of recognizing various supporters at the beginning portion of each School Board Meeting. While it is possible that we may periodically miss an opportunity to thank someone, we sincerely appreciate the commitment of all of our supporters. We would like to thank the following people for their devotion to our schools, students, staff and community.

- Appreciation to Gail Macnab and the foods classes for preparing a fall harvest appetizer.
- Special thanks to School Board Chair, Bill Martin and Vice Chair, Angie Thompson for their extensive support during the administrative transition process.
- Bill Blevins and Todd Swan for their hard work and for getting the District off to a smooth start.
- Kim McKinney and Jeanie Pehlke for their support of the new staff and the administrative team.
- Patti Ketchum and Jen Berry for their outstanding secretarial support for each school.
- Gerald Casper for his help updating the District Technology for the 2013-14 school year.
- Custodial and maintenance staff, Craig Wood, Dan Aldrich, and Ryane Whitley for their dedication and hard work over the summer.
- The entire school staff for their outstanding start to the 2013-14 school year.
- Fall coaches for their work with our students.
- Sherman County Sheriff's Department for their support and partnership.
- Gail Macnab and the student leaders for their work on the Student Body Report and organizing the 2013-14 activities.
- Mid-Columbia Transportation and Ree Ella von Borstel for their work on the wonderful meal for District employees on August 27th.
- Fall Coaches and the Prevention Coalition for their part in making the Fall Sports Orientation Night successful.
- Educator Samantha Roberts-Smith for her work organizing the Kindergarten Round-up and Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- Educator, Gary Shelton for his work enrolling new students in our district.
- Sherman County Fair Board for putting on a great County Fair and supporting our students.
- Educator, Jared Collins for his work with the Sherman County Fair.
- Connie Martin for her support and work with our District TAG Program.
- Parent volunteers, Betsy Casper and Terri Earl for assisting the SJSHS student body with picture day.
- We appreciate the parents and guardians of our district for their understanding and patience as we delayed sending out student class schedules until all personnel hiring was completed.
- Thank you to the OSU Extension and Cindy Brown for bringing an after school cooking class to the Jr./Sr. High School on Wednesday afternoons.

- Gratitude goes out to MCMC Sports Medicine of The Dalles for sending athletic trainer, Tara Kloker, to the Jr./Sr. High School two days a week to work with our athletes.
- We sincerely appreciate all of the businesses and individuals who responded and contributed to our sports program project.
- Jeanie Pehlke for her tireless efforts creating ads and long nights required to put together the first fall sports program that has raised money for the athletic director fund and student council account.
- Appreciation to Bill Blevins for his handling of the power outage situation at the Jr./Sr. High School.
- Thank you to Tom Finch and the bus drivers for their cooperation and flexibility picking up high school students due to the power outage.
- Gratitude goes to Kim McKinney for preparing and passing the District Audit.
- Thank you to Craig Wood for his extra effort when the main water pipe at the Jr./Sr. High School developed a leak.
- Thank you to the Scholarship Committee for their dedication.
- Students and staff for outstanding participation in the homecoming dress up days.
- Todd Swan was praised for his great work organizing the evaluation notebooks and system that will help Sherman County School District conform to the new state mandates.
- Elementary school staff was thanked for planting 350 bulbs in the front of the school.
- Gratitude was expressed to Patti Moore, Gail Macnab and all of the volunteers who worked to make our blood drive a success.

We truly appreciate the amazing support we receive from so many gracious people. Thank you to everyone in our great community and school district for your continued support!

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

No comments were given.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

- Business
 - ✓ Approved Board Meeting Agenda for October 14, 2013 with the following modifications: **[Addition to Consent Agenda 3.2 Personnel add language "Temporary Hires"; Table Consent Agenda item 3.1.4 2014-15 Board Goals, this item will be tabled until the Friday, October 18, 2013 Work Session; Amend New Business item 6.4 Appoint five members to Scholarship Committee - replace "five" with "three"; Addition to Future Agenda Items add 9.3 "Report by Steve Whittle and Mike Marino"]**
 - ✓ Approved Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, September 9, 2013
 - ✓ Approved Bill Listing, Financial Statement
 - ✓ Approved 2013-14 Budget Resolution

- Personnel
 - ✓ Approved Temporary Hire of Deanna Christensen, SKORE Coordinator
 - ✓ Approved Temporary Hire Jerri Lovell, SKORE Assistant
 - ✓ Approved Temporary Hire Connie Martin, TAG Coordinator Stipend
 - ✓ Approved Temporary Hire Susan Mobley, TAG Classroom Stipend

Motion by Director, Elizabeth Mills with second from Director, Kyle Blagg to adopt the consent agenda as amended. **Action:** The motion carried with Chair, Bill Martin abstaining from the vote.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Administrative Report for Sherman Elementary

Todd Swan began with his Administrative Report. On September 19th Kindergarten Teacher, Samantha Roberts-Smith conducted a state mandated Kindergarten Readiness Assessment for her students. Sherman Elementary had a very successful Back to School Night. This year, spirit week activities and dress up days were coordinated with the high school schedule with dress up days marking an astounding 92% participation. Finally, Mr. Swan showed an example of the new evaluation notebook that he has developed for all teachers to assist the district with the newly mandated teacher evaluation requirements. The notebooks will help teachers understand the evaluation timelines, rubrics and will also help keep teachers organized. It was noted that Dr. Metke will conduct final evaluations that will be kept in the notebook.

Athletic Director Report

Mr. Swan began his Athletic Director Report by thanking Jeanie Pehlke for her time spent on the new Sports Program fundraiser. An example of the new football pads were shown and Mr. Swan expressed his gratitude to Judy Satoris, a private donor, for providing added funds to purchase long sleeve Under Armour® shirts to keep the football players warm. Athletic Trainer, Tara Kloker from MCMC, was praised for providing outstanding support to our student athletes and for cleaning and stocking our training room. In addition, Ms. Kloker has also administered concussion testing for high school football players that will provide a baseline that can be used if a concussion is suspected. Unfortunately, the concussion website is blocked by the ESD so the process was extremely time consuming and there was not time to conduct the test on middle school students. Mr. Swan is hopeful this can be resolved with the ESD in the future. The middle school basketball schedule is approximately 80% complete. The after school activity bus pickup times are back to the original times of 5:30 p.m. departure time from the elementary and 6:00 p.m. departure from high school. Finally, Mr. Swan stated that he self-reported a violation of OSAA policy after the home volleyball tournament. It was noted that the volleyball tournament bracket was incorrectly designed with the best of one outcome and it should have been best 3 out of 5. Sherman was fined \$250 and each participating school was fined \$100. Business Manager, Kim McKinney pointed out that it was a new OSAA bracket rule and the participating teams were also unaware of the rule.

Administrative Report for Sherman Jr./Sr. High School

Principal, Bill Blevins reported that he is very pleased with the total of 28 units of blood that our community gave to the Red Cross at the blood drive. Grace Anderson is coming on board as the school nurse because Diane Kerr is cutting back her hours after 31 years of service. Core class sizes at the Jr./Sr. High school are an average of 14.3 students. Principal Blevins is working to meet the requirements of House bill 2220 that will require schools to provide additional information for parents on student's report cards. He showed two examples of models that other schools are using and noted that he is working with SchoolMaster to create our own custom report. School Messenger, the automated message system, was successfully tested last week to remind parents that there was no school on Friday due to inservice. Teacher goals are being refined. Students participating in the Early College program have now completed their first class and have earned three credits. The high school is having a new wireless internet system installed that should cost under \$500 to accommodate the modular and shop. The lock down and bus evacuation drills have been completed. The Fire Marshall identified 15 deficiencies that are being resolved. Project Alert is in progress. The Board advised Mr. Blevins to transfer the funds in the wrestling account to the general athletic fund. Finally, Mr. Blevins noted that during the recent power outage backup lights worked properly and when power resumed everything worked. Due to the power outage students were picked up from school 25 minutes earlier than normal.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Metke reported that he has finished a district wide organizational chart and bus route/schedules. He then acknowledged that he usually heads for Salem the day after a board meeting and was confused on the board packet distribution schedule this past month. He stated that he will be looking for board packet feedback at the upcoming work session on Friday, October 18.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Facilities Report

Director, Jim Macnab gave the Facilities Report. Maintenance contracts for the Sherman Elementary boiler, the fire alarm service agreement, pneumatics preventative maintenance agreement, the roof repair/maintenance and the window blind quote have all been signed. It is too late in the season to paint the high school. Craig Wood will spray paint the propane tank to get it through the winter. The final painting will be scheduled next spring after the weather warms. At a future meeting, the Board will revisit the painting and chimney project.

Oregon Virtual Education Report

Principal, Bill Blevins gave a report on Oregon Virtual Education (ORVED). He discussed the benefits and pitfalls of hosting this online charter school. It was noted that the contract provides for \$15,000 in online course credit for Sherman students; however Sherman is only using approximately \$4,800 of this allocation. One major disadvantage of hosting ORVED is that all fulltime students enrolled in the program that live in other districts are counted on Sherman County's district report card. Although Sherman has no control over these charter students;

their data is bringing down our score on the district report card. This will be explained on the report card. One additional disadvantage is that there is confusion on how the state funds for fulltime, non-Sherman students are being allocated between Sherman and a student's home district. Business Manager, Kim McKinney is working with ORVED and Gaston (ORVED West) to determine the allocations. Superintendent Metke mentioned that the \$15,000 in course credit may not be worth the lower report card score.

NEW BUSINESS

First Reading Board Policies A/B-G

No public comments have been offered for Board Policies A/B-G. The second reading will take place next meeting. Superintendent Metke suggested that one motion to approve all of the policies can take place once they have all been reviewed. On October 29, 2013 the 2nd group of policies will be discussed at a meeting in Dufur.

Payments in Lieu of Transportation Policy #EEAA

Superintendent Metke stated that he is looking for a motion to approve a proposed policy titled, Payments in Lieu of Transportation Policy #EEAA. It was reported that there are currently two families on two separate bus routes that are keeping the students on the bus for over an hour. Superintendent Metke stated that the school district has the ability to pay parents who are willing to transport their children to school bus stops. It was clarified that families must volunteer and, if they agree, they will be reimbursed for payment of one round-trip per day at the government rate of .565 cents. It was also noted that Condon currently does this. Superintendent Metke assured the school board that all liability for parent provided transportation rests solely on the parents. The school board expressed frustration that this issue is just now being addressed. It was also suggested that a review of the bus contract be done to ensure students are not at school prior to one hour before school starts.

Motion by Director, Angie Thompson with second from Director, Kyle Blagg to temporarily approve the Payments in Lieu of Transportation Policy to reimburse the two families that are involved for one month while we further evaluate the situation. **Action:** The motion carried unanimously.

Budget/Furlough Days

Chair, Martin announced that there will be no furlough days this school year.

Scholarship Committee Members

Director, Angie Thompson explained that there are 16 members of the Scholarship Committee. At this time the School Board must appoint three (3) members. Director Thompson suggested Kirky Stutzman and Donna Lohrey who have been on the committee and new member Erin Stone.

Motion by Director, Jim Macnab with second from Director, Liz Mills to appoint Kirky Stutzman, Donna Lohrey and Erin Stone to the Scholarship Committee. **Action:** The motion carried unanimously.

WORK SESSION

Architect, Ed Champagne gave a presentation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Adjourn to Executive Session (ORS 192.660 (2) (a) Personnel) at 8:55 p.m.

Return to Open Session at 9:50 p.m.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, CLOSING COMMENTS, AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Board Retreat, Friday, October 18, 2013, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- Track Resurfacing, Chris Moore
- Report by Steve Whittle and Mike Marino

NEXT MEETING

Next regular board meeting, November 11, 2013 (Veteran’s Holiday)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Martin declared the meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Chair, Bill Martin

Secretary, Jeanie Pehlke