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District Office – 471 NE Ochoco Plaza Dr., Prineville, OR 97754 (541) 447-5664

CROOK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES February 12, 2015

BOARD PRESENT: Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Gwen Carr, Walt Wagner
ADMIN. PRESENT: Duane Yecha, Stacy Smith, Anna Logan, Mona Boyd, Michelle DeBoard, Dana Rudy, Deen Hylton

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Flag Salute 1.2 Roll Call To Establish Quorum 1.3 Recognition of Visitors

Board Chair Doug Smith called the meeting to order and indicated there were four board members present, but there will be no decisions made tonight. It is a community input meeting to allow the Board to listen to the community's interest and concerns. Doug then introduced Director of Business and Finance Anna Logan.

Anna gave some background on the closing of the school and the recent discussions about re-opening. The school will need to operate at a break-even status, and a financial analysis will determine the number of students needed in order to operate at break-even. The financial analysis will need to be completed after the details are worked out regarding how the school will operate, and the district does not want to decide the details until hearing from the community. Anna encouraged the meeting attendees to speak openly and share any pertinent information.

2.0 COMMUNITY INPUT

2.1 Possible Re-Opening of the Brothers School

Runinda McCormack – When Brothers School was a stand-alone, they contemplated whether to partner with Bend SD or CCSD. Chose CC because they thought they would have more of a connection with the rural community. It was always their intent to re-open, not to sell the building or to give it away. The school brings the community together with activities such as Christmas programs, Spring programs, and community get-togethers.

Brandon Smith– Lives in Hampton and drives his second grade daughter 40 miles a day to and from school. If the car won't start or they are snowed in, there's so little room for error. She is in a packed classroom of 30 kids. He does not want to come to Brothers simply because it's closer. He likes the idea of one-on-one. He fears that education won't be the same quality. If the education isn't the same as elsewhere, they will gladly still drive elsewhere.

Doug Smith – The District would not be opening the school to be a day care center. It would be as good as or better than other schools. Rural schools are important to rural America.

Rachel Smith – She has a concern about her student being behind. She thinks it's because the classroom is packed.

Linda Wallace – She taught at Brothers School in the past. The kids need more individual attention so they can learn. Some kids wouldn't even function in a huge school. She would really like to see the

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school open again. One-on-one attention is really important. It really bothered her when the school closed.

Donese – she also taught school in Brothers 25 years ago. She is thrilled at the possibility of re-opening the school.

Holly Kingsbury – On average, there was a new teacher every two years when the school was in operation. Instructional staff will have to either drive or live in Brothers which they're not used to.

Renee – It is hard to get teachers to come to Brothers. In all the years, there were probably two really excellent teachers, the others just put in their time.

Doug Smith – In CCSD's Paulina School they have seen that if you find the right teacher, they fit with the community and there is positive interaction. We have also seen negative parent interaction when the teacher does not fit in with the community. It will be important in our hiring process to find someone that enjoys this setting and understands the rural setting.

Mona Boyd – The district wants parent and community input on who is hired as a teacher. Members of the community should be part of the selection process.

Deen Hylton, Facilities/Transportation Director – He indicated there is a two-bedroom mobile teacherage, which is small, on the property. He asked the community if there would be other housing available if the teacher were to have children who needed more than a two-bedroom house. *(There were no comments from the audience.)*

Arlene Bolen – Her husband is pastor in Brothers and they live in Prineville, but have deep roots in Brothers. Families out here are strong and hands-on and everybody travels. You must have 360 acres in order to build on your property. Nobody lives less than 12 miles away from Brothers. There are people with Prineville addresses. They are taking their families to Paulina but it is closer to Brothers. Their concern is what kind of transportation would be available, and would it be better than home school. There are concerns about whether there would be a male or female teacher, what would the curriculum be, and would it fit in with their faith.

Dave Baker – has four daughters. He is interested in the school, but wants to know what the details would be. He currently involved with a home school network in Redmond. He is used to the travel but not traveling every day. He also asked if Brothers would have their school board.

Doug Smith – Brothers School would continue to operate as a part of Crook County School District school with the same school board. there would be local input, however, the CCSD school board would make the decisions for the district.

Renee – When Brothers was its own school district, they paid mileage to the parents. They didn't have a bus. Eventually they bought a bus and used it on field trips.

Dave Baker – He thinks they could figure out a car pool system.

Deen Hylton – We don't know yet where the students are located or where the routes would be built. Sometimes we do ask parents to bring students in if a bus can't go there, and there is some reimbursement available.

Dave Baker – He is incredibly concerned about what the staff structure would look like.

Mona Boyd (Special Ed Director) – There would probably be one teacher and an Educational Assistant / Secretary. She would like to see this person be a community member.

Renee – What would be the food service?

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Dana Rudy (Nutrition Services Supervisor) – The district currently takes food out once a week to Paulina/ They serve a hot entrée and a cold entrée. We would need somebody in Brothers to heat and serve.

Doug Smith – He asked if the community preferred a four-day week or a five-day week. The days would be longer, but less bus rides. The consensus was that a four-day week would be the preference as long as the education is there.

Duane Yecha (Superintendent) – He wants to start with paralleling the Brothers program with the program currently in place in Paulina. It is running very well and we can use some of the same systems already in place. No decision has been made but the district would be leaning toward K-8 in Brothers, the same as Paulina.

After some continued discussion it was decided a group of Brothers community members who take a field trip to Paulina with a group of CCSD staff members. This would provide an opportunity to see how Paulina operates as a rural school.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Doug Smith

Doug Smith, School Board Chair

Jan Martin

Jan Martin, Board Secretary

March 23, 2015

Date Minutes Approved