

OFFICIAL



Crook County School District

Where Students Dream, Learn, & Succeed

CROOK COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
Regular School Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 13, 2017

Board Members Present: Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Gwen Carr, Scott Cooper, Walt Wagner
Administrators Present: Duane Yecha, Anna Logan, Stacy Smith, Mona Boyd, Leland Bliss, Michael Allen, Jim Bates, Cheri Rasmussen, Carrie Shinkle, Kurt Sloper, Kimberly Bonner, Joel Hoff, Michelle Jonas, Rob Bonner

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 at 6:34 p.m., the flag salute was recited, a quorum was established, and visitors recognized.

- 1.4 Agenda Additions, Deletions or Revisions & Agenda Approval
No changes.

Scott Cooper moved and Patti Norris seconded the Board approve the agenda as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor 5-0 as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Gwen Carr, Walt Wagner, Scott Cooper.

1.5 Barnes Butte Elementary Presentation

BBE Principal Jim Bates presented a PowerPoint about relationships with students and staff and programs offered for students at Barnes Butte Elementary.

1.6 Board Discussion with Allen Beekman

Board Chair Doug Smith recognized Allen Beekman, retiring science teacher from CCHS. Allen will be retiring at the end of the school year and the School Board members wanted to personally thank him for his many years of excellent teaching at CCHS. Doug asked Allen to relay how he makes Science exciting for the students. Allen indicated he tries to make it relevant and he uses humor. Having been at CCHS 25 years, he has seen a lot of shifts, and sometimes he wondered who was in charge. He feels that at the high school everyone now seems to be going in the same direction. Scott Cooper commented that Allen has the endorsement of the students. They rave about how he makes it relevant. Scott would like to see Allen pass on his knowledge to other teachers. He received a round of applause from the audience.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

3.0 OTHER AGENCY / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

3.1 Continuation of Kiwanis Summer School

Stacy Smith spoke on behalf of Wayne Looney. Wayne would like to continue the summer school program, sponsored by Kiwanis. The district has picked up transportation and associated payroll costs in the past. He is asking the Board to continue their support of the program.

OFFICIAL

Scott Cooper moved and Gwen Carr seconded the Board direct the Business Manager to include Transportation and Associated Payroll Costs in the 2017-18 draft budget. The vote was unanimous in favor 5-0 as follows: Yea – Patti Norris, Gwen Carr, Walt Wagner, Doug Smith, Scott Cooper.

Cheri Rasmussen indicated she would like to see the program moved to CRE next summer, since the teachers are from CRE. Stacy indicated they will take that under consideration.

3.2 Construction Update

3.2.1 School Furnishings Needs

Facilities Supervisor Leland Bliss stated he is not ready to come forward with a furnishings plan yet. He hopes to have it completed in the near future.

3.2.2 Bleachers for BBE

Leland would like to use contingency funds left over from the Pioneer complex remodel to pay for bleachers at BBE. The estimated cost would be approximately \$50,000. He is in the process of obtaining updated bids.

3.2.3 Electronic Sign for CRE

Leland is working on a sign for CRE from contingency funds, similar to the BBE electronic sign. The estimated cost is \$15,000. He is also in the process of obtaining updated bids.

3.2.4 Pioneer Complex Portables

Last month Leland mentioned he had someone who wanted to purchase the portables. He would like to see the district hold on to the portables. He has no idea what the selling price would be, but not very much. Last year when the district used all the portables at CRE, the cost was approximately \$7,000. We would winterize them and they would not cost much to operate.

The Board agreed the District should hold onto the portables in case they are needed for additional enrollment.

3.2.5 Structural Engineer report on CCMS Wall

They have stripped some of the interior walls on the wall in question at CCMS. The structural engineer indicated the wall is not going anywhere, and that there is no immediate danger of the wall falling. The problem is caused by the soil. We need to get the water away from the building. They will also seal all the cracks on the inside.

3.3 HDES Board Meeting Highlights

The Board reviewed the highlights.

4.0 **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

4.1 HB 3499 Funding New ELL Positions

Superintendent Yecha and Curriculum Director Stacy Smith reported on the District's efforts to improve outcomes for English Language Learners. We have been working on a plan, have received funding, and are looking at hiring staff. There will be six to eight positions for approximately \$90,000. We are taking an additional \$16,000 from Title 3 funding. The program will assist with EL 6th grade math and EL students graduating within 5 years.

Title 3 money will be used for coordination for a Juntos program, related to the secondary enrollment piece and to make sure families get access to everything to assist them in getting to college. We should be able to fund the Middle School and High School positions through Title 3 funding.

We will hire one or two people for tutoring students at the middle school. We are using HB 3499 funds to hire staff for a welcome center at the elementary and secondary level to make sure all language assistance needs are met for students and parents. Those hired will also be available for translation of documents.

OFFICIAL

There will be a tutor for essential skills for juniors and seniors who have not yet met their essential skills. There will be a parent literacy program called Latino Literacy Project aimed at K-5 students where parents come in and read to their students.

4.2 Behavioral Programs Update

Superintendent Yecha indicated the Board budgeted funds this year to help students who needed extra help. Special Ed Director Mona Boyd reviewed the program. She also introduced Jessica Andrews, District Behavior Specialist and Leslee Gallion, hired this year to run the program. So far this year they have served 24 students, 18 who have been able to stay in their schools with support from the program. Six students have needed more intense service and spend the morning at the Pioneer complex. Of the six, one student has fully integrated back to school, one transitioned early in the year, and another is almost ready to enter their classroom. The goal is to keep students in their classroom as much as possible. They have seen a dramatic increase in instruction time. Mona indicated this has been a successful program and she would hope the Board continues to fund this program.

Doug Smith asked what they would change, if anything. They are trying to change the philosophy that rather than students being kept separate in a behavior program, we work towards helping them to stay connected in the homeroom classes. Leslee would like to see this not be a "behavior program" but rather a stop along the way to their final destination in the regular classroom. She applauded the Transportation Department and Nutrition Services Department for their assistance in this program.

Mona added that this is a totally unique philosophy with the purpose of keeping the children in the classroom, rather than having a "behavior program" where these students would remain all year.

Patti Norris asked if the after-school programs, Transportation and Nutrition Services staff have been trained. Mona indicated that Transportation is on board and they have received training. Patti suggested they may want to reach out to our after-school or summer programs. Mona agreed that would be a great idea.

4.3 School and Facility Schedules

Superintendent Yecha asked Michael Allen to report on the district-wide Activities calendar. Michael indicated he has formed a committee who will be looking at what our needs are and what would we like to see happen. The group will start next week. He asked if a Board member would like to represent the Board on this committee. Gwen Carr indicated she would be happy to represent the Board on this committee.

Scott Cooper stated that before they leave the Superintendent Report, he wanted to know how the District will handle the Measure 98 discussion. Will they hear about this during the budget process? Superintendent Yecha indicated that, yes, this would be a budget discussion.

5.0 **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

The Board reviewed the Consent Agenda.

- 5.1 February 13, 2017 Regular School Board Minutes
- 5.2 Donations
- 5.3 Enrollment
- 5.4 Hiring – Classified
 - 5.4.1 Jennifer Hayes, IAll - PBCCS
- 5.5 Resignations – Classified
 - 5.5.1 Kate Queen, IAll - PBCCS
 - 5.5.2 David Armstrong, Bus Driver
- 5.6 Retirement - Classified
 - 5.6.1 Bonnie Ley, IA II – BBE
- 5.7 Resignation – Licensed
 - 5.7.1 Carol Pennington, CCMS Speech Path
- 5.8 Leave of Absence Requests:
 - 5.8.1 Jessica Andrews, TOSA Behavior Specialist - District
 - 5.8.2 Susan Simmons, 6th Grade Social Studies
- 5.9 Annual Rehire – Administrators and Supervisors (**Amended**)

OFFICIAL

5.10 Annual Rehire – Licensed Staff

Scott Cooper moved and Patti Norris seconded the Board approve the Consent Agenda as amended on the Administrator and Supervisors rehire list. The vote was in favor 5-0 as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Gwen Carr, Walt Wagner, Scott Cooper.

6.0 FINANCE

6.1 2017-18 Revenue Projections Update

Anna Logan indicated this was on the agenda in case we had any updates from the legislature, however, we have not received any updates yet.

7.0 BOARD REVIEW / DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Proficiency Grading at CCMS

CCMS Principal Kurt Sloper reported on the grading system at CCMS. It is aligned to a four-point system. We do use a passing grade in some instances, such as for Special Ed students. They use a standards based system. Proficiency grading is where we separate an academic grade from a citizenship grade.

Scott Cooper would like to see the same proficiency grading definition across the board from all teachers and all grades. He indicated some teachers have made the comment, “You will never get an A in this class.” Or, “If you achieved a C that is the best you will get.”

Gwen Carr feels that at the middle school level there are different expectations for Language Arts, Science, and Math.

Doug Smith indicated we need to bring this topic back with a better understanding what we are looking for. He would like to see a single definition of “proficiency”, regardless of the class, and how we are going to measure it. He would like to see this in place before next fall.

Michelle Jonas would like to see a committee formed, which would include a Board member serving on the committee. Scott Cooper volunteered to serve on this committee.

Doug Smith added that when the Board first started talking about proficiency they were talking about RPA. If you can test out of Algebra you don’t have to take it. We need to define “proficiency”. He would like to see this topic on the May Board meeting agenda.

Michelle Jonas added that it would be hard to have one definition for proficiency for all classes because some classes are so different.

Gwen Carr suggested that when teachers talk to students about what is required they do it in a positive way vs. talking in a punitive way to students.

7.2 PBCCS Enrollment Increase Request for 2017-18

Superintendent Yecha reported on the letter in the board packet where PBCCS is asking to increase their enrollment over the next three years.

They are looking to increase enrollment as follows:

- 17-18 – 200 students
- 18-19 – 210 students
- 19-20 – 220 students

PBCCS Administrator Jen Berry-O’Shea indicated the reason for the request is because they have seen an increase in enrollment applications. For next year they will have 22 spots, and have so far received over 60 applications, of which 59 are from Crook County residents. They believe they have the capacity to accommodate more students. The goal over a three-year period would be to increase to a total of 220 students. They plan to keep class size at 22 students K-2, and 28 students 3-8.

OFFICIAL

Doug Smith asked what the class distribution is now. Jen indicated their smallest class has 12 students and the largest class has 28. There is room to grow in different areas.

Jen added that the current enrollment process is to give current students' siblings first opportunity for enrollment, then Crook County students, and then student requests outside Crook County.

Scott Cooper indicated he would be in favor of increasing the enrollment.

Doug Smith commented on the current situation in Powell Butte and in Prineville. We have improved our buildings and built a new school. We have students in Powell Butte and in Juniper Canyon. Educating students in their home area is a big part of what we are supposed to be doing. If it had been the current board serving at the time of the split of Powell Butte from CCSD schools, we probably would not have gotten to where we are today. We need to look to the future and what it may look like. The Board would not be in favor of building a school in Powell Butte for a charter school. We need to work towards the future as one community.

Patti stated she thinks if their building can support that number of students, we should allow them to expand.

Anna Logan indicated this would look like an additional \$300,000 expense to the district, with \$110,000 the first year.

Scott Cooper moved and Walt Wagner seconded the Board authorize the Superintendent to enter into a limited reopening (for enrollment only) of the PBCCS contract to expand enrollment to 200 in 2017-18, 210 in 2018-19, and 220 in 2019-20 with the understanding the agreement is approved by the State Board of Education. The vote was unanimous 5-0 in favor as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Scott Cooper, Gwen Carr, Walt Wagner.

7.3 Technology Update

Technology Director Michael Allen reviewed the technology updates that have taken place over the last few years in the areas of Network Hardware; Student and Classroom Upgrades; Service Upgrades; along with a list of miscellaneous upgrades throughout the district.

7.4 Wi-Fi on School Buses

Michael Allen reviewed a couple options: Kajeet SmartBus and Verizon MiFi. The Technology Dept. could install the equipment.

Verizon MiFi would be less expensive but with not as many features. We would like to target the longer buses used for long trips, and then to high school buses.

He has received feedback from other school districts who have installed similar programs. They plan to seek further feedback before they go forward with proposing a pilot program on one bus.

Doug would like to see a proposal for a pilot program in the near future. It was suggested this could perhaps be a Facebook grant.

7.5 2017-18 School Calendar Proposals

Curriculum Director Stacy Smith presented the Board with three draft school calendars for the 2017-18 school year. We have increased the calendar from 169 student contact days to 173 student contact days. This includes the six conference days counted as instruction days as we have done in the past.

Draft #1: In November there is a grading day on Thursday, November 9, with Veterans' Day on Friday, November 10. Conferences are on Monday and Tuesday, November 20 and 21, with no school on Wednesday, November 22, and then the Thanksgiving Holiday on November 23 and 24. The last day for students is Thursday, June 14, with last day for teachers Friday, June 15.

OFFICIAL

Draft #2: Changes in this version are in November and June. Monday, November 6, becomes a grading day; November 7 and 8 become conference days, no school on Thursday, November 9, and Veterans' Day holiday on November 10. November 20 and 21 then become school days, with November 22 no school. The last day for students is Friday, June 15, and last day for teachers is Monday, June 18.

Draft #3: November is the same as Draft #2, with the exception that Wednesday, November 22, is a school day. The last day of school for students is Thursday, June 14, with the last day for teachers Friday, June 15.

After Board review and discussion, the Board selected Draft #1 school calendar for 2017-18.

Gwen Carr moved and Scott Cooper seconded the Board adopt Draft #1, with conferences being held during Thanksgiving week. The vote was unanimous 5-0 in favor as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Scott Cooper, Gwen Carr, Walt Wagner.

Scott Cooper would like to see Administration work together on scheduling conference times to match up so that parents can go from building to building as needed without overlapping the schedules.

7.6 2016-17 Revised Paulina & Brothers Calendars

Snow day changes to the Brothers Calendar include adding back the following days: February 17, March 10, April 12 and 13 and June 7 become full days, and June 8 becomes the last day of school at half-day.

Snow day changes to the Paulina Calendar reflect the same 4 day changes made on the district calendar. February 17, March 10, April 12 and 13, all become school days.

Scott Cooper moved and Gwen Carr seconded the Board readopt the revised 2016-17 calendar for Paulina and Brothers due to snow days. The vote was unanimous 5-0 in favor as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Scott Cooper, Gwen Carr, Walt Wagner.

8.0 **BOARD POLICIES AND AR's – First And / Or Second Reading of New or Updated Policies & AR's**

8.1 JEC-AR – Eligibility for Attending School Events & Activities (fourth reading)

CCHS Principal Michelle Jonas and Assistant Principal Joel Hoff reviewed the changes to this AR and answered questions from the Board.

Patti Norris moved and Scott Cooper seconded the Board approve revised JEC-AR – Eligibility for Attending School Events & Activities as presented. The vote was unanimous 5-0 in favor as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Scott Cooper, Gwen Carr, Walt Wagner

9.0 **FUTURE MEETINGS / IMPORTANT DATES**

The Board reviewed the list of meetings and important dates.

10.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Doug Smith

Doug Smith, School Board Chair

Jan Martin

Jan Martin, Board Secretary

April 10, 2017

Date Minutes Approved