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Crook County School District

Where Students Dream, Learn, & Succeed

CROOK COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD Regular School Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 12, 2018

Board Members Present: Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Walt Wagner, Gwen Carr

Board Member Absent: Scott Cooper

Administrators Present: Duane Yecha, Anna Logan, Stacy Smith, Mona Boyd, Sean Corrigan, Leland Bliss, Michael Allen, Jim Bates, Adam Stefanek, Kurt Sloper, Michelle Jonas

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 6:33 p.m., the flag salute was recited, a quorum was established, and visitors recognized.

1.4 Agenda Additions, Deletions or Revisions & Agenda Approval

The following was added to the Agenda: 5.6.3 – Retirement – Suzy Yecha, Pioneer Alternative HS Teacher

Patti Norris moved and Gwen Carr seconded the Board approve the agenda as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor 4-0 as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Walt Wagner, and Gwen Carr.

1.5 Pioneer Alternative HS Presentation

PAHS Teacher Suzy Yecha came forward and introduced Pioneer Students - Maggie, Cassie, Kayla, Cindy, and Nathan. The students have all earned their food handlers card. On Fridays, they are allowed to use the production kitchen to make food. They provided the Board and audience with a sampling of their treats and appetizers. They also talked about Pioneer HS, and how they enjoy their new location for the school with access to the Technology Dept. as well as the Production Kitchen.

1.6 Recognition of CCHS State Champion Wrestling Team and Coach Jake Huffman

CCHS Assistant Principal Rob Bonner introduced Jake Gonzales Assistant Coach. He introduced the team and recognized what they earned at the state championship. The CCHS team has been state champions five out of the last six years. Jake Huffman was named the Oregon State Coach of the Year, which qualifies him for the national coach of the year competition. Jake was not able to be present this evening.

Rob Bonner also recognized the CCMS wrestling team who came in second at state this year.

1.7 Recognition of Retiring Staff

CCHS and Pioneer Alternative HS Principal Michelle Jonas recognized Suzy Yecha, who will be retiring at the end of the current school year. She thanked Suzy for her four years of teaching at Pioneer Alternative HS. Suzy has worked in education for a total of 38 years.

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CCMS Principal Kurt Sloper introduced and thanked Dee Ann Lampert for her 30 years of teaching at Powell Butte Elementary School and Crook County Middle School, and a total of 31 years in education. He recognized her for her professionalism and master teacher skills.

BBE Principal Jim Bates introduced and thanked Gale Clark for the past 26 years serving as a Library Technician for Ochoco Elementary, Cecil Sly Elementary, and Barnes Butte Elementary.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Superintendent Duane Yecha spoke to the audience regarding school safety. He stated the Board plans to hold a special meeting sometime in April other than the April 9 scheduled board meeting in Paulina. The following are comments Superintendent Yecha provided the *Central Oregonian*:

SECURITY AND LIMITING ACCESS.

Schools having one access point; asked law enforcement to do safety audits; moving ahead with repeater tower for better access to cell phone coverage; new safety lock cards and school staff are required to wear them at all times; law enforcement also have these cards; making improvements with cameras in the schools; regular ongoing safety drills; had our first meeting with staff this past Fall with training.

Areas that have helped this year through the 2017-18 budget include: hired an elementary counselor; added after school activities and also providing food; added an art teacher at both middle school and high school, added a drop-out coordinator, increased the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program to the elementary level; also looking to support additional safety measures during this budget season.

MENTAL HEALTH AND THREAT ASSESSMENT.

We want to identify early warning signs; we have anonymous tip line; changing all locks on the doors where they can be locked from the inside; we also belong to the Central Oregon Safe Schools Alliance.

IMPROVING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH STAFF AND STUDENTS

"The school district has made significant progress with structural and procedural safety improvements in the last five to seven years but more work needs to be completed. Recent upgrades to schools have increased security and limited access to secure areas. I thank our Board and community for supporting these improvements.

We thank our local law enforcement for being so responsive to safety issues and for auditing our school security protocols and safety procedures. We appreciate the expertise and support from Chief Cummins and Sheriff Gautney and their departments. Our regional partner in Central Oregon is the Safe Schools Alliance.

Students feeling connected to school is an important Board and community goal. Numerous staff have been hired and a number of programs have been implemented to keep students engaged and feeling personally connected to school.

The school district is a partner with the community in the mental health of all patrons. Early warning signs of mental health issues need to be addressed and interventions provided in conjunction with our community partners.

The school district will be considering ongoing safety improvements from now until budget adoption in June. This is not a new topic for us. Our past discussions and decisions have contributed to the improvements we have implemented so far."

School Board Chair Doug Smith also spoke to the audience regarding school safety.

"Your School Board takes School Safety very seriously. We all have a vested interest in creating a safe environment for learning.

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Scott Cooper, Gwen Carr and Patti Norris all currently have students in either Crook County Middle School or Crook County High School. Walt Wagner has a daughter-in-law who is a teacher at Barnes Butte Elementary, and my daughter-in-law is a teacher at Crooked River Elementary. My Grandson will be a kindergarten student this fall. School Safety is very important to all of your board members!

It is an accepted fact that students must feel safe to succeed in school. This board has taken this very seriously, as you can see from Dr. Yecha's presentation. We have put taxpayer money to work to climb from being well behind the "Safe School" curve 5 years ago, to having a much better profile today. The schools in town are greatly improved in many ways, including controlling entry access, fencing and design.

Not all of the work done was funded by the construction bond. In December, our board approved an expenditure of nearly \$30,000 of general fund dollars to replace all of the hardware on doors that did not allow our teachers to lock the doors from the inside of classrooms. This was not done as a reaction to a school shooting; it was done because it was the right thing to do to protect Crook County students and staff. It was presented to the board by our staff, and approved.

Dr. Yecha has also reached out to local law enforcement to have a review done on our school safety measures, and I can ensure you that this board will review and react to the results of that review. There will possibly be some items that are very expensive that we cannot afford to do from our general fund. In those cases we will review what we can accomplish and discuss our next steps.

I will encourage that Dr. Yecha have each school administrator create a list of items that they feel should be addressed at their facilities, review it with the Administrative team, and forward the compiled list to the School Board.

Everything is on the table at this point. If you focus on just one item, I feel you will miss others. In reviewing the school shootings that have taken place in the past, we must find a way to protect students from outsiders, other students, and as evidenced in Georgia, a depressed staff member. That is a very daunting task, that likely no one will be able to solve 100%, but I know that we as a community can do as well as anyone in the nation.

Following the tragic shooting in Parkland, Florida that took the lives of 17 students and staff, I asked that work be started on a review of our facilities, processes and policies that affect all six district operated schools and one charter school. The target of this goal was to have the information compiled and ready to present to the School Board for review at the April 9 meeting. The April timing allows any major requirements to be addressed in our budget for 2018-2019. It also allows for any construction / fencing requirements to be addressed this summer while schools are not in use.

That April 9 meeting is scheduled to be held in Paulina. I will ask the board tonight to agree on a separate date for a Special Board Meeting to be held in Prineville in April to cover the topic of School Safety, so the meeting will be more accessible to parents and others who have concerns. The time, date and location of that meeting will be published in the Central Oregonian and posted on our web page."

The floor was then open for public comment.

- Local resident, Anthony Puckett came forward representing Crook County 3 Percent, a patriot organization formed for the purpose of bringing like-minded people together to serve the community. The group will put on a free anti-active shooter training for teachers in Prineville sometime in May. TNT Martial Arts will teach the workshop.
- Prineville resident Mandi Puckett spoke about the School Safety Proposal on behalf of several concerned parents. She has three children and works as a certified prevention specialist and executive director for the Children Learning Through Education and Research Alliance, a statewide nonprofit organization located in Redmond that provides substance use prevention education in schools across Oregon. The School Safety Proposal Committee is a diverse group of parents and school staff and law enforcement who support the three-legged stool's multi-faceted approach to school safety, which includes prevention, treatment and enforcement," she said. The proposal was

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developed in 2013 after the Sandy Hook tragedy and was signed in support by local, state and federal leaders, including Oregon Congressman Greg Walden. She and Brian Hemphill, who has two children in Crook County schools, pointed out strengths and weaknesses of school safety locally. They suggested adding bulletproof glass, metal detectors, and more law enforcement officers in schools. They recommended replacing some fire drills with lockdown and active-shooter drills and enforcing the one main access policy. Hemphill pointed out that many of the surveillance cameras are only used for review purposes but should instead be monitored regularly for suspicious activity. Adding law enforcement to school campuses is their first choice for additional safety measures. Mandi Puckett said that although the students she talked to said they felt safe, they did question who would protect them if someone did get inside their building. "As each school's property is unique in its structure and layout, we request that Crook County School Board please adopt as many school safety measures as possible, including but not limited to what is outlined in this School Safety Proposal here, to meet the needs of each individual school," she said.

- Aaron Mapes, the father of CCSD children, thanked the board for their proactive stance on school safety. He applauded the single-access point design of the in-town schools but pointed out that he recently witnessed a door open that should not have been. "Policies are only as effective as those that are actually followed," Mapes said. "Who makes sure that the policies are followed and enforced?" He also encouraged students to be aware of potential threats. "Pay attention to social media. Do not be afraid to speak if you see something that you're concerned about," Mapes said.
- Brett Nelson, a lifetime Prineville resident with a middle school student, said, "We go to work every day, are we assured that we are safe? That is the picture we have to paint for the staff."
- Finally, Yvette Gaynor, who has two children at Powell Butte Community Charter School, spoke on behalf of a group of parents and school staff who came up with a list of safety concerns. For example, the campus does not have a single secure entry, it lacks fencing around the entire perimeter, and not all modular buildings have an emergency exit, nor do they have peepholes in the doors. Additionally, Gaynor pointed out that the emergency drills are ineffective, and the cafeteria personnel would not know what to do if there was an emergency during the lunch hour. She recommended some changes to the surveillance cameras, bulletproof glass, and having law enforcement present for large gatherings. Board Chair Doug Smith pointed out that the charter school rents the campus from the school district for \$1 a year. "We're trying to determine whose responsibility it is and figure out how to fund it. We want to be part of the solution but have to figure out where the money will come from," Smith said.

The board will hold a special public board meeting in April to review the lists from administrators, students, parents, board members and the district safety supervisor. "We'll bring all those together and have a meeting dedicated to what should be funded for next year as far as school safety," Smith said. "There is a limit to what we can afford."

3.0 OTHER AGENCY / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

3.1 Facilities Dept. Update

Facilities Supervisor, Leland Bliss, updated the Board on facilities projects.

3.2 HDESD Board Highlights

The Board reviewed the HDESD Board Highlights.

4.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

4.1 ODOT Traffic Safety

Superintendent Yecha reported on ODOT traffic safety issues at Powell Butte. They intend to put a flashing light out front of PBCCS, which will look a lot like the ones you see on 3rd St. They are looking at another crosswalk that we would like ODOT to consider on Combs Flat Rd. near the high school or near the hospital.

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5.0 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.

- 5.1 February 12, 2018 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes
- 5.2 February 21, 2018 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- 5.3 Donations
- 5.4 Hiring – Classified:
 - 5.4.1 Chelsea Wright, Bus Driver
 - 5.4.2 Jeff Jones, Bus Driver
- 5.5 Resignations / Retirements – Classified:
 - 5.5.1 Gale Clark, BBE Library Tech (end of 17/18 SY) (*retirement*)
 - 5.5.2 Athan Kramer, Bus Driver (*resignation*)
- 5.6 Resignations / Retirements – Licensed:
 - 5.6.1 Kathleen McCarty, BBE Speech Path (end of 17-18 SY) (*resignation*)
 - 5.6.2 Dee Ann Lampert, CCMS 6th Grade Teacher (end of 17-18 SY) (*retirement*)
 - 5.6.3 Suzy Yecha, Pioneer Alt. HS Teacher (end of 17-18 SY) (*retirement*)
- 5.7 Enrollment Report
- 5.8 Annual Rehire – Administrators and Supervisors
- 5.9 Annual Rehire – Licensed Staff
- 5.10 Finance Report

Patti Norris moved and Gwen Carr seconded the Board approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor 4-0 as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Walt Wagner, and Gwen Carr.

6.0 BOARD REVIEW / DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Announcement of Top Superintendent Search Candidate Finalists

Doug Smith stated they have chosen two finalists: Dandy Stevens, Assistant Superintendent at Silver Falls SD in Silverton. The second finalist is Dr. Sara Johnson, who grew up in Burns, was the 2007 Oregon Principal of the year. Sara served as superintendent at Sumner SD, in Sumner, WA. She has spent the last two years as Director of Assessment, Equity and School Improvement for Klamath County SD.

Doug indicated they received 26 applicant files, interviewed eight, and narrowed the field to the top two finalists.

6.2 2018-19 School Calendar Proposal

Stacy Smith reported on the process used to develop the proposed 2018-19 school calendar.

Patti Norris moved and Gwen Carr seconded the Board approve the calendar as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor 4-0 as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Walt Wagner, and Gwen Carr.

6.3 Board Goal Follow-up: 1.8 – Increase the percentage of students proficient on all state assessments required for graduation

CCHS Principal Michelle Jonas stated they currently do not have any students who are not meeting their essential skills requirements for graduation. They regularly give the Work Keys, work samples, PSAT, SAT and ACT as an alternative for those students who didn't meet with the SBAC.

6.4 Board Goal Follow-up: 1.19 – Increase the offering of innovative programs available to students

Stacy Smith reported on innovative programs. Club activities have grown in size. The Board has done a nice job of making sure the staff leading these after school programs receive a stipend. He asked the Board

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if there areas they would like the district to pursue, that perhaps they feel are missing. Doug would like to see an inventory of what offerings of programs we would consider innovative. We need to have programs available for all students.

6.5 Board Goal Follow-up: 7.3 – The Board will support the creation of high school level classes in Information Technology

Stacy Smith indicated they are looking at a development pathway of programs of study for CCHS students, perhaps four or five classes in Information Technology. He asked the Board what they would like to see. Patti Norris indicated she would like to see many different kinds of technology. She would like to see students exposed to coding, computer application, cyber security, an A+ certification for technology support. Michelle commented that within the CTE programs, each one is specializing a specific area in technology. In Marketing, they learn technology programs.

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

7.1 JOA – Directory Information (*third reading*)

Doug read the new paragraph based on law that now appears in the policy. Walt Wagner does not agree. He feels we should leave the policy as is.

Patti Norris moved and Gwen Carr seconded the Board adopt JOA – Directory Information as presented. The vote was 3-1 in favor as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Gwen Carr; Nay – Walt Wagner.

7.2 JFCA – Student Dress And Grooming (*first reading*)

Patti Norris moved and Gwen Carr seconded the Board adopt JFCA – Student Dress And Grooming, as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor 4-0 as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Walt Wagner, and Gwen Carr.

7.3 DFEEA-AR – Activity And Athletic Participation Fees (*first reading*)

7.4 IGBB – Talented & Gifted Philosophy (*first reading*)

7.5 IGABA – Identification – Talented And Gifted (*first reading*)

Patti Norris moved and Gwen Carr seconded the Board adopt DFEEA-AR – Activity And Athletic Participation Fees; IGBB – Talented & Gifted Philosophy; and IGABA -, as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor 4-0 as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Walt Wagner, and Gwen Carr.

7.6 IGABA-AR – Appeal Procedure for Talented and Gifted Student Identification and Placement (*first reading*)

Patti inquired about the brackets that are shown in various places, which say (TAG coordinator/teacher). It was determined it should say "TAG Coordinator".

Patti Norris moved and Gwen Carr seconded the Board adopt IGABA-AR – Appeal Procedure for Talented and Gifted Student Identification and Placement as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor 4-0 as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Walt Wagner, and Gwen Carr.

7.7 IGAAA – Identification – Talented and Gifted Students among Non-typical Populations (*delete*)

Gwen Carr moved and Patti Norris seconded the Board delete policy IGAAA – Identification – Talented and Gifted Students among Non-typical Populations. The vote was unanimous in favor 4-0 as follows: Yea – Doug Smith, Patti Norris, Walt Wagner, and Gwen Carr.

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7.8 IGBBC – Programs & Services – Talented And Gifted (*first reading*)

7.9 IGBBC-AR – Complaints Regarding the Talented & Gifted Program (*first reading*)

Patti Norris moved and Gwen Carr seconded the board adopt IGBBC – Programs & Services, and IGBBC-AR – Complaints Regarding the Talented & Gifted Program. The vote was unanimous in favor 4-0 as follows: Yea – Patti Norris, Gwen Carr, Walt Wagner, and Doug Smith.

8.0 FUTURE MEETINGS / IMPORTANT DATES

The Board reviewed the upcoming meetings and important dates. A Special Board meeting was scheduled for Thursday, April 5, 6 p.m. at the District Office to determine priority order of safety issues and costs for funding for the 2018-19 budget.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Doug Smith

Doug Smith, School Board Chair

Jan Martin

Jan Martin, Board Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: April 9, 2018