

**Redmond School District
School Board Meeting
March 18, 2015**

In Attendance: Chair AJ Losoya, Vice-Chair Rick Bailey and Director Shane Nelson, Superintendent Mike McIntosh, RSD Staff; Trish Huspek, Kelly Richard, Linda Seeberg, David Burke, Chris Morton, Kathy Steinert, Martha Hinman, REA Representative, Lisa Sage, From the RPA, Sandy Cloud, Katie Bullock and Meagan Trumpus. Bob Perry was excused due to illness and Rhonda Etnire was out of town on business.

Board Chair AJ Losoya called the meeting to order without a quorum of the Board at 5:30 p.m. It is anticipated that Shane Nelson will arrive late. Director Shane Nelson arrived at 6:09pm making the quorum three.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Citizen Participation for Non-Agenda Items

Katie Bullock and Meagan Trumpus - Redmond Proficiency Academy (RPA) Students

- The RPA just concluded their open enrollment period but they are still accepting applications.
- Last Friday students participated in a talent show. It has been decided that this will be an annual event.
- April 8th – Rock Band concert from 6:00-8:00pm.
- Spring musical opens April 16-24.

PRESENTATIONS

Ridgeview High School Leadership Students – Board Appreciation

Alea and Grady, leadership students from Ridgeview High School, were in attendance to express their appreciation to the Board as they were not able to attend the Board meeting that acknowledged the Board during Board Appreciation month. The students expressed that Ridgeview is an amazing school and they feel blessed to be there. “It has a phenomenal atmosphere. We love our school and we know it wouldn’t be here without you guys supporting it.”

Superintendent Report

- Deadline to file for the election is tomorrow at 5:00pm.
- Reported that Lynn Evans, Kelly Hicks, Barry Branaugh and Karen Gray recently met to discuss the MOU that was signed last year indicating that if the district received additional state revenue during the 2014-15 school year that two days would be added back to this year’s school calendar for staff. Superintendent McIntosh reported that funding did not materialize and that those days cannot be added back for this school year. Barry Branaugh will send out a memo to their membership informing them.

Association Report

Lisa Sage – REA

- Reported that the staff’s priority is to make it to spring break. There have been many absent students and staff due to illness.
- The REA encouraged staff members to email their legislator regarding the proposed budget. They had a great turnout by staff and each person who emailed has received a personal response back from their legislator. All of the responses indicated they are supporting a \$7.5 billion budget.

- The number one concern among staff right now is Smarter Balanced and getting ready to test. The concern isn't about the outcome but the process that is new and a little scary. Part of that conversation is the stress the kids are starting to feel. An additional concern is the amount of preparation that it takes. "Between preparing and actually taking the tests, my 8th grade students spend a total of 29 days doing mandatory testing."

Superintendent McIntosh stated that he appreciates the association's partnership in contacting our legislators to impress upon them the need for a \$7.5 billion or higher budget to be able to adequately educate the students across the state.

AJ Losoya stated that he appreciates her reporting about the stress that students and teachers are experiencing. "That stress level is also being felt by parents. Being the first year, it is my hope that in years forward that would decrease. We understand that we will be setting the baseline this year but to set the mentality that we want our kids to be prepared so they do well, it speaks highly of our commitment to do the best for our kids."

Smarter Balanced Update

Linda Seeberg, Executive Director of Academic Programs, David Burke, Director of Secondary Education and Chris Morton, Assistant Director of School Improvement were in attendance to provide the Board with an update on the Smarter Balanced assessments that students will begin taking after spring break.

Linda Seeberg stated, "This is the first year that we are stepping into something big. Our goal tonight is to help demystify it and provide better understanding. I appreciate not only that the staff have worked so hard but that they are sensitive to the stress level of the students."

Tonight's presentation will provide an overview of context and connections, differences between old/new state assessments, what the new assessment looks like, achievement level comparison (OAKS vs. Smarter Balanced Assessment), and use of state assessment data.

Common Core State Standards promote 21st Century skills and were developed toward the goal of preparing all students across the nation for college and career in literacy and math.

Not all states have adopted Common Core. They are continuing to follow the model they have used in the past.

Pilot testing of Smarter Balanced occurred in 2012-2013, field testing in 2013-14 and the operational test is being conducted this school year.

Smarter Balanced

Format:

- Test questions go beyond multiple choice
 - Computer Adaptive Test
 - 1.5 to 2 hours to complete
 - Item difficulty adjusts based on student responses
 - English Language Arts (ELA) item types: Multiple Choice, Constructed Response, Essay
 - Math item types: Drag-and-drop, Table Fill in, Graphing, Equation/Numeric
 - Classroom Activity
 - 30 minutes to complete – no score is given
 - Context Building for the Performance Task
 - Intended to ensure that students are not disadvantaged in demonstrating the skills the PT is designed to assess
 - Performance Task
 - 1-2 hours to complete
 - Part 1: Students read multiple sources and answer three research questions
 - Part 2: Students provide a written response using those sources

Opportunity to Learn

- There are a number of reasons we can expect to see Oregon's students' achievement on the Smarter Balanced assessments improve over time:
 - Exposure to standards
 - Improved instructional practices that are shifting from one set of standards to another
 - Alignment of instructional materials
 - Student motivation and familiarity with the tests
 - Improvements to state testing system

RSD Preparation

- Instruction
 - New teaching and learning standards
- Professional Development
 - Teacher Leader Teams
 - Consultants
 - School Improvement Wednesdays
 - Practice and training tests
- Curriculum
 - Curriculum adoptions, interim selections, alignment
- Student Preparation
 - Result of daily instruction aligned to standards
 - Result of curriculum materials aligned to standards
 - Practice and training tests
- Parent Communication
 - School level (parent teacher conferences)
 - District level (district website)
 - Regional (Assessment Director from ODE came to Redmond and provided opportunity for parents to ask questions)
- Technology and Infrastructure
 - Bandwidth, Access Points, etc.
 - Computer Labs, Mobile Carts, Personal Devices

It is important to remember that our students are being measured by a totally different tool. We are not making students less smart. We are teaching students to a higher level.

AJ Losoya stated that he wants the District to be very proactive in reaching out to parents of students who are absent during the testing window to ensure parents are aware of the importance of the test.

Superintendent McIntosh stated, "Be assured that everyone is on high alert about the importance of students taking the tests. I think we have done a pretty amazing job in doing whatever we can to prepare the students to take the tests."

Grading:

- Portions of the test will be hand-scored

Difficulty:

- Tests are aligned to Common Core
- Tests measure higher-level thinking and skills
- Student test scores will look different but will provide a more realistic picture of student achievement in Oregon

What will the testing data be used for?

- Assessment is intended for district and school level accountability.
- Student Level Accountability
 - Balanced results will not be used for:

- Student Promotion
 - Student Retention
 - Student Grades
- Smarter Balanced is one way students can meet the Essential Skills in reading, writing and math which are required for graduation.
 - Smarter Balanced Assessment results function as one set of important data to ensure students are on track to graduation and post-secondary success.

Linda Seeberg stated that she is so proud of our teachers for stepping into some very difficult territory this year but the exciting thing is that amazing things are happening in the classroom with students. “The magic is happening in the classroom between teachers and students.”

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution 15:085 – Promise of Oregon Resolution

The “Promise” campaign is being coordinated by the Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA). The campaign is based on two defining principles: 1) Today’s students are Oregon’s greatest natural resource. 2) We as Oregonians must invest in our public schools so the next generation can reach its potential. The campaign aims to create public support for K-12 education, to help meet the state’s 40-40-20 goals and lift student achievement and graduation rates.

Superintendent McIntosh stated that he sees no reason why our Board shouldn’t support this resolution. The majority of school districts in the state have passed a similar resolution.

Rick Bailey made a motion to approve Resolution 15:085 as presented. Shane Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Consent Agenda

- Personnel Report
- Board Meeting Minutes from February 25, 2015
- Board Meeting Minutes from March 12, 2015
- Out of State Field Trip
- Intent to File for Grant
- Gifts to the District

Shane Nelson moved and Rick Bailey seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Redmond Educational Vision (REV)

Superintendent McIntosh provided each Board member with a copy of the REV and specifically referenced pages 14- 21. “This is a pretty relevant document. The process was huge and community based to identify what was vital in our system. This is an 8-9 year old document but I am amazed at how relevant this still is. I don’t have any information that would tell me the community would feel differently. As we rewrite our strategic plan we want to capitalize on the work that the community did and focus on what was important to them. The document reads like a prescription and I think we are healthier because of it. We have accomplished much of what was identified in this body of work. As we retool the strategic plan for the next biennium we will include many of these things and celebrate our success. The vision that was created in 2008 is still relevant. I would ask that you not ask us to go through this process again but to continue our service to the community by building on what was identified. What has been identified is aligned with our strategic plan. I would recommend continuing to use this document as a compass but modernize it in our Strategic Plan. We are working on a new public version of our strategic plan that incorporates the priorities in the REV.”

Superintendent McIntosh further recommended having a summer Board retreat to bring new members up to speed on the District's Strategic plan as well as revisiting the district's vision and mission statements to ensure those don't need to be re-identified.

Board members concurred that the priorities identified in the REV are still current and should be used by Superintendent McIntosh to incorporate them into the Strategic Plan.

AJ Losoya stated, "When you take a look at the public process and everyone who was involved in creating the REV, I believe you would end up pretty close to what it was before."

Superintendent Evaluation – Request for Additional Information

Bob Perry provided a document outlining the items that he would like to be provided to inform the evaluation process.

Rick Bailey requested the following information:

- The Board has requested metrics be provided and he believes the state report would be a good source of that information.
- Where we have improved, where we have maintained and where we have declined.
- Would like to hear expectations on where Superintendent McIntosh would like to see the district within the next year

AJ Losoya stated, "We need to be ascending in our target areas. I don't know if the report card is the right metrics to use."

- Parental involvement data
- Self-Evaluation from Superintendent McIntosh

Superintendent McIntosh stated that the Performance Meter, the state report card and achievement compact could be an ongoing metric that could be looked at every year. "We just need to make sure those things would achieve the metrics the Board is looking for."

The Board reviewed the Performance Meter and agreed this would be a good tool to base the executive summary data on.

Superintendent McIntosh stated that the Executive Summary is to become a living document. "We would start from the previous year and report on the improvements and the things we tried and didn't work. It would also address progress that was made on the items that were identified in his last evaluation by the Board. It would report on the milestones that have been achieved and what has happened since the last evaluation cycle."

Board Member Updates and Requests for Agenda Items

Shane Nelson

- Nothing to report

Rick Bailey

- He visited the RPA for a visit with Principal Bullock. Great bunch of students out there. They were doing a proficiency day. It was great to see how engaged the students were.
- He was asked by a parent why the pledge of allegiance isn't said every morning. Superintendent McIntosh reported that it is specific to the individual school. "It should be happening every day at the elementary schools. Secondary schools do it once per week and at all assemblies."

AJ Losoya

- Reminded everyone about the Leadership Banquet on April 10th.

ADJOURN

Rick Bailey moved and Shane Nelson seconded the motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

AJ Losoya, School Board Chair

Trish Huspek, Executive Assistant