

**Redmond School District
School Board Meeting
November 10, 2010**

In Attendance: Chair Jim Erickson, Vice-Chair Cathy Miller, Director Paul Rodby, Superintendent Shay Mikalson, RSD Staff Doug Snyder, Stephanie Curtis, Mike McIntosh, Trish Huspek, Jon Bullock, Martha Hinman, Carolyn Espinosa, Lynn Evans, John Holland, Linda Holland, Media Leslie Pugmire-Hole (*Redmond Spokesman*), Patrick Cliff (*Bend Bulletin*), association representatives Judy Newman, Dru Carpenter and approximately seven community members

Board Chair Jim Erickson called the meeting to order with a quorum of three at 5:40 p.m.

Jim Erickson expressed his appreciation to everyone who attended the meeting tonight.

Cassie, a Sage Elementary student, led the board and audience members in the flag salute.

Citizen Participation

None

PRESENTATIONS

Sage Elementary Presentation

Carolyn Espinosa, Principal of Sage Elementary, welcomed everyone to the home of the Sage Owls. She stated that it is a pleasure to welcome everyone to this beautiful building and it is an honor to be the principal here. Every day the staff has an appreciation to the community, the board and district staff for this wonderful facility. This is a year of discovery for the staff at Sage and during the presentation tonight they will be sharing with everyone what they have been up to since the first day of school.

Tom Wrightman, Sage Elementary Instructional Coach, reviewed how they are providing appropriate reading level instruction to each of the students. Classroom teachers, Title I assistants and literacy assistants all help in this process. Through assessments and monitoring they are able to provide appropriate instruction to individual students to help them progress. They have the ability to challenge above grade level students as well as those who need additional interventions.

Espinosa introduced a group of fifth grade students who will be participating in “Are you Smarter than a Sage Owl.” Board members were provided 10 categories to choose from. Each board member was given assistance by a fifth grade student in answering the questions.

Construction Update

Doug Snyder reported on the progress of the construction projects currently either finishing up or that are making satisfactory progress. He provided aerial photos as well as the color palette samples of the new high school. All projects are doing well.

The roof at Elton Gregory continues to leak. The contractor has withdrawn from the process. Schaber roofing consultants have been hired. When the report is ready, it will be provided to the board. One option is to continue to do repairs and pay for them ourselves and then go after reimbursement or secondly, do what they have to do to get through the winter and then proceed with arbitration. They are still having difficulty pinpointing where the leak is. Doug reviewed the various repair options. The proceeds from the 2004 bond in the amount of \$900,000 will be used to help cover the cost of repairs.

Sage Elementary – Doug just heard about the concerns on possible heating issues tonight. He will do some investigating to see if some of the controls need to be adjusted.

Strategic Planning

Jon Bullock provided the board with a Strategic Planning Decisions Timeline. The purpose of his report tonight is to update the board on the strategic planning report that was initially provided to them on August 18, 2010.

Bullock provided an update on six items from the report; Bond Savings, Instructional Programs, Boundaries and Enrollment, Hartman Building, High School Staffing and additional items that were not listed on the original document about the new high school that require decisions; naming of the school, school colors and deciding on a school mascot.

There was a question regarding how the instructional programs will be determined. Bullock reported the advisory team will be made up with two teachers, staff member, one student and a community member. Jim Erickson stated that he believes it will be important to make sure that, as much as possible, everyone who chooses to be involved in the process, would have the opportunity to do so. Bullock indicated that many of the decisions that needed to be made were already determined by the larger group. The advisory team is part of a much longer process that has already occurred. Jon does not believe that it is advisable to get into a process where we have decisions about instruction that are voted on because there are already things built into the instruction that cannot be changed. To do that would be to supersede the decisions that have already been made.

Cathy Miller requested that we make sure the public will understand that the building will not be completely open until 2016. She wants to make sure we clearly articulate what the phase in schedule will look like.

Boundary and Enrollment

The planning document called for a task force to convene to review and discuss this issue. This group will need to consider the previous process used in determining boundaries. They will have three options available to them; a hard boundary, a soft boundary or an open boundary. It will not be a process to actually draw lines. There is a separate process for that determination.

Hartman Building

The planning document calls for a task force to review possible uses and make a recommendation to the board for action. Upon reviewing the possible options for the use of Hartman, it appears that the viable options are rather limited. Due to capacity issues at the elementary and middle school level, it is recommended that the board receive a recommendation from staff regarding the usage of the building. This recommendation will be discussed with potentially impacted parties prior to finalizing the recommendation.

Shay wanted to make sure that everyone understands that we need all of our schools utilized to their full extent. No buildings will be closed. It is possible that the Hartman building could be used to house elementary students while an existing elementary school is being remodeled.

Cathy stated that she has heard from both parents and retired educators with concerns regarding the culture that is in a K-8 community school vs. a middle school.

Public Comments – Bond Savings

This will be the second of three opportunities for the public to speak to the board regarding the recommendations presented by the task force as well as the bond savings in general. Jon Bullock reviewed the process that was used to develop the recommendations that have been given to the board.

- Carolyn Espinosa – Technology at Sage. Understands that bond money can only be spent on things that are permanently affixed to the building. She spoke to the need for additional technology so that all of the classrooms in the building are equally equipped. She is asking if any of that equipment could fall under either the bond money or technology funds. Doug Snyder reviewed the rules regarding the use of bond

funds. He also reported that he and his team have repeatedly asked the bond counsel if waivers could be issued. They have clearly stated that bond funds cannot be used for this equipment.

- Nancy Bennett – Concern that the state of the art school was built and we don't have the technology to support it and is concerned that bleachers are being considered for the new high school.
- Tom Wheeler – Sounds like teachers need to write/apply for a grant to be able to cover the technology needs at Sage
- Jim Boese – Recently learned about the \$15 million savings – “Why are we considering spending \$1 million on bleachers. Why are we even considering spending this money when people in the district are hurting so badly?” Jim Erickson stated that on a \$150,000 tax assessed house the savings to a taxpayer would be under \$40.00 per year. “While the return to the taxpayer sounds like a good idea, the task of the board is to maximize the educational opportunities for our students.” He is not minimizing the impact of returning the money to families. Mr. Boese strongly advocates returning the money to the taxpayers. Jim Erickson stated that the board is committed to the best possible education for our students. Their task is to ask themselves how the bond savings could be utilized to produce positive outcomes for our students. Jim Erickson stated that they value the input they receive from community members.
- Leah McMullen asked for clarification about the differences between the technologies that were planned for in Sage versus the new high school. Doug Snyder stated that to meet the instructional needs of a comprehensive high school the district purchased the “Pole Vault” components for the classroom. This is an integrated system that connects the teacher's computer to technology components and the projector.

Board Discussion – Bond Savings Recommendations

Jim stated that the discussion already took place during the public. Paul Rodby heard from the public comments tonight that there is a division on whether the bleachers should or should not be built. Jim feels the two hot topics tonight were should be give the money back to the taxpayers and should the bleachers be built. There was discussion about the benefits of delaying the final decision. Paul doesn't have a clear understanding on what the money could be spent on. He requests staff prepare a “menu list” of all the possibilities.

Mike McIntosh stated that in an effort to be transparent, the board has instructed the staff to proceed with a process that provides all stakeholders the opportunity to give their input. Those opportunities have been provided and now it is time to move forward with a decision. The process has been clear and transparent. He recommends honoring the process that the taskforce has gone through. Every person who indicated they wanted to be on the taskforce was invited to fully participate in that process.

Doug encourages all of the board members to spend time at both the current high school and the new high school building site prior to making any decisions regarding the bond savings.

Cathy stated that she didn't fully realize the impact that athletics has on the instructional side until she spoke to Brent Walsh.

Public Hearing - Public Contracting Rules

Doug Snyder gave an overview of the public contracting rules that the board adopted

Jerry Milstead was on the state committee that adopted the new state laws. Jerry walked the board through the changes that are proposed.

No other public comment was made.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution 10:035 – Amended Public Contracting Rules

On April 27, 2005, the school board adopted resolution 05:027 that adopted public contracting rules and procedures and adopted class special procurements and exemptions to the public contracting rules. Last year changes were made to the State's contracting rules that require the district to amend our adopted rules. Board members were given the opportunity to ask clarifying questions about specific items in the contracting rules.

Paul Rodby moved and Cathy Miller seconded a motion to approve Resolution 10:035 adopting amended public contracting rules and procedures and adopting class special procedures and exemptions to the public contracting code. The Motion carried 3-0

Roll Call Vote: Cathy Miller – Yes, Paul Rodby - Yes, Jim Erickson – Yes

Cathy Miller stated that approving this resolution requires a tremendous amount of trust due to the complexities of the contracting rules.

Shay Mikalson stated that as a district we are very lucky to have Jerry Milstead on staff. His expertise in this area is invaluable to the district and the board can feel confident in approving this resolution.

Dedication of Real Estate

Doug Snyder stated that the development and construction of the new high school at Elkhorn and Canal requires the dedication of a portion of the site for right of way, slope easements and public utilities. These dedications will modify the legal description of the site; hence, they are being submitted for board approval so that they can be entered into the district's legal files.

Paul Rodby moved and Cathy Miller seconded a motion to approve the right of way dedication, the slope easement and the public utility easement to the City of Redmond for the high school site at Elkhorn and Canal. The Motion carried 3-0

Consent Agenda

- Personnel Changes
- School Board Work Session Minutes from October 27, 2010
- School Board Minutes from October 27, 2010
- Gifts to the District

There was discussion about the personnel changes in the transportation department as well as nursing staff coverage for the district.

Paul Rodby moved and Cathy Miller seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Jim Erickson wanted to acknowledge Ute Weigel for her years of service to the Redmond School District.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Mikalson presented information regarding:

- At the beginning of September he had invited both staff and community members to participate in “100 conversations.” He stated that he has appreciated everyone who has taken the time to meet with him. At this point he has met with approximately 54 people.
- Common Core Standards were approved. As a district we are working hard to meet the implementation date of 2014. They have adjusted the math cut scores; especially at the elementary level.
- There will be a CLASS project meeting tomorrow from 8:00am – 12:00pm. A representative from Chalkboard will be there to speak to the group regarding the TIF grant.
- Wanted to thank the TAPROOT organization. They have become a great resource to us. Still a work in progress but great things are happening. TAPROOT has a website where you can sign up to volunteer.

Association Report

- Judy Newman – No report at this time
- Dru Carpenter – No report at this time

Board Appointment Timeline

Jim Erickson reported that Dr. Dan Murphy has resigned his position on the Board of Directors. There was discussion about the process that will occur to appoint a new board member.

Cathy Miller moved and Paul Rodby seconded a motion to accept Dr. Murphy's resignation, effective immediately. Motion carried 3-0.

- Notification of the opening will be made as soon as possible with a deadline of December 1
- A final decision be made prior to the first of the year
- Board members will review the applications and narrow the field to a maximum of five candidates
- Candidates will be selected for an interview based on the completed application
- Interview questions will be revised from previous version
- The criteria that will narrow the field of applicants will center on the clear themes that the board is trying to create in the culture of the district.

In light of the decision that needs to be made on the bond savings, there was discussion if the board should wait to make the decision on the bond savings until a fifth member can be appointed to the Board of Directors or does the board feel they should go ahead with four members to make the bond savings decisions. Jim indicated that he would like to proceed with the existing board members to make the decision. Paul concurs that we should proceed with the existing board members. He stated that it is imperative those decisions be made as soon as possible. To get someone up to speed on all of the information the board has been provided around the bond savings would be too time consuming. Cathy Miller concurred.

Request for Agenda Items

All financial reports to be placed on a PowerPoint in the future

ADJOURN

Cathy Miller moved and Paul Rodby seconded the motion to adjourn at 8:45p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Jim Erickson, School Board Chair

Trish Huspek, Executive Assistant