

**Redmond School District
School Board Meeting
July 25, 2012**

In Attendance: Chair Cathy Miller, Vice-Chair AJ Losoya, Directors Jim Erickson, Ric Little, Bob Perry, Superintendent Mike McIntosh, RSD Staff; Linda Seeberg, Martha Hinman, Lee Loving, Trish Huspek, Gina Blanchette, Fred VonSeggern, Barry Branaugh, Debbie Laszlo, Association Representatives – Karen Gray-REA, Matt McGowan-Western States Insurance, Media, Ben Botkin (*Bend Bulletin*), David Foote, Rick Bailey

2011-2012 Board Chair Jim Erickson called the meeting to order with a quorum of five at 5:31 p.m.

Corrections/Changes to the Agenda

AJ Losoya requested that an item be added to the agenda regarding a “special recognition.” Board members concurred with the addition.

AJ Losoya stated that he would like to thank the spouses of both district staff and board members but especially to Jim Erickson’s wife, Jan. “Being the board chair means you have a lot of time away from family; many dinners missed, many phone calls, and late nights. We couldn’t have gotten through the last two years without Jim’s leadership and the board would like to express their appreciation to Jan for her support of Jim and her willingness to make those sacrifices.” Jan Erickson was presented with a garden basket and card. As appreciation to Jim Erickson for his service as board chair, he was presented with a leather satchel.

Cathy Miller reviewed the various events and decisions that have occurred while Mr. Erickson has been the board chair. She reported that as he began his chairmanship Sage Elementary was just being started and there was a great deal of discussion around opening a second high school. During that time there were numerous work sessions, public hearings regarding bond savings, implementation of the CLASS project and because of his strong belief in transparency, Budget 101 talks were brought to the entire staff. She reported that in his tenure there have been many difficult discussions that were made but throughout them all Jim’s leadership in keeping the dialogue respectful was paramount. “As the chair he set the tone of respectful listening and being true to your heart while listening to everyone’s opinion while always keeping the kids as the priority. All of that was a fast two years but what I think I want to emulate is that you believed in where we needed to go professionally with a commitment to improved student learning and professional development while valuing what everyone brings to the table. We have improved as a Board because of your leadership.”

Ric Little stated that he appreciates the 30+ years Jim has brought to the Board. “I appreciate your speaking ability and unending patience.”

Bob Perry stated that Jim is the “consummate pro.” “I appreciated that he sat back and listened to divergent points of view before ever saying anything. I value that. We didn’t always agree but I did learn a great deal from you.”

AJ Losoya stated that as he thinks about the last couple of years he can’t think of a better person to have been in that leadership role during that time. “I have learned a lot from you and I am excited to continue to learn from you.

Jim Erickson thanked everyone for their kind words. “You are all very generous but those are not my list of accomplishments alone. They belong to everyone who was involved in making those strides forward. There are many elements that are in play that we are not leaving behind, that we are not forgetting. They are all important;

student achievement at the highest levels, systems for evaluation, professional development across all levels, and goals set for proficiency. We have the people who can accomplish that and it is a matter of finishing what we have started. Cathy has been a great support and wise in her counsel and I know the Board is in good hands. I will not “shut up” and will certainly offer something as we move forward.”

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Each year the Board elects a new chairman and vice-chairman. That election occurs at the first meeting in July.

Election of Board Officers for 2012-2013

Bob Perry nominated Cathy Miller to serve as the chairman for the 2012-2013 school year. Ric Little seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Votes: Jim Erickson – yes, Ric Little – yes, AJ Losoya – yes, Bob Perry – yes, Cathy Miller - yes

Cathy Miller stated that she appreciates their trust and looks forward to fulfilling the responsibilities.

Vice Chair

Bob Perry nominated AJ Losoya to serve as the vice-chair for the 2012-2013 school year. Ric Little seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Votes: Jim Erickson – yes, Ric Little – yes, AJ Losoya – yes, Bob Perry – yes, Cathy Miller - yes

Citizen Participation for Non-Agenda Items

Barry Branaugh and Fred VonSeggern – RSD Teachers

They were present tonight to provide the Board with a document that lists questions they have regarding the Redmond Proficiency Academy (RPA). “It is not our goal to eliminate the RPA but to ensure they have met everything the state law provides for. At your convenience we would appreciate receiving answers to the questions.” They stated they are receiving questions from their membership regarding charter school law and this document is a means of information gathering so they can answer those questions.

Mr. Branaugh and Mr. VonSeggern reviewed the various sections of the document provided to the Board members. “None of us want the RPA to go away. Students are benefiting from that system but the disparity for both staff and students is significant. If it is found that they haven’t followed state law, we would like to see the RPA program continue at the Hartman building but on the same schedule and pay scale as the rest of our staff.”

Cathy Miller stated this is both an operational and governance issue that will require diligent research. She asked Superintendent McIntosh what a reasonable timeframe for response would be.

Superintendent McIntosh stated he would appreciate the opportunity to meet with them to clarify and answer their questions. He stated he believes the best place to start is to meet to collectively go over the document and to review the report that was presented at the last meeting. Superintendent McIntosh further stated he would welcome a conversation with any of their colleagues that would like to meet with him.

Mr. VonSeggern stated that it is nice to be able to have the current contract settled and to have been able to forget about it for a while but it is important to come up with different ideas to bridge further budget shortfalls. “We will be in the same boat next spring and I prefer that we come up with some ideas before May. It is not prudent to wait to discuss some of these issues.”

Ric Little reported the actual financial audit for 2011-2012 school year won’t be back for about three months.

AJ Losoya stated that he is a part of the finance committee and knows that the district does not wait until the spring to begin to talk about budgeting for the next school year. “It is a year-long process which slowly evolves. We are already talking about these issues.”

Jim Erickson stated that he would invite everyone to work together to find a solution. He stated that he has trouble putting their vision of a solution in sync with the RPA’s vision of itself. “If your opening statement

really is about not wanting the RPA to go away, I would invite everyone to start these conversations with the RPA's vision as a starting place. We need to remember what a charter school is, how they are funded and how they operate.”

Barry Branaugh stated, “We have not been able to achieve the vision of our district because finances haven't been there.”

Bob Perry stated, “I think we are firm believers in parent choice and I hope your organization is too, although I haven't seen anything from your organization that makes me believe they do. It bothers me that the RPA seems to be the problem and that if somehow we could wipe that away our problems would go away. I am also a firm believer in competition. I am glad that the RPA might pay their teachers better than the RSD. RPA teachers might put in more hours, I don't know. I don't have a lot of sympathy or empathy for your position.”

Barry Branaugh stated that from a parent standpoint it bothers him that his child's choices are limited.

Cathy Miller thanked both of them for coming. “This will provide an opportunity to get to the facts and information and to share that information to continue the dialogue. I appreciate that you have come now with your questions so that a conversation can occur. We need to determine the best fiscal solution that will compliment what is in the best interests of all students.”

PRESENTATIONS

Insurance Renewal Update

Matt McGowan from Western States Insurance was present to review with the Board the insurance renewal proposal for the 2012-2013 school year. He reported that by keeping district costs down they are able to add the new coverage for Ridgeview High School and pay the same as in 2009. The basic coverage of the policy was reviewed with the Board. Mr. McGowan reported the board is also covered under this policy. Identity Theft is a new coverage that was added this year.

Debbie Laszlo reported there was an error in the printed report provided to the board. The reported savings should be \$11,000 annually not \$41,000.

Bob Perry asked if the \$10,000 coverage is enough to cover the district in the event of computer virus damage. Mr. McGowan stated that is just the software limit. If it is a hardware issue there is additional coverage. Debbie Laszlo will consult with Rachel Wenten-Chaney to confirm that \$10,000 software coverage would be adequate.

There was a conversation regarding workers compensation claims in the district. Debbie Laszlo reported that the 2011-2012 school year has been good in relation to the number of claims made. Safety is always at the forefront of their priorities and they have been working with SAIF to address these issues.

Matt McGowan stated that in preparation for the district's insurance renewal, he looked at other providers and no other provider was able to compete with these rates. “When you compare us to other states in the region, we don't pay that much.” Debbie Laszlo reported that she believes PACE is trying to do the best for their members and are working for their clients to try and adopt ways to improve for everyone in their pool. “This is our best option but we are always looking for better rates.” These rates were included when the district adopted their 2012-2013 budget.

There was discussion regarding parents transporting either their students or others to district activities. Debbie Laszlo stated that parents must sign a waiver when they are transporting the students. The waiver releases the district of liability in case of accident/injury.

Matt McGowan, by the request of the Board, spoke to his recommendation regarding Policy JFCJ – Weapons in the District. It is his recommendation to not include the portion of the sentence “or a person who has a valid

license under ORS 166.291 and 166.292.” He further stated that he also checked with the OSBA and they too recommend leaving the language off the policy.

Superintendent Update

Superintendent Mike McIntosh reported on the following:

- During the course of the remodel at RHS a time capsule that was buried in 1979 was uncovered. In the course of the “unearthing” there was water being sprayed and unfortunately the contents got wet. They have spread the contents out and have dried it. He reported that he will take it to the county fair next week and it will be put on display for everyone to see. After the fair it will be placed in a more waterproof container and re-established at some location at RHS. It is believed there is one more time capsule in the rafters so they will be keeping an eye out for that as the remodel continues.
- Currently preparing for the August Administrative Retreat
- Submitted the Achievement Compact to the State of Oregon. Since Oregon received waivers from NCLB, the conversation will elevate to one of more significance. Achievement Compacts are Oregon’s plan to meet the requirement of the federal government.
- Expressed appreciation to Lynn Evans, Martha Hinman and Linda Seeberg who are planning an induction for new certified employees. The new hires are due to retirements and resignations. The induction is scheduled for August 28, 29 and 30th.
- Invited the board members to stop by and get a tour of what is happening at RHS remodel. Provided an update of the various elements of the project.
- Deschutes County Fairgrounds has been secured for RHS registration. That information will be communicated to the parents.

Cathy Miller stated she wanted to recognize the letter the board received from the Heart of Oregon. “This is an example of a tremendous success story.”

Lee Loving stated their office is open on Wednesdays for individual families who would like to see the school. Thursdays are reserved for group tours. To arrange for a tour, please call 541-504-3600.

Jim Erickson asked about the membership of the School Improvement Team that is listed on the organization chart. Superintendent McIntosh stated the team would be made up of school district employees representing many stakeholder groups.

Jim Erickson also asked about the next steps for the Transition Team. He stated that originally the team was charged with being an ongoing voice that would facilitate, as much as possible, Mike’s success. They were also charged with making a recommendation about going out for a superintendent search. Superintendent McIntosh stated that some things need to unfold before that team meets again. He anticipates a meeting will be held late September/early October.

There was discussion with the board members and it was determined that the decision to go out for a superintendent search needs be made before October 24th.

Association Reports

Karen Gray – REA

- Met with Lynn last week and discussed the possibility of developing a mentorship program.
- CLASS/TIF/School Collaboration Grant – PD Team and Evaluation Team have met over the summer to get things identified for School Improvement Wednesdays
- According to the state law regarding achievement compacts each of districts needs to have an advisory committee. The recommendation to be on the team must come from superintendent and REA president. The OEA is going to be offering training for people who want to participate on that committee. Linda Seeberg stated that their initial thinking is there might be a way to blend that requirement with the School Improvement Team because they are both essentially doing the same thing.
- Karen Gray stated she doesn’t have a problem with what the teachers are paid at the RPA – her problem is that if the staff at RPA is adversely affecting the students in RSD because quality teachers are leaving

the district to teach at the RPA. She reported she has never been opposed to RPA. “If you want choice and want a full school year you select the RPA. It is the student choice piece that drives a lot of this conversation.” There is a concern about students who return to the district from the RPA either credit deficient or prior to assessment time which affects test scores in the district. Karen reviewed the questions from the document that she is most concerned with.

- They are concerned about the number of teachers that the district seems to be losing. Karen reported that Lynn Evans was talking about doing exit interviews when a teacher leaves to teach at the RPA or a district in the region. “Some of our best and brightest are leaving the district. When we first started the CLASS Team process other districts had identified priorities such as recruiting and retaining quality teachers. Back then that wasn’t a concern for RSD – it is now.”
- It is important to have these conversations to make sure the RPA students are getting the very best in their learning environment.

Bob Perry stated that he hates the idea the RPA is “bad mouthed.” “I would like to see the day when we become competitive with them because that is in everyone’s best interest to provide the best possible education.”

Karen Gray stated that she wants to make sure that what those students are receiving, that the perks they are receiving, are the same as RSD students.

ACTION ITEMS

Video Surveillance – Ridgeview High School

Superintendent McIntosh stated that the surveillance cameras are a means to manage the facility. “Because of its complexity and size cameras become a great tool to manage the facility.”

Lee Loving, Principal at Ridgeview High School was present to provide the Board with an overview of the proposed system. He stated they are not proposing a system where we will have someone sitting in front of a monitor looking at the cameras. The purpose of the cameras is to be a crime deterrent, protection of the property, and to encourage good behavior among our students. Mr. Loving reviewed the personal experiences he has had with surveillance cameras. “The camera system will be used to encourage good behavior and as an investigative tool.” There was a bid committee that reviewed all of the bids received. This system is a stand-alone system at the high school. It can be viewed on the network by only those who have the password. The system stores all of the data for a 30 day period. Mr. Loving reviewed the abilities of each of the proposed cameras.

Cameras will only be installed in the common/public areas of the school. Cameras will be aimed at restroom entrances but no interior will be able to be seen. No cameras will be installed in classrooms. The weight room is considered a classroom.

Mr. Loving stated that he would like to see cameras added to Redmond High School in phases.

The police and fire departments have instant access to the system. They are very supportive of the system because it will assist them a great deal in the event they need to search the building. The school will not be monitoring the cameras but will have instant access if needed.

Jim Erickson stated this is a wise use of bond savings money. Superintendent McIntosh stated he is convinced this is the standard we should adopt in the district. All secondary schools should have a similar resource.

Bob Perry moved to approve the installation of video surveillance cameras in the designated areas at Ridgeview High School as presented. Ric Little seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Votes: Jim Erickson – yes, Ric Little – yes, AJ Losoya – yes, Bob Perry – yes, Cathy Miller - yes

Resolution 12:061 – Post Issuance Tax Compliance Procedures for Tax Exempt Bonds

The Redmond School District is periodically authorized and empowered by the School Board to issue or refund bonds issued to finance the acquisition, construction, expansion, remodeling, renovation, improvement, furnishing or equipping of school facilities. Federal income tax law requires that issuers of tax-exempt bonds comply with certain post-issuance requirements as listed in the Internal Revenue Code. If adopted by the board, these new procedures will document the steps in place within the district to ensure the preservation of the tax-exempt status of the bonds issued by the District throughout the life of the bonds.

Superintendent McIntosh stated the bond refunding was completed successfully. The net savings is in excess of \$400,000 to benefit the taxpayers over the life of the bond. The average taxpayer will see a couple of cents per \$1000 of value difference in their tax bill. While the savings to individual taxpayers is small, the district felt it was their responsibility to save whatever we could for the taxpayer. “We have been doing what is required by the IRS but we have never made it an actual board action.”

Jim Erickson moved that the School Board approve Resolution 12:061 to adopt written procedures for post bond issuance tax compliance. Ric Little seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Roll Call Votes: Jim Erickson-yes; Ric Little-yes; AJ Losoya – yes; Bob Perry – yes; Cathy Miller - yes

Consent Agenda

- Personnel Changes
- School Board Regular Minutes from June 27, 2012
- Gift to the District

AJ Losoya moved and Bob Perry seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Votes: Jim Erickson-yes; Ric Little-yes; AJ Losoya – yes; Bob Perry – yes; Cathy Miller - yes

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Policy JFCJ – Weapons in the Schools – 2nd Reading

Cathy Miller stated that as the Board discusses this policy if the Board is comfortable with the content, they can move this policy forward as an action item. It was the consensus of the Board to not include the bracketed language regarding ORS.166.291 and 166.292.

Ric Little stated that he is concerned that there isn't language in the policy that would consider intent regarding the possession of a fire arm.

Superintendent McIntosh stated that it is favorable for us to uphold this policy, by its intent, to keep weapons off of school property. In all cases, due process would apply to any situation.

Jim Erickson moved to adopt policy JFCJ – Weapons in the schools as amended without bracketed language. AJ Losoya seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Votes: Jim Erickson-yes; Ric Little-yes; AJ Losoya – yes; Bob Perry – yes; Cathy Miller - yes

Policy JEA – Compulsory Attendance – 1st Reading

Mike McIntosh stated that before the state mandated kindergarten this policy by statute states students are not required to be in school prior to age 7. “We are saying that it is the expectation to enroll the student in kindergarten. If you sign your child up, then we would expect that you follow the compulsory attendance laws. This policy revision allows administrators to enforce attendance expectations.

There was a discussion regarding students who are home schooled and who receives the test scores. Jim Erickson was concerned about who monitors the test scores. Superintendent McIntosh stated that the local ESD

has the responsibility to monitor those students. Cathy Miller, as the RSD representative to the ESD board, will follow-up to ensure that test scores are monitored and if students are not being successful that interventions are in place.

Board members concurred to move this from a discussion item to an action item.

Jim Erickson moved to accept JEA – Compulsory Attendance as presented. Bob Perry seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion: Ric Little asked if by passing this policy regarding attendance does it make it mandatory to accept the students. Superintendent McIntosh reported the state expects us to have five year olds in school. Oregon Revised Statutes have not kept pace with compulsory kindergarten. By 2015 we will have mandatory all day kindergarten.

Votes: Jim Erickson-yes; Ric Little-yes; AJ Losoya – yes; Bob Perry – yes; Cathy Miller - yes

Board Updates

- AJ Losoya reported he has an upcoming vacation
- Cathy Miller – Executive Session on August 8 – she will be out of town but will be on the phone for the meeting

Requests for Agenda Items

- Add work session at the end of the executive session to discuss school visits/parent conversations schedule

ADJOURN

Ric Little moved and AJ Losoya seconded the motion to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Votes: Jim Erickson-Yes; Ric Little-Yes; AJ Losoya – Yes; Bob Perry – Yes; Cathy Miller - Yes

Cathy Miller, School Board Chair

Trish Huspek, Executive Assistant