

Board of Director's Meeting

Minutes-February 9, 2022

OPENING BUSINESS

Opening business called to order by Board Chair Hagerty at 5:30 p.m.

There were no requests for Public Comment on the Executive Session topics.

Convene to Executive Session;

Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (i): To review and evaluate the employment related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public office, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing.

Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (f): To consider records exempt by law from public inspection.

Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (b): To consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or agent, unless he or she requests an open meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board moved to Executive Session in the Board conference room.

OPENING OF PUBLIC SESSION

Public Session was called to order by Board Chair Hagerty at 6:30 pm. Board Chair Hagerty led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

X - Linda Fielder

X - Bill Hagerty, Board Chair

X - Annis Leslie, Board Vice Chair

X - Diane Boisa

X - Shane Stuart

X - Misty Wharton, Superintendent

X - Ken Richwine, High School Principal

X - Chad Holloway, Administrator of Facilities and Alternative Education

X - Megan Kellow, Special Programs Administrator

X - Diane Wilkinson, Nestucca Valley Early Learning Center Director

Patrons, Students and Staff: Daniel DiCrispino, Amy Gianella, Tevin Gianella, Lauren Stuart, Andre Schellhaas, Melanie Merryman, Justin Hartford, Sherry Hartford, Doug Keller, Bobbie Stirling, Ursula McVittie, Liz Kellow, Jeff Schiewe, Kaili Jensen, April Bailey, Raquel Hays, Keith Serven, Kathleen Serven, Kenneth Blackburn, Katie Lane, Ashley Tike, Stacey Hagerty, Heidi Trambley, Kristina Albin, Trish Collins, Vicky Hirsch, Ledbetter family, Julie Love, Brooke Boyd, Esther McDonald, Taylor Whitman, Patrick, Kristen, Macie, Nancy Gardener, Josh Armstrong, Joseph, Colin Stapp, Sharman Ensminger, Manning family, Chrissy Eichelberger, Tim Hirsch, Tracy Whittles, Ahndrea Sousa, Mary Hurliman, Shawn Best

Approval of Agenda –February 9, 2022

MOTION: Annis Leslie 2nd: Shane Stuart AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

COMMUNITY/SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

Student presentation - not present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Before Public Comment began, Mr. Stuart read a letter to the community on behalf of the School Board. Mr. Stuart thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their involvement in the school and the community. The last two years have impacted us all, Mr. Stuart said. Regardless of people's views, Covid has affected all of us and we are all ready for this pandemic to be over. The Board understands the frustrations in the community with all of the mandates in Oregon. The Board would love nothing more than to have control over the decisions we make, Mr. Stuart said. The Board has to look at not just the short term, but the long term effects of the weight our decisions make, he added. To incur fines, lose access to funding sources and liability insurance, and risk the licensure of staff, could have a negative impact on our kids and their future. Mr. Stuart reminded everyone of the power their words carry. He urged everyone to be kind, despite differences, so we create a positive environment for our children. He said the Board has heard the concerns of holding virtual meetings. We have done this the past several months as a mitigation measure, as the numbers of cases continued to rise in our community, he added. The Board understands the difficulty Zoom presents for community members who wish to participate. It is important to the Board to hear the voice of the community. The Board has provided everyone the opportunity to inform us ahead of time with their intent to comment. Additionally, he added, we ask towards the end of our meetings if anyone else would like to talk. Mr. Stuart said hopefully very soon, they can transition back to an in-person format and the process will be much easier for everyone. Mr. Stuart thanks everyone for their dedication to the community.

- Shawn Best is concerned about the district not allowing vaccine exemptions. She is concerned that there will not be any baseball coaches as well as regular volunteers. Shawn asked that the Board consider no masks outside for the children, starting tomorrow. She also expressed concern of virtual meetings, using the technical difficulties at the start of the meeting as an example.
- Kaili Jensen apologized to everyone for having her head in the sand for so long. She feels that the Board does not care about the input of the community. Kaili does not think they realize the hell the kids have been through because most of them do not have children that are current students. If they did, she added, they would surely see the negative impact of their decisions. Kaili also shared her concern about the vaccine exemptions not being accepted for coaches, volunteers and part time employees. This will affect staffing as well as the impact on sports and coaches not being able to coach, she said.
- April Bailey said she hopes this is the Board's "come to Jesus" moment and that they have three choices, resign, recall or repent. Should no positive action be taken, April said she will personally work on filing for a petition to recall Board members. April said there is still a better path, one of repentance and healing.
- Josh Armstrong said he was devastated the other day to see Piper come home very upset. He added that she is a 4.0 student who loves her teachers and has always loved school. He said she was in tears because the school was going back into CDL for the week. Josh said it's not a good environment and she doesn't want to go to school there anymore. Josh added that the school can do better. If they don't, he said, the girls may go elsewhere.
- Tracy Whittles said that all of us have struggled with the pandemic. As a community, we tried to flatten the curve. As time goes on, Tracy said, we have seen division within the community. This district and community needs volunteers. Tracy said that her kids are home schooled but have always been involved in the sports. She and her husband have always volunteered for various organizations. Parents want to be involved and volunteer. Tracy said there is new data of natural immunity. People who have had Covid are now showing antibodies for 20 months, regardless of vaccination status. Tracy said she knows it hard, but she is urging the Board to reconsider vaccination exemptions for volunteers.
- Sherry Hartford said that her husband was denied a religious exemption and cannot coach basketball. The school is a public place she said, and the public are allowed to come and watch the sporting events. Why is it different for a coach, she asked? Denying exemptions will diminish the sports programs. The kids are the ones who ultimately suffer she adds. Sherry asked if they are willing to rewrite the policy and allow exemptions or continue to let sports programs suffer?

CONSENT AGENDA – consolidated motion

- Board Minutes from January 19, 2022
- January 2022 Financial Report
- Ratification of Employment
- Quarterly Statement of Assurance

MOTION: Diane Boisa 2nd: Annis Leslie AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

ACTION /DISCUSSION

- **Recommendation**: Approve – 2022/2023 NWRES D Local Service Plan

This is our annual process of agreeing to participate in the NWRES D Local Service Plan.

MOTION: Linda Fielder 2nd: Shane Stuart AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

- **Recommendation**: Discussion of:

OAR 333-019-1015 – OHA adopted permanent rules requiring face coverings in K-12 settings.

OAR 333-019-1030 – Requiring school and school-based program staff, volunteers, etc. provide proof of vaccination or medical or religious exemption.

Board Chair Hagerty read aloud. Shane Stuart explained that nothing has changed regarding face coverings. The temporary rule expired and has been moved to a permanent rule. It is a state law and there are consequences for not following state laws. The same goes for the vaccination law, Mr. Stuart said. It applies to any teachers, coaches or volunteers on school grounds. This does not apply to things such as parent/ teacher conferences, concerts or sporting events. Once the mask mandate is lifted Mr. Stuart said, it may impact exemptions and they may be harder to get after March.

Board Chair Hagerty added that they are going to follow State laws. He adds that he doesn't like it either, but they have to follow the laws. Mr. Hagerty added, that the next meeting could be in-person.

Diane Boisa comments on the last open Board meeting they had. There were a lot of people who were not wearing masks. How is the Board supposed to handle people who will not follow the rules?

- **Recommendation:** Approve – Coastal Career Technical Coalition Foundation Board of Directors effective at the organizational meeting of the (CCTFF).

Explanation: As Discussed last month, we are moving forward in coordinating with community partners to begin to establish an apprenticeship CTE program. These community partners have agreed to serve a term on the CCTFF Board, for a one-year term. To be reviewed annually.

Superintendent Wharton explained that Mr. Holloway has put together a group of people who are willing to serve a one-year appointment to the board. Approval will happen every year and the can change board members as needed each year. The first meeting is tentatively set for the beginning of March.

MOTION: Annis Leslie 2nd: Diane Boisa AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

INFORMATION / DIRECTOR QUESTIONS

Superintendent Wharton talked about the plan for February 18, which was originally scheduled to be a half day. It will now be a full day and will increase our instructional time.

Ms. Wharton shared that they are getting a budget committee team together.

Ms. Wharton talked about the community playground. They are working on establishing a park like setting, that can be enjoyed by the community after hours and on the weekends.

They are closing out the K8 bond work. There is a healthy contingency that will be used for the High School CTE program. There will be a Board work session on February 23, 2022 at 5:30 pm to discuss different plans for the next phases of the CTE program.

Board Chair Hagerty thanked everyone who participated and spoke at the meeting tonight. He also thanked the teachers and staff for all they do. He said hopefully, this will be coming to an end soon. He does appreciate everyone's opinions, he added.

Sherry Hartford asked how can religious exemptions be allowed for some staff and not for others? How can you deny someone's religious beliefs? How do you decide who's to grant?

Ms. Wharton answered, only full time employees are the ones the district is taking responsibility for. They are not deciding, that is the current criteria-being a full time employee.

Bill Hagerty thanked everyone for participating, and suggested that people talk to their legislature.

FURTHER BUSINESS

With no further business, Board Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 7:29 pm.