Minutes in Brief

SOUTHERN OREGON EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING,
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Southern Oregon Education Service District Board of Directors was held Wednesday, February 18, 2015 in the downstairs conference room of the ESD's Medford office located at 101 North Grape Street, Medford, Oregon. At 7:00 p.m., Chairman Applen called the meeting to order at which time he led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

Attendance

Board members in attendance were Greg Applen, Lori Goodman-Vogel, Jim Harrington, Doug McKinley, Christine Norton-Cotts, and Paul Yates. Geoff Marx was in attendance via IVC from the SOESD Klamath Falls office.

Board members Steve Schultz and DonnaJean Wendle were absent.

Also in attendance from the SOESD staff were Jessica Bach, Scott Beveridge, Howard George, Mark Moskowitz, Brendan O'Neill, Susan Peck, Craig Singleton, and Scott Perry, superintendent/clerk.

Karen Singleton and Kelly Singleton were in attendance as guests during the Employee Recognition portion of the meeting.

Comments from the Associations

Brendan O'Neill, OSEA Chapter 104 President, informed the Board that he and OSEA representatives have been involved in conversations with state legislators to advocate for education funding. Mr. O'Neill remarked that he expected there would be challenges and changes ahead, and he emphasized the need for labor and management to continue working together to problem-solve and address the challenges.

There were no representatives in attendance from the licensed association.

Statements from the Audience

No statements were made by members of the audience.

Requests to Speak to Agenda Items

There were no requests to speak to an agenda item.

Employee Recognition

Craig Singleton, teacher in the Program for Visually Impaired, was recognized and presented the award for outstanding performance.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Member Harrington to approve all items on the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Member McKinley and unanimously carried. The consent agenda consisted of:

A. Approval of Agenda
B. Approval of Minutes, January 21, 2015 Regular Meeting
C. Personnel Report
D. Financial Report

Communication

Superintendent Perry reviewed his schedule for the months of February, March, and April. He noted his calendar included bi-monthly conference calls with Senator Alan Bates, Representative Peter Buckley, and area superintendents during the legislative session. Also noted were the following:

- February 12 – Superintendent Perry met with Todd Bloomquist of the Medford School District to discuss strategies for increasing student attendance.
- February 12 – Local philanthropic organizations and educators convened in Grants Pass on this date for the Jefferson Funders Forum Retreat. Nancy Golden provided the keynote address and representatives of the Regional Achievement Collaborative reported on ongoing initiatives.
- February 17 – Superintendent Perry and Director Susan Peck visited Life Skills Classrooms at the Grants Pass School District.
- February 23 – Superintendent Perry and several area superintendents are scheduled to meet with ten legislators from Southern Oregon in Salem on this date as part of the OSBA/COSA Legislative Day.

Education

A. Board Member Reports
   - Classroom Visits – Member Goodman-Vogel provided a report of her recent visits to the PDHH classroom at Mae Richardson Elementary and the CARE classroom at Howard Elementary.
   - OSBA Labor and Employment Workshop – Member Norton-Cotts provided a brief report from her attendance at the OSBA Labor and Employment Regional Workshop on February 11, 2015. The overall message stressed during the training was the importance of keeping good documentation, being a good listener, and asking clarifying questions.

B. SOESD's Program for Visually Impaired (PVI) and Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (PDHH) – Mark Moskowitz, Special Programs Coordinator, provided a report and a photo slide show from recent field trips in both programs. On

February 6, 2015, students served by PVI participated in Science Discovery Day at the ScienceWorks Museum in Ashland. The students met with "Dr. Science" and participated in sound-based science activities. On February 13-15, mid-elementary to high school aged students served by PDHH travelled to the state capitol and the Oregon School for the Deaf. The primary goals for this field trip were to provide an opportunity: 1) for students to participate in an interpreter-signed tour of the legislature and 2) for younger students to see older students compete in the annual Brain Bowl academic challenge. The students from Southern Oregon took fifth place in this year's Brain Bowl. The younger students came back enthused and eager to participate when they are old enough. Mr. Moskowitz also shared a letter from a parent of a former student expressing gratitude for the PVI services her daughter received while they were residents of Pinehurst.

Business Services

There were no business items presented.

Administration

A. Employee Appreciation Weeks
   - 2014-2015 SOESD Resolution #11 – Classified Appreciation Week, March 2-6, 2015
   - 2014-2015 SOESD Resolution #12 – Licensed Appreciation Week, May 4-8, 2015

   It was moved by Member Yates and seconded by Member Norton-Cotts to approve 2014/2015 SOESD Resolutions #11 and 12. The motion carried by unanimous board action.

B. Licensed Bargaining and Status of Agreement – Superintendent Perry informed the board that administration would convene its bargaining team to review a proposal received from representatives of the licensed association. Mr. Perry reported that the basic economic elements of the proposal mirrored the agreement reached with classified staff. Additional elements in the proposal will require further discussion.

C. Bargaining Teams for Classified and Licensed Bargaining – Superintendent Perry reported that SOESD administration will include the following staff on the district's bargaining team:
   Classified – Scott Perry, Howard George, Jessica Bach, and Scott Beveridge
   Licensed – Scott Perry, Howard George, Jessica Bach, and Agnes Lee-Wolfe.

   Board members were encouraged to provide representation on the two bargaining teams. It was moved by Member McKinley,

seconded by Member Harrington, and passed by unanimous board action to include Doug McKinley on the district's classified bargaining team and Greg Applen and Christine Norton-Cotts on the district's licensed bargaining team for 2015-2016.

D. Eagle Point School District's Decision on Withdrawal – Superintendent Perry reported that the Eagle Point School District had decided against withdrawing from SOESD services for the 2015-2016 school year. Mr. Perry informed the board that he and the directors had met with Eagle Point School District administrators prior to that board's decision. The Eagle Point School District administration expressed concern about the cost of special education services and stated that they will consider providing more of their own services in 2015-2016.

E. Local Service Plan Update – Superintendent Perry provided an overview of the timeline and process for local school district approval of the SOESD 2015-2016 Local Service Plan. Mr. Perry reported that he had attended board meetings of the Medford School District and Three Rivers School District to answer questions regarding the plan. Business Manager George attended the meeting of the Butte Falls School District's board.

F. Governor's Visit and Community Signing of Declarations of Cooperation – Superintendent Perry provided a report of former Governor Kitzhaber's visit to Southern Oregon on January 23, 2015. During this visit, the governor attended a signing ceremony at the Medford Education Center hosted by SORS and SOELS. Over 200 attended this event where local educators and community partners signed Declarations of Cooperation outlining their commitments to improving kindergarten readiness and student post-secondary success.

G. Legislative Update – Superintendent Perry reviewed COSA's draft comparison of proposed funding levels. COSA's position and message is that the legislative proposed funding level is insufficient to meet the state's 40-40-20 education goals.

   Mr. Perry also reported that SB 536 has been introduced in the legislative session. This bill, if passed, would provide funds for ESDs and school districts to conduct efficiency studies for the purpose of achieving efficiencies through identifying regional service delivery systems.

H. Superintendent Vacancy – Superintendent Perry has announced his intent to retire effective June 30, 2015. At the request of the Board, SOESD employees, local superintendents, and community partners were asked to complete a survey specific to the desired strengths most important to the role of superintendent. A summary of those survey results was reviewed, and discussion took place regarding the process and timeline for filling the position of SOESD Superintendent. The Board discussed options which included posting the position in-house to determine if there are internal candidates and, if so, reviewing any applications received during executive session on March 18. A wider search could be conducted after that date if it is determined that no internal applicants will be considered. After further discussion, it was moved by Member Harrington to direct administration to advertise the superintendent position in-district only, with a March 13, 2015 deadline for internal candidates to submit applications. The motion was seconded by Member McKinley and unanimously approved by the board.

Miscellaneous

A. Next Regular Meeting, Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 7:00 p.m., Southern Oregon ESD, Medford Office

B. OAESD Conference, May 14-16, 2015, Eagle Crest Resort, Redmond, Oregon. Board members were asked to let Jessica Bach know of their interest in attending. Board members Goodman-Vogel and Norton-Cotts stated they would like to attend.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Applen adjourned the meeting of the Southern Oregon ESD Board of Directors at 8:36 p.m.

DonnaJean Wendle, Acting Chair

Scott Perry
Superintendent/Clerk