

Minutes in Brief

SOUTHERN OREGON EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING,
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Southern Oregon Education Service District Board of Directors was held Wednesday, January 18, 2017 in the downstairs conference room of the ESD's Medford office located at 101 North Grape Street, Medford, Oregon. At 6:00 p.m., Chair Wendle called the meeting to order at which time she led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Board members in attendance were Jim Harrington, Lorelei Goodman-Vogel, Dave Jensen, Christine Norton-Cotts, and DonnaJean Wendle. Jamie Jennings attended via IVC from Klamath Community College.

Board members Greg Applen, Doug McKinley, and Paul Yates were absent.

In attendance from the SOESD staff were Jessica Bach, Melia Biedscheid, Howard George, Susan Peck, and Scott Beveridge, superintendent/clerk.

Dean Wendle, RCC Board of Directors, was a guest in attendance. Ahrien Johnson, OSEA Field Representative, attended the latter portion of the meeting.

Comments from the Associations

There were no representatives present from either of the labor associations.

Requests to Address Agenda Items

There were no requests to address an agenda item.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of Minutes
- C. Personnel Report
- D. Financial Report

Member Harrington moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Jensen and passed by unanimous board action.

Education

- A. AESA Annual Convention – Board Member Report
Member Norton-Cotts provided a report on her attendance at the AESA Conference which took place in Savannah, Georgia on December 1-3, 2016. She noted attending sessions on advancing cultural awareness, special education regional leadership, and acquiring free resources through the Library of Congress.

- B. Overview of Career Technical Education (CTE)
Brian Robin, CTE Coordinator, provided a program update and answered questions from the Board members. He explained that the passage of Measure 98 means changes to CTE programs statewide, although it has yet to be determined how the legislation will be implemented. Mr. Robin reported that thirteen Southern Oregon teachers are currently going through the process to obtain CTE endorsement. The addition of those teachers will make Region 8 the largest in the state, with 62 Programs of Study and 81 teachers supporting CTE programs in Jackson, Josephine, and Klamath Counties. The CTE department facilitates the Southern Oregon Career and Technical Education Consortium (SOCTEC), a consortium of each school district in the region with a high school. Superintendent Beveridge noted that a meeting will take place on January 19, 2017 to establish the process if a district were to withdraw from the consortium.

Administration

- A. 2017-2018 Southern Oregon ESD Local Service Plan/Resolution Services
The 2017-2018 Local Service Plan was presented for the Board's approval. Superintendent Beveridge reviewed a PowerPoint presentation which he had shared with the region's superintendents during their meeting to finalize the formation of the plan. He described the cooperation among the superintendents as they approached building a plan all could agree upon, balancing flexibility and stability in the delivery of services throughout the region.

Superintendent Beveridge summarized the proposed changes to the 2017-2018 service offerings, outlining shifts in funding from areas with historically declining demand and increases in core services in areas of high mutual demand based on input from the area superintendents. The 2017-2018 Local Service Plan includes increased funding for College and Career for All (CC4A), Regional Achievement Collaborative (RAC), Migrant Education training, and Electronic Services. The proposed plan shifts Oregon Online from core services. This change is being made due to historically declining enrollment numbers in the program and participation by few districts. The delivery schedule of Courier Services will be reduced, as requested by the superintendents. Mr. Beveridge noted that discussions with the superintendents will continue to solidify the array of services to be offered in the core.

It was moved by Member Harrington to approve the 2017-2018 Southern Oregon ESD Local Service Plan/Resolution Services. The motion was seconded by Member Jennings and approved unanimously by the board.

B. Withdrawal and Buy-Back of SOESD Services

Superintendent Beveridge noted there had been a renewed commitment made by the area's superintendents to work synergistically together throughout the region. Mr. Beveridge reported the majority consensus by the region's superintendents was that any district withdrawing from the ESD would not be offered a model to buy-back services, and that Grants Pass School District would not be offered a buy-back model after July 1, 2018. He explained that ORS 334.019 provides for a withdrawn district to rejoin the ESD by providing notice to the ESD's board of directors by November 1. The withdrawn district then becomes a member of the ESD on July 1 of the following year. By statute, Grants Pass School District cannot rejoin the ESD until July 1, 2018. Discussion will continue with the superintendents to recommend the 2017/2018 buy-back model for Grants Pass School District, currently the only withdrawn district in SOESD's service area. The buy-back model offered to Grants Pass School District may be identical to the 2017/2018 Local Service Plan, essentially creating equity for all districts in the region.

It was moved by Member Harrington, seconded by Member Goodman-Vogel that any component district that withdraws from SOESD on or after July 1, 2017 will not be offered an alternative model to buy-back services. After July 1, 2018, Grants Pass School District, as the only currently withdrawn school district, will no longer be offered an alternative to buy-back services. The motion passed unanimously by the board.

C. Legislative Update

Superintendent Beveridge reported that the Governor's proposed budget had been released. It is expected that the budget presented by the co-chairs of the Joint Committee of the Oregon Ways and Means will be significantly less than the Governor's proposal, as it will remove assumptions in the Governor's budget that are based on anticipated and potentially unrealized revenue.

Business Services

Update – Business Software Conversion

Business Manager George provided an update on the transition to Infinite Visions financial software which is underway. SOESD's Accounts Payable department and payroll went "live" with the new program beginning on January 1, 2017. Mr. George explained that some adaptations have been necessary as the software is built for districts using a modified accrual accounting system and SOESD is a cash basis entity. Mr. George further reported that the district will move to a single system-generated facsimile signature for all checks. Superintendent Beveridge's or Business Manager George's signature will be printed on checks generated by the program. Manually generated checks will continue to require two authorizing signatures.

Miscellaneous

- A. Next Regular SOESD Board Meeting, Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Southern Oregon ESD, Medford Office.
- B. OSBA Labor and Employment Workshop, Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 1:00 to 8:00 p.m., Southern Oregon ESD Medford Office.

The OSBA Labor and Employment Workshop conflicts with the regularly scheduled meeting of the SOESD Board of Directors. No changes will be made to the regular meeting schedule.

- C. Jackson County Elections Calendar:

February 4, 2017 – First day for candidates to file
 March 16, 2017 – Deadline for candidates to file
 March 20, 2017 – Voter’s pamphlet filing deadline
 May 16, 2017 – Special Election

The following board members’ terms expire on June 30, 2017 and will be included on the ballot for the May 16, 2017 special election:

DonnaJean Wendle	Zone 1 / Grants Pass and Three Rivers
Jim Harrington	Zone 2 / Three Rivers
Christine Norton-Cotts	Zone 5 / Ashland, Phoenix-Talent, Pinehurst
Greg Applen	Zone 6 / Medford
Paul Yates	Zone 7 / Medford
Lorelei Goodman-Vogel	Zone 8 / Central Point and Rogue River

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Wendle adjourned this meeting of the Southern Oregon ESD Board of Directors at 7:56 p.m.

Christine Norton-Cotts, Acting-Chair
 Southern Oregon ESD Board of Directors

Scott Beveridge, Superintendent