

Ashland School District No. 5, Jackson County, Oregon - The Board of Directors met in regular session on October 9, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the Ashland Council Chambers. Present were:

Heidi Parker	)	Chair
Ruth Alexander	)	
Amy Amrhein	)	Board Members
Mat Marr	)	
Amy Patton	)	

Juli Di Chiro, Superintendent  
Pamela Lucas, Business Manager  
Molly McGuire, Student Representative  
Trisha Mullinnix, Certified Representative  
Media Representative

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chair Parker.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Check

A roll of the board was taken and all members were present.

IV. Welcome Visitors

Chair Parker welcomed visitors.

V. Consent Agenda

1. Approve minutes of regular session of September 11, work session of September 16, and work session of September 25, 2006.

2. Personnel

a. Employment Recommendations

Lynn Fain was recommended as a temporary full-time primary teacher at Walker Elementary replacing Lynnette Kelly who is retiring.

Nan Knights was recommended as a temporary .80 kindergarten teacher at Walker Elementary. This is a new position funded by the general fund and title funds.

Peggy Paver was recommended as a temporary .17 Dance Teacher at Ashland High School. She has filled this position as a contracted service.

b. Retirement Requests

Lynnette Kelly submitted a request to retire effective October 31, 2006. It was recommended that her request be approved as presented.

Director Amrhein moved that the Board approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Marr seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board awarded Martha Howard-Bullen, on behalf of the Howard Foundation, a Certificate of Appreciation for its support of the Ashland High School Student Health Center.

Tracy Harding, a Bike and Peds Commission member, reported that the Walking Wednesday was very successful this year. She expressed parent concerns of student safety while walking.

VI. Hear Public Requests not a part of the agenda

There were no public requests.

VII. Reports

1. Student and Staff Representative Reports

Molly McGuire, student representative, reported on a poetry reading, a Math Team meet, athletic events, leadership activities in preparation for homecoming, the AHS Scavenger Hunt, and the Fall blood drive. A Jazz Band Concert will be held on October 31, and the first edition of the Rogue News is scheduled to be distributed that day.

Trisha Mullinnix, certified representative, reported on parent conferences and field trips.

2. Bond Campaign Committee Update

Marlee Oddo reported on the RVTV show for the bond campaign which is available on the district website, lawn signs, volunteer callers, endorsement ads, and tours of the facilities. She expressed appreciation for the community's support.

Paul Copeland expressed the importance of this bond since it is a 12 year bond. He expressed concern for the district's muddled vision of what it actually wants to do with this bond.

3. Class Size and Enrollment Report and Information About Entering and Exiting Students Throughout the District

Superintendent Di Chiro reported an overall decline of 10 students from last school year. She reported on class sizes explaining the increase of 1 student per class across the district. Superintendent Di Chiro finally reviewed the interdistrict transfers which indicate a net of 104 students coming into the district.

4. Strategic Planning Summit Update

Chair Parker gave an update on the Strategic Planning process that was held on September 16. The Board has decided to create a Design Team to meet over the next six weeks to help identify guiding principles and priorities as reflected in ideas generated from the summit. The community will have the opportunity to provide input for the Design Team's draft on December 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ashland High School Library. In January and February, the Board will adopt the final version of the vision missions, guiding principles and strategic directions. District administrators will develop an action plan that aligns with the AQEM, Continuous Improvement Plan, and the strategic directions. When the process is complete, the district will have a single document, the revised AQEM document.

5. District Financial Report

Pam Lucas reviewed the financial status of the district explaining that we are on schedule.

6. Board Report

Board members reported on bargaining, the Youth Activity Levy, the Bellview site, Bond tours, the Strategic Planning Meeting, the upcoming election, the Bond Campaign, Ashland Appreciative Inquiry

Meetings, a Music Department Benefit, the John Muir School and the Soccer stadium.

7. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Di Chiro reported on school safety explaining that the Administrative Team has reviewed the school safety plans. She further reported on state-wide district report cards, which will be reviewed by the Board in December. Finally, the next RVTV School House will present the John Muir School.

The Board took a break at 8:24 p.m. and reconvened at 8:29 p.m.

VIII. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

IX. New Business

1. Request for Proposal for Project Manager

Superintendent Di Chiro presented the Request for Proposals for Project Manager to the Board for consideration, and explained that a Review Committee will be established to read the completed proposals. Candidates will then be interviewed for the position. The Board made minor revisions to the Request for Proposal form.

Completed proposals will be reviewed the week of November 27, and interviews will held on November 30 and December 1. Directors Alexander and Amrhein agreed to serve on the Review Committee.

Director Amrhein moved that the Board approve the Request for Proposal for Project Management as amended. Director Alexander seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Appoint Budget Committee Member

Director Amrhein moved that the Board appoint Bill Anderson to serve as budget committee member from now through June 30, 2009. Director Alexander seconded and the motion passed with the following roll call vote: Alexander –yes; Amrhein – yes; Marr – yes; Parker – yes; Patton – abstain.

3. Adopt Budget Calendar

Director Marr moved that the Board approve the 2006-07 Budget Calendar as presented. Director Amrhein seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Board Policy Revisions – First Reading

New Board Policy DJC/DJCA, Public Contracting Rules and Procedures, was presented for first reading. The Board made minor changes to the proposed policy.

Director Alexander moved that the Board approve new board policy DJC/DJCA for first reading as amended. Director Patton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Resolutions Regarding Public Contracting Rules and Procedures

This item was tabled until the related policies are finalized.

6. Resolutions on Ballot Measures 41, 45 and 48

The Board reviewed the impacts of Ballot Measures 41, 45 and 48 on public education and considered and amended the following resolutions.

**Resolution #2006-09  
Federal Deduction**

**WHEREAS**, Ballot Measure 41 will cause a retroactive reduction in tax collections for the current (2005-07) biennium that would require a budget cut of nearly \$150 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed ballot measure would have a substantial negative impact on available revenues for future spending on public services, including a reduction of nearly \$800 million in available funds for the 2007-09 state budget; and

**WHEREAS**, a reduction of this nature would likely lead to a proportionate cut to K-12 public education by more than \$300 million as well as cuts to human services, police and prisons and higher education; and

**WHEREAS**, the reduction in revenues for the Ashland School District, because of Ballot Measure 41, could be approximately 8.7 percent of the overall school district budget. That amount is the equivalent of 13.5 certified and 9 classified staff positions.

**WHEREAS**, such cuts to any and all public services would lead directly to a dramatic reduction in valuable services available to students, the elderly, and the general Oregon citizenry.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Ashland School District Board of Directors is opposed to Ballot Measure 41; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Ashland School District Board of Directors strongly urges parents, staff and community members to actively oppose Ballot Measure 41.

**Resolution #2006-10  
Legislative Term Limits**

**WHEREAS**, Ballot Measure 45 will directly lead to a dramatic loss of institutional history and continuity in the Oregon Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, such a loss will likely lead to increased partisanship and will foster narrow agendas among short-time legislators; and

**WHEREAS**, a decrease in continuity and an increase in partisanship will lead to more fracturing and less opportunity to have continued reasoned debate about the nature of school funding in Oregon.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Ashland School District Board of Directors is opposed to Ballot Measure 45; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Ashland School District Board of Directors strongly urges parents, staff and community members to actively oppose Ballot Measure 45.

**Resolution #2006-11  
State Spending Limit**

**WHEREAS**, state economists have estimated that if an inflation-plus-population measure similar to Measure 48 had been in effect since 1990, Oregon would have 25 percent less revenue today; and if this measure was applied to the 2007-09 biennium, spending would be reduced by \$4.9 billion; and

**WHEREAS**, this type of measure is an inappropriate limit on spending and is likely to undermine adequate services for public schools in Oregon, for at least the following reasons:

The cost of certain state services such as health care grows much faster than inflation; and since public schools compete with health care services for state resources, this will likely reduce funding for public schools;

The senior citizen population – another group served with public services – is growing faster than the general population rate and will likely compete with public schools for adequate funding;

Certain elements of school costs, such as fuel and employee health insurance, grow faster than basic inflation;

In recent years, the number of students with special needs and English language learners has grown faster than the general student population, requiring additional resources that outpace inflation;

Even in times of economic recovery, if state resources can only increase by inflation plus population, these resources will not, in real terms, return to pre-recession levels; and

The measure will limit state bond programs and therefore have a negative impact on the state's credit rating; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Colorado, which adopted a population-plus-inflation limit in 1992, has experienced many problems leading to voter suspension of the measure in 2005.

**WHEREAS**, the reduction in revenues for the Ashland School District, because of Ballot Measure 48, beginning in the next biennium could be 15 percent of the overall school district budget. That amount is the equivalent of 23 certified and 16 classified staff positions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Ashland School District Board of Directors is opposed to the adoption of any measure limiting increases in state spending on public services by an inflation-plus-population formula or other arbitrary factor, and is actively opposed to Ballot Measure 48.

Director Patton moved that the Board approve Resolutions #2006-09 and #2006-11 as amended. Director Alexander seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Memorandum of Understanding Between the Ashland School District and Southern Oregon Bargaining Council Regarding Extra Duty Stipends

Superintendent Di Chiro presented proposed Memorandum of Understanding #2006-02 Between the Southern Oregon Bargaining Council and the Ashland School District regarding extra duty stipends.

Director Alexander moved that the Board approve Memorandum of Understanding #2006-02 Between the Southern Oregon Bargaining Council and the Ashland School District regarding extra duty stipends as presented. Director Amrhein seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Adopt Long-Range Facilities Planning Timeline

This item was tabled.

X. Announcements and Appointments

An Executive Session will be held on October 13, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. in the District Board Room in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (d) to discuss bargaining.

The Oregon School Board Association Annual Convention will be held in Portland on November 10 – 12, 2006.

The next regular session will be held on Monday, November 13, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the Ashland Council Chambers.

A Budget Meeting will be held on Monday, November 27, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the District Board Room to receive an update on the district's financial status and discuss development of the 2007-08 proposed budget.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:23 p.m.

Jeanne Peterson, Executive Secretary

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Chair

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Clerk