

Ashland School District No. 5, Jackson County, Oregon – The Board of Directors met in regular session June 2, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Ashland Council Chambers. Present were:

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

Juli Di Chiro, Superintendent
Eleanor Buell, Student Representative
Amy Korth, Classified Representative
Toni Knox, Certified Representative
District Administrators
Media Representative
Jeanne Peterson, Administrative Asst

I. Call to Order

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Check

All board members were present.

IV. Welcome Visitors and Acknowledgments

A. Vision and Mission Statement

Board members read parts of the vision and mission statements.

B. AHS Baseball Champions

Don Senestraro and the Ashland High School Baseball Team were present to receive recognition for winning the state championship.

B. AMS Band Program

Jenifer Carstensen and her band students were present to speak of their first place experience at the Southern Oregon Band Festival.

V. Consent Agenda

It was recommended that the Board approve the consent agenda as presented.

- A. Approve minutes of Budget Committee meeting of April 29, CPAC meeting of May 5, budget committee meeting of May 6, executive session of May 9, regular session of May 12, budget committee meeting of May 13, and work and executive sessions of May 16, 2008.

The minutes were recommended for approval as presented.

B. Personnel

I. Employment Recommendations

Suzanne Pindell was recommended as a .75 probationary teacher at Willow Wind. This is a new position funded by the general fund.

C. Approve Bonding of Superintendent and Business Manager

Currently, the superintendent and business manager are each bonded in the amount of \$100,000. The premiums on these bonds are \$275 each. It was recommended that the Board approve the bonding of the superintendent and business manager as presented and that the business manager be responsible to acquire those bonds.

Director Patton made corrections to the minutes of the Work Session of May 5, 2008. Director Parker moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Director Alexander seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Hear Public Requests not a part of the agenda

There were no public requests.

VII. Reports

A. Student, Staff and Representative Reports

Amy Korth, classified representative, reported on the move of the Bellview School Program to the Ashland Middle School site. She spoke of activities that will be held on the last day of school at the various sites, and the reduction of hours for some of the cafeteria staff for next year.

B. Overview of AHS Reform Process

Jeff Schlecht, Bill Gabriel, and Kathi Bowen-Jones reported on the high school reform process to be used next year.

Mr. Schlecht spoke on the interview process for hiring a consultant to help with the reform process. Mr. Gabriel spoke on the importance of the comprehensive high school and the challenge of increased graduation requirements. Ms. Bowen-Jones spoke on the stress level of students experience during their school career. Juli Di Chiro reported on the basic outline of the work to be done over the next two years. The budget proposal for the 2008-09 school year totals \$60,000. If the Board approves of this proposal, the administration will work on determining how to fund the project since it was not budgeted.

Director Alexander asked how the district will deal with the number of teachers we will have retiring within the next five years. Mr. Schlecht explained that we may be able to utilize the experience of retired teachers by having some of them serve as mentors to the new teachers.

Director Parker expressed strong support for the proposal.

Director Patton encouraged those working on hiring a consultant to use all of the resources available. She further explained that she felt it would be important to hire someone who has experience with declining enrollment.

Juli Di Chiro asked for direction from the Board in terms of the administration proceeding on hiring a consultant and developing a budget and a more detailed plan.

The Board was very supportive of the proposal in concept and the administration will continue work on this project. Juli Di Chiro will keep the Board updated on the progress.

The Board will designate a board representative to the steering committee in July. Until then, Mat Marr will be the interim representative. This item will be on the August board agenda.

C. Sodexo Annual Report

Jeff Ashman gave a PowerPoint presentation on the annual report of the District Food Program, and responded to questions of the Board.

D. Project Management Update

Gary DeCock, Project Manager, provided an update on school projects.

E. District Financial Report

Since the meeting occurred so early in the month, a financial report was not available.

F. Title II-A Compliance Letter

Juli Di Chiro reported on Title II-A compliance as it relates to districtwide Adequate Yearly Progress and our annual measurable objective for highly qualified teachers. The district has not made adequate yearly progress for the past three years, and we have not met the requirement of 100% of the staff being highly qualified. We have issues with the highly qualified requirements for high school alternative education and special education teachers. The district has struggled with meeting the highly qualified standards, because we believe our programs are effective.

Superintendent Di Chiro spoke of the mandatory meeting this month with the Oregon Department of Education. At that meeting, we will have to develop a professional development plan to make all of our teachers highly qualified. At some point, we may have to make a program decision on our alternative programs because we cannot expect our teachers to be endorsed in every subject.

G. Superintendent Report

Juli Di Chiro reported on the scholarship awards, the Bellview Groundbreaking ceremony, AHS graduation, and staff who are retiring.

VIII. Unfinished Business - There was no unfinished business.

IX. New Business

A. Approve Bellview Construction Contract

It was recommended that the Bellview Construction Contract be awarded to Adroit Construction in the amount of \$10,075,000.

Director Massie moved that the Board award the Bellview Construction Contract to Adroit Construction in the amount of \$10,075,000 as recommended. Director Parker seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

B. ASD Communication

Juli Di Chiro reviewed what Amy Amrhein has been working on for the district – web site redesign, district newsletter, and bond project communications.

Amy Amrhein reviewed the proposed communication plan. She summarized four critical strategies: (1) keep website up to date; (2) publish school newsletters 4 times a year; (3) publish district newsletter 3 times per year; (4) provide press releases periodically.

Amy Patton expressed a desire to develop a communications plan that would be sustainable within the existing budget and not pay for a consultant. Strategies to accomplish that include: (1) Have a volunteer write the district newsletter; (2) Have a student assist with webmaster duties.

Director Massie identified the following priorities for communications: bond, website redesign and communications with the community.

Director Marr identified the following priorities for communications: bond, task force at AHS, second language task force, internal communications, website, AHS newsletter, letters to the editor. He felt the annual seminar should be tabled until the Fall of 2009.

Director Parker identified the following priorities for communications: district website, newsletter and press releases, hold a community meeting annually.

Director Patton identified the following priorities for communications: serve as a coordinating role, figure out how to use resources to do what we need done. She asked that we develop ways to announce district job openings, let students know about the graduate outcomes, and inform students of RCC and SOU activities.

Director Alexander identified the following priorities for communications: inform the public, internal communications.

Juli Di Chiro and Amy Amrhein will develop a proposal with related costs and report to the Board in August.

C. Resolution Regarding Volunteer Workers' Compensation

The following resolution was recommended for Board approval.

**JACKSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
RESOLUTION #2008-06**

**A RESOLUTION EXTENDING WORKERS'
COMPENSATION COVERAGE TO VOLUNTEERS OF
JACKSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5.**

WHEREAS, the Jackson County School District No. 5 elects the following:

Pursuant to ORS 656.031, workers' compensation coverage will be provided to the classes of volunteer workers as indicated below and listed on the Volunteer Election Form.

Board Members – Public Officials on unpaid boards will be covered only for administrative and clerical functions while performing their authorized duties as elected officials.

Other Volunteers – Non-public safety volunteers and board members volunteering for duties other than administration and clerical functions will use the Volunteer Election Form to keep track of their hours and have their assumed payroll reported in the correct Class Code for all their types of work using Oregon minimum wage.

A roster of active board members and volunteers will be kept monthly for reporting purposes and submitted to SDAO quarterly or more frequently upon request.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Jackson County School District No. 5 to provide workers' compensation coverage as indicated above.

Director Massie moved that the Jackson County School District No. 5 approve Resolution #2008-06 extending workmens compensation coverage to volunteers in Jackson County School District No. 5. Director Alexander seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

D. Summary of Superintendent's Evaluation

The Board reviewed a summary of the superintendent's evaluation for the 2007-08 school year. The Board's consensus is that Juli Di Chiro's performance is excellent, and the continued success of our district is in large part due to her outstanding financial management strategies, her vision for educational excellence for all students, and her collaborative approach to labor management.

Director Alexander moved that the Board approve the superintendent's evaluation as presented. Director Parker seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

X. Board Report

Board members reported on the district newsletter, high school scholarship awards and the generosity of the community, construction site tours, and the bond executive oversight committee.

XI. Announcements and Appointments

- A. The District Retirement Party will be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 4:00 pm at the Standing Stone.
- B. The Board will hold a Work Session on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the District Board Room to conduct a self-evaluation.
- C. A Capital Projects Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Monday, June 9, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Board Room.
- D. The Board will hold a Special Session on June 16, 2008 at 5:00 pm in the District Board Room to approve the 2008-09 Budget Document. A Work Session will follow to discuss the strategic plan action plans.
- E. A Capital Projects Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Monday, July 7, 2008, at 7:00 pm in the District Board Room.
- F. The next regular session will be held on Monday, July 14, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ashland Council Chambers.
- G. The Board will hold a work session on Monday, July 28, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Board Room to discuss bond oversight during construction.

H. A Board Member Lead Team Retreat will be held on August 20, 2008. The time and location is to be determined.

XII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jeanne Peterson, Administrative Assistant.

Board Chair

Clerk