

**Minutes of the Canby School District
Board of Directors
Workshop Session**

January 3, 2008

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Andy Rivinus called the Workshop Session to order at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 3, 2008 in the Canby School District office, Meridian room. Board members present were Andy Rivinus, Marty McCullough, Rod Beck and Guy Gibson. Diane Downs arrived at 5:35 p.m. Dr. Mike Harms and Dick Adams were absent from the meeting. Also in attendance were Carol Meeuwsen, Dr. Deborah Sommer, Linda Martin, Danielle Peterson, Cindy Bauer and Mary Hochstetler. Hank Harris arrived at 6:15 p.m. and Rex Hagans arrived at 6:50 p.m., however, he was at a wrong meeting.

2.0 INTRODUCTIONS

The Board members and attendees introduced themselves.

3.0 PUBLIC FORUM / ANNOUCEMENTS

Marty McCullough commended Carol Meeuswen on the final copy of the Superintendent Search brochure. Superintendent Sommer informed the Board she received a request from someone interested in the Superintendent position wanting to meet with her to discuss the District. The Board felt that was permissible, however to keep in mind she does not have time to meet with all parties wanting to apply.

4.0 INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 Update of Screening Committee Applications

Linda Martin updated the Board on the number of applications received so far for people interested in serving on the Superintendent Search Screening Committee. There was Board discussion on the number of applications received. We have made the opportunity available on the District website, listservs and all District buildings as well as advertising in the Oregonian and Canby Herald newspapers. Danielle Peterson will run an article again next week and Marty McCullough will make an announcement at the Superintendent Luncheon on January 9th.

4.2 Use of Email by Board Members

Anti-trust memos received by Andy Rivinius at his work prompted him to discuss the use of email by Board members with Betsy Miller-Jones from the Oregon School Boards Association. Communications between or among a quorum of members of a governing body convening on electronically linked personal computers are subject to the Public Meetings Law, if, the communications constitute a decision or deliberation toward a decision for which a quorum is required or the gathering of information on which to deliberate. We need to remember emails are public documents and we need to be aware of

confidentiality. There also needs to be guidelines established on the use of email by the unions to staff members. Sharing of information is allowed, however, as Andy noted, we need to remember we have one Board member excluded from email use. Deborah will update our policy and return to the Board for approval.

4.3 ELL Program Overview/Achievement Data

Superintendent Sommer reviewed the Oregon Department of Education report card. Overall, Canby has outperformed the State in both reading and math, however, we are not making annual yearly progress. Currently our District has 20% ELL students and 11% special education students. (Sondra Strong will bring the Special Education report to the Board in April.) In reviewing student achievement for ELL students, several variables are important. First, there are the students themselves, their age, background, their language at home and how long they have been with us. Another variable is the amount of instructional time received and the different program models.

Cindy Bauer, NCLB Coordinator, and Mary Hochstetler, Director of Instructional Services reviewed the Canby School District ELL Program. Cindy shared with the Board several Supreme Court rulings regarding a violation of civil rights laws in 1974, 1981, 1982 and No Child Left Behind in 2001. NCLB requires that all students meet state standards in reading and math by 2013-2014. Cindy discussed the process for providing services to English Language Learners and the program models. Techniques, methodology and special curriculum designed to teach ELL students English language skills must all be approved by the State. She also shared students spend part of the day in the general classroom and a portion of the day in ESL services. Canby uses content based presentations through Social Studies. Also the Dual Language Program, maintenance or developmental bilingual programs and sheltered instruction is used.

Mary Hochstetler presented graphs showing the Math/ELL comparison for 2003-2007 and the English Language Arts/English Language Learners comparison for those same years. The Exited ELL chart showing students meeting or exceeding standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics from 2002-2003 through 2006-2007 were discussed with the Board and they were given the task to make a data statement of the information. From the chart, the trend appears that scores are up. We have had a large numbers of graduates. Information will be brought to the Board at a later date on Dual Language numbers and the students that have stayed with us through high school. Joe Morelock will also do a presentation having the Board use laptops to show the Data Warehouse information.

Andy Rivinus commented as an educator and a parent it is our obligation to prioritize and have teach students the fundamentals. He stated look how far we have come. Diane Downs agreed we must have a deeper conversation emphasizing the fundamentals.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Martin
Board Secretary

Marty McCullough
Board Vice Chair

Approved: February 21, 2008