

**MINUTES OF THE  
CANBY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING**

October 18, 2007

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair, Andy Rivinus called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. on Thursday, October 18, 2007 in the Canby High School, Applied Technology Center, Omni room. Board members in attendance were Andy Rivinus, Dr. Mike Harms, Rod Beck, Diane Downs, and Guy Gibson. Dick Adams arrived at 6:45 p.m. Marty McCullough was absent from the meeting. Also in attendance were Deborah Sommer, Linda Martin, Mary Hochstetler, Joel Stuart, Joel Sebastian, Ricardo Marquez, Marilyn Wood, Jennifer Turner, Rich Thompson, Pat Johnson, Diane Berthoin-Hernandez, Lou Bailey, Laura Miranda, David Moore, Danielle Peterson, Terri Crowley, Kate Minson, Karen Carpenter, Ariana Carpenter, Nick Crowley, Verne Ferguson, Ty Carpenter, Hannah Ferguson, Anna Norquist, Sarah Bercume, Bethany Thomas, Pack 197 Cub Scouts, Bradley Bursell, Jarett Smetzler, Dakota West, Rachelle Smetzler, Diane Bursell and Janet Mathews.

**2.0 FLAG SALUTE & INTRODUCTIONS**

Carus Students, Bradley Bursell, Jarett Smetzler and Dakota West from Cub Scout Pack 197 led the flag salute. There were no other introductions.

**3.0 CHANGES TO AGENDA**

None.

**4.0 PUBLIC FORUM & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Spotlight on Student Success

Carus Principal, Joel Stuart introduced Scientists in Residence, Sarah and Bethany. Both have been instrumental in developing a program aligned to our District Power Standards for science. Their presentation focused on the Environmental Studies Program started two years ago at Carus with support from PTA and Canby Education Foundation. The two residents shared a video of a tour given to Trost Elementary third graders. The Carus students leading the tour focused on the process of removing invasive plants and replacing them with native plants. Bethany and Sarah hope to bring their program to other schools with support from the Canby Education Foundation.

School Activities & Update

Ackerman Student representatives, Nick Crowley and Kate Minson talked about activities taking place in their school. Nick shared volleyball and cross country are ending and intramural basketball tryouts would be taking place. The Oregon Peace Conference is in November and the Ackerman Peace Advocates will be attending. Kate Minson said the magazine drive has started. Also tryouts for the play "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup>

Street" are taking place. The play involves students from Ackerman and Baker Prairie Middle School. There is also a combined middle school dance on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ty Carpenter said the first six weeks of school has flown by. The word of the month is responsibility and a slide show is being done showing students acting responsibly. Hannah Ferguson noted six students are taking math classes at the high school. The students are also creating a tile project with faces around the school mascot, the eagle.

Anna Norquist from Canby High School shared the activities done at the Pacific Conference meeting. The conference focused on fear, anger and negative aspects and activities. The Club Fair has taken place as well as homecoming activities. Anna sent a special thanks to the Canby Community for all their support to the high school.

Ninety-one did not a student representative present.

There were no public comments or questions.

## **5.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

### **5.1 Minutes**

Minutes of the September 20, 2007 Regular Session, the October 4, 2007 Executive Session and Workshop Session and the October 15, 2007 Executive Session are provided in Addendum 5.1.

### **5.2 Personnel Changes**

Personnel Changes are provided in Addendum 5.2.

**MOTION:** Rod Beck moved to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2007 Regular Session, the October 4, 2007 Executive Session and Workshop Session and the October 15, 2007 Executive Session as provided in Addendum 5.1 and the Personnel Changes as provided in Addendum 5.2 and the update as of October 18 distributed this evening. Dick Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

## **6.0 COMMENTS BY BOARD**

Rod Beck recently had a conversation with an Eastern Oregon school employee and he shared they are just starting their Power Standards. Rod appreciates the guideline from staff with Mary Hochstetler's lead. He has also been part of a review committee for the OSAA Sportsmanship Program. He said in reviewing the information with problems last year, the problem is not with the players or students, but with the adults. The OSAA is suggesting parent meetings before all sports activities. They also want negative chants eliminated.

Diane Downs attended the OSBA Fall Dinner Meeting. As a new board member it was nice to make connections with others. She also attended a statewide symposium held by the Oregon State Board of Higher Education. The

symposium discussed the serious problem with students lack of continuing on with post secondary education. Canby High graduate, Adella Aguilar served on the symposium. Diane indicated she will be bringing information from the symposium to the Board at a future date.

Dick Adams feels we've hit a milestone with the goal set several years ago as far as the use of technology to access student attendance and grades. He commended staff for a job well done. Dick also attended a Canby Parks and Recreation meeting in the exploratory phase of discussing the recreation needs in Canby. He said Dennis Burke did an excellent job reporting on how the District serves the community of Canby.

Dr. Harms joked that someone on the Clackamas County Fair Auction Committee said Lou Bailey had never attended the fair. Lou reported that was not the case.

Andy Rivinus also attended the OSBA Fall Dinner Meeting. He reported there was discussion on the excise tax on new construction as well as more elections each year will exempt from the majority vote. He gave accolades to Anna Norquist for thanking the community for all their support. He agreed Canby is so supportive of their schools.

## **7.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Sommer discussed the recent Canby Herald letters to the editor on school signs being entirely in Spanish. This is not accurate. The fact is only one side is in Spanish and the other in English. Our District has an obligation to meet the needs of all students and families. 20% of our students are English Language Learners and their parents don't speak or read English. In reference to complaints on the type of dancing at the high school at the recent homecoming dance, Deborah reported Pat Johnson and his staff would be setting guidelines in conjunction with students and holding them accountable.

Deborah would like to thank the Clackamas Education Service District as a major player in supporting our technology needs.

## **8.0 INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **8.1 District Report Cards**

Deborah Sommer reported the State Report Card and Federal AYP data are reported differently. The State data is "trend" information in reading and math from all students by grade level groups and the Federal AYP is determined from "point in time" performances from subgroups of students. Mary Hochsteteler said the State Report Card is four years of data and the Federal AYP is two years of data. Mary said we have to remember you can't just look at the ratings; you have to look at all the data.

Each of the principals shared information with the Board on their information. Ackerman, Baker Prairie and Lee were not rated since they were considered "new" schools due to boundary or organizational change.

Lee Principal, Marilyn Wood reported reading scores were average and they are moving forward in math.

Joel Sebastian, Ackerman principal, reported a great year overall in writing. In fact, all middle schools improved significantly in this area.

Pat Johnson from Canby High School said the testing system problems last year had an impact in the number of students nearly meeting levels. He is happy with the continued progress and the goal now is to sustain the rating. Deborah shared that two years ago a math and reading tutoring program was implemented at CHS and they now have reading specialists.

Principal, Rich Thompson reported in the last five years Knight has had a strong state rating and it's harder to improve once you have an exceptional rating. Rich reported the ELL students are doing better in math in comparison to other schools.

Baker Prairie Middle School principal, Lou Bailey reported all three grade levels improved in writing.

Jennifer Turner from Eccles reported the upper grade did well in math. The third graders did not do as well and this was the first time they were tested. We need to make sure students are making growth.

Diane Berthoin-Hernandez, Ninety-one principal said their school is unique in that they have 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders. She said it's also important to look at the data over time as each year is a different group of students being measured.

Ricard Marquez, Trost principal also said you need to look at the data and trends. His school looks different in that they lost 230 students due to boundary changes. His staff has set goals and are moving forward. Ricardo reported the response to intervention has been a positive change.

Carus principal, Joel Stuart said they are aware of the need for improvement in writing.

Board member, Rod Beck congratulated the principals for a job well done. As long as we are improving that's what's important. Dick Adams asked if the testing material was reasonable. Mary Hochstetler said if we are teaching to the standards, yes it is. The principals were in agreement. Deborah said that getting

kids to standards has to be achieved with a parallel effort to use materials and teach to those same standards. Pat Johnson said it's important to look at all pieces. Andy Rivinus said it's good to have continuous improvements.. Diane Downs is happy the principals and staff are using the data to analyze what is/is not working.

## **8.2 Report Card Committee Update**

Mary Hochstetler shared the results of the K-5 Report Card Committee meeting held in September. The committee consisted of teachers, administrators and parents. They reviewed other districts report cards and made recommendations of what to keep and what to change. They also knew they must keep the format for eSis. They did not want to make the decision at the first meeting. They will meet again on November 8 and will have the new report card this spring.

## **8.3 Long Range Facility Committee Responsibilities**

Deborah Sommer asked for Board input on their expectations for the committee. Dick Adams thought the discussion was on current properties, but after Board discussion it was determined the committee needs to look at the purchase of land for a new high school or possibly a school other than the high school. They also need land to build new construction houses. Rod Beck said we need to look at purchasing the land now due to the increase of property values. Guy said we need to focus on a site for a new building and how we should use the five acres located next to Baker Prairie. Are we using that property to sell or trade? He said we also need to look at the agreements for the Lone Elder property and the Adult Center/Swim Center property. Deborah and Debbie Pearson are on the committee as resources for the discussion.

## **8.4 Student Based Health Center Planning Grant**

Pat Johnson introduced Janet Mathews, Program Manager for the School Based Health Center (SBHC). Janet reported there are currently 45 centers across the state. These centers are primary care clinics that are located in a school. They provide the services you would find in your physician's office such as diagnosis and treatment (including prescriptions) for acute and chronic illnesses and injuries. They also provide immunizations, and perform sports physicals and well-child checks. Having these clinics in the building helps to reduce the loss of class time. They also accept insurance plans.

SBHC recently received a \$2M grant to expand by 13 sites. Clackamas County currently has one site and they are hoping to open two more by February 2009. There is a grant process to obtain \$30,000 for Phase I planning to each new SBHC. All proposals are due by November 1, 2007. Pat reported Willamette Falls Hospital is interested in involvement and have offered their grant writer for assistance in preparing the grant. Our school nurses have gathered data and Pat

has talked to a local dentist interested in being involved in the process. After Board discussion they gave their approval to proceed with the process.

#### **8.5 Full Day Kindergarten - Fee Based Proposal**

Deborah informed the Board she has been approached by a few parents as to why Canby doesn't have a fee based full day kindergarten. She received information on the program in the Lake Oswego School District/others. She asked the Board if this was something they wanted to explore. Guy Gibson had concerns on the cost of converting classrooms and how it would affect the private sector. Rod Beck said there were pros and cons. He took no position, but agreed to have Deborah explore. Diane Downs felt the equity issue would be very different than the program in the Lake Oswego community. Dick Adams is eager to explore, but there is the equity and access issue. Dr. Harms hopes this would not turn into nothing but daycare. If we have the excess room he agreed to looking into the option. Andy Rivinus felt socio-economics are a huge issue. Deborah also has concerns on the same issues. The Board directed Deborah to ask the principals their opinion and do some additional research, but as Guy said, we can't do everything that we think is a good idea.

#### **8.6 School Improvement Fund Update**

Deborah shared the information on the State Improvement Fund Grant. Dick Adams felt our State Representative Kurt Schrader should also see the information compiled to apply for the funds since this was not supposed to be such a large task.

#### **8.7 Review of Letter for 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Expectations/Support**

Superintendent Sommer shared a draft of the letter to offer parents and guardians ways to support and help their student be successful. These suggestions included teacher blogs, attendance at parent conferences, newsletters and volunteering. Use of the schools websites and parent assistance programs offer information as well as the Power Standards showing what your student should be doing at their grade level. There are also interventions and programs available as well as online courses. The Board felt this was a great idea to send home.

### **9.0 ACTION ITEMS**

#### **9.1 Selection of Firm to Provide Superintendent Search**

Several Board members did reference checks from other districts to determine the process for their Superintendent search. Some used private firms and some used the Oregon School Boards Association.

**MOTION:** Dr. Mike Harms moved to contract with the Oregon School Boards Association and Betsy Miller-Jones to provide consultant services to the Canby School District Board of Directors to assist in the selection of a superintendent for the base fee of \$7,000. Rod Beck seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

There was Board discussion that a process needs to be developed to make a good selection. A key measure is public participation.

Andy Rivinus adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Martin  
Board Secretary

Andrew P. Rivinus  
Board Chair

APPROVED: November 15, 2007