MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AND WORKSHOP SESSIONS OF THE CANBY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

March 15, 2005

ALTERNATIVE BIDDING HEARING: The public hearing opened at 5:00pm on Tuesday, March 15, 2005, at Canby High School, Applied Technology Center. In attendance were Rod Beck, Charlie Stinson, Dick Adams, Karen Carroll, Andy Rivinus, Duane Weeks, Scott Enyart, Pattie Flagg, Lou Bailey, Carol Meeuwsen and David Moore. David shared the Board will consider a resolution authorizing an exemption from the low competitive bid process and authorizing a Request for Proposal competitive procurement process to select a general contractor for the 2004 Capital Bond Improvement Projects: New Middle School Site Improvement and Building Improvement Packages. The hearing was held to receive comments on the draft findings for this exemption as required by ORS 279.335C(4)(a). There were no comments from the audience. The hearing concluded at 5:18pm.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Dick Adams called the Regular Session for the Canby School District Board of Directors to order at 6:07pm on March 15, 2005, at Canby High School, Applied Technology Center. Board members in attendance were Rod Beck, Charlie Stinson, Dick Adams and Sandy Ricksger. Also in attendance were Superintendent Deborah Sommer, Karen Carroll, David Moore, Carol Meeuwsen, Lou Bailey, Pat Johnson, Debbie Hansen, Andy Rivinus, Pam Saatkamp, Diane Berthoin-Hernandez, Jennifer Turner, Jeff Caldwell, Max Caldwell, Barbara Austin, Jennifer Austin, Jesus Chaparro, Jake Putney, Cheilsey Miles, Candace Caldwell, Tom Feller and Karim Benamrhar, Tina Skiles and Vicki Adamson joined the meeting in progress. Jesus Chaparro led us in the flag salute.

4.0 PUBLIC FORUM/ANNOUNCEMENTS: School Activities & Update: Carus students Jesus Chaparro, Jake Putney, Cheilsey Miles and Candace Caldwell reported students have been learning about native life, many students participated in Read Quest and received a free book, and storyteller Anne Rutherford entertained students.

Spotlight on Student Success: Carus students also shared information on Community 101, a grant funded program by the PGE Foundation, which involves students in the decision making process of granting funds to non-profit organizations that address issues of poverty and mental health. Students participate as data keepers, photographers, letter writing, grant writing and other duties. Community 101 awards will be presented on April 11, 6:30pm at the Fine Arts Center. Rod Beck, Sandy Ricksger and Dick Adams all commended the students on their presentation.

Wells Fargo Donation: Vicki Adamson from Wells Fargo presented a donation of $805.00 from their “Team Up for our Schools” campaign. The bank donated funds based on qualifying banking products purchased during the summer months. Funds may be spent on classroom expenses including teaching materials and school supplies. Vicki challenged other business to donate funds to schools, and Wells Fargo would match funds. An interactive disk was also provided for student use to help them learn about banking.

Other: Karim Benamrhar, a CHS exchange student from Morocco, presented a video outlining the Moroccan culture and its significant Muslim population. Karim was appreciative to those
that helped bring him to the U.S. – the US State Department, the School Board, Pat Johnson and Tom Feller and his family. Tom said Karim has been very involved in various sports and activities during his stay.

5.0 SCHOOL REPORT/COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS: Sandy shared her disappointment in the Canby Planning Commission process for the public hearing on the site and design of the new middle school. The commission ignored their own staff reports after working with the city and district officials for over a year. Sandy acknowledged Superintendent Deborah Sommer and Heinz Rudolf, architect, for doing a great job in providing facts on our process.

Charlie Stinson said the Alternative Bidding Hearing was held prior to the regular Board session to take public testimony regarding authorizing an exemption from the low competitive bid process to select a general contractor for the 2004 Capital Bond Improvement Projects.

Dick Adams said he met with Ackerman’s site council. He said principal Lou Bailey is pushing student accountability and setting high standards for expectations. Dick also said there was a lot of conversation around the new middle school at Lou’s monthly parent meeting and that parents seem very supportive. Dick also commended Canby High principal Pat Johnson and his staff during the recent basketball play-off games. He said Pat has “his finger on the pulse of what is going on”.

6.0 SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Deborah shared she has been busy working on building a budget for next year and conducting a search for a personnel director. She also attended the planning commission meeting last night as well as the classified appreciation breakfast with other administrators,

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

7.1 Minutes of the February 17, 2005, Executive and Regular Sessions, and the March 3, 2005, Executive and Workshop Sessions, were provided in Addendum 7.1.

7.2 Personnel Changes: Personnel Changes were provided in addendum 7.2.

MOTION: Sandy moved to adopt the minutes of February 17, 2005, Executive and Regular Sessions, and the March 3, 2005, Executive and Workshop Sessions, as provided in 7.1 and Personnel Changes as provided in addendum 7.2 and 7.2.1. Motion was seconded by Charlie Stinson. It was clarified that the Superintendent was recommending approval of the classified employee request for health care continuation as referenced in addendum 7.2.1. Motion carried 4-0.

8.0 INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Naming New School Committee Update: Lou Bailey said Kathy Gibb and Gavin Coble have been named co-chairs of the Naming the New School Committee. Suggestions are now being accepted in writing. Lou said committee member Peggy Sigler gave a brief history on the names of our current schools. Next meeting will be held on April 25.

8.2 Boundary Committee Update: Deborah said she met with Dick Withycombe, facilitator of the Boundary Committee. Dick recommended three parents and principals of each of the impacted school, which is all but CHS and
91, serve on the committee. The Board would set values and guidelines for Dick to use when working with the committee. Hearings would be conducted within each attendance boundary and all meetings would be open to the public. There was consensus by the Board to proceed with Dick’s recommendation. Sandy noted the district had worked with Dick previously and a level of comfort has already been established. First Boundary Committee meeting is scheduled for April 12 with a second meeting in May, then the group will set a fall calendar with meetings in September through December and a recommendation to the Board in January 2006.

9.0 ACTION ITEMS

9.1 School Calendar Proposal: Debbie Hansen, staff at Trost, said she and 17 others served on the committee. The group reviewed the contractual obligations of our employee groups and criteria set by the School Board as provided in Board policy. Pat Johnson and Jennifer Turner presented two draft calendars for the Board to consider. Main goals were to group staff training days, provide for more full weeks of student contact and align the trimesters with Winter and Spring breaks. Pat said both options meet state standards for instructional hours. He also clarified that the last day of school on both calendars are full days, not early dismissal as listed. This error was corrected.

Committee member Charlie Stinson said that although calendar option A, which has a later start of the school year and is “out of the box” for Canby, it is common practice around the area. He said the primary motivator that drives option A is the natural breaks to align with the trimester.

Principals Lou Bailey and Pat Johnson said option A would be better for kids and staff since they would not need to take a break a week after the trimester starts. Lou also noted that a later start time would be beneficial for construction and remodeling of the new middle school and Lee School in 2006.

Committee member Barbara Austin spoke on behalf of parents on the committee. She said the process was interesting but frustrating because there was a need to increase student contact days. Barbara said Knight School staff would like more instructional and less inservice days. Knight Principal Tina Skiles said staff training days have been used for working on their school improvement plan and student achievement. Deborah shared her visits with staff revealed an interest in improving the quality of staff inservice days. Jennifer noted both calendar options provide additional days of instructional time.

Pat and Jennifer suggested a change to calendar option A, with committee approval. Changing September 8 from a staff training day to a work day makes September 12 a student contact day and the first day of school.

A straw vote was taken and Dick, Sandy and Charlie preferred a modified Option A calendar. Rod preferred a traditional calendar but voted for option A since it was for two years only and other Board members were in support.
MOTION: Sandy Ricksger moved to adopt the 2005-2006 Option A calendar as modified by changing September 8 from a staff training day to a work day. September 12 will be the first student day. School will end June 21 for students and June 23 for staff, with no early dismissals on June 21. Seconded by Charlie Stinson and motion carried 4-0. Sandy and Rod thanked all the committee members for their hard work.

9.2 Alternative Bidding Procedure: David Moore said a hearing was held according to public law to listen to public testimony for the district to be exempt from the low competitive bidding process. He said there was no public attendance. On behalf of the hearing panel, David recommends the Board exempt the district from the low competitive bid process.

MOTION: Charlie Stinson moved to adopt the resolution authorizing an exemption from the low competitive bid process and authorizing a request for proposal competitive procurement process to select a general contractor for the 2004 Capital Bond Improvement Projects: New Middle School Site Improvement and Building Improvement Packages. Seconded by Rod Beck, motion carried unanimously.

Regular session adjourned at 8:21 pm and convened to a Workshop Session at 8:30 pm.

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT:

Deborah was just notified by the State of a significant decrease in all title funds for next year. No other information is known at this time. She shared the district’s agenda has narrowed based on reading and math requirements and she is concerned about the impact of a potential physical education bill. The principals have agreed there is a need for more resources in reading K-12 at a cost of about $300,000. The administrative team is looking at rewriting job descriptions and redeploying resources to improve student achievement. There was consensus by the Board to support the redeployment of staff if necessary to increase student achievement in reading/math. David provided an updated Use of Available Cash. Additional budget information will be shared with the Board as it becomes available.

Workshop session adjourned 9:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Carroll
Board Secretary

Guy Gibson
Date: April 21, 2005
Board Chair