

Minutes in Brief

SOUTHERN OREGON EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Southern Oregon Education Service District Board of Directors was held Wednesday, September 18, 2019, in the upstairs conference room of the ESD’s Medford office located at 101 North Grape Street, Medford, Oregon. At 6:05 PM, Vice-Chair Middleton called the meeting to order at which time she led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Board members in attendance:

- Rosie Converse
- Austin Fohnagy
- Ana Mannenbach
- Mary Middleton
- Bob Moore
- Christine Norton-Cotts
- Maud Powell
- Justin Wright

Board members absent:

- Annie Valtierra-Sanchez

SOESD staff members in attendance:

- Jessica Bach
- Scott Beveridge
- Patty Michiels
- Susan Peck
- Dan Weaver

Staff and guests attending for portions of the meeting:

- Dale Balme, Dale Bartles, Peggy Bartles, Caitlin Biedscheid, Melia Biedscheid, Celine Buczek, Mandi Bundren, AnnaMaria Candelaria, Kelly Carter, Lynn Eide, Steven Essig, Barbara Griffin, Rowan Hill-Walko, Bryan Hosford, Kim Hosford, Meghan Jones, Rich Jones, Paul Kitzman, Nancy Lawson, Rich Maroney, Kate McFarland, Rebecca Mead, Julie Moffett, Jessica Mowry, Zady Orama Vega, Lindsey Parrinello, Kathy Payne, Judy Richards, Diana Stebbins, Tessa Stewart, Claire Swagler, Amy Szeliga, Joyce Van Anne, Robert Wohler, Karen Wraight, Pam Wurzell

Employee Recognition

Superintendent Beveridge presented the Employee Performance Award to Peggy Bartles, Administrative Assistant III.

**Requests to Address
Agenda Items**

Melia Biedscheid, Request to address agenda item 7(B)

Ms. Biedscheid spoke in opposition to contracting with PresenceLearning.

Lindsey Parrinello, Request to address agenda item 4

Ms. Parrinello yielded her time to Barbara Griffin.

Jullie Moffett, Request to address agenda item 4
Ms. Moffett yielded her time to Barbara Griffin.

Barbara Griffin, Request to address agenda item 4
Ms. Griffin read a prepared statement regarding staff coverage at the Gilbert Creek Child Development Center, caseloads and the number of children identified for services, compliance issues, and program budgetary questions.

Rowan Hill-Walko, Request to address agenda item 4
Ms. Hill-Walko spoke regarding the demands of serving as a specialist in SOESD's large geographic service area. Ms. Hill-Walko commented on recruitment and retention of qualified staff.

Comments from the Association

Melia Biedscheid, President of the SOESD Education Association, expressed disappointment that SOESD employees serving the Roseburg area were not provided the opportunity to attend the board meeting via video conference. Ms. Biedscheid stated her disappointment that the District had requested mediation as a next step in settling the licensed contract.

There were no representatives from the classified association in attendance.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda consisted of:

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of Minutes: Organizational Meeting, July 17, 2019
- C. Personnel Report
- D. Financial Report

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER FOLNAGY, SECONDED BY MEMBER MANNENBACH TO:

Approve all items on the consent agenda.

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Education

A. Equity Summit

Mark Angle-Hobson, Education Services Coordinator, reported on the Equity Summit hosted by SOESD on August 19-20, 2019. Over 100 educators attended the summit that covered five themes of equity work: 1) racial, 2) economic, 3) native peoples, 4) LGBTQ+, and 5) restorative justice. Mr. Angle-Hobson shared the conference agenda and session overviews. Additional equity-focused conferences are being planned for early winter and late spring to be offered in the Klamath Falls and Medford areas.

B. Technology Services

Jeff Bales, Interim Chief Information Officer, provided a report on each of the programs offered through Technology Services.

Mr. Bales explained that the programs provide comprehensive services for local school districts to support administrative and instructional technology to increase student success.

Executive Session

At 6:43 PM, Vice-Chair Middleton announced the board would meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

Open Session

At 7:42 PM, Vice-Chair Middleton reconvened the board into open session.

Communications

SOESD Superintendent's Schedule of Meetings

Superintendent Beveridge reviewed his schedule of meetings for the months of September, October, and November, noting the following:

- **September 9 and October 14, 2019**
Superintendent Beveridge continues to meet with SOESD administrators regarding development of SOESD's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Work Group.
- **September 11, 2019**
Medford School District has provided notice of plans which would impact the current location of SOESD's STEPS Plus classroom. Mr. Beveridge met with SOESD administrators to discuss potential changes to the program location and model.
- **September 30, 2019 and October 1, 2019**
Superintendent Beveridge will attend the OAESD Superintendents Meeting. A priority topic for the meeting will be the role of ESDs in supporting the Student Success Act (SSA) throughout the state.
- **October 2, 2019**
Superintendent Beveridge will attend ODE's Regional Management Team. The Regional Program budget has not yet been announced and is negatively impacting SOESD's ability to plan.
- **Strategic Planning**
Superintendent Beveridge noted monthly Strategic Planning meetings are scheduled and work on the plan is moving forward.

Administration

A. Southern Oregon Early Learning Hub Contracts

A new program year has begun for Preschool Promise. The Southern Oregon Early Learning Hub (SOELS) enters into a new contract with each provider over the summer to cover the minimal costs of preparing for the new school year. SOELS has completed contract negotiations for the school year with each Preschool Promise Program, as listed below. Administration requested

board approval to increase the contracts listed below to ensure Preschool Promise programs are able to deliver services for the 2019-20 school year, in alignment with Early Learning Division expectations and guidelines.

Preschool Promise Subcontractor	Original Contract Amount (for Summer 2019)	Contract Modification Amount (for 2019-20 SY)	New Contract Total (Not to Exceed)
Family Nurturing Center	\$42,248.47	\$261,551.53	\$303,800.00
Imagine That...Children's Creative Center	\$43,056.00	\$196,260.00	\$239,316.00
Kid Time Children's Museum	\$61,840.78	\$441,273.22	\$503,114.00
Roots and Wings Community Preschool	\$11,196.64	\$139,602.36	\$150,799.00
Southern Oregon Child and Family Council (Head Start)	\$40,667.20	\$347,342.80	\$388,010.00

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER CONVERSE, SECONDED BY MEMBER FOLNAGY TO:

Approve the Preschool Promise Grant contracts with subcontractors not-to-exceed the amounts presented.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

- B. Contract for Services with PresenceLearning
Administration requested approval to enter into an agreement with PresenceLearning for 2019-2020 to provide live, online speech language tele-therapy services at a projected cost not to exceed \$230,000. Patty Michiels, HR Manager, presented data on the national shortage of Speech Language Pathologists, salary comparisons, and recruitment strategies employed by SOESD. Business Manager Weaver provided historical data, noting that less than 5% of general funded special education services had been contracted over the last five years.

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER FOLNAGY, SECONDED BY MEMBER MANNENBACH TO:

Approve entering into an agreement with PresenceLearning at a cost not-to-exceed \$230,000 for 2019-2020.

MOTION CARRIED 7-1 (Member Converse Opposed)

- C. Contract for Services with TherapyTravelers
Administration requested board approval to enter into an agreement with TherapyTravelers to provide occupational therapy services for the 2019-2020 school year, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER FOLNAGY, SECONDED BY MEMBER POWELL TO:

Approve entering into an agreement with TherapyTravelers at a cost not-to-exceed \$125,000 for 2019-2020.

MOTION CARRIED 7-1 (Member Converse Opposed)

D. 2019-2020 Southern Oregon ESD Resolution #5: Oregon ESD Support Network

Superintendent Beveridge recommended the Board pass Resolution #5 adopting participation in the Oregon Education Service District Support Network for 2019-2020.

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER CONVERSE, SECONDED BY MEMBER MOORE TO:

Approve 2019-2020 SOESD Resolution #5.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

E. Nominations for OSBA Legislative Policy Committee

This year, all OSBA Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) positions are up for election. Board members interested in running for a position on the LPC need to be nominated by a member board within their region, requiring official board action. Candidate nomination forms are due in the OSBA office by 5:00 PM on Friday, September 27, 2019. Member Fohnagy stated he was interested in serving on the LPC.

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER MOORE, SECONDED BY MEMBER NORTON-COTTS TO:

Nominate Austin Fohnagy for the OSBA Legislative Policy Committee position, Southern Region.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

F. Compensation for Non-Bargaining Labor Groups, 2019-2020

The Board discussed the fiscal year 2019-2020 compensation for non-licensed and licensed administrators, confidential employees, business manager, and superintendent.

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER CONVERSE, SECONDED BY MEMBER WRIGHT TO:

Hold the non-bargaining labor groups harmless and increase the district's contribution toward insurance to match the classified union, while not making changes to salary increases until mediation with the licensed association concludes.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

G. SOESD Board Professional Development and Training

The Board expressed interest in scheduling a work session and discussed what the purpose of the meeting would be. Suggested topics included conducting a full board policy review, developing board goals, participating in board training, and providing input into the strategic planning process for the year ahead. Jessica Bach will send a scheduling poll to assist with finding a common date. The poll will include weekday evenings and all-day Saturday options.

Business Affairs

Related Party Questionnaire

Business Manager Weaver explained the purpose of the Related Party Questionnaire. The questionnaire documents any related party activities between public officials and their respective agencies and is completed annually as part of closing the audit fieldwork. Board

members who served during the 2018-2019 fiscal year were asked to complete the questionnaire and return it to Mr. Weaver.

Miscellaneous

- A. Next Regular Meeting: October 16, 2019, 6:00 PM, SOESD's Medford Office
- B. OSBA Fall Regional Meeting: October 30, 2019, 6:00 PM, Inn at the Commons, Medford
Board members interested in attending are asked to RSVP to Jessica Bach by October 18, 2019.
- C. 2019 OSBA Annual Convention: November 14-17, 2019, Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront
Superintendent Beveridge, Members Fohnagy, Norton-Cotts, and Wright plan to attend. Board members are asked to let Jessica Bach know of their interest in attending so that conference registration and lodging arrangements can be made.
- D. AESA 2019 Annual Conference: December 4-7, 2019, JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort, Phoenix, Arizona
- E. NSBA 2020 Annual Conference and Exposition: April 4-6, 2020, Chicago, Illinois *Members Fohnagy and Norton-Cotts indicated their interest in attending.*

Adjournment

There being no further business, Vice-Chair Middleton adjourned the meeting of the Southern Oregon ESD Board of Directors at 8:39 PM.



Mary Middleton, Vice-Chair
Southern Oregon ESD Board of Directors

Scott Beveridge
Superintendent/Clerk