

Minutes in Brief SOUTHERN OREGON EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020

Call to Order A regularly scheduled meeting of the Southern Oregon Education Service District Board of Directors was held by video/audio conference on Wednesday, November 18, 2020. Chair Valtierra-Sanchez called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Attendance Board members in attendance via video/audio conference: Board members absent:

Rosie Converse	Jessie Hecocta
Ana Mannenbach	Maud Powell
Mary Middleton	Justin Wright
Robert Moore	
Christine Norton-Cotts	
Annie Valtierra-Sanchez	

SOESD staff members and guests in attendance:

Mark Angle-Hobson	Howard George	Susan Peck
Jessica Bach	Kathy Gregory	Tina Schaff
Dale Balme	Karen Johnson	Jewel Stone, CPA
Scott Beveridge	Coree Kelly	Amy Szeliga
Melia Biedscheid	Patty Michiels	Daniel Weaver
Maureen Criger		

Comments from Representatives of the Associations Amy Szeliga, President of the SOESD Education Association, expressed appreciation for the ongoing updates received from administration regarding COVID and the status of the Phoenix campus. Ms. Szeliga commented on the association's continued concern for the safety of SOESD itinerant staff serving multiple counties as the number of reported COVID infections rise, balanced with the need to support the community and provide the best services possible for all students.

There were no representatives from the classified association in attendance.

Public Comment and Requests to Address Agenda Items *Public Comment from Melia Biedscheid of Gold Hill, Oregon*
Ms. Biedscheid spoke in opposition to staffing positions through contracts with out-of-state businesses.

Consent Agenda The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of Minutes:
 - Regular Meeting, October 21, 2020
 - Special Meeting, October 29, 2020
- C. Personnel Report
- D. Financial Report

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

Approve all items on the consent agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

- Communication** SOESD Superintendent’s Schedule of Meetings –November and December 2020, and January 2021
Superintendent Beveridge reviewed his schedule of meetings for the three-month period, noting that his calendar continues to include multiple meetings related to COVID-19, assisting school districts in implementing ODE and OHA guidelines, delivering instruction in modified formats, keeping staff informed, aligning work plans, and providing clarity on the health guidelines stringently followed by SOESD.
- Business Affairs** 2019-2020 SOESD Audit Report
Jewel Stone, of Isler Medford, LLC, presented the results of the SOESD audit for fiscal year 2019-2020. In reviewing the audit report page-by-page, Ms. Stone stated an unmodified opinion on the financial statements. Ms. Stone summarized that there were no issues of non-compliance, weaknesses, or deficiencies found in the audit. Chief Financial Officer Weaver recognized the Business Services staff in attendance and expressed appreciation to each for their service.
- Administration**
- A. Phoenix Campus
Superintendent Beveridge and Chief Financial Officer Weaver provided an update on the progress of recovery efforts related to the loss at the Phoenix Campus from the Alameda wildfire on September 8, 2020. Demolition, hazardous materials abatement, and debris removal that began this week appears to be on schedule for completion in December.
- B. Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) Election
Chair Valtierra-Sanchez explained that the SOESD Board of Directors had one consensus vote to cast relative to two items in the OSBA election. Voting opens November 16 and closes December 18, 2020. The nomination forms, candidates’ resumes, and the OSBA resolution were provided in advance of the meeting for the board members to review.
1. OSBA Board of Directors Position 5
Three candidates received nominations and submitted applications for OSBA Board of Directors Position 5.
- Robert Hileman, nominated by Rogue River School District
 - Dawn Watson, nominated by Phoenix-Talent Schools
 - Ray Williams, nominated by Prospect School District
- IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER MIDDLETON, SECONDED BY MEMBER CONVERSE TO:**
Cast the SOESD Board of Directors’ vote for Dawn Watson as the OSBA Board of Directors Position 5.
MOTION CARRIED: 6 – 0

2. Resolution 1 – Adopts the proposed 2021-2022 OSBA Legislative Priorities and Principles

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

Approve OSBA Resolution 1.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 – 0

- C. First Reading: Board Policy 5930-All Students Belong
On September 17, 2020, the Oregon State Board of Education adopted a temporary Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 581-022-2312 – All Students Belong. This rule took effect the following day and requires that by January 1, 2021 districts, ESDs, public charter schools, and others receiving state funding for education adopt a policy prohibiting symbols of hate, addressing bias incidents, and establishing complaint procedures. A first reading of Board Policy 5930 was presented for the Board’s review and discussion. Superintendent Beveridge reported that the mandated policy was drafted under the guidance of OSBA legal counsel. In the second reading of the policy, the Bias Incident Complaint Procedure will be edited to clarify that initial complaints go to the superintendent and the language “or designee” will be removed. A special board meeting will be convened to take action on a second reading of Board Policy 5930 before January 1, 2021.
- D. Contract for Services: Research for Better Teaching
Administration requested board approval to enter into an agreement with Research for Better Teaching to provide professional development training in alignment with the SOESD Students Success Act Comprehensive Support Plan previously approved by districts and the SOESD Board.
IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER CONVERSE, SECONDED BY MEMBER MANNENBACH TO:
Approve entering into an agreement with Research for Better Teaching at a cost not to exceed \$178,900.00.
MOTION CARRIED: 6 – 0
- E. 2021-2022 Local Service Plan Discussions
Superintendent Beveridge provided an update on discussions with local districts regarding the 2021-2022 SOESD Local Service Plan (LSP). Two changes in the proposed LSP were noted: 1) the SSA Comprehensive Service Plan has been formally included, and 2) regional coordination services to reduce chronic absenteeism have been removed due to a lack of state funding. Mr. Beveridge will seek formal consensus approval from the region’s superintendents during their next meeting on December 21, 2020. The SOESD Board of Directors will take action to approve the 2021-2022 Local Service Plan during the January 20, 2021 meeting.

Miscellaneous

- A. Special Meeting, date to be determined
The board secretary will poll members to find a date to convene the board before year-end.
- B. Next Regular Meeting: January 20, 2021, 6:00 PM

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Valtierra-Sanchez adjourned the meeting of the Southern Oregon ESD Board of Directors at 7:35 PM.