

Minutes in Brief SOUTHERN OREGON EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021

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, February 17, 2021. Chair Valtierra-Sanchez called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Attendance Board members in attendance: Board members absent:
Rosie Converse Jessie Hecocta
Ana Mannenbach Robert Moore
Mary Middleton
Christine Norton-Cotts
Maud Powell
Annie Valtierra-Sanchez
Justin Wright

SOESD staff members in attendance:
Jessica Bach Patty Michiels Amy Szeliga
Scott Beveridge Susan Peck Daniel Weaver
Coree Kelly

Others in attendance:
Samantha Didion, KDRV Newswatch 12

Comments from Representatives of the Associations Amy Szeliga, President of the SOESD Education Association, thanked administration for scheduling additional labor-management meetings to discuss issues related to COVID-19 and returning to in-person instruction.

No representatives attended from the classified association, OSEA Chapter #104.

Requests to Address Agenda Items There were no statements from the audience or requests to address an agenda item.

Consent Agenda The consent agenda consisted of the following items:
A. Approval of Agenda
B. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting, January 20, 2021
C. Personnel Report
D. Financial Report
IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER MIDDLETON, SECONDED BY MEMBER CONVERSE TO:
Approve all items on the consent agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Communication Superintendent's Schedule of Meetings– February, March, and April 2021
Superintendent Beveridge reviewed his schedule of meetings for the three-month period, noting the following:

- Douglas ESD has moved its administration office to a new location and is remodeling its building on NE Stephens Street in Roseburg where several SOESD staff are housed. Superintendent Beveridge has met via conference call with Superintendent Michael Lasher to plan for relocating the SOESD staff.
- Classified Employee Appreciation Week is March 1-5, 2021. Superintendent Beveridge facilitated several meetings with administrators to plan for recognition of SOESD's classified employees.
- Superintendent Beveridge continues to meet every two weeks with representatives of the licensed association and Patty Michiels, Chief Human Resources Officer, in response to the association's demand to bargain issues pertaining to COVID 19.
- Superintendent Beveridge continues to facilitate and attend a number of state and local meetings regarding COVID-19 planning for programs, opening for in-person instruction, coordinating with local public health authorities, vaccinations, and providing clarity on Oregon's *Ready Schools, Safe Learners* guidance.

Administration

- A. Election of Chair Elect, OAESD Officer Council
The SOESD Board has one vote to cast in the election of the OAESD Officer Council Chair-Elect. Superintendent Beveridge explained that the council works on internal processes of the OAESD. The board's ballot is due by March 12, 2021. The results of the election will be announced at the OAESD Governance Council meeting on April 1, 2021.
IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER WRIGHT, SECONDED BY MEMBER POWELL TO:
Cast the SOESD Board of Directors' vote for Linda Brown, OAESD Officer Council Chair-Elect.
Motion CARRIED: 7-0
- B. Phoenix Campus Update
Chief Financial Officer Weaver reported on the status of the SOESD's Phoenix Campus that was destroyed in the Almeda wildfire on September 8, 2020. CFO Weaver continues to work with the insurance adjuster and with representatives from FEMA to determine payout amounts. He is reviewing very preliminary cost estimates to rebuild on the existing property or purchase elsewhere as well as expected insurance payment amounts for rebuilding vs. relocating. He will share data with the board once it becomes available. Mr. Weaver is searching for temporary commercial spaces to lease in the interim.
- C. SOESD Local Service Plan Update
Superintendent Beveridge provided an update on the status of district votes to approve the 2021-2022 Local Service Plan. Six ballots have been received to date, all voting in the affirmative. The deadline for districts to submit their ballots to SOESD is March 1, 2021. Superintendent Beveridge anticipates the Local Service Plan will receive unanimous approval.
- D. School Reopening
Superintendent Beveridge reported on the status of school reopening in Southern Oregon. SOESD serves as the region's Reopening Advisor providing advice to school districts in following the *Ready Schools, Safe Learners*

guidance provided by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and the Oregon Health Authority. The updated guidance from ODE is in accordance with Governor Brown's December 23, 2020 decision to transfer to advisory metrics for local decision-making for returning to in-person instruction. SOESD continues to work with school districts and local public health authorities in the three-county region to coordinate opportunities for educators to receive vaccines. Information referenced by ODE suggests that the spread of COVID-19 is very limited in school settings due to stringent health and safety protocols. Mr. Beveridge reported that most school districts in the region are offering models of in-person or hybrid instruction for grades K-5. He anticipates all school districts in Southern Oregon will soon provide some form of in-person instruction for all grade levels.

E. Legislative and Budget Update

Superintendent Beveridge provided an update on legislative activity to develop and approve the state education budget for the next biennium. Mr. Beveridge noted the potential impact of Governor Brown's December budget recommendation on programs operated by SOESD. Funding for EI/ECSE programs would continue to be strongly supported in the proposed budget. Early learning hub funding would be consolidated to result in potentially less flow through funding for early childcare partners. Funding for Regional Programs for Low Incidence Disabilities continues to be a significant focus of concern. Governor Brown's proposed budget recommendation partially funds the Student Success Act due to expected reduction in Corporate Activity Tax. Previous school improvement work may not be funded, such as funding to support districts through the attendance initiative, and funding previously received for partners to help align dual high school and college credit. Education leaders will be advocating for adequate educational funding as legislators develop the budget. A state economic forecast is expected on February 24, 2021.

Business Services

Budget Calendar, 2021-2022

CFO Weaver reviewed the 2021-2022 Budget Calendar. The SOESD Budget Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM. At the meeting, the budget committee takes action to approve the proposed budget. On May 17, 2021, the SOESD Board will take action to adopt the recommended budget with any received changes.

Miscellaneous

- A. Next Regular Meeting: March 17, 2021, 6:00 PM
- B. Budget Committee Meeting, May 12, 2021, 6:00 PM
- C. Regular District Election – Important Dates
 - February 8, 2021: First day a candidate can file
 - March 18, 2021: Last day for a candidate to file or withdraw
 - March 22, 2021: Voters' Pamphlet filing deadline (candidate statements)
 - May 18, 2021: Date of next regular election

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Valtierra-Sanchez adjourned the meeting of the Southern Oregon ESD Board of Directors at 6:46 PM.