

Minutes in Brief SOUTHERN OREGON EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2021

Call to Order A regular meeting of the Southern Oregon Education Service District Board of Directors was held by video/audio conference on Wednesday, October 20, 2021. Chair Converse called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

Attendance Board members in attendance: Board members absent:
Rosie Converse Annie Valtierra-Sanchez
Jessie Hecocta
Ana Mannenbach
Mary Middleton
Robert Moore
Corbin Morell
Maud Powell (in attendance from 6:00 – 7:00 PM)
Justin Wright

SOESD staff members in attendance:
Mark Angle-Hobson Patty Michiels
Jessica Bach Susan Peck
Scott Beveridge Amy Szeliga
Donna Hernandez Dan Weaver
Coree Kelly

Comments from Representatives of the Association Amy Szeliga, president of the licensed association, commented on the challenges faced by educators during the pandemic and continued conversations to discuss issues related to COVID-19.

Donna Hernandez, treasurer of the classified association, commented on progress toward reaching an agreement on issues related to the COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

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

Consent Agenda The consent agenda consisted of the following items:
A. Approval of Agenda
B. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting, September 15, 2021
C. Personnel Report
D. Financial Report

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER MIDDLETON, SECONDED BY MEMBER HECOCTA TO:
Approve all items on the consent agenda as amended.
MOTION CARRIED 8-0

Communications

- A. SOESD Superintendent’s Schedule of Meetings –October, November, and December 2021
Superintendent Beveridge reviewed his schedule of meetings for October, November, and December. The superintendent’s calendar continues to include a number of meetings with the licensed and classified associations to negotiate the impacts of the COVID-19 vaccine mandate. Mr. Beveridge noted that he also continues to attend weekly meetings with ODE, COSA, and superintendents statewide dealing with challenges related to the pandemic. Also, of note:
- Superintendent Beveridge will serve as a member of the RCC Presidential Search Advisory Committee charged with making recommendations to hire the next president of Rogue Community College.
 - The superintendent was asked to participate in interviews with the finalists for the position of President of Southern Oregon University, however, conflicts in Mr. Beveridge’s schedule prevented him from attending the interviews.
 - Meetings are ongoing with Arkitek, the architectural firm selected to rebuild the SOESD’s Phoenix Campus.
- B. Phoenix Campus Update
Superintendent Beveridge and CFO Weaver provided an update on progress toward rebuilding the SOESD Phoenix Campus that was destroyed in the Almeda wildfire on September 8, 2020. The architect’s design calendar was reviewed. CFO Weaver provided an overview of the process and the project phases. HMK Company will continue to partner with SOESD in providing construction management services and will work with Arkitek to lead the process with input from many user groups. A concrete decision regarding insurance payouts is expected in December. CFO Weaver noted that there will be opportunity for the board to participate in the process in days ahead and constructions bids will be brought to the Board in the early part of next fiscal year. Superintendent Beveridge noted that at this point in the process all opportunities are being explored in designing with a vision for the future and return on investment.

Board Education

Indian Education Program
The topic was postponed. The board will receive a report on the Indian Education Program at a future meeting.

Administration

- A. Updates to the 2021-2022 Organizational Chart
Superintendent Beveridge reviewed changes to the Special Education Services administrative structure reflected in updates to the 2021-2022 Organizational Chart.
IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER HECOCTA, SECONDED BY MEMBER MORELL TO:
Approve the updated 2021-2022 SOESD Organizational Chart as presented.
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0
- B. Regional Advisory Council Appointment – Board Member Representation
Administration requested the Board appoint a member to serve as the board representative on the Regional Advisory Council (RAC). The seat, previously held by Christine Norton-Cotts, was vacated upon her retirement from the SOESD Board of Directors. It is required that an ESD or local school board

member hold a seat on the RAC. The council meets three times a year to discuss matters related to Special Education Regional Inclusive Services (RIS). Member Morell expressed interest in serving on the RAC.

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

Appoint Corbin Morell to serve as the Board's representative on the Regional Advisory Council.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

- C. Memorandum of Agreement with SOESD Employee Association/Southern Oregon Bargaining Council

Superintendent Beveridge reported that a tentative agreement had been reached with the licensed association regarding OAR 333-019-1030, COVID vaccination requirements for teachers and school staff. The Memorandum of Agreement with the licensed association was provided in the meeting packet for board members to review prior to the meeting.

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

Approve the MOA with the licensed association.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

- D. Contract for Services with Project Youth Plus

Administration requested board approval to enter into a contract with Project Youth Plus not to exceed \$150,000 for the period October 2021 to June 2023 to support recruiting new workers into the childcare field. Southern Oregon is facing a critical childcare workforce shortage. Without adequate access to childcare, workers in other sectors who have young children will have challenges retaining employment and children will lose out on essential early learning supports prior to kindergarten. Southern Oregon Early Learning Services (SOELS) convenes an Early Care and Education Workforce Committee and one of the strategies to address the workforce shortage is to invest funds into recruiting new workers into the field. A project was piloted with Project Youth Plus in the 2020-2021 school year with great success. SOELS would like to continue partnering with Project Youth Plus to offer paid internships and work experience in early childhood programs to youth in high schools in Jackson and Josephine Counties. The program will serve up to 40 general education and transitional students over two years and provide standardized early childhood training throughout the region. The goal is that each youth will be trained and have work experience to enter the workforce after successful completion of the program.

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

Approve entering into a contract with Project Youth Plus not to exceed \$150,000 for the period October 2021 to June 2023.

MOTION CARRIED 7-1; Member Morell Opposed

- E. Conditions of Employment for Non-Bargaining Labor Groups

The 2021-2022 Conditions of Employment for Non-Bargaining Labor Groups were presented for approval. Superintendent Beveridge reviewed the changes and additions: inclusion of previously board-approved compensation and insurance contributions, changes in the vacation provision, sunseting of the early retirement provision, addition of a tax-deferred savings contribution, and addition of a COVID-related leave provision. CFO Weaver

explained the financial impact, provided background on the changes in the conditions of employment, and addressed board members' questions.

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

Approve the 2021-2022 Conditions of Employment for Non-Bargaining Labor Groups.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Member Powell was absent at the time of the vote due to another commitment.

F. Board Policy Review and Rewrite

The board discussed the process for working with OSBA to conduct the full policy review and rewrite. After discussion, it was decided that the entire board will participate in the rewrite rather than appointing a subcommittee, with board members meeting in one-hour work sessions to do the policy review work from 5:00 – 6:00 PM preceding their regularly scheduled board meetings.

Business Affairs

2022-2023 SOESD Budget Year Calendar

CFO Weaver presented the proposed 2022-2023 budget year calendar and provided a brief overview of the timeline. Mr. Weaver noted that the first meeting of the budget committee is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER MIDDLETON, SECONDED BY MEMBER MORELL TO:
Approve the SOESD Budget Calendar for budget year 2022-2023.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Member Powell was absent at the time of the vote due to another commitment.

Miscellaneous

- A. Next Regular Meeting: November 17, 2021, 6:00 PM
- B. OSBA Regional Fall Meeting, October 28, 2021, 6:00 PM, by video/audio conference

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Converse adjourned the meeting of the Southern Oregon ESD Board of Directors at 7:45 PM.