

**DISTRICT CLERK'S BOOK OF RECORDS
LA GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1, UNION COUNTY, OREGON
November 15, 2023**

REGULAR MEETING: The board of directors of La Grande School District met in a regular session on Wednesday, November 15, 2023. Chair Randy Shaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

<u>QUORUM ESTABLISHED</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>
Randy Shaw, Chair	George Mendoza, Superintendent
Robin Jolin	Deb Comfort, Board Secretary
Bruce Kevan-online	Michelle Glover, Business Director
Danelle Lindsey, Vice Chair	Casey Hampton
Merle Comfort	Bryce Wagner, Student Representative
Jake Hanson	Scott Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent
	Stacy Shown
	Administrators, Various Patrons

INTRODUCTIONS, RECOGNITIONS and COMMUNICATION: None at this time.

REVIEW OF AGENDA: Policy **DJ-** District Purchasing was added to the agenda, as well as an Action Item for the ESSER III Spending Plan. The Action Item for sale of land was removed from this month's agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion: Director Merle Comfort made a motion and Director Danelle Lindsey seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows: **October 11, 2023, Regular Board Meeting** and **October 25, 2023, Special Board Meeting/Work Session, November 2023 Personnel Action and Policies: IGBHD - Program Exemptions**, KJA - Materials Distribution.** **Unanimous. (Attachment A- November 2023 Personnel Action)**

REPORTS/INFORMATION/PRESENTATIONS:

Island City Elementary: Principal Brett Smith, Kylee Goodwin and ICE students shared the Island City House System that is in place in the school. Kids now have another adult in the building that they are connected to as well as knowing students in other grades. ICE has also added a student leadership component, as well.

Student Representative Report: Student Representative Report was presented by Bryce Wagner, who shared the Fall Sports update. LHS will have a motivational speaker this Friday. Students enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to participate in Tigers Give Back. The fall musical, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, will be this Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Student involvement continues to improve.

OSEA Update: Wendie Perry and Jen Wilcox shared the building reports with highlights of the Veterans' Day Programs at Greenwood and Island City elementary schools, Central will have their Bingo Night tomorrow night and LMS's butter braids fundraiser went well. ICE is wrapping up their poinsettia fundraiser.

LEA Update: Stacy Shown and Kylee Goodwin shared that ICE will have a parent meeting later this month for the new overnight trip for fifth graders as OMSI is no longer offering the overnight option. Central fifth graders are using their lunch recess time to help in kindergarten classrooms and are enjoying the time they are spending with the younger students. Sole Kids running program's grand finale was at the end of October and went really well. LMS had a huge amount of 3.5 gpa and higher students from the first quarter-the awards assemblies were standing room only! LMS students also wrote letters to area veterans thanking them for their service, those who

received the letters were very appreciative. LHS loves their new staff room!

IMESD Report: November 2023 Board Talking points highlighted the Early Literacy Initiative that the IMESD is currently supporting area districts with. The Cybersecurity Exercise that was hosted by IMESD on October 24, provided a great proactive planning opportunity for the IMESD IT Department and district staff.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Mendoza shared about the OSBA Annual Convention that was attended by our board members this last week. We have an amazing board that is committed to serving LGSD and works well together.

Bond Update-The Plant and Operations Center will be getting window wraps in the near future. The Wildcat Center frame is being erected and the footings for the Greenhouse are now installed.

EOU and LGSD Collaboration: EOU and LGSD have many different projects where we are collaborating together-EOU lunch buddy programs, EOU reading tutors, Early College Initiatives that offer college classes with concurrent enrollment in LHS. EOU supports our staff wellness program with events and activities, as well as food and nutrition classes. LGSD plans to continue the collaboration with EOU to encourage students to obtain a higher education.

Some statewide issues are student behavior and enrollment, end of ESSER funding, Paid Leave Oregon and statewide assessments. Districts are still struggling with limited staffing and workforce shortages, as well as funding needed for increased facility needs.

Attendance continues to be a focus throughout LGSD. All schools have an attendance plan and are reviewing data on a regular basis. Greenwood's attendance is up 13%!! All schools in our district have increased daily attendance! LGSD will continue to keep attendance as a priority and will be running an attendance campaign.

Financial Report: Business Director Michelle Glover reported that we still do not have Grant Agreements. Hopefully we will have the agreements in the near future.

Business Director Glover shared she is continuing to work to collect the data from The Pension Obligation Bonds(POB) for 2002 and 2005.

The financials for 2023-2024 for the General Fund revenues are trending better than anticipated due to the Local Government Investment Pool currently paying at 5.0%. We are showing a slight variance due to the occupational therapist position being a contracted service rather than a district employee, as the position was in 2022-2023. Expenditures in the General Fund are trending as anticipated. All Funds revenue and expenses are trending as anticipated. No variances to report.

ESSER Funding: Any request to purchase items over \$5,000 must be requested through ODE prior to the purchase. ODS requires board approval for purchases over \$25,000. As ESSER Funding is going away, the district has several items they would like to purchase, as one time purchase. A district freezer, large enough to hold two weeks worth of food, some custodial equipment, vehicles, HVAC and technology. LGSD is currently working on a grant for HVAC at Greenwood. The board will be asked to take action on this item later in the meeting. **(Attachment B - Financials)**

OSBA 77th Annual Conference: Director Merle Comfort shared about the OSBA Annual Conference with the highlight being Dr. Adolph Brown, who spoke on not judging by how people look, while also highlighting self reflection and self correction. He also shared about the New Board Member Onboarding presentation that our team presented. Director Robin Jolin also shared about the presentation she attended about student voice, as well as adding how the New Board Member Onboarding Presentation went. Overall, the Board felt the conference was beneficial and they also enjoyed their time together.

Resolution 2024-11-Amend OSBA's Bylaws Relating to the Board of Directors: Superintendent Mendoza

recommended the board adopt the resolution. The board will take action on this item later in the meeting.

Resolution 2024-12-Amend the OSBA's 2018 Bylaws: Superintendent Mendoza recommended the board adopt the resolution. The board will take action on this item later in the meeting.

OSBA Legislative Policy Committee Election: Director Bruce Kevan is an excellent communicator and committee member and Superintendent Mendoza recommends that the board elect him for the Legislative Policy Committee, Position 1, Eastern Region. The board will take action on this item later in the meeting.

Budget Committee Vacancies: Three positions have expired, with two of the members, Mike Frasier and Wilson Zehr, being willing to continue on the committee. Member John Warness has chosen to not continue on the Budget Committee, so his open position will be advertised in December. Members Frasier and Zehr will need to submit their intent to continue on the Budget Committee in writing.

MidCo Update: Austin Tibbetts reported on the beginning of the year, stating no vehicle issues so far. Field trips are up about 10% this year, so far. MidCo is also working to be certain that each sports team gets to travel on the charter bus at least once each season. All drivers have completed their chain up classes for winter driving. Tibbetts also shared that there have been some issues with vaping on the bus. Business Director Glover mentioned that upgrading the bus cameras may be an option.

Strategic Plan Update, Part 1:

Indicator 1B: Attendance: Scott Carpenter and Chris Wagner shared how Attendance is improving districtwide and that the county is continuing its work on the Truancy Ordinance. Monthly incentives continue at each building as well as letters to every student in the district each quarter. The letters state what their student's current attendance is and how they compare to the rest of their class. So far, these letters have helped to encourage many families to improve student attendance.

Indicator 2A: Freshmen On-Track: Scott Carpenter and Eric Freeman shared how Freshman On-Track has improved from 60.5% to 85%, which exceeds the state average and is the highest number at LHS, ever. Regular tracking of the freshman class, 0 and 8th period study labs, and connections study labs (all periods) are just a few additions. Consistent scheduling and tracking are helping to keep the group on track. The expected graduation rate for this group is 98%, as of today. 90% of SPED freshmen students are on track to graduate.

Indicator 2B: Reading and Math Growth & Achievement: Monica West and Scott Carpenter shared on Reading and Math Growth and Achievement. iReady Math and Big Ideas are both new programs for Math districtwide. Wonders and WonderWorks as well as EOU tutoring and interventions are helping improve reading instruction. Science will be the curriculum adoption this spring. The assessments are providing teachers with diagnostic results to improve student reading and what skills need to be focused on. Effective Behavior and Instructional Support Data provides the EBIS Teams data to know how to help students with behavior issues. Our data allows us to be sure we are helping students with areas they need to improve in.

Indicator 2C: Graduation/Completer Rate: Scott Carpenter and Eric Freeman reported that CTE pathways students are graduating at a rate of 98.8%. All areas are improving and will continue to be tracked by the team. The current projected graduation rate for the class of 2024 is projected to be between 85%-95%. Superintendent Mendoza shared that 90% is the expectation, with a stretch goal of 95%.

SIA Report: We have invested in counselors and PE teachers, and are seeing positive results for our students. LGSD continues to offer dual credit courses for students, as well as fee scholarships. The Tiger House has been fully furnished with the necessary equipment. CTE programs have also received supplies and equipment. The LMS Leadership Program has been launched as well as updates to equipment in the LMS Wood/Metal Shop.

LGSD has shown significant progress on all three M98/HSS Goals and will continue to work to meet and exceed the goals the district has set.

DISCUSSION:

First Reading of Policies: **JGE** - Expulsion**, **EHB** - Cybersecurity, **DJ** - District Purchasing (**Related to the definition of parent): These policies have come to the Board for a first reading. Superintendent Mendoza reviewed the recommended changes and if no other changes are received, these policies will come back on the December 13, 2023, board meeting consent agenda for approval.

PUBLIC FORUM: No one signed up to speak.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Consideration of: Resolution 2024-11: Resolution to Amend Oregon School Boards Association's Bylaws Relating to Composition of the Board of Directors**

Director Robin Jolin moved and **Director Merle Comfort** seconded to approve Resolution 2024-11: Resolution to Amend Oregon School Boards Association's Bylaws Relating to Composition of the Board of Directors. **Unanimous. (Attachment C - Resolution 2024-11: Resolution to Amend Oregon School Boards Association's Bylaws Relating to Composition of the Board of Directors)**

2. **Consideration of: Resolution 2024-12: Resolution to Amend the OSBA's 2018 Bylaws**

Director Danelle Lindsey moved and **Director Jake Hanson** seconded to approve Resolution 2024-12: Resolution to Amend the OSBA's 2018 Bylaws. **Unanimous. (Attachment D - Resolution 2024-12: Resolution to Amend the OSBA's 2018 Bylaws)**

3. **Consideration of: OSBA Legislative Policy Committee Election of Bruce Kevan, Position 1, Eastern Region.**

Director Merle Comfort moved and **Director Danelle Lindsey** seconded to approve the **OSBA Legislative Policy Committee Election of Bruce Kevan, Position 1, Eastern Region. Unanimous. (Attachment E - OSBA 2023 Election Ballot)**

4. **Consideration of: ESSER III Spending Plan**

Director Jake Hanson moved and **Director Merle Comfort** seconded to approve the ESSER III Spending Plan. **Unanimous. (Attachment F - ESSER III Spending Plan)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS/DATES:

Regular Board Meeting, Weds, December 13, 2023, 7:00 PM, District Office Board Room, 1305 N. Willow St.

School Board Appreciation Month, January

Regular Board Meeting, Weds, January 10, 2024, 7:00 PM, District Office Board Room, 1305 N. Willow St.

Special Board Meeting/Work Session, Weds, January 24, 2024, 7:00 PM, District Office Board Room

Regular Board Meeting, Weds, February 14, 2024, 7:00 PM, District Office Board Room, 1305 N. Willow St.

Special Board Meeting/Work Session, Weds, February 28, 2024, 7:00 PM. District Office Board Room, 1305 N. Willow St.

PLC Meetings, Weds, March 13, 2024, La Grande Middle School, 1108 4th St
Regular Board Meeting, Weds., March 13, 2024, 7:00 PM, La Grande Middle School Commons, 1108 4th St.
PLC Meetings, Weds., April 10, 2024, La Grande High School, 708 K Ave.
Regular Board Meeting, Weds., April 10, 2024, 7:00 PM, La Grande High School Library, 708 K Ave.
Special Board Meeting/Work Session, Weds., April 24, 2024, 7:00 PM, District Office Board Room, 1305 N Willow St.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Mid Year Strategic Plan Review (December)**
- Audit Report (December)**
- Superintendent Evaluation (February)**
- Approve New Budget Committee Members (February)**
- Approve Budget Committee Calendar (March)**

Meeting adjourned: **9:17 PM**

APPROVE: _____ **ATTEST:** _____ **DATE:** _____