

Preliminary Business

Call To Order

Board Chair Pam Glenn called the Regular October Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Visiting Delegations

Board Chair Glenn welcomed guests and asked them to introduce themselves. Guests present were; Sarah Lucas, Tony Haddock, Ian Gordon, Matt Martin, Tim Phelps, and Yvonne Roberts. There was no public comment. It was noted that Bus #22 needed to be declared as surplus property. This was added to action items.

Consent Agenda

With no questions regarding the financial statements and bills paid, Joe Fisher moved to approve the minutes and bills paid as presented. Jason Beck seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Reports

Audit Report

Yvonne Roberts, CPA from Connected Professional Accountants, was present to provide the June 30, 2023 Audit Report. She reviewed the required correspondence and noted that the audit went very well and the District received the highest opinion possible and there were no concerns. She then reviewed the audit document in detail and highlighted areas for the Board to review and asked that if they had any questions to reach out to her. The Board thanked Mrs. Roberts for her informative report.

IMESD Talking Points

Superintendent Waite provided the IMESD Talking Points. It was reported that the IMESD will host their first board conference in Pendleton. It was felt that an eastern Oregon conference would provide superintendents and board members an opportunity to collaborate with one another and discuss issues that pertain to the local districts. He asked that any board member interested in attending to let him know so that he could get them registered.

Transportation/Maintenance Report

In the absence of Drew Williams, Superintendent Waite reported that Glen Olson, the newly hired bus driver, had finished all of his training and testing and is now just waiting on ODE to approve and send his license. It was reported that one of the buses damaged a parked car while in Cove for a game Thursday. No one was injured. Superintendent Waite reported that, due to extensive ODE repair requirements, Bus #22 will no longer be used and can be sold or disposed of. On the maintenance side, the work order system has been reimplemented to streamline and track maintenance/repair requests. The final electrical inspection for the concession stand was recently completed and the concession stand is up and running. The PACE insurance representative recently visited and inspected the school and grounds. It was reported that the fall protection on the playground will need to be replaced as pea gravel no longer meets the safety requirements. Some eye stations will need to be added throughout the facilities as well.

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Principal/Activity Report

Mr. Mills reported that currently the 7-12 enrollment is 157 with the 11th grade being the largest class with 35 and the 9th grade a close second with 32. The smallest class is the 10th grade with 19. 39% of the 7-12 enrollment is made up of out of district students. Mr. Mills reported that the first Enrichment Friday went well with about half of the students participating in the various activities. He reported that they are already working on activities for November's Enrichment Day.

It was reported that the volleyball team is currently in the third place position of our side of the league. They will be hosting league crossover games with the other half of the league. Cross Country has been placing individuals at meets and have enough members to compete as a team. Football is playing well and will be facing the undefeated Elgin Huskies the upcoming Friday.

Drew Williams arrived at 7:20 pm.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Waite reported that the legislature passed SB732 that will require school districts to set up a District Equity Advisory Committee by 2025. He informed the board that he is looking into moving the La Grande bus drop-off/pick-up to the LDS church in Island City. He noted that, with the increased number of out-of-district students, the current location is crowded and dangerous for kids and buses.

Superintendent Waite reported that, with the purchase of 205 chromebooks this year, we are in good shape with technology. He reported that IMESD recommended the purchase of five new desktop computers to replace some of the older ones. They will cost approximately \$1,500 each.

Enrichment Day turnout at the elementary level was almost 90 students. The most popular activities were the bike tour and the GO STEM activity. He noted that with some improvements in some areas, he hopes to have even better turn out with the November Enrichment Day.

Old Business

Track Project Update

Ian Gordon provided a track layout display and noted that it was the 7th version and, more than likely, the one that will be presented for proposal. He reported that the committee received one proposal for an eight lane track with no lights. The proposal was approximately \$1.3 million. He informed those present that there is approximately \$30,000 in the track project account, which includes a \$15,000 donation from Mountain West Moving. He noted that the committee is finalizing the relationship with the IEF so that they can go out and solicit donations. They have started looking into the grant writing process and NEOD will be donating two weeks of time to help get them started with this process along with website development. The finance committee estimated they could come up with \$350,000 from local donations. They are developing ideas to generate large donations and hoping for in-kind donations from local businesses of approximately \$200,000. This, along with the contingency from the district, would put them close to half the amount they will need for the project.

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Mr. Gordon noted that, if they can't get the grants necessary for the proposed plan, they may need to look at scaling down the project. He then presented a proposed MOU between the committee and the District to show that the project has the support of the District and to show potential donors that it is a joint project. He is hoping to get the agreement signed by the end of October so that they can begin soliciting grants. Superintendent Waite noted that the MOU commits the district to \$150,000 for the project contingency and future maintenance costs.

Locker Room Project Update

Superintendent Waite reported that the HVAC and plumbing should be done this week. The sidewalks, electrical and fire alarm should be completed the following week. He noted that he is hoping to have occupancy by the end of next week and the final walk through the end of the first week of October. The lockers need to be moved and disassembled and the new lockers for the girl's side need to be assembled. He anticipates a work party on October 13th to assemble new lockers, move old lockers and disassemble and move the repurposed lockers. Hoping for full occupancy by winter sports.

Action Items

Approve Staff Hiring - Jr. High Assistant Volleyball Coach

Mr. Mills recommended the hiring of Aspen Smith for the Jr. High Assistant Volleyball Coach. He reported that she has been helping with the team and Mrs. Dinsmore felt she would be a good addition. Jason Beck moved to approve the hiring. Joe Fisher seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Approve Staff Resignation - Celine Burke, Music Instructor

Superintendent Waite reported that Ms. Burke had resigned from her position. Joe Fisher moved to approve the resignation. Jason Beck seconded the motion which was unanimously passed.

Adopt Superintendent Evaluation Standards and Timeline

Teressa Dewey presented the standards and timeline used for previous evaluations. She asked if the Board wanted to make any changes to either the standards or timeline. Jason Beck moved to approve the evaluation standards and timeline as presented. Joe Fisher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Declare Surplus Property

Drew Williams reported that the Oregon Department of Education was requiring significant repairs to Bus #22 in order to keep it in service. He stated that the work would have cost between \$10,000 - \$15,000 to complete and the bus was not worth putting that much money into it. He recommended the bus be declared surplus property so that it could be sold or disposed of. Joe Fisher moved to approve the declaration of surplus property. Jason Beck seconded the motion which was unanimously passed.

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Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Members Present

Jason Beck, Joe Fisher and Pam Glenn.

Others Present

Randy Waite, Superintendent; Mike Mills, Principal/AD; and Teresa Dewey, Deputy Clerk.

Chairman

Deputy Clerk