

**Redmond School District
School Board & City Council
Special Meeting
November 12, 2013**

In attendance: AJ Losoya, Chairman, Ron Munkres, Vice-Chairman, Directors Rick Bailey, Bob Perry, Superintendent Mike McIntosh, district staff; Trish Huspek, Kelly Richard, Linda Seeberg, Chris Morton, Karen Gray, Nicole MacTavish, City Council members; Mayor George Endicott, Councilor Joe Centanni, Camden King, Tory Allman, Jenny McPherson, Jay Patrick, Ed Onimus, City Manager, Keith Witcosky, Community members, Sandy Cloud, Jerry Andres, and approximately 25 unidentified community members.

Mayor Endicott and AJ Losoya called the meeting to order at 5:00pm with a quorum of four RSD board members and seven city council members.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Endicott opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and asking that board members and city council members introduce themselves to the group.

Mayor Endicott stated there has been an effort for quite a while to get both groups together. We have common interests in working with kids to help them succeed. We felt it important to get together to talk about mutual efforts we can engage in to make our kids successful in our community. We at the city have to recognize that the school district is bigger than the city limits. The school district includes the communities in Crooked River Ranch, Tumalo and Terrebonne. These communities are important to the city but we also know the kids at Ridgeview or Redmond High School can be outside of the city limits. We know the boundaries aren't the same and we take that into account."

AJ Losoya stated that the school board appreciates everyone being here tonight. Since I first began on the board it has been a passion of Mayor Endicott and Cathy Miller to get both entities together. Redmond is a small city and there is no reason we can't get the two groups together. We want everyone to walk away tonight feeling that it was a meaningful discussion."

Meeting Focus - Creating an Environment for Success

- *Meeting Topic:* Tools and common goals for helping provide every student with a chance to succeed while becoming model citizens for Redmond.

Superintendent McIntosh stated, "We don't get a chance as community leaders, boards and councils to talk about the common topic of kids. Where the kids intersect is where our two agencies intersect. Our goal is to create a stronger partnership by identifying things that are currently happening in the city and to see if there are other things that could be put into place to support the students. Our efforts can be joined to strengthen opportunities for our students."

Keith Witcosky, City Manager stated that this is a great opportunity for these two bodies to come together prior to any crisis bringing them together. We have an opportunity to create a great environment for kids and to help them see there are paths and opportunities in Redmond to get involved in our community.

Things that are currently in place (partnerships)

- What do you see are the things that already exist? Places where we share common ground.
 - Redmond Community Concert Association uses Ridgeview auditorium for their performances.
 - Events at Ridgeview; regional playoffs, state wrestling events. This venue is bringing in a great deal of revenue for the City of Redmond. Economic impact to our community.
 - Partnership with the police department having SRO's in the schools. Both fiscal and human resource assets.
 - College partnerships; Advanced Diploma with COCC, George Fox has space in Ridgeview High School. The building was designed to be able to host community events
 - Upcoming opportunity – effort to have student representation on all of our committees and commissions.
 - Trying to get youth representation so that they can provide input. The skate and bike parks were created because of input from students. ADA ramps were expedited due to a request from a student. The youth can make a difference. If they have issues they think the city needs to address, Mayor Endicott would encourage the students to come and talk with the City Council members.
 - It was recommended that a media release be created that would publicize the opportunities available to students to become involved in city government. The Dry Canyon master planning is an example where students can provide input on the amenities that could be included in that planning.
 - It was recommended that a Youth Leadership Redmond program be created. This program would help the students learn about the community. Upon graduation the students could spend one year as a youth representative on a non-profit board to learn governance. Another idea would be to identify learning objectives so that the students could get credit for their service.
 - There is an effort currently happening to revitalize the CTE programs in the high schools. Develop school to work programs. Bridge with employers to come into the schools to talk about career opportunities available in the community. There are currently 12 companies who are ready to engage in this process. This could also be bridged back to the city and the opportunities available in government. Nicole MacTavish reported that when they were working on the grant it was evident that manufacturing was a large focus. Work ready graduates are the community's priorities but keeping up with currently technology is a hurdle. Difficult for us as a system to deliver a student who can walk out of the school into a job given the ever changing technology.

Jerry Andres stated that a successful program is the Key Clubs sponsored by the Kiwanis. The students come to a service meeting of adults and then the adults come into the high school to attend their meetings. It is a very rewarding program. Service clubs in the community are a great resource to allow adults to interact with students. This is an example of adults working with young people in our community for the benefit of our community.

What can we do to help our community understand how important education and learning is?

- Emphasis on education is something Redmond has struggled with for a long time. Compared to the emphasis we put on athletics, academics hasn't had a high value placed on it. Improving culture needs to happen one student at a time.
- One of the successes of Head Start is that they are required to be involved. They are not allowed to be apathetic about their student's education.
- Mayor Endicott reported that when he goes into the schools to talk with government classes he is impressed with the students once they engage and start showing interest and understanding.
- Superintendent McIntosh stated that the kids deserve an opportunity to share their passion. "We have awesome kids in our system."
- School Resource Officers have very positive interactions with students. The program is growing with SRO's in the middle schools. We are talking about a minority of the students who have issues. The

majority of the students are great. The Text-a-Tip program is up and running. Not a lot of usage yet but it will take time for the students to trust the use of the program.

- Technology is changing so quickly. Kids are going to be bored stiff without having the latest technology and if we are not challenging the students they are going to fall behind.
- Don't want to create a culture that is dependent on technology; also need to teach the basics (be able to make change, know the correct words to use)
- Leadership determines the culture of the district and community.
- Need people outside of the schools to come alongside the students to mentor and inspire them.
- Joe Centanni reminded everyone there is a huge population that we need to remember and that is the parents. "Speaking as a parent who wants to be involved in my kid's education. Too often information is given to the students and they are expected to convey that information to their parents. The district needs to get the information directly to the parents. The parents want to be a part of the education system but if they aren't informed how do they know how to get involved."
- If we are doing a good job of bringing the real world into the classroom then we are modeling career opportunities available to them.

Engagement – Organization to Organization

- Mayor Endicott stated there is a perception that school districts are insular. Not sure why that exists.
 - Superintendent McIntosh stated, "We are carrying a tremendous weight in representing what is best for our kids. We need to share that partnership in carrying the weight of those kids. It is easy to get wrapped up in procedures and miss the people that you impact. That is our challenge as a school board and city council. As we strive to hook kids up with adults, we can't be on an island, we have to reach across and connect up. How do we show kids there are alternatives to what they are doing? We get entrenched in what we are doing and we forget there are other people who can help. We don't intend on doing our work in a vacuum and we need to remember to surround ourselves with people who can help. There is value in a grass roots effort in engaging in positive and supportive conversations and not focus on the negative. Support the effort instead of tearing it down."
- Martha Hinman reported there is a program called "Better Together" that is an organization of business, community, pre-school, and secondary education leaders who are having conversations on how we support students from cradle to college. The program is based on *All Hands Raised* out of Portland. It is a well-researched type of approach to building capacity in communities for students. RSD is now involved in that organization.

Identified priorities from tonight's conversation:

- Business Interaction
- Creating real-world opportunities
- Staying positive and communicate successes

ADJOURN

Mayor Endicott and AJ Losoya adjourned the meeting at 6:30pm.

AJ Losoya, Board Chair

Trish Huspek, Executive Assistant