

**Redmond School District  
School Board Meeting  
May 16, 2012**

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**In Attendance:** Chair Jim Erickson, Vice-Chair Cathy Miller, Directors Ric Little, AJ Losoya, Bob Perry, Superintendent Shay Mikalson, RSD Staff; Mike McIntosh, Mollie O'Brien, Trish Huspek, Gina Blanchette, Desiree Margo, Linda Seeberg, Association Representatives – Karen Gray-REA and Mary Anne Agee-OSEA, Media, Ben Botkin (*Bend Bulletin*), approximately 40 community/staff members.

Board Chair Jim Erickson called the meeting to order with a quorum of five at 5:30 p.m.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Art on the River Donation**

Joan Sheets from Art on the River was in attendance to present the district with a check for \$1,500.00 to support art in the district. Four years ago they began *Art on the River Show and Sale at Eagle Crest*. During this annual event a raffle is held and 100% of the proceeds go to the Redmond School District. Ms. Sheets requested the money be divided between three schools to make sure the money touches as many students as possible.

Superintendent Mikalson accepted the check and stated that, “We always talk about math and reading scores but when you talk with the students at Tumalo Community School, who has been a recipient of these funds in the past, what they remember most is the artist in residence. Receiving this money means the world to the district.”

**Lynch Elementary School**

Desiree Margo, Principal at Lynch Elementary School expressed her appreciation to the Board for approving use of bond funds to remodel the school.

Ms. Margo introduced her leadership team and expressed her appreciation to them for all of their work. “It takes great teachers and staff to make a great school and I appreciate each one of them.”

Ms. Margo introduced Linda Brown, who is a retired music teacher who has been working with the students for the last six weeks to integrate their studies with music. Being led by Ms. Brown, grade four students performed songs that have significant meaning to Oregon.

Ms. Margo reviewed the schools District Performance Plan. They have been focusing on reading and writing. Students from several grade levels were given the opportunity to read one of the stories they have been working on during the year. Ms. Margo reported that School Improvement Wednesdays have been extremely beneficial to the staff this year.

She further reported that Lynch Elementary is one of five Community Schools in the district. She stated these programs focus on welcoming families into the school to reduce the barriers that exist. They become a welcoming hub of activity.

Cathy Miller stated there is a tremendous amount of energy at Lynch Elementary and she commends the entire staff.

## PROCEDURAL ITEMS

### Citizen Participation for Non-Agenda Items

*Fred VonSeggern – Counselor.* Mr. VonSeggern thanked the Board for the time they give and acknowledged that being on the Board is a thankless job. He stated he was present to speak about the budget crisis. He reported the OSBA website states that the Redmond School District is “worse off than most.” He continued by stating, “In 2010-11 the district made the most cuts in a district having 3000 or more students and our certified staff are in the bottom of all the school districts of our size. I assume administration and classified staff has taken the same cuts. The district does an incredible job of educating our students. Redmond is the model school district for using innovative strategies. But, we don’t have that creativity when it comes to solving the budget issues. It doesn’t seem like we have a strategy to solve the problem long term.” He understands that we need to make sacrifices but the people who are making the most sacrifices are the students in the district because of cut days or larger class sizes.

In considering ways to be more creative to solve the budget problem he spoke to the impact the Redmond Proficiency Academy (RPA) has on the Redmond School District. He believes it is our stakeholders who are making the sacrifices to fund the charter school. He provided and reviewed a document with the Board that listed the number of students who attend the RPA and the funding they receive per student. In addition the document listed the FTE impact to the Redmond School District. “I am not here to debate the RPA because it is a good program for the students that it serves. But I am not sure how we justify it to the parents of our district. The cap of students who are allowed to attend the RPA continues to increase and that is a Board decision. Every time that number increases, we lose teachers or  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a day of school. In prosperous times, when we were growing, it wasn’t a problem but now it is creating a larger deficit. It is the employees of the district, but more importantly it is the students in the district, who are paying the price. How do we look at the parents of 6000 students in the eye and tell them we are giving them every child, every chance every day when we are cutting days of school. Tell me why my daughter has to make the sacrifice for 500 students. I understand this is a tough decision. We need to look at this situation creatively. Do we continue to ask staff to make these sacrifices for 500 students?”

Jim Erickson thanked Mr. VonSeggern for his comments. He stated the Board has been briefed on the concerns regarding the RPA. He encourages everyone to keep talking.

*Tony Brown – Math teacher.* When looking for creative ways to solve the budget shortfall he asked why the district still plans on running two high schools. He would suggest moving everyone into Ridgeview next year and then the remodel at Redmond High School could be completed without students in the building. He also asked who staff can forward budget ideas to.

Jim Erickson stated there is an FAQ online that answers his questions regarding the two high schools. In addition, any additional questions and ideas can be sent to Mike McIntosh. “As much as the facts can be out to everyone, then everyone is talking about the same thing and it is more likely that collaborative process can lead to solutions.”

Cathy Miller stated the Board is looking at a three to five year budget. They are looking at a long range emphasis. “We are hearing that we cannot continue year to year of doing the same thing again. There are skill sets that need to be continually tapped to continue to look at the challenges of the future. There is no doubt that we have the skill sets and talent to find the solution. We might need to go in a different direction but we will do that collaboratively.”

## PRESENTATIONS

### Superintendent Update

- Reported the district is one of eleven districts who have received an Oregon School District Collaboration Grant. The exact amount of the award is not yet known but anticipate receiving that information next week. Superintendent Mikalson expressed his appreciation to both Lynn Evans and Steve Stancliff for

their work on the grant. “Every person who has participated in the CLASS project for the last three years has put us in the position to receive these resources.”

### **Association Reports**

Mary Anne Agee – OSEA

- Reported she is the newly elected President
- OSEA Chapter #84 awarded two \$500 non-renewable scholarships last night at RHS
- Contract negotiations are ongoing
- She will be publishing a quarterly newsletter to the classified membership. Publishing methods will include an electronic edition via district email and a paper copy bring delivered to each worksite. This publication will provide clear communication, relevant information, electronic links to various resources, explanation of benefits and information on happenings in our district, city and region. As this resource develops she anticipates the size and frequency of the newsletter to increase.
- This year OSEA’s state conference will take place June 28-30 and will be held at the Red Lion on the River in Portland. The chapter is allowed to send up to 10 delegates. At this time five delegates will be attending.

Karen Gray – REA

- Scheduled to hold a vote on TIF grant participation on May 31<sup>st</sup>. By the time of the vote, Superintendent Mikalson, Steve Stancliff and Karen Gray will have visited each building to provide information to staff members.
- She has been reelected as the president of the REA. Josh Davis was also reelected as vice-president. Also elected were Kelly Hicks and Jamie Hartford.
- REA awarded 15 scholarships to students of Redmond teachers.
- Contract negotiations are ongoing.

### **Bond Projects Update**

Mike McIntosh provided a PowerPoint presentation showcasing the work that has been completed because of the 2008 Bond proceeds. Objectives of each project were highlighted. Remodels at John Tuck Elementary, MA Lynch, and Tumalo Community School were reviewed. In addition, a major remodel of Redmond High School will begin this summer.

Mr. McIntosh reported that the Bond dollars approved by the citizens will have touched every building at a deep level. “This is celebratory in the sense we couldn’t have asked for a better “shot in the arm” to make our schools last longer.” He expressed his appreciation to the Board for moving forward on the bond.

Jim Erickson expressed his appreciate to Brett Hudson and Jerry Milstead, Construction Project Managers for their work in making the remodel operations smooth.

### **Public Hearing on Local Contracting Rules**

None

Mike McIntosh reported that when the Attorney General provides an update on purchasing rules the district is required by law either adopt them as is or adopt them with exceptions. Being reviewed tonight are those updates in Exhibit A as well as exceptions the district is recommending (Exhibit B). This is the same document the Board approved last year. No changes have been made. If they had been different we would have engaged in a process that would provide findings.

The basic change in the law is how the district can select architects and engineers. The district can no longer know what the fee is prior to accepting a proposal. This change does not affect us directly because we do not have any projects coming up.

## ACTION ITEMS

### Consent Agenda

- Personnel Changes
- School Board Regular Minutes from April 25, 2012
- Gift to the District
- Out of District Field Trip

Mike reviewed the Gifts to the District. He acknowledged the huge impact these gifts have on the district by providing funds for field trips and other vital programs that wouldn't be able to be funded without them.

*Cathy Miller moved and AJ Losoya seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.*

*Votes: Jim Erickson-Yes; Ric Little-Yes; Cathy Miller-Yes; AJ Losoya – Yes; Bob Perry – yes*

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### Transition Plan Recommendation

Superintendent Mikalson reported that he is scheduled to make his recommendation to the Board on how to fill the vacant superintendent position during this transition. He reported that a Transition Team was created and met three times. The group consisted of 16 members representing a broad range of stakeholders. Their role was to serve as a sounding board where Superintendent Mikalson could communicate ideas and get additional perspectives.

The groups charge was not about how to accomplish the priorities established by the Board but to help determine what the leadership structure should be. It will be up to the person who is chosen to serve as superintendent to identify and guide a leadership team in meeting the goals and priorities for the district.

Superintendent Mikalson stated there are three options available to the Board; internal candidates, outside candidates or a shared service model. The Board has already established that at this time they do not want to launch an outside superintendent search. It is Superintendent Mikalson's recommendation the Board consider an internal candidate to fill the position of superintendent. His recommendation is Mike McIntosh. He would fulfill the role of superintendent while also maintaining his responsibilities as Director of Operations. This appointment would be for a one-year transition period. Superintendent Mikalson state, "Mike is a key leader in the district and has earned trust of the employees, the Board and community. When I was fortunate to step into this role Mike was one of the first people I wanted as a co-leader in this work. This task is large and I am confident he is the right person to step up while the Board searches for a permanent superintendent."

Jim Erickson reported that Superintendent Mikalson established a clear process for the Transition Team by engaging in dialogue, establishing a process to allow all participants to put their voice out without risk of criticism and by helping the team focus on the different options. "A theme that was identified during the meetings was that stability is critical in the district. This recommendation facilitates that need for stability. From the Boards viewpoint an internal candidate brings knowledge of the progress we are making in the district. It prevents spending the next six months educating someone about who we are and what we are about."

Superintendent Mikalson stated that if selected as superintendent for the next year, Mike would be responsible for establishing strong teams at every level and identifying the people on the leadership team. He would keep the Board updated on that process and ultimately come to the Board with the leadership team decisions. "I have great confidence in his ability to use the people already here and to use their great abilities to continue to move the priorities of the Board forward.

Jim Erickson stated that, “Shay’s leadership in this process is commendable. He is trying to do everything he can to ensure the success of whoever is selected. He is acknowledging the next leader, is the leader.”

Cathy Miller stated this process has complimented and supports the commitment to collaboration.

AJ Losoya expressed his appreciation to Superintendent Mikalson for his leadership in this process. “He couldn’t have done a better job in organizing this transition. I have complete confidence in Mike. He commands a great deal of respect in the community and schools.”

*Cathy Miller made a motion to accept Superintendent Mikalson’s recommendation that Mike McIntosh become the superintendent for one year. AJ seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.*

*Votes: Jim Erickson-Yes; Ric Little-Yes; Cathy Miller-Yes; AJ Losoya – Yes; Bob Perry - yes*

Jim Erickson stated that Mike McIntosh is the right man for the job and expressed his appreciation to him for stepping up. “We will all work with him in the process and we will find our way through these things.”

Lee Loving expressed his appreciation to the Board for “picking the right man.”

Superintendent Mikalson stated, “Mike McIntosh is a man of integrity and that is the foundation of a great leader.”

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Resolution 12:050 – Amended Public Contracting Rules**

No further discussion on this resolution was requested by the Board.

*Bob Perry moved to adopt the amended public contracting rules and procedures and to adopt class special procurements and exemptions to the public contracting code. Cathy Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.*

*Roll Call Votes: Jim Erickson-Yes; Ric Little-Yes; Cathy Miller-Yes; AJ Losoya – Yes; Bob Perry - yes*

### **Resolution 12:049 – Authorization for Advance Refunding of a Portion of the District’s 2004A and 2008A General Obligation Bonds**

Mollie O’Brien and Mike McIntosh reported that in the fall of 2009 the district went through a process of preparing/aligning for an advance refunding of the 2008 GO Bond series. Seattle Northwest prepared a resolution which the Board authorized allowing staff to proceed with an advance refunding within certain parameters but the market shifted and the potential savings disappeared so we were not able to complete the refunding.

The district is again in a position to potentially recognize savings from an advance refunding of General Obligation bonds. The 2004 bond series, which is relatively small, is showing a significant savings; the large 2008 series are just below where they would need to be in order to recognize the minimum savings required under Oregon law. It is their believe it is time to proceed with the 2004 refunding and also position the district to be ready to proceed if the savings materialize on the 2008 issue and that refunding can be accomplished in unison with the 2004 savings. Authorization of our Board would only be valid for one year. If the bonds were not able to be closed in that timeframe, the Board would need to reauthorize.

Mike McIntosh stated the savings will not be large to an individual taxpayer but as stewards of these bonds it is vital to represent the best interests of those who authorized the bonds.

AJ Losoya reported the entire finance committee agreed it was the right time to proceed on the 2004 bonds.

*Cathy Miller moved the Board approve Resolution 12:049 authorizing the issuance, negotiated sale and delivery of the General Obligation Refunding bonds in an aggregate principal not to exceed \$70,000,000 as attached. Bob Perry seconded the motion.*

*Roll Call Votes: Jim Erickson-Yes; Ric Little-Yes; Cathy Miller-Yes; AJ Losoya – Yes; Bob Perry - yes*

**Board Updates**

Jim Erickson reported that he and Cathy Miller have been on the transition team and will continue to be a sounding board for Mike as he implements his leadership team. “The transitional team facilitates the feedback coming from all of the stakeholder groups. Mike will then lead based on that information.”

Cathy Miller reported as the Board’s ESD Representative the budget process continues and she continues to attend ESD bargaining session.

**Requests for Agenda Items**

- Work session on May 30<sup>th</sup>
  - 2012-2013 Budget
  - Board Meeting Structure for 2012-2013 (time permitting)

Bob Perry expressed his appreciation to the other Board members for all of the time they have spent serving in various aspects in the district; transition team, negotiation team and finance committee.

Cathy Miller reminded the Board she will not be in town for the June 13 Board meeting.

**ADJOURN**

*AJ Losoya moved and Bob Perry seconded the motion to adjourn at 10:45 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.  
Votes: Jim Erickson-Yes; Ric Little-Yes; Cathy Miller-Yes; AJ Losoya – Yes; Bob Perry - yes*

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Jim Erickson, School Board Chair

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Trish Huspek, Executive Assistant