

Greater Albany Public School District 8J  
718 Seventh Avenue SW  
Albany, Oregon 97321-2399



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
August 25, 2008 7:00 p.m.

**Minutes**

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*Maria Delapoer, Superintendent*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Bacher called the regular meeting of the School Board to order at 7:03 p.m.

Don Bacher	Board Chair
Sandi Gordon	Board Vice Chair
Frank Bricker	Director
Liisa Reid	Director
Tom Sramek	Director
Maria Delapoer	Superintendent
Steve Kunke	Assistant Superintendent
Randy Lary	Human Resources Director
Russell Allen	Business and Operations Director

A list of others present at the meeting is filed with the original minutes. It was noted that a quorum of the Board was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Chair Bacher led attendees in the pledge of allegiance.

**COMMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS**

None.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Lisa Shogren, president of the Greater Albany Education Association said that she and the members of the Greater Albany Education Association looked forward to a fair and equitable settlement for all of the licensed employees.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1) Minutes from August 11, 2008 Regular Board Meeting
- 2) Personnel (with Addendum)
- 3) Financial Report
- 4) Board Policies
  - FFA, Commemorative Donations
  - IKEA Middle School Promotion Standards

Board Chair Bacher said that if there were no objections, the Board would approve the consent agenda. Board Chair Bacher DECLARED THE ACTION DECIDED by unanimous consent.

### **BOARD REPORTS**

Board Chair Bacher spoke as the Board's Legislative Liaison. He said that he and Superintendent Delapoe met on August 19 with State Representative Andy Olson. Board Chair Bacher said that Representative Olson indicated his willingness to meet with area superintendents and school boards to discuss education matters.

Director Bricker reported that the Dual Language Committee met during the previous week. He said that committee members would schedule visits to school districts currently offering a dual language program. He said that other Board members would be welcome to participate.

Director Reid spoke of the Albany Public Schools Foundation Eat & Run event. She said that the "Eat" portion of the event would be at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 12 at Wyatt's Eatery. She said that the "Run" portion of the event would begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 13 at the North Albany Village. She said that participants would receive a commemorative t-shirt.

Board Chair Reid asked if any directors were interested in representing the Linn-Benton-Lincoln region for the Oregon School Boards Association Board of Directors. None of the directors indicated a desire to serve in that capacity.

### **BUSINESS**

#### ***CONFER AND CONSULT***

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen summarized proposed agreements with the administrator and confidential employee groups. He said that both groups had insurance benefit reopeners for 2008-09. Mr. Allen reported that the administrators agreed to the same insurance cap increase provided for classified employees: 2.9 percent. He said that Confidential employees agreed to reopen the entire contract resulting in an agreement to match the administrator insurance cap in 2008-09 and 2009-2010; a salary increase of 3.4 percent in 2008-09 and CPI (minimum of 2 percent, maximum of 4 percent) in 2009-2010. Mr. Allen reported that as a part of the agreement, Confidential employees agreed to give up two paid personal days per year.

Action: Director Sramek moved to approve the proposed confer and consult agreement with administrator and confidential employees. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### ***BUS FINANCING***

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen requested approval of a resolution allowing for the financing of five new school buses with Municipal Asset Management, Inc. He said that the district would finance \$525,000 at an interest rate of 4.187 percent.

Director Gordon asked of the bus manufacturer's warranty. Mr. Allen said that he would research the answer.

Director Reid noted that the district would purchase five new school buses. She asked how many buses would be retired. Mr. Allen estimated that the district would retire three vehicles and retain two buses to be able to provide additional transportation routes during the school year.

Action: Director Bricker moved to approve the Resolution 08/09-14. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **REPORTS**

### ***K-8 MATH PACING GUIDE***

Assistant Superintendent Steve Kunke introduced Curriculum Director Diane Smith and stated that she would review the background and benefits of the new K-8 Math Pacing Guide that teachers will begin using this year.

Ms. Smith offered several transparencies to illustrate the complexity of mathematics standards of instruction. She said that the standards were recently revised by Brown University and the National Association of Teachers of Math into a more manageable format. She provided the third grade standards as an example. She said that the new third grade requirements include three core standards. Ms. Smith said that each of the standards has a sub-standard to guide the instruction in the larger concept. She reported that similar standards were crafted for every grade from Kindergarten through eighth grade. Ms. Smith testified that similar standards would be created for high school students in the coming year.

She explained that future instructional material and state assessment tests would be aligned to the new standards. She further stated that teachers would be able to provide students more practice in problem solving, hands-on application and connection to industry standards. She said that grades K-5 would have a greater emphasis on arithmetic. She said that grades 6-8 would have a greater emphasis on algebra to prepare students for meeting the three years of high school mathematics required for graduation.

Director Gordon asked if the mathematics standards would be made available to parents. Ms. Smith replied that the standards were incorporated into the new elementary level report card.

### ***BOARD CONFERENCE AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES***

Executive Assistant Jim Haggart summarized the Board conference and professional training opportunities for the 2008-09 school year. He said that most of the information was drawn from the websites of the Oregon School Boards Association and the National School Boards Association. He provided estimates for registration, travel and lodging expenses.

Board Chair Bacher asked the directors to identify the conferences and training opportunities they wished to attend. The Board members indicated their preferences.

Board Chair Bacher said that the National School Boards Association would sponsor a technology and learning conference on October 28-30, 2008 in Seattle. He suggested it would be appropriate for the district to send a team to the event.

### ***CONSTRUCTION UPDATE***

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen said that a Board member asked of the possibility of a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new addition to North Albany Middle School. Mr. Allen noted that the school scheduled an Open House for September 16. He suggested that date for a ceremony.

Mr. Allen noted that the Board packets contained the Bond Master Progress List as well as a summary of bond fund investments. He invited project manager Ed Fitz-Patrick to the lectern.

Mr. Fitz-Patrick noted that earlier in the day, Board members had participated in a tour of several of the construction sites. He said that he would focus his comments that evening on the construction sites that the Board members did not visit.

He directed the Board's attention to the Master Progress List and noted that the district spent \$20,383,200 of the \$58,513,878 provided by the school bond. He said that he expected total expenditures to exceed \$24 million by the next meeting. He noted that quite a bit of work had been completed and stated that the district was making very good progress.

Mr. Fitz-Patrick said that South Albany and West Albany High schools each received new energy efficient boilers. He said that asbestos tile was removed from the corridors of all three middle schools and replaced with new tile. He said that electrical upgrades were performed at South Albany and West Albany High Schools and Lafayette, Periwinkle and Sunrise Elementary Schools.

He reported that fire alarms were replaced at the three middle schools. He said that work to replace the fire alarm at West Albany High School was underway. In the interim, he said, fire alarm protection would be provided by the older, but still fully functional system.

Mr. Fitz-Patrick said that the district had removed or decommissioned ten of the seventeen underground fuel tanks. He said that the remaining seven tanks would be removed during the following summer.

He spoke of the seismic upgrades to Central Elementary School. He said that the connection between the floors and walls were strengthened, the entrances were reinforced and the parapets over each outside doorway were reinforced.

Director Sramek asked if the district found any surprises in the work at Central Elementary School. Mr. Fitz-Patrick replied that construction went as anticipated.

Mr. Fitz-Patrick reported that the City of Albany Planning Commission approved the project for the bus loop at Periwinkle Elementary School. He estimated that work would begin during the second week of school and be completed by early October. He said that work on the project would not impact classroom instruction.

Executive Assistant Jim Haggart reported that the August 23, 2008 edition of the Albany Democrat Herald newspaper include a photo and discussion of construction of the new Timber Ridge School. He said that the article also stated that the school district was anticipating an enrollment increase of about 150 students for the 2008-09 school year. He said that the information was consistent with the district's message to the community that the school district is growing.

***CELL TOWER PROPOSAL***

Business and Operations director Russ Allen stated that several months ago staff was contacted by a site acquisition agent for wireless facilities – cell towers. He explained that the agent was working on behalf of a client seeking a new location in the Albany area and had identified the district’s Grand Prairie site as a desired development location. Mr. Allen reported that agent stated that the client was seeking a ground lease for a 60’ x 60’ parcel and would pay all development and operational costs. He said that the company would compensate the district \$12,000 per year for an initial term of five years. Mr. Allen reported that staff and district council reviewed the proposal and believed it would be in the district’s best interest to proceed.

Director Reid asked if any trees would be removed for the project. Mr. Allen estimated that no trees would have to be removed.

***OTHER BUSINESS***

Board Chair Bacher noted that the board packet included a schedule of the school Open Houses in the fall. He asked the directors to identify the events they could attend. The directors did so.

Superintendent Maria Delapoer noted that she and Board Chair Bacher had discussed scheduling a Work Session at 6:00 p.m. on October 13 to consider graduation requirements. She said that she and Board Chair Bacher had also considered a work session with the Bond Oversight Committee from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. on October 27, 2008. The directors nodded in agreement.

Board Chair Bacher stated that the Back to School Rally would be August 26 at 8:30 a.m. in the gym at South Albany High School. He said that the next regular Board meeting would be September 8, 2008.

***ADJOURNMENT***

Board Chair Bacher adjourned the Board meeting at 8:02 p.m.

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Don Bacher, Board Chair

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Maria Delapoer, Superintendent

(Recorded by Jim Haggart)

Business and Report Items - Document Reference (filed with original minutes)

Copies of documents presented for action and report purposes are located in the district audit folder prepared for permanent record.