

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



REGULAR BOARD MEETING
June 23, 2008 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Pat Bedore, Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Reid called the regular meeting of the School Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

Liisa Reid	Board Chair
Tom Sramek, Jr.	gave advance notice of his absence
Frank Bricker	Director
Don Bacher	Director
Sandi Gordon	Director
Pat Bedore	Superintendent
Steve Kunke	Assistant Superintendent
Maria Delapoer	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 Liisa Reid led attendees in the pledge of allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Tom Cordier of 2240 NW Park Terrace in Albany said that he wished to discuss the high cost of student transportation. He noted the increasing cost of fuel and the increasing number of students requiring transportation. He said that he spoke to a number of district staff members about automated systems for optimizing transportation systems. He said that the proposed 2008-2009 school district budget appeared to not include money for such a software system. He said that Trapeze Group offers specialized software. He encouraged the Board to establish a working group to optimize the transportation department.

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen said that several years ago, the district purchased software entitled "Transfinder" to assist in optimizing student transportation. He described the steps the district had taken to make the software effective. He said that he intended to use the program during the summer to optimize the school bus routes.

Director Gordon asked that no student ride a bus for more than 60 minutes in each direction. Mr. Allen replied that it is a goal of the transportation department that no student ride a school bus for more than 60 minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Minutes from June 9, 2008 Regular Board Meeting
- 2) Personnel (with Addendum)
- 3) Financial Report
- 4) Board Policy GBEC, Alcohol/Controlled Substance Use

Board Chair Reid stated that as she was unable to attend the previous Board meeting, it would be appropriate to separate the minutes from the other items of the consent agenda. Director Bricker moved to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2008 meeting. Directors Bacher, Bricker and Gordon voted in favor. Board Chair Reid abstained as she was not present at the meeting. Motion APPROVED by MAJORITY.

Board Chair Reid said that if there were no objections to remainder of the Consent Agenda, the Board would approve the documents. Board Chair Reid DECLARED THE ACTION DECIDED by unanimous consent.

BOARD REPORTS

Board Chair Reid inquired of the Board's Legislative Liaison. Director Bacher replied that he attended three days of meetings with the Oregon School Boards Association. He spoke of two proposed ballot initiatives for the November 2008 election. He reported that Initiative Petition 3 proposed to permit tax payers to claim the same deductions on their state tax returns as they claimed on their federal tax returns. He said that the Oregon Legislative Revenue Office estimated that the resultant reduction of tax collections would have the impact of reducing state school funding by \$500 million. He said that the Oregon School Boards Association requested that school boards adopt a resolution opposing the initiative.

He also spoke of Initiative Petition 19 which would prohibit teaching public school students in a language other than English for more than two years. He said that the measure would modify or eliminate the district's English Language Learners program. He said that the Oregon School Boards Association requested that school boards adopt a resolution opposing the initiative.

Director Bacher also spoke of a Student Achievement Data project offered by the Oregon School Boards Association. He said that the offering was advertised to assist districts in evaluating student achievement data. He suggested that staff invite a representative to a regular Board meeting or a Board work session. Director Gordon asked if the program would be available to the public. Director Bacher said that he did not know of the availability.

Board Chair Reid said that she attended a school carnival at Sunrise Elementary School. She said that Oregon State University students offered a number of science projects for student participation.

Board Chair Reid thanked Assistant Superintendent Steve Kunke for his use of school improvement funds for programs to assist students in transitioning into high school and middle school.

BUSINESS

ADOPT 2008/2009 BUDGET

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen began the discussion with proposed budget adjustments. He also explained that some schools may not spend all of their money by the end of the school year. He said that the schools are permitted to carry forward money into the next fiscal year. He identified other budget adjustments.

He explained that the document before the Board was the budget approved by the Budget Committee on April 23, 2008. He requested Board approval of resolutions adopting the budget, appropriating the budget and imposing and categorizing taxes. He recommended that the documents be considered individually.

Action: Director Bricker moved to approve the resolution adopting the 2008/2009 budget. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Director Gordon moved to approve the resolution appropriating the 2008/2009 budget. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Director Bacher moved to approve the resolution imposing and categorizing taxes for the 2008/2009 budget. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROPRIATION CHANGES TO 2007/2008 BUDGET

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen requested Board action to modify appropriation levels in four funds within the 2007/2008 Budget. He reported that upon reviewing projected expenditure and appropriation levels in the General Fund, Student Activity Fund, SB 1149 Fund, and School Improvement Fund, he determined that changes in appropriation levels were necessary. He testified that in each case, the requested changes would transfer existing expenditure authority within the given fund. He clarified that the request was a budget action, not revenue issue.

Action: Director Bricker moved to approve the Resolution 07/08-23 authorizing appropriation changes to the 2007/2008 budget. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW SCHOOL NAME

Assistant Superintendent Steve Kunke presented the recommendations of the New School Naming Committee. He recalled that at the June 9 meeting the committee recommended three names, Timber Ridge, Meadow Ridge and Ridge View Schools. He stated that since the previous meeting, he had received responses from eight community members. He said that one person liked the name Timber Ridge School, two people voted for Meadow Ridge School and two people preferred Ridge View School. He said that three people proposed a total of four other names including Knoxview School, Valley Ridge School, Eagle Ridge School and Tom Holman School. He requested that the Board select a school name that evening.

Director Gordon likened the name of Ridge View School with an undesirable image from the movie of "Ridgemont High." She requested that the Board discard that name. She recalled the history of the local Timber Carnival and recommended the name of Timber Ridge School.

Director Bacher said that he had not received comments from the community.

Board Chair Reid said that she had received feedback on the name Ridge View School, but no one mentioned a link to the movie "Ridgemont High."

Director Gordon suggested that the Board reject the additional recommendations received during the past two weeks and focus on the three names suggested by the New School Naming Committee.

Director Bacher said that he liked the name Meadow Ridge School.

Director Gordon said that she liked the name Timber Ridge School.

Director Bricker said that he had no preference.

Action: Director Gordon moved to name the new campus Timber Ridge School. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Director Gordon thanked the members of the New School Naming Committee for their work.

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Superintendent Pat Bedore offered a proposed Board meeting schedule for the 2008-09 school year.

Action: Director Bricker moved to approve the Board meeting schedule for the 2008-09 school year. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

SCHOOL MEAL PRICE INCREASE

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen requested meal price increases for the 2008-09 school year to address rising raw food costs. He noted that prices of foods necessary to offer healthier meal choices rose dramatically in the past year. He proposed to increase the cost of lunch by 25 cents at the high school level and 10 cents at the middle school and elementary school levels. He said that the cost of breakfast would rise by 25 cents at the high school level, 15 cents at the middle school level and 10 cents at the elementary school level.

Director Gordon asked if the district would later require meal price increases for the 2009-2010 school year. Food Service Director Rick Sherman said that it was too soon to say. He said that the district would assess the matter in the coming year.

Action: Director Gordon moved to approve the recommended meal price increases for the 2008-09 school year. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT, CITY OF MILLERSBURG, CONSTRUCTION TAX

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen requested approval of a proposed intergovernmental agreement with the City of Millersburg to impose and collect a construction excise tax for the Greater Albany Public School District. He explained that it would be necessary for the Board to first impose the construction excise tax upon the City of Millersburg. He said that the second step would be to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Millersburg to collect the tax. He noted that the City of Millersburg approved the agreement.

Action: Director Bacher moved to approve Resolution 07/08-22 imposing the construction excise tax in the City of Millersburg. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Action: Director Bacher moved to approve the proposed intergovernmental agreement with the City of Millersburg for the collection of the Construction Excise Tax. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT, CITY OF ALBANY, IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen offered a diagram and presented aerial photos to explain why the proposed intergovernmental agreement was desirable. He explained that school district would assume responsibility for the construction of the roadway, sewer and water lines from Somerset Drive south to the new school site. He said that the district would essentially be acting on behalf of the City. He said that the action would permit the district to open the new school in the fall of 2009. Mr. Allen said that for the first year of the school, the only public access to the campus would be by way of Somerset Drive. He said that there would be emergency vehicle only access from Knox Butte Road during the first year.

He said that the City of Albany would take responsibility for the construction of the roadway from the new school south to Knox Butte Road. He estimated that the roadway would be available for the second year of the school.

He requested approval of the proposed intergovernmental agreement with the City of Albany to construct public infrastructure near the new school as part of a Local Improvement District.

Action: Director Gordon moved to approve the proposed intergovernmental agreement with the City of Albany to construct public infrastructure near the new school as part of a Local Improvement District. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT, CITY OF ALBANY, COMMUNITY POOL LEASE

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen requested approval of a proposed lease agreement with the City of Albany to operate the community pool at 3685 Columbus Street in Albany. Mr. Allen stated that the terms of the agreement would make the facility available for 800 hours per year for educational programs for an annual fee of \$100.

Director Gordon asked of reserved parking for pool patrons. Mr. Allen replied that he would consider the parking lot marking.

Action: Director Gordon moved to approve the proposed intergovernmental agreement with the City of Albany for the lease of the community pool. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSTRUCTION BIDS

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen requested approval of a change order with Triplett-Wellman Construction for the construction of the Brandis/Somerset water and sewer piping within the City of Albany Local Improvement District for the new school. Mr. Allen said that the value of the piping contract was \$1,297,913. He said that he would return to a later meeting with a contract for the construction of the roadway.

Action: Director Bacher moved to approve a change order with Triplett - Wellman Construction for the construction of the Brandis/Somerset water and sewer piping for the new school in the amount of \$1,297,913. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Allen turned the discussion to the proposed seismic upgrades to Central Elementary School. He explained the process used to identify the building upgrades. He said that an engineer was hired to assess the school building and determine what might fail first in the event of a seismic action. He identified the work to be performed. He said that the value of the contract was \$251,500. He requested approval of a contract with 2G Construction for a seismic upgrade to Central Elementary School.

Action: Director Gordon moved to approve a contract with 2G Construction of Eugene for a seismic upgrade to Central Elementary School in the amount of \$251,500. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Allen said that the school bond included funds for the renovation of the parking lot at Fairmount Elementary School. The bond, however, did not address a bus loop, he said. He explained that the current parking lot does not provide a safe path for school bus loading and unloading. He said that the proposed renovation would rehabilitate the parking lot and provide a safe path for school bus travel.

He requested approval of a contract with R. J. Armstrong & Associates Construction for parking lot renovations and construction of a bus loop at Fairmount Elementary School in the amount of \$227,740.44. He noted that the proposal was under budget.

Action: Director Bricker moved to approve a contract with R. J. Armstrong & Associates Construction for parking lot renovations and construction of a bus loop at Fairmount Elementary School in the amount of \$227,740.44. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORTS

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Business and Operations Director Russell Allen introduced Controller Martha Highfill and stated that Ms. Highfill would discuss the new business information software.

Ms. Highfill said that the district would transfer its business information system to the Infinite Vision software on July 1. She said that the business office completed its training on the system during the previous week. She added that business office staff would provide training to school office managers in August.

Director Gordon asked to see a demonstration of the system at a Board meeting. Ms. Highfill said that she would prepare a demonstration.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

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

Mr. Fitz-Patrick noted the approval of the intergovernmental agreement for the Local Improvement District. He estimated that work on the sewer and water lines would begin that week.

He said that work on the new school was progressing very well. He said that the entire building was excavated and all the base rock was in place. He said that footings were poured for the two classroom wings and under slab piping was installed. He said that work on the parking lots had begun. He estimated that building framing would begin by August 1.

Mr. Fitz-Patrick said that work on the addition to North Albany Middle School began in April. He said that wall framing, roofing, and window installation were complete and that sheetrock work had begun. He said that the work was proceeding ahead of schedule. He described the work on the addition to Periwinkle Elementary School and noted that the project was progressing on schedule.

He summarized work being accomplished throughout the district. He said that work to replace the boilers at South Albany and West Albany High Schools had begun and would be completed during the summer. He said that Oak and South Shore Elementary Schools would each receive new roofs. He recalled that some of the work began during the winter vacation and stated that the projects would be completed during the summer.

Mr. Fitz-Patrick said that work had begun to remove vinyl asbestos floor tile in the main hallways of the three middle schools. He said that electrical upgrades to five schools would begin that week and fire alarm replacements at four schools would begin the following week.

He spoke of the work to remove underground fuel storage tanks. He stated that fuel storage tanks had been removed from the property of Waverly Elementary School and the district office. He noted that no soil contamination was detected at either site.

Mr. Fitz-Patrick spoke of work being performed at West Albany High School. He said that the work to renovate the locker rooms began in April and was progressing well. He noted that work was proceeding on the library renovation, extension of the "C" hallway, and science classroom upgrades.

He said it might be necessary to conduct a brief special Board meeting near July 7 to approve construction bids. Board Chair Reid said that she would prefer to hold a special meeting rather than delay construction projects. She suggested that the directors get together after the meeting to compare calendars.

Director Bricker reminded the directors that school boards are required to address a number of legal issues during their first meeting of July. He said that it would not be possible to conduct an earlier meeting to consider only construction projects.

BOARD POLICY: FACILITIES

Assistant Superintendent Steve Kunke said that donations are frequently made to the district and occasionally the donations come with some considerations for their use. He discussed a proposed new Board Policy *FFA, Commemorative Donations* to address donations in honor of persons who may have special significance to the students, the district or the community.

Director Bacher noted that the proposed policy did not address a donation that might modify a current structure. Mr. Kunke replied that the proposed document contains a requirement that the superintendent approve the acceptance of any item that might require additional maintenance cost to the district.

Board Chair Reid noted the large number of scholarships awarded annually to students. She suggested that it might be preferable to remove reference to scholarships from the policy. She noted that scholarships do not modify facilities. Director Bricker noted that most scholarships are not centrally administered.

Director Gordon noted the possibility of naming a room or facility in a certain manner only to change the name later to a more generous donor.

Mr. Kunke said that he would return the document for further consideration at the next regular Board meeting.

BOARD POLICIES: COMMUNICATIONS

Assistant Superintendent Steve Kunke stated that a recent ruling by the Oregon Employee Relations Board clarified that some protected labor relations communications may not have to go through the superintendent to the School Board. Mr. Kunke recommended a new Board Policy *GBD, Board-Staff Communications* and revisions to Board Policies *BG, Board-Staff Communications* and *CCB, Line and Staff Relations*.

Mr. Kunke said that he would return the policies to the Consent Agenda of the next Board meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen recalled that the directors and staff spoke earlier that evening about a possible requirement for a Board meeting in early July. He said that the Board proposed to consider contracts for the construction of bus loops at two schools and renovations to West Albany High School.

He discussed the projects to construct bus loops. He noted that as the Business Director, he has the authority to approve contracts of less than \$5,000. He proposed to instruct the low bidder to proceed with shop drawings which would cost less than that threshold. He said that the drawings would be prepared with the understanding that the balance of the contract would be contingent upon Board approval. He clarified that the actual movement of materials would not occur until after approval of the contract on July 21.

Mr. Allen testified that the renovation of West Albany High School is being performed through a construction manager/general contractor. He said that T. Gerding Construction would be the general contractor throughout the project. He said that the district has a "not-to-exceed" contract with T. Gerding Construction. He explained that the district does not conduct contract bidding, T. Gerding Construction manages the bidding. He further stated that the Board does not review bids or authorize contracts with individual sub-contractors. Instead, he said, the Board simply increases the contract with T. Gerding Construction. Mr. Allen estimated the value of the work to be performed this summer at approximately \$2 million.

Mr. Allen recommended that the Board authorize a change order with T. Gerding Construction in the amount of \$750,000. He said that amount would permit construction to proceed through the July 21 meeting of the School Board. He said that the Board could authorize the remainder of the change order when it meets at that date. He said that the proposed actions would eliminate the requirement for the Board to meet in early July. The directors agreed.

Mr. Allen recommended that the Board approve a change order for \$750,000 with T. Gerding Construction. He said that the amount would be less than the \$2 million eventually needed for the projects.

Director Bricker moved to approve a change order with T. Gerding Construction in the amount of \$750,000. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Board Chair Reid noted that the Board meeting would be the last for retiring Superintendent Pat Bedore. Board Chair Reid announced a retirement celebration for Ms. Bedore from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 26 in the Alesa - Calapooia Room of Linn Benton Community College.

Director Gordon thanked Superintendent Bedore for her service.

Director Bacher said it was a real pleasure to work with Ms. Bedore in her roles as the assistant superintendent and later, superintendent.

Director Bricker said that he enjoyed working with Superintendent Bedore.

Superintendent Bedore replied that it was her honor to serve the community. She stated that nothing happens because of the work of one person. She said things happened due to the efforts of everyone in the room. She thanked her staff and her friends in the audience.

Board Chair Reid stated that the next regular Board meeting would be July 21, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Reid adjourned the Board meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Liisa Reid, Board Chair

Pat Bedore, 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.