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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

January 14, 2013 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Maria Delapoer, Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

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

Sandi Gordon	Board Chair
Frank Bricker	Board Vice Chair
Jerry Boehme	Director
Lyle Utt	Director
Micah Smith	Director
Cassidy Seals	Did not attend
Maria Delapoer	Superintendent
Frank Caropelo	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

Girl Scouts from Troop 20399 led attendees in the pledge of allegiance. Dawn Young is the Troop Leader.

CORE PURPOSE/GOALS

Director Bricker began the meeting with a review of the district's Core Purpose and Strategic Goals:

Core Purpose: Educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential, equipped to be positive, contributing members of society.

Strategic Goals:

- We provide every student with challenging and motivating learning experiences that lead to continuous growth.
- We instill in every student the character traits that enable them to understand and interact in the world, appreciating and valuing differences.
- Our students thrive because every community member is a stakeholder and takes responsibility for the success of every student.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS AND INTRODUCTIONS

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION

Superintendent Maria Delapoer read a proclamation from Governor Kitzhaber declaring January, 2013 as School Board Recognition Month. North Albany Middle School principal Jane Evans and

students Saylor Siegner and Shelby Sassaman made a presentation to the directors. South Albany High School student Jessica Dilbone also made a presentation to the School Board.

SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPORTER

Executive Assistant Jim Haggart introduced South Albany High School Student Reporter Jessica Dilbone. He said that she is an eleventh grader taking AP U.S. History, Advanced American Literature, Economics, Pre-Calculus, and Spanish III. He said that her favorite subject is history.

Mr. Haggart said that Jessica participates in cross country and track. Her family members include a sister Stephanie, a 9th grader at South Albany High School and her grandfather Don Bacher, a former Board member. Her parents are Lisa and Jon Dilbone.

Board Chair Gordon welcomed Miss Dilbone.

TIMBER RIDGE SCHOOL STUDENT REPORTER

Executive Assistant Jim Haggart introduced Timber Ridge School Student Reporter Kambria Luckenbach. He said that Kambria is an eighth grader at Timber Ridge School. He said that she is taking Algebra, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, Health, PE and Advanced Band where she plays the flute. He said that her favorite subject is Algebra because she likes to be challenged.

Mr. Haggart said that Kambria participates in Timber Ridge School track where she competes in the 100 meters, 4x100 meters and long jump. She also participates in volleyball through the Albany Boys and Girls Club. Her sister Sabrina is a fifth grader at Timber Ridge School. Her parents are Angie and Jason Luckenbach.

TEACHER RECOGNITION

Human Resources Director Randy Lary introduced North Albany Middle School principal Jane Evans. Ms. Evans said that North Albany Middle School band director Andy Nelson was the fall 2012 recipient of the Oregon College Savings Plan's Education Celebration Award. She said that the award recognizes Oregon K-12 teachers who have motivated and inspired children to be better students. She said that Mr. Nelson has been the band director at North Albany Middle School for 17 years. She said that for eight of those years he also served as the band director at West Albany High School. Mr. Nelson earned a personal award of $1,500 and his school received an additional $5,000.

Board Chair Gordon congratulated Mr. Nelson on his award. Mr. Nelson thanked the North Albany Middle School staff for its support of the music programs.

FOOD SERVICE RECOGNITION

Food Service Director Sharon Short recognized employee Laurie Robinson. She said that Ms. Robinson works at South Albany High School where she guides the serving of more than 400 breakfasts and 500 lunches with calm professionalism.

PLC VISITS

Superintendent Maria Delapoer said that members of the District Leadership Team would summarize their observations of Professional Learning Community sessions in the schools.

She said that she visited North Albany Elementary and observed third, fourth and fifth grade teachers reviewing writing samples. She said that teachers were comparing state scoring rubrics with the district's scoring guides, noting that the local procedures were more specific to those grade levels.

Ms. Delapoer said that she visited Lafayette Elementary School where teachers were celebrating the progress made so far in their “Focus School” status. She said that teachers also reviewed writing papers.

She said that she visited Oak Elementary where she participated in a second grade teacher discussion about writing. She spoke of the challenge of teaching to varying levels of student skills. She said that one of the student papers the team reviewed had just twelve words and it took all four teachers to determine what the words were and to derive a meaning. She said that in the same class, another child’s paper was so complete that the student could be writing novels. She said that the teachers described how they differentiate instruction to meet student needs.

Assistant Superintendent Frank Caropelo said that January 16, 2013 would be the second cross-district PLC day for elementary schools. He recalled that the Directors had asked that the district find opportunities for the staff of individual schools to get together. He said that this Wednesday would be the second such opportunity. He said that elementary teams would be working at Sunrise, Tangent and South Shore and Timber Ridge Schools. He said that the teams would focus on the implementation of common core math standards.

Human Resources Director Randy Lary discussed the review of kindergarten writing samples. He said that it was as great experience.

Elementary Curriculum Director Tonja Everest said that the combined math PLC sessions were very exciting. She said that teachers were expanding on their ability to examine student data. She said that teachers were working together to calibrate writing samples. She said that the rigor was high, noting that kindergarten students had their first writing assessments in December.

She said that classified employees were also receiving professional development on best practices at teaching small group reading.

Ms. Everest described the training planned for January 30 which would include techniques for gaining student attention, monitoring groups and managing good transitions. She said that other training would include specific targeted activities for reading instruction based upon assessments currently underway.

Secondary Curriculum Director Peggy Blair said that writing continued to be an important theme. She said that she was at Timber Ridge School and participated in a sixth grade language arts and social studies group. She said that she also visited Memorial Middle School where teachers were organizing writing into units. She said that on January 9, she visited North Albany Middle School and listened to sixth grade language arts team using innovative tools as writing prompts.

She said that she visited the math team at North Albany Middle School and observed teachers working on a self evaluation tool. She said that the DLC sessions on January 30 would include a literacy focus for teachers who do not instruct language arts.

Board Chair Gordon thanked the staff for their report.

STUDENT REPORTS

South Albany High School Student Reporter Jessica Dilbone addressed the Board. The text of her report is provided as an attachment to these minutes.

Timber Ridge School Student Reporter Kambria Luckenbach addressed the Board. The text of her report is provided as an attachment to these minutes.

STUDENT ALL STARS

Avery Hiddleson and Alejandro Melgar of Sunrise Elementary School and Abraham Jennings, Hannah Summers, Alexandra Mattingly and Grace Bender of Liberty Elementary School were recognized. Hayden DeLair, Natani Keown, Makayla Wallace, Emily Molinar and Levi Walker of Lafayette Elementary School were also honored.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Teacher and certified association president Cheryl Hultberg of 33849 Scravel Hill Road in Albany read part of a note she received from a parent. The letter thanked teachers for all the things teachers do including guiding, entertaining, and instructing children and keeping them happy and safe.

CONSENT AGENDA

1) Minutes from December 10, 2012 Regular Board Meeting
2) Personnel

Board Chair Gordon stated that if there were no objections, the Board would approve the Consent Agenda. There were no objections. Board Chair Gordon DECLARED THE ACTION DECIDED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

BOARD REPORTS

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT

Board Chair Gordon asked if there was a report from the Legislative Liaison. There was none.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

There was no sub-committee report.

Director Bricker said that he attended the January 8 meeting of the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB). He said that the Board was reviewing its mission statement and strategic goals. He noted that the OEIB was still developing those goals and it was likely that the guidance currently provided to school districts would evolve. He said that the OEIB Achievement Compact was still a work in progress.

Board Chair Gordon asked how the school districts could make inputs to the Achievement Compact. Director Bricker replied that he was unsure if the OEIB was accepting public comment. Superintendent Delapoer said that she would investigate.

Board Chair Gordon and Director Boehme said that they attended the talent show at South Albany High School.

Director Smith said that he responded to an incident at Timber Ridge School on December 20, 2012. He said that he was very impressed with how well things were organized. He said that the decision to route buses first to Clover Ridge School and then to Timber Ridge School was the right call. Board Chair Gordon thanked Mr. Hoffert-Hay for the manner in which his staff responded.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD POLICY, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION, SECURITY

Superintendent Maria Delapoer said that school safety is both an important and complex topic. She said that in addition to student and staff, school security includes a broad base of the community. She said that she wished the Board to designate a school safety task force that would involve school staff, parents, law enforcement and county mental health representatives.

Ms. Delapoer said that she noted that while the schools have been practicing school safety lock-down drills in the schools for years, those drills were not designated in district directives. She detailed adjustments to Board Policy *EBCB, Emergency Drills* and *Administrative Regulations EBCB-AR(1), Community Emergency Network, EBCB-AR(2), Procedure for School Closure During Inclement Weather, Building Emergencies and EBCB-AR(3), Fire, Earthquake, and Security Drill Instructions and Log.* She said that the revisions would clarify expectations regarding building security and direct that schools conduct security emergency drills at least twice each year.

She said that additional information at Board member places identified the three security levels. She emphasized that the information was provided as a guideline because each school had a different physical structure. She said that each classroom has a flip chart of emergency response guidelines. She said that the guidelines are updated as necessary and have been in use for at least ten years. Mr. Caropelo said that the guidelines are typically placed near the exit door of each room.

Ms. Delapoer said that another piece of emergency response was communication with parents and the community, which she thought the district could improve. She said that she would pilot “School Messenger” at six of the district schools which would permit the district to quickly send telephone messages. She said that she might want to expand the program district-wide after the initial testing.

She said that the district previously had a Risk Manager, but that was one of the positions cut years ago. She said that local law enforcement officers offered an audit of the physical structure of each of the district buildings. She said that the audit might include line-of-sight to the front door, security cameras, panic buttons, or other things that could be done to improve security in the buildings.

Ms. Delapoer said that she also spoke to representative from the Linn County Mental Health organization about screening students for potential problems.

Sgt Allen Lynn of the Albany Police Department said that he helped prepare the emergency guidelinesflip charts approximately ten years ago. He said that after the December 2012 Sandy Hook, Connecticut school shooting incident, many law enforcement agencies began to reexamine how to improve school safety. He said that he would be willing to work with the Linn County Sheriff’s Office to make a safety assessment of area schools.

Director Smith, speaking in his role as a detective with the Linn County Sheriff's Office, proposed a security review in a manner similar in the way fire marshals work with schools for fire safety. He said that he wanted law enforcement to lead the way in school safety. He noted that Superintendent Delapoer spoke of the police department emergency plans for each campus. He said that those plans were accurate but were on 8 1/2 x 11 paper. He said that the Linn County GIS office recently enhanced its abilities so that the information is now PDF projectable and the images could be made the size of a gymnasium wall. He said that the link could be shared with any first responders going to the school in the event of an emergency.

He said that the primary purpose of the audit was to review the infrastructure of the school and examine how it was used during student and non-student contact hours. He said that the intent was to harden the school against unwanted visitors and threats of violence. He said that the audit team would look at cost effective and cost efficient recommendations. He said that he hoped to begin the following week.

Board Chair Gordon asked if each school would receive a report. Director Smith replied that a report about each school would be provided to the superintendent.

Director Utt said that he had a safety concern about his son that afternoon. He said that his wife did not know who to contact after school hours. Director Smith said that the audit might identify the best options. He said that one possibility might be a call service similar to what a doctor's office might have. Director Smith said that the police department already has the ability to respond to those kinds of concerns.

He said that another possibility might be a "panic alarm" at each school with a direct link to the police 911 call center. He said that an amber colored light at the outside of the school might also be used to alert neighbors of an incident at the school.

Superintendent Delapoer emphasized how important it was to have law enforcement as a partner during the week before winter break. She said that the district was lucky to have such an amazing partnership.

Ms. Delapoer said that she would further discuss the safety task force on January 17 when she and the School Board Chair would meet.

Director Bricker suggested that when the district sends out information about emergency situations that it inform the education service district as well.

Diana Eilers of 3602 Cameron Court NE in Albany said that she has two children at Clover Ridge School. She said that she was concerned about security at the front door of the school. She said that she was concerned that an intruder might enter through the front door and have immediate access to a nearby classroom. She said that other parents shared her concerns. She suggested that the district have a forum for parents to explain the security audit. Board Chair Gordon thanked Ms. Eilers for her comments and noted that she herself and her children had attended Clover Ridge School.

Director Smith said "We will never be able to secure and target-harden a school enough to prevent someone who has a desire to act out violence from acting out such planned violence. But the harder

we can make our educational facilities a target for such violence, the better we are going to be."

Timber Ridge School Principal Jason Hoffert-Hay said that principals do the best they can to target harden the campus, but a perfectly secured campus may not be possible. He said that it was important that people feel comfortable at the campus.

Director Smith spoke about student threat assessments. He said that it was difficult to know to start a process without having first an incident.

REPORTS

AUDIT REPORT

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen said that each year the school district is required to submit to an independent financial audit. He said that this year's audit was completed by Pauly Rogers and Company. He said that auditor Matt Graves was representing that company and would address the Board. He said that controller Ashley Netzel was also present that evening.

Mr. Graves said that he would present the results of the audit and address any questions the Board might have. He said that the directors had the audit document in front of them. He said that there was also a separate letter; "Communication with the Governing Body" which he would discuss.

He said that the purpose of the audit was to determine the fair presentation of the financial statements before the Board in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as well as compliance with Oregon law and federal rules and regulations.

Mr. Graves said that the audit was performed according to the plan, scope and timing identified by the Board and Superintendent Delapoer. He noted that there was a turnover in the key position of controller.

He said that his firm issued a qualified opinion on the financial statements of the district as of the Board's decision not to comply with the post employment benefit obligation validation required by GASBY Statement 45. He said that other than that, his firm issued a clean opinion with no reservations.

Mr. Graves said that with regard to the federal audit, his firm found no issues of non-compliance and no questions. He said that the audit was completed on time and received by the Oregon Department of Education before the deadline. He said that page 62 of the document contained several recommendations relating to internal control.

He said that the audit team did not have any disagreements with management regarding accounting policies and procedures. He said that there were no new policies implemented during the accounting period. He said that there were no transactions entered into during the year that lacked authoritative guidance. He said that his team did not encounter any difficulties in carrying out the audit and there were never any problems obtaining necessary information.

TAG PROGRAM

Assistant Superintendent Frank Caropelo said at the Board's request, staff had prepared an update regarding the District's program for Talented And Gifted (TAG) students. He said that the directors had at their places the applicable Board Policies and Administrative Regulations. He said that the

Board packets had information regarding TAG participation. He introduced Elementary Curriculum and Instruction Director Tonja Everest.

Ms. Everest said that the district was required to identify and provide educational programs to the Talented and Gifted students. She said that it was important that students be evaluated holistically. She said that teachers would consider the student's behavioral, learning and performance information. She noted that it was important that the student be evaluated by more than one identification method.

She said that Board policy directed that the district use standardized tests to measure mental and academic ability. She said that the directive permitted the district to use the Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test as an assessment tool. Ms. Everest stated that to be identified as TAG, the student must score at or above the 97th percentile on a nationally standardized test.

Ms. Everest said that the districts were directed to look at special populations including financially disadvantaged, underachieving and handicapped learners. She explained that it was possible for a student to have a learning disability in reading and still score above the 97th percentile in math.

She said that students could qualify in one or more categories including "Intellectually Gifted, Academically Talented-Reading, Academically Talented-Math, and TAG Potential to Perform." She said that the "Potential to Perform" particularly pertained to special populations. She explained that the district could have an English Language Learner who had difficulty taking a test in English, but if the teacher could prove that the student could perform at the TAG level; the student could be identified as TAG based upon their potential to perform at the 97th percentile level.

Ms. Everest referred to the information in the Board packets and noted that the percentage of Albany Students identified as TAG was 10.7 percent of all students, which was higher than the state average of 7.5 percent.

She said that when one speaks of the TAG program, one thinks about identification and service. She said that each school has a TAG coordinator who is trained annually. She said that the coordinators have a reference manual to help them with all of the requirements. She said that the coordinators have access to the universal testing instruments. She identified several of those tools including RAVEN, OAKS, OLSAT and Terra Nova.

Ms. Everest spoke of providing services to students. She said that instructional options might include classroom level, building level, district level or extended options. She said that teachers work with the TAG coordinator, building Professional Learning Communities, and administrators to develop personalized education plans. She said that the plans were reviewed annually to correlate classroom learning and address rate and level of learning.

She said that examples of additional differentiation options might include: ALEX on-line math, Accelerated Reader, AP classes, activities and clubs such as robotics, and tuition reimbursements for classes and enrichment at Linn Benton Community College or Oregon State University.

Ms. Everest said that next steps would include the development of a district committee to review TAG policies, procedures, and services. She said that the district would update and submit the district TAG plan to the Oregon Department of Education. She stated that was a new requirement from

House Bill 2180. She said that the district would continue to train district TAG coordinators and teachers.

Director Smith asked if the district would have to re-identify every student with the introduction of "Smarter Balance." Ms. Everest said that the district could move forward with the existing OAKS information. She estimated that the "Smarter Balance" program would be piloted in the spring. Mr. Caropelo emphasized that the measurement would be how the student placed on a percentile basis, not on a specific OAKS score.

Director Utt asked how often TAG programs are reviewed. Mr. Caropelo estimated that the program has not been updated in ten years.

Director Boehme said that a frustration he hears often from parents is that the needs of TAG students are not being met. Mr. Caropelo replied that all of the district's teachers could benefit from more TAG training. He said that larger class sizes make TAG instruction more challenging. He said that he would discuss several TAG program options later in the meeting.

Director Smith asked if proficiency based education was helping teachers identify TAG students. Ms. Everest said that proficiency based instruction was helping to identify TAG children. Secondary Curriculum Director Peggy Blair added that anytime students know what the targets are, they tend to do better in exceeding those standards.

Director Smith asked if learning was moving away from frequency and repetition as TAG enrichment and moving toward higher level thinking and application of that information into an advanced level. He asked if it would be raising the bar for that student and then as all students move up, the "Exceeds" score would become the new "Meets" score for that grade level. Ms. Blair said that Common Core increases the rigor to engage students.

Director Smith asked how parents were aware how their TAG student was doing. Ms. Delapoer replied that she would like more time to consider a response. She asked that Mr. Caropelo share some of the TAG options for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Caropelo spoke of options for expanding the TAG program. He said that one proposal would be to expand the tuition reimbursement for Oregon State University summer programs. He said that the district currently pays half of the tuition costs for TAG students. He estimated the additional cost at $10,000.

He said that another option would be to increase the TAG testing and screening budget by $20,000. He said that the district purchased 225 tests for $3,602 for the 2012-13school year. He said that the district could provide broad screening for intellectual ability at grade 4 at an additional cost of $10,880.

Mr. Caropelo said that another possibility would be for the district to offer a TAG Summer School Program for an estimated cost of $30,000. He projected that a two-week, half-day program for sixth through eighth grade could serve 100 students.

He said that a half-time Elementary TAG School Support Specialist could provide training, coordination, consultation, and testing services to K-5 teachers. He estimated the cost at $50,000.

Mr. Caropelo said that staff looked at ”pull-out” programs and estimated that two full-time pull-out instructors could serve TAG students in 14 elementary buildings for 30 minutes each week. He projected the cost at $190,000.

He said that another possibility would be to offer a TAG Magnet Program/School similar to an International Baccalaureate Program

Director Boehme asked how long a student would carry a TAG identification. Ms. Everest said that the identification would follow the student throughout the system.

He said it was staff’s recommendation to give them time to review and update policies and procedures. He said that staff was not recommending an immediate increase in the TAG budget. He said that staff wished to pull TAG coordinators together and develop a plan. He said that staff would work with TAG coordinators at the building level to increase their skills.

Director Smith asked if charter schools would have to follow the same TAG instruction requirements. Ms. Everest replied that they would. Mr. Caropelo said that the charter school would have to serve all students.

Director Utt said that he was happy that the district was reviewing its TAG programs.

Director Boehme said that TAG was one of those things that Board would have to weigh in determining what the district should look. Mr. Caropelo noted that an increase in the TAG program would have to come at the expense of something else.

Board Chair Gordon said that she would like to know what other districts, especially the Corvallis School District, were doing for TAG,

T***RANSFER SUMMARY***

Assistant Superintendent Frank Caropelo said that he would summarize information regarding in-district and inter-district student transfers. He said that for the 2012-13 school year, the district received 785 in-district and inter-district transfer requests. He said that in-district transfer requests are not required to be renewed every year. He said that once a request was approved, that transfer would remain in place until the student completed that level, such as the end of the fifth or eighth grades. He provided the numbers of approved transfers in and out of each district school.

Board Chair Gordon asked of the reason for denying a transfer. Mr. Caropelo said that overcrowding at that grade level was a common reason for disapproving a transfer. He said that student misbehavior might also be a reason.

Ms. Delapoer said that one common reason for transfer was that the student started at a particular school but then the family moved to a different attendance area and the family wanted the student to finish in the school where they started. She said it was much less common for a student to ask to leave where they started.

Mr. Caropelo spoke of inter-district transfers. He said that the district experienced a net difference of 125 more students leaving the district than have entered Greater Albany schools so far this year. He

said that the greatest loss was to the Corvallis and Lebanon School districts. He said that three-quarters of the transfer requests to Corvallis were because of child care, because the parents worked in Corvallis, or because of wanting to continue in the same school.

Ms. Delapoer said that some students go to the Lebanon School District to participate in the Lebanon fifth-year option where a student can earn college credit during a fifth year of high school. She said that staff was evaluating the same program for Greater Albany high schools.

HIGH SCHOOL SURVEY

Superintendent Maria Delapoer said that she would report the results of a survey of nine Oregon school districts with more than one high school and with high schools similar in enrollment to South Albany and West Albany High School. She said that information was gathered concerning transfers, staff and non-staff allocations, course and activity participation fees and gate receipts. She said that former high school athletic directors Steve Pensinger and Randy Lary helped gather the information.

She said that the Greater Albany School District was similar to some and different from others, but nearly all of the districts put some kind of limits on transfers if it was causing some kind of imbalance in enrollment or some other factor. She said that most districts, including Greater Albany, weighted schools with a lower SES when allocating resources as well as staffing. She said that there was no consistency in the amount charged in course fees as is the case in the Greater Albany district. She said that some students had to be “scholarshipped” and that was a loss of revenue to the schools.

Ms. Delapoer spoke of extracurricular participation fees. She said that all schools charged a “pay to play” fees and those fees were the same amount within the district. The fee ranged from $100-$225 per sport, often with a cap, and $25-$50 for an activity. With one exception, fees collected were sent to the district office and were shared out equally. She said that in the Greater Albany district, the schools keep the fees collected but must pay for their own game duty staff.

She spoke of gate receipts and noted that with one exception, gate receipts were sent to the district office and redistributed equally between schools. She said that the districts were responsible for covering the costs of the program expenses.

Ms. Delapoer said that all of the districts had groups that fundraised to support the sports or activities. She said that there was a wide range in fundraising, depending upon how successful the booster clubs were.

She said that each district contacted faced similar challenges in the differences between their high schools within the district. She said that the districts addressed many of those differences though allocation of resources and staff so that all students had similar access to opportunities. She said that if the Greater Albany School District were to consider making changes in the current funding practice, more study would be needed to avoid unintended consequences.

Board Chair Gordon asked of next steps. Ms. Delapoer said that if the Board had an interest in further discussion of one or more of the topics, staff could do so. She noted, however, that time was short before the budgeting process.

Director Boehme asked about the relationship between course fees charged and the socioeconomics of the schools. Ms. Delapoer replied that the schools of lower socioeconomic status did not charge for

as many courses, or did not change as much for individual courses. She said that it appeared that families who could afford to pay for the courses subsidized the students who could not.

Ms. Delapoer said that there are differences going all the way back to elementary schools with parents deciding if they can afford to send their children to a private sports camp, to a band camp, to buy an instrument. She said that was when parents began making decisions as to whether their children will go into that activity.

Director Boehme asked if the other districts collected gate receipts and distributed the funds equally. Ms. Delapoer said that was her understanding, but she wished go back to those schools to verify that she had a clear picture.

Ms. Delapoer spoke of unintended consequences. She said that some schools work less hard at filling the stands if they know the money is not to stay at the schools. Director Boehme said that it was his impression that all parents would attend their child's activities. Business and Operations Director Russ Allen said that his colleagues would state that schools which benefitted directly from their collections tended to have higher returns. Mr. Pensinger said that most of the districts pooled their gate receipts.

Board Chair Gordon asked the directors if they wished further study. Director Smith said that he would like a further discussion of how gate receipts are collected and distributed. Director Bricker said he would like to have recommendations from staff as to which discussion topics would be the most productive. Director Utt agreed with Director Bricker.

Mr. Caropelo asked for clarification. He asked if Director Bricker wanted further review of a particular topic. Director Bricker replied that he was referring to the entire survey.

Director Boehme said that Albany has changed drastically and the valley of opportunities between the schools has increased. He said that he liked the new industrial arts instruction program. He asked that the Board consider what it wanted the district to look like.

Board Chair Gordon said that there were differences between the offerings of electives at district secondary schools. She said that she would further define her interests when she would meet with Superintendent Delapoer later that week.

DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN
None.

OTHER BUSINESS
FOOD SERVICE REPORT
Business and Operations Director Russ Allen said that the Board packet included an updated Nutrition Services 2012-13 Fund Performance Tracking Metric, an explanation regarding current trends, results of an elementary student survey, and other financial information.

Food Service Director Sharon Short presented a $25,000 check to the Board from the Sodexo Corporation. Board Chair Gordon thanked Ms. Short.

Board Chair Gordon reviewed the Dates of Interest at the conclusion of the Agenda. She said that the next AIM Meeting would be January 15. Board Chair Gordon and Director Utt said that they would attend.

Board Chair Gordon said that January 21 would be the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and January 25 would be a teacher grading day. She said that the next regular meeting of the School Board would be January 28, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Gordon adjourned the Board meeting at 9:47 p.m.

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Sandi Gordon, Board Chair

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Maria Delapoer, Superintendent

(Recorded by Jim Haggart)

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

Student Report
Jessica Dilbone
South Albany High School
January 14, 2013

It seems to me that South Albany High School never sleeps. At the closing of the fall sports season, athletes were excited to begin another season of activity. All of the winter sports: wrestling, basketball, swimming, cheerleading and dance, are in full swing, with the support of the South Albany student body. In dance's DDCA Championships, for the first time ever, a JV team took home a first place after competing against Varsity teams, and that JV team, was South Albany's.

Our band had the privilege to take part in the Veteran's Day Parade, where they marched through the streets of downtown, loud and proud. I had the privilege to be with the band, and even before the parade had started, they were all anxious to march and show the city what they can do.

The assortment of choirs at school have all had the opportunity to share their music at their performances, and are currently preparing for their upcoming concerts with great enthusiasm.

Throughout November and early December, students were asking each other to the winter formal. For three music and dance filled hours, students enjoyed the Casino Royale Winter Formal, after dinner, and some even followed with cosmic bowling.

The SEVEN Project visited the school on December 7 as we wrapped up our series of assemblies which focused on the issues of bullying and how to prevent it. The gym looked fresh and new with all of the equipment set up to aid in the message. The members of The SEVEN Project, you could tell, were so happy to be sharing with us the importance of healthy living all around, and their positive attitude was easily seen in the crowd.

On December 20, 2012, the last day of school for the year, all of us at school got to experience the many talents of our classmates, and even teachers/staff, in the "South's Got Talent" talent show. The show started off with our head custodian, we like to call him Mr. Awesome, playing the National Anthem on his electric guitar-a great start to the assembly. Following Mr. Awesome, everyone got to rock out to "Livin' on a Prayer" performed by the band of school staff. A number of our students also sang on stage whether they were solo, partnered, in a band, or in a choir. Every one of them was different and exciting, and one even included a ukulele.

We were entertained between acts with some improv, which got the entire student body clutching their sides due to the laughter. Two of our English teachers, Mr. Sell and Mrs. Newton, humorously informed us all of the importance of proof reading papers. The dance team and dance classes were also involved in the talent show. One of the captains performed a beautiful solo dance, bringing tears to her mother's eyes. Also, the rest of the dancers then got up into a flash mob during one of the breaks. While Beyonce's "Move Your Body" sang out over the speakers, the dancing students every so often made their way out onto the gym floor. Needless to say, the talent show was a big hit, and a great way to end 2012.

We also had three staff members recognized with awards: Ms. Gisler, Mr. Sprinkle, and Ms Robinson.

South Albany's drama department put on the show "Anne of Green Gables" in December, after months of rehearsal and set production. The characters were chosen well, and everyone in the play did a fantastic job with their parts. The crowd loved it, and some even came back one or two more times. The upcoming musical, the parts were just announced, is Grease.

As the first semester is quickly coming to an end, everyone at school is preparing for finals, in hopes that everything they have learned and memorized will pay off for the following semester.