

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



REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 14, 2013 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Maria Delapoer, Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

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

Frank Bricker	Board Chair
Jerry Boehme	Board Vice Chair
Sandi Gordon	gave advance notice of her absence
Lyle Utt	Director
Micah Smith	gave advance notice of his absence
Johnny Pearson	Student Board Member
Jessica Dilbone	Student Board Member
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

Board Chair Bricker led attendees in the pledge of allegiance.

CORE PURPOSE/GOALS

Board Chair 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

Superintendent Maria Delapoer introduced Clover Ridge Elementary School principal Elisa Stephens and Clover Ridge Office Manager Sabrina Bumgardner. Ms. Stephens stated that in 2014, Clover Ridge School would celebrate its centennial. She said that the school had already begun its planning for that event and stated that members of the Clover Ridge community were invited to come to the school on November 4 for a “brainstorming” session as to how to mark the event.

Ms. Baumgartner said that a committee had already begun work and participants set a goal of refurbishing of the original school bell in celebration of 100 years of learning.

STUDENT ALL-STARS

Tyler Kelsch, Gabrielle Stumpff and Chase Parsons of South Albany High School and Luc LaChapelle, Kara Russell, and Zachary Terrell of West Albany High School were recognized. Ashley Sullivan and Abel Narvaez of Albany Options School were also honored.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Minutes from September 23, 2013 Regular Board Meeting
- 2) Personnel (with Addendum)

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

BOARD REPORTS

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT

Superintendent Maria said that the Legislature met in a special session. She said that more information about that session would be available soon.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no sub-committee reports.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Director Boehme reported that he participated in a fund-raising event at South Albany High School. He said that he also attended the West Albany High School Hall of Fame banquet on October 12. Director Utt and Board Chair Bricker said that they attended school Open House events.

STUDENT REPORTS

South Albany High School Student Reporter Jessica Dilbone stated that October 14-18 was Homecoming Week. She described the events of the week. She said that there would be a dance after the football game.

She said that fall sports were wrapping up. She said that the winter musical event would be “Aladdin”

West Albany High School Student Board Member Johnny Pearson said that as Director Boehme noted, the West Albany Hall of Fame banquet was the previous weekend. He said that the baseball team had begun work on renovating the baseball field. He said that the infield was being replaced and the fences were being moved back.

He said that boys soccer team, girls soccer team and girls volleyball teams would play the following day.

REPORTS

ENROLLMENT/CLASS SIZE

Human Resources Director Randy Lary said that the directors had class enrollment information in their packets. He said, however, that he wished to caution the Board that a look at averages was exactly that. He said that there was much data to distill. He said that as he spoke to principals, they wished the directors to understand the reality of certain situations. He explained that at the high schools, the average class size for the core classes was 32 students. He said that there were some classes that reached 40 students in number and in some cases, exceeded that number by a bit. He noted that Algebra classes at the two high schools averaged 32-34 students, Geometry classes averaged between 30 and 38, and Algebra II classes averaged between 38 and 39 students at the two high schools, he said. He said that there were many factors that went into those class sizes.

He said that for English instruction, freshman classes averaged 32-33 students. He said that English classes for tenth graders averaged 30, but the advanced classes at the two schools average 37-39 students. He said that English classes for eleventh graders averaged 34 students but the advanced classes had 37-38 students. He said that English classes for twelfth graders averaged 34 students but the advanced placement classes tend to be 2-3 students larger. He emphasized that when one was dealing with averages there really was a range. He said that range was as much as eight students.

There were no questions from the Board

STATE REPORT CARDS

Assistant Superintendent Frank Caropelo noted that the Board packets contained a memo explaining that the state Report Card information was embargoed from public release until the day after the Board packets were prepared.

He said that Board members had at their places a summary of the overall ratings of district schools. He explained that the results were based entirely upon student OAKS exam scores. He emphasized that it was important to understand that at the elementary and middle school levels, the districts were now teaching to the required, Common Core standards. He said that testing, however, was still at the Oregon standards. He said that there was still some mis-alignment that the district knew would exist.

Mr. Caropelo described how the scores were identified, noting that the formulas were different for high schools and elementary/middle schools.

He said that at the elementary and middle schools levels, academic achievement on OAKS Reading and Math exams accounted for 25% of the score. He explained that calculation was the percentage of students who “met” or “exceeded” the state benchmark “cut” score.

Mr. Caropelo said that student test score growth of all students contributed to 50% of the score. He said that it was a measure of the year-over-year test score growth of all students in grade 4 or higher on the OAKS exams. He said that for the most current report card, OAKS scores in 2011-12 formed the baseline to OAKS scores from 2012-13. He said that growth was measured in terms of RIT points.

He said that student test score growth of students in subgroups accounted for the remaining 25%. He stated that it was the same measure of the year-over-year test score growth of students as for all students, but it was disaggregated by subgroups in a school. He detailed that the subgroups used by the ODE in determining the report card rating were: economically disadvantaged, limited English proficient, students with disabilities, underserved races/ethnicities which included all students who are American Indian/Alaska Native, Black, Hispanic, or Pacific Islander. He stated that to be included in a school's rating, a subgroup must have a minimum of 30 students. He noted that in practical terms, that meant that the performance of students who were in any of the significant subgroups contributed multiple times in the school's rating.

He clarified that student participation had no weight in the overall school rating formula, but failure by a school to test 95% or more students and 95% in each significant subgroup penalized a school one level in their overall rating.

Mr. Caropelo described the high school rating formula. He said that academic achievement on OAKS Reading and Math exams contributed to 20% of the score. He said that the measurement was the percentage of students who "met" or "exceeded" the state benchmark "cut" score in their 9th, 10th or 11th grade years. He noted that students only needed to meet or exceed the score once during 9th, 10th or 11th grades to be counted as doing so during their 11th grade year.

He said that student test score growth of all students contributed to 20% of the score. He said that it was a measurement of the test score growth of students in grade 11 who had an 8th grade OAKS score. Growth was measured in terms of RIT points, he said.

Mr. Caropelo said that student test score growth of students in subgroups counted for 10% of the score. He explained that it was the same measure of the year-over-year test score growth as for all students, but this calculation was disaggregated by subgroups in a school. He stated that the subgroups used by the ODE in determining the report card rating were: economically disadvantaged, limited English proficient, students with disabilities, underserved races/ethnicities which included all students who are American Indian/Alaska Native, Black, Hispanic, or Pacific Islander. He said that to be included in a school's rating, a subgroup must have a minimum of 30 students.

He said that the graduation rate of all students counted for 35% of the score. He said that the graduation rating used a five point scale with cutoffs to assign schools points for their four-year and five-year cohort adjusted graduation rates. He described that the graduation rating consisted of five levels. He said that each level corresponded to the percent of the points a school earned above a cutoff. Mr. Caropelo said that the school report card displayed a four-year and five-year cohort adjusted graduation rate for the current year and a combination of the two most recent years (or four years in the case of small schools). He said that the highest four-year or five-year cohort adjusted

graduation rate among the current year and combined year rates would be the applied rate which determined school graduation ratings. He stated that while the graduation rating used points to determine the level a school earned, the report card incorporated the percent of points from the graduation rating and the other components including achievement and growth, to calculate and determine the overall school rating.

Mr. Caropelo said that the graduation rates of students in subgroups counted for 15%. He stated that the graduation rates of students in significant subgroups were disaggregated and their performance was weighted in the school's overall rating.

Mr. Caropelo said that three of the district schools were rated as Level 5 this year; West Albany High School, Clover Ridge Elementary and Oak Grove Elementary Schools. He said that twelve district schools were rated as Level 4 and three campuses were evaluated as Level 3. He said that fifteen district schools were rated at or above average for similar schools in the State.

Director Boehme asked of the potential impact of the Advanced Diploma. Mr. Caropelo said that the report cards were always one year behind. He said that the current reports cards were based on the 2011-12 graduation rates. He said that the district would not see an impact from the advanced diploma program until the following year.

Director Boehme asked of the potential rating level in the future. Mr. Caropelo said that there were approximately 153 students were enrolled in the Advanced Diploma program. He said that if one took that number of students and removed them from the four-year graduation rate that would be the impact. He said that he had not calculated the impact but he estimated that the high schools might drop to Level 2 or Level 3. He stated that he might have a better estimate in February after receiving State information.

Mr. Caropelo spoke of the new manner in which the State Report Cards measured school attendance. He said that the previous calculation was an average daily attendance. He said that the new calculation reported the percentage of students attending class at least 90 percent of the days that they were enrolled. He said that the focus was upon the smaller number of students who missed a greater number of days.

He said that attendance was a measure of student performance. He said that when students do not attend school it is difficult to get them to meet standards and make educational gains. He said that the new calculation would help the district focus upon students who were having the most difficulty getting to school.

Mr. Caropelo said that report cards from several district schools were provided as examples. He noted that each began with a letter from the building principal. He said that the report included profile information including demographics. He said that information at the bottom of the page provided state rating information including the school's Level and a statewide comparison to schools with similar demographics.

He said that the second page provided student performance information including historical data and measurements from the 2011-12 school year. He said that the lower half of the page provided information regarding the performance of the significant sub-groups. Board Chair Bricker noted that the document was very busy.

Mr. Caropelo said that the last page provided curriculum and learning environment information provided by the school to highlight various programs.

Director Utt asked when the State Report Cards would reflect the Common Core. He asked how schools could be compared from one year to the next. Mr. Caropelo replied that has not been determined.

SCHOOL SAFETY TASK FORCE IDEAS

Superintendent Maria Delapoer said that she wanted to provide the Board with information in addition to what she delivered in September. She said that the district was still in the early stages of putting things into place. She said that the Facilities Department was still examining the school audits in an attempt to cost out the proposals.

She spoke of a potential security plan called "I Love you Guys. She said that the high schools were examining a part of the "I love You Guys" program entitled "Run, Hide, Fight."

Ms. Delapoer noted that a district directive already required staff to wear security badges. She noted that the district recently used "School Messenger" to send out information to parents regarding a potential issue at one of the district schools.

She said that there was a discussion about distributing photographs of individuals who have been processed by law enforcement agencies. She said that if the district were to do so, and no protocol has been developed, the photographs would only go to principals and office managers. She said that for years the district received flyers from the sheriff's department regarding sex offenders. She said that the flyers were posted in areas where only the staff had access. She said that the flyers were no longer distributed because the information was now available online.

Ms. Delapoer said that school counselor meetings were being scheduled. She said that the district was developing a protocol for students returning to school from a mental health facility. She also spoke of Student Threat Assessment Teams.

Director Boehme asked about the South Albany High Schools situation that occurred that day. Superintendent Delapoer replied that someone wrote a threatening message on a bathroom wall at the school. She said that the Albany Police department investigated that determined there was not any real danger. She said that there would be increased police presence at the school the following day. She said that Principal Brent Belveal sent an email to inform parents. She said that school would continue as usual.

Mr. Caropelo said that the investigation was ongoing. Ms. Delapoer said that the district was fortunate to have partners such as the Albany Police Department.

DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN
GOAL 3, M7, DISTRICT ENERGY UPDATE

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen introduced Facilities Supervisor Doug Pigman.

Mr. Pigman said that when examining energy use within the district it was appropriate to use the Energy Use Index. He explained that it was a measurement of the total energy used in a building for a specific period of time stated in terms of British Thermal Units per gross conditioned square foot per year. He said that the Energy Use Index Target Range was the range of energy consumption that a facility ought to demonstrate in relation to specific conditions. He said that the Energy Use Index was compared to the target range to benchmark a facility. He said that the target ranges for the program were developed by the Oregon Department of Energy.

He provided several slides which indicated reduced energy usage at each of the schools. A separate slide compared energy costs in 2008 and in 2012. Mr. Pigman stated that the district spent \$197,402 less in 2012 for energy than it did in 2008.

Mr. Pigman spoke of the solar projects installed on district buildings. He noted that the number of systems installed was fewer than originally proposed. He said that systems were installed at 13 district sites. He said that a 24 kW system was installed at the rear of the Albany Options School. He provided a slide to indicate the amount of electricity generated at each location.

He also spoke of capital projects. He described work to install a modular structure at Oak Grove Elementary and paving of the parking lot at North Albany Elementary School. He also spoke a paving project at South Albany High School and the replacement of siding at the modular structure at Liberty Elementary School. He said that the North Albany Middle School high efficiency boiler project was progressing well. Mr. Pigman said that Tangent Elementary received new signage to identify the name of the school. He said that roofing work at West Albany High School was accomplished under budget.

Mr. Pigman spoke of work on the district's control systems. He said that the graphics were installed and a new platform was installed at West Albany High School. He described how the system operated.

Director Boehme asked if the new boiler at Lafayette Elementary School contributed to the energy savings realized at the school. Mr. Pigman said that it had. He stated that the work was completed several years ago as a bond project.

Director Boehme asked if Mr. Pigman expected to see further energy savings after all the work on controls was completed. Mr. Pigman replied that he expected energy use to decline slightly. He said that a functioning optimal start program would be very important as the department would be able to turn on systems closer to the time they were actually needed.

OLD BUSINESS

Board Chair Bricker said that there was one business item that had to be taken care of although it was not on the agenda. He invited Superintendent Delapoer to address the Board.

Ms. Delapoer requested Board action to satisfy a requirement of the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) about school configuration. She said that even though Albany Options School has been only grades 9-12 for more than a year, official action was needed to change the school configuration. She explained that the former Albany Options middle school program was moved to North Albany Middle School.

Director Boehme moved to change the configuration of Albany Options School from grades 6-12 to grades 9-12. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Chair Bricker said that there would be an AIM meeting at 2:30 p.m. on October 15. He said that he would participate in the session.

OTHER BUSINESS

Superintendent Delapoer invited Assistant Superintendent Frank Caropelo to address the reading assignments for the October 28 Work Session.

He said that Board members had at their places a packet of materials to provide information in advance of the Work Session.

Board Chair Bricker said that the Board would meet on October 28 in a Work Session to discuss grading. He said that the Budget Committee would meet on November 6. He said that the annual conference of the Oregon School Boards Association would be November 15-17, 2013

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Bricker adjourned the Board meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Frank Bricker, Board Chair

Maria Delapoer, Superintendent

(Recorded by Jim Haggart)

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