

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



REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 14, 2014 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	Director
Lyle Utt	Director
Micah Smith	Director
Nate Burman	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

Cadet Girl Scouts from Troop 20046 led participants in the Pledge of Allegiance. Julie Kistner is the Troop Leader. Board Chair Bricker thanked the Scouts for their participation.

CORE PURPOSE/GOALS

South Albany High School student Sydney Gordon 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
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Superintendent Maria Delapoer said that she would summarize recent professional development sessions conducted within the district. She said that classified employees get together once a month to receive training. She said that teachers in different grade level teams were working on Math and English-Language Arts. She said that the work of the Professional Learning Communities was also taking place.

Mr. Caropelo said that the district had a half-day of professional development on April 4. He said that the focus areas were the implementation of the Common Core standards and the measurement of teacher effectiveness through the district's evaluation system.

He said that elementary school teachers focused upon Common Core implementation. He said that middle schools focused upon standards based grading using assessments and the writing rubric. He said that at the high school level, consultant Kevin Feldman met with high school teachers to discuss engagement strategies.

SODEXO SCHOLARSHIP DONATION

Food Service Supervisor Sharon Short said that she wished to make a presentation on behalf of the Sodexo Corporation. She gave the Board a check for \$2,500 to be used for scholarships for 2014 graduates of Greater Albany Schools. Ms. Delapoer thanked Sodexo for the contribution.

ART IN THE BOARDROOM

Superintendent Maria Delapoer said that the artwork in the Monteith Room to the left of the Board and in the Weatherford Room behind the Board was from Ms. Cari Hastings' 4th grade class at Periwinkle Elementary School. She said that the artwork with the blue borders represented the children's study of Vincent van Gogh's "Starry Night." She said that the artwork with the black borders was their review of "Squares with Concentric Circles" by Wassily Kandinsky.

STUDENT ALL-STARS

Kyla Harris, and Logan Schwartz of Central Elementary School, and Matthew Luehring and Corin Wells of Clover Ridge Elementary School were recognized for school and community service. Josi Brinson and Andrew Boring of Takena Elementary School and Brayden Wigle, Caulin Leach, Tyler Fournier, Thomas Garrish, Mathew Rogers, Casey Plate, Tanner Hodgson and Stedman Andrizzi of Timber Ridge School were also recognized.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mari Hansen said that she was representing the Boys and Girls Club of Albany, 1216 Hill Street in Albany. She said that representatives of the Club visited all of the Albany schools and met with building principals to re-establish communications and ask principals what they needed from the Boys and Girls Club.

She said that the most common response from elementary principals was kindergarten readiness. She said that in response, the club developed a program that it would operate for the first time this summer. She said that Kinder Camp would be offered in two, four-week sessions. She stated that

there would be a Monday-Wednesday-Friday group and a Tuesday-Thursday group, both of which would be from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. She said that the program would be headed by an education major with a degree in Spanish. She said that each group would be composed of 12 children. She estimated the cost at \$80 for the 3-day a week, 4-week session and \$50 for the 2-day a week, 4-week sessions. She said that some scholarships would be available.

Director Gordon asked if the Boys and Girls Club would coordinate that program with the district. Ms. Hansen said that the Club would do so.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Minutes from March 10, 2013 Regular Board Meeting
- 2) Personnel
- 3) *EBCB, Emergency Response & Drills*

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

None.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Director Boehme said that he met with the District Leadership Team to discuss funding ratios. He said that in allocating resources things can never be equal but the objective is to try to be fair. Ms. Delapoer said that she would discuss the process in great detail with the Budget Committee.

Director Smith said that he and security consultant Bob Tatum met with Superintendent Delapoer and Timber Ridge Principal Jason Hoffert-Hay to discuss progress in improving the district's safety and security program.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

None.

STUDENT REPORTS

West Albany High School Student Board Member Nate Burman reported that Spring sports were in full swing. He said that athletic opportunities included baseball, golf, lacrosse, softball, tennis and track.

He said that this week was Cultural Diversity Week and there would be an assembly on Friday to recognize all the different backgrounds represented by the West Albany student body. He said that the spring musical, "Beauty and the Beast" would open April 24. He said that prom would be April 26, 2014.

South Albany High School Student Reporter Jessica Dilbone said that the school began the spring with a celebration. She said that the varsity dance team was named the 5A state champions. She said

that a donkey basketball game raised funds for the medical expenses of teacher Mr. Henkel. She said that the students witnessed a performance by Chinese acrobats. She said that she had never seen people so flexible. She said that ten students from the AP English classes went to Ashland to see two plays, "The Tempest" and "Coconuts."

Board Chair Bricker thanked both students for their reports.

REPORTS

DIVISION 22

Assistant Superintendent Frank Caropelo reported that the district was in compliance with Division 22 requirements with the exception of "OAR 1131, Credit Options." He said that the requirement was that each high school course have at least 130 credit hours of instruction. He said that when Greater Albany high schools reviewed their class hours, they found that they were less than 2 hours short. He said that the high schools have a plan so that they will be in compliance next year.

ELECTRONIC BOARD PACKETS

Board Chair Bricker said that beginning in February, 2014 the Linn Benton Lincoln Education Service District (LBL ESD) began moving toward a paperless Board meeting. He said that ESD Board members who are into it have experienced less clutter. He noted that Greater Albany Board Member Micah Smith has been working a paperless Board packet on his own for some time. Board Chair Bricker recommended that Greater Albany Board members have the option of a paperless packet. He said that a paperless Board packet could be placed on the district website and the public could view the documents before a Board meeting. He added that Director Gordon was out of town until the day before. He said that if she had an electronic packet available, she would have had the time to study the material and email questions. Director Gordon said that she had an eight hour plane flight.

Board Chair Bricker said that information in the packet indicated the expenses incurred by the ESD in moving toward a paperless board meeting. He clarified that he was not proposing that the Board move to a full paperless Board meeting, although he thought that the Board would get there eventually. He said that he wished to begin with providing the Directors with the option of a paperless packet and see how things go from there.

Director Gordon asked for training in accessing an electronic packet. Director Smith described how the program could be used.

Director Gordon asked if there would be a savings in postage. Board Chair Bricker said that there would be some but the district could not pay for the iPads with the savings in postage. Director Smith suggested that the district could purchase a less expensive iPad than the devices procured by the ESD.

Executive Assistant Jim Haggart noted that the ESD purchased iPads for its Board members so that they could keep their ESD and personal matters separate.

Director Utt asked how the ESD would handle information that might be considered as "confidential." Board Chair Bricker replied that the information would be sent separately.

WEST ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL TURF FIELD

Superintendent Delapoer invited West Albany High School principal Susie Orsborn to address the Board.

Ms. Orsborn said that she would provide an update on a proposal to install a turf field at West Albany High School. She said that she convened a committee of parents and supporters to examine the possibilities. She stated that the dimensions of the Memorial Stadium field and track were such that if the football field were covered with artificial turf, there would be insufficient room for a regulation soccer field. She noted that Oregon State University covered an intermural field with artificial turf and the facility gets considerable use by a variety of sports. She said that the cost to cover the football field would be the same as a turf surface on another location on the West Albany High School campus.

She said that the Committee decided to take a step back, “Dream Big,” and review all of their athletic facilities including baseball, softball, football and soccer. She said that she also wished to consider the possibility of expanding the school’s facilities for performing arts.

Director Gordon noted that a district facility for the performing arts could be used for middle school promotion and high school graduation ceremonies. Ms. Orsborn agreed, noting that West Albany High School would be moving to the Class 6A level and the schools in that category all have turf football fields, turf multi-purpose fields and facilities for the performing arts.

Student Board Member Nate Burman suggested that West Albany High School talk to Corvallis High School which has a very nice artificial turf field. Ms. Orsborn stated that the multi-purpose field was installed when the new Corvallis High School was constructed.

DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Superintendent Delapoer invited South Albany High School principal Brent Belveal to provide an update on a proposal to install an artificial turf field at South Albany High School.

Mr. Belveal said that he had a prepared script. He said that there were several other people who wished to address the Board. He stated that there was a lot of activity since he addressed the Board in February. He said that at the time, he asked the Directors if the Board saw the opportunity for children, would the Board allow him to ask the community to consider the project, and would the Board permit him to return later to provide more details and maybe move forward on the project.

He said that his committee had done its best to stay with that agreement, to consider the plan rather than moving forward. He emphasized that he had not accepted money or signed any agreements. He stated that some of the details would not be finalized that evening, but the committee was continuing to work on those details as it moved forward. He noted that some of the details could not be finalized until the committee had Board approval.

Mr. Belveal said that he understood that some community members were interested in an artificial turf surface at West Albany High School. He said that it was his intent to be transparent with the process. He said that the committee was assembling notebooks and creating a footprint for similar projects in the future. He said that he had invited a member of the West Albany community to join his planning team.

He said that the information provided in the packet included a draft budget. He said that construction companies were very supportive, but none was ready to provide a "bottom line" number until the committee had Board approval to move forward. He estimated that the construction numbers would get much better after the committee was able to move forward.

Mr. Belveal discussed the draft budget and noted that initial inquiries returned about \$205,000 in in-kind donations. He said that the committee believed that the amount would increase over time and would likely exceed \$250,000.

He said that the project might require less rock than initially estimated. If so, the cost of the project might be less than the initial estimate. He said that the businesses that do that kind of work were reluctant to expend too much time on the project until they knew the committee had the Board's approval to move forward.

Mr. Belveal said that the start of the project would be weather dependent, but he hoped to begin construction in early June with an August 1 completion date.

He said that one concept that had become apparent was that it would be best to have just one company do the excavation and installation. He said that the work would require a professional degree of accuracy including within half of one degree in level. He said that it was a professional level job that needed to be done the right way.

Mr. Belveal said that FieldTurf, out of Tigard, Oregon has an amazing product. He said that the company owns several patents on the type of installation which prevents others from using their design. He said that FieldTurf has done extensive research and is one of the few, solid artificial turf companies in the country. He said that representatives of the company have walked the South Albany High School field and have helped the committee understand exactly what needed to be done.

He said that FieldTurf was a company with an excellent reputation. He said that the company will not install a turf surface unless the substructure is precise in its specifications, so there was an assurance that the school would receive a great product for long term use. He said that the initial estimate was \$4.50 per square foot but he believed that the cost could come in lower. He added that FieldTurf has a purchasing agreement with the State of Oregon which would eliminate the requirement for the committee to procure multiple bids.

Mr. Belveal spoke of finances. He said that the numbers started high, but the committee wanted to look at "turn-key" numbers if the district wished to hire someone to do that work. He said that when the committee examined donations, all of the work so far was just handshake agreements. He said that no agreements were in writing because the committee did not have permission to do that. He said

that he was in firm belief that the contributions were approaching \$250,000. He said that the committee hoped to raise an additional \$150,000 with a large number of smaller donations. He said that a "donor wall" would allow the committee to recognize donations of \$100 or more.

He said that the committee wished the project to be a community asset, supported by the community and the school district, with everyone sharing a piece.

Mr. Belveal stated that with what the committee knew now, he believed the current, bottom line cost had been reduced to \$300,000, without additional in-kind donations, price reductions, or large cash donations that were still possible. He said that as the committee researched the project, it secured a local bank that was interested in being part of a community project that benefited our kids. He said that there were several options for the loan, depending upon who signed the agreement. He said that the resultant interest rates would range from 6 to 4 percent or lower. He said that an 8-year loan would result in an annual payment of approximately \$50,000.

He emphasized that no funds were committed yet. He said that the draft budget included requests of several agencies, but no one had agreed to any dollars at this point. He said that he had discussed a contribution of \$30,000 each year from the school district, with a portion of that offset by reduced maintenance costs to the district. He said that the school boosters were willing to help as they could.

Mr. Belveal estimated that the million dollar facility could be created with a district contribution of one-fourth of the value of the facility. He said that there would be an eventual cost to the district in 8-10 years for the replacement of the turf. He said that it would be very much like what the district did now for buildings and other assets. He said that we know that there will be a roof to repair or replace in the future but the asset is important for kids so we build it.

He asked if he had the Board's permission to move forward with the project with the stipulations that no dirt would be moved until all of the details were decided, and that he would continue to reduce costs and secure additional funding to lower and hopefully eliminate the loan process.

Mr. Belveal said that there were several community members who wished to speak on behalf of the project.

Rhonda Marlega said that she represented the Mid-Valley Pop Warner kids football. She said that the organization represented 2,000 participants of which 350-400 children play in Albany. She said that the teams struggle every year to find suitable fields when the weather becomes rainy. She said that there was definitely a need for a turf field.

Dwayne Johnson said that he was speaking as a Pop Warner supporter and as a sports official. He said that he observed how turf fields in Corvallis, Lebanon and Salem brought each of those communities together. He said that the Pop Warner organization was willing to help.

Alan King of 2735 Collingwood Street SE in Albany said that he was representing the Albany Futbol Club. He said that he is a life-long resident of Albany and his two children play youth sports. He said that a turf field would be a great opportunity for his club and his family. He said that the Albany

Futbol Club was a competitive organization that played soccer year round. He said that when the weather got bad, his team had to travel and "home games" were quite often played away. He said that local tournaments were a great opportunity for kids in the area to compete and would be a valuable boost to the Albany economy. He said that Oregon State University was also prepared to make a donation to the project.

Bryan Muntz said that he also represented the Albany Futbol Club and he actually sells grass seed for a living. He said that kids practice soccer 11 months a year and that meant traveling outside the city for suitable fields. He said that soccer tournaments bring money to the host city. He said that even a small tournament could bring \$50,000 to \$100,000 to Albany. He said that many high schools in the area have turf fields and even the middle schools in Eugene have turf surfaces.

Mr. Belveal invited Turf for Kids committee members Mike Newman and Kevin Kelsh to join him at the podium.

Director Smith said that he heard of problems with turf fields at Santiam Christian School and the Hillsboro School District. He said that having a project manager was the only way to have the project completed properly. Mr. Belveal said that he was in discussion with several companies for project management.

Director Smith asked of the potential cost. Mr. Belveal estimated that project management could be completed quickly and therefore the management cost would be small. A committee member said that project management could come from FieldTurf.

Director Smith asked if the project and likely increased use of the facility would require an increase in insurance coverage. He also asked if the use of an artificial turf surface would require different insurance. Mr. Allen replied that there would not be a requirement to change existing coverage in the short term, although it was possible that the insurance industry might move to that in the future.

Mr. Allen said that to the extent that individuals used district athletic fields without coordinating through the district, those activities would be called "recreational use" for which the district had recreational immunity. He said that if an activity was reserved through the district, there was a process in place that required those activities to have insurance.

Director Smith asked about facility use fees. Mr. Belveal said that the objective was to provide a recreational surface, not make up part of the construction cost through usage fees.

Director Smith asked of eventual surface replacement costs. He asked where the money would come from. Mr. Belveal said that he discussed that requirement with other districts. He said that facility use fees would not be sufficient to replace the surface. He estimated that there would be so much use of the facility, that the community would not allow the surface to not be replaced. He said that the warranty was eight years but some fields last longer.

Director Smith asked about cleaning a turf field of bacteria. Mr. Belveal did not know specifics. He said that artificial turf fields are treated periodically. Mr. Allen said that Facilities Department was talking to other districts to learn of long-term maintenance requirements.

Director Smith said that he was concerned that an artificial surface might get too hot during warm weather. Mr. Belveal said that FieldTurf does not typically include sprinkling systems on the facilities it installs in the northwest, but watering the surface to keep the heat down would be a possibility.

Director Gordon said that her husband was on the board that installed the artificial turf at Oregon State University. She said that Oregon State was front runner in turf field maintenance. She estimated that the school would continue to research how to keep players safe.

Ms. Delapoer said that FieldTurf installed the facility at Oregon State. She said that it was a well-established company

Director Boehme asked at what point the committee would pull the trigger on the project. Mr. Belveal replied that the project would not begin until the money was in place. He said that everything would be in place before the work started.

Director Gordon said that a Nike grant was applied for but if approved would not pay out until 2015.

Director Utt said that he watched the construction of the turf field at Oregon State University and he said that the fields were widely used.

Board Chair Bricker asked about contingency money. Mr. Belveal said that there was some flexibility built into the proposal, but the money was not specifically identified as such. He said that the proposal had not been refined to that detail.

Director Boehme asked what would happen to the donated money if the committee was unable to go forward with the project. Mr. Belveal said that the money could be returned or carried forward.

Superintendent Delapoer said that the proposal included a request from the School Board of \$30,000 per year for eight years. She said that amount was not currently in her budget proposal.

Mr. Belveal said that he believed that the cost of the project could be reduced which might lower the amount requested from the district.

Director Smith said that he has heard comments from the community that district funds should not be used for a turf field. He related that some people stated that if the field was to be a community asset, let the community pay for it. He asked if school fund money should be used for turf.

Director Boehme replied that the construction of the all-weather track at Timber Ridge School was intended for the community as much as for the school. He said that the tracks at South Albany High School and West Albany High School were frequently used by community members.

Director Gordon said that she is private banker. She said that the project is so popular that the district might not have to take a loan for the project. She said that community leaders want the business that would be generated by a local tournament. She said that the project would be a benefit for all Albany children. She asked of the percentage of children who eventually become varsity athletes.

Mr. Belveal estimated that just 20 percent of children who play sports will eventually play on a high school varsity team.

Director Smith said that perhaps the project had not been sold well enough to the community.

Ms. Delapoer said that the district was not given the opportunity to address the City Council regarding a potential contribution.

Director Utt said that it was important to communicate the benefits of the turf project to everyone.

Mr. Belveal asked for the Board's permission to move forward.

Action: Director Gordon moved to give South Albany High School permission to move ahead with their proposal to install a turf field on their campus and begin accepting donations. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY .

NEW BUSINESS

ELEMENTARY LUNCH PRICE INCREASE

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen recommended increasing elementary school paid lunch prices from \$2.10 to \$2.15 for the 2014-15 school year. He explained that the intent of the federal Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act was that school districts not use federal free-meal dollars to subsidize paid lunches. He said that Act requires that the paid amount that the district charges students cannot be less than a certain percentage of the federal free meal reimbursement. He said that Sodexo Food Service crunched the numbers and the only level which required an adjustment was the elementary grades. He said that middle school and high school paid lunch prices at \$2.35 and \$2.65 respectively would not change.

Mr. Allen said that no changes were planned for breakfast prices or other food service offerings. He said that elementary school price increases would not impact students receiving free meals, nor would the price increases impact students receiving reduced fee meals. He stated that the price increase would not change the number of students eligible to participate in the free or reduced fee meal program.

Board Chair Bricker directed that the matter be returned to the Board at the Consent Agenda of the next session.

BOARD POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION, SECURITY

Superintendent Maria Delapoer said that the district's transition to the "I Love You Guys" emergency response procedures required adjustments to a number of district directives: *KG, Community Use of District Facilities; KK, Visitors to District Facilities; KN, Relations with Law Enforcement; and KN-AR, Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies.*

There was no discussion.

BOARD POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION, SECURITY

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen stated that the district's transition to the "I Love You

Guys" emergency response procedures required adjustments to a number of district directives: *ECAAA, Employee Identification Badge System; ECAAA-AR, Employee & Visitor Identification Badge System; and ECAC, Electronic Surveillance.*

Mr. Allen said that the revisions would formalize in policy what the district was already doing in practice.

Director Smith asked if the documents were reviewed by the employee associations. Mr. Allen said that the district already has agreements, including language in contracts, regarding electronic surveillance. He said that the practice is permissible if it is posted. He noted that the document indicates that surveillance cannot be used for non-criminal evaluations.

Director Utt asked if visitor badges would be required for parents attending evening activities. Mr. Allen said that visitor badges would not be required for evening activities such as basketball games.

OTHER BUSINESS

MCKINSTRY UPDATE

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen delivered a progress report from McKinstry. The report indicated that the district had accepted five schools; West Albany High School, Clover Ridge Elementary, Lafayette Elementary, Takena Elementary and Central Elementary Schools. The report also indicated that three additional schools; Oak Elementary, Tangent Elementary and Liberty Elementary were ready for district acceptance.

Director Boehme said that he would attend the next McKinstry meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Delapoer said that the next meeting of the Budget Committee would be April 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the District Office. Board Chair Bricker said that the next Regular Board Meeting would be April 28, 2014.

Board Chair Bricker adjourned the Board meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Frank Bricker, Board Chair

Maria Delapoer, Superintendent

(Recorded by Jim Haggart)

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