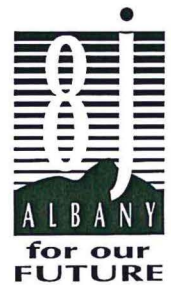


Greater Albany Public School District 8J  
718 Seventh Avenue SW  
Albany, Oregon 97321-2399



## ***REGULAR BOARD MEETING***

**March 9, 2015 7:00 p.m.**

### **Minutes**

*Maria Delapoer, Superintendent*

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

Jerry Boehme	Board Chair
Micah Smith	Board Vice Chair
Frank Bricker	Director
Sandi Gordon	Director
Lyle Utt	Director
Stephanie Dilbone	Student Board Member
Maria Delapoer	Superintendent
Tonja Everest	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 Boehme led participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **CORE PURPOSE/GOALS**

Director Smith 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**

**BRENT BELVEAL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION**

Superintendent Maria Delapoer said that South Albany Principal Brent Belveal was recently notified that he had been selected for induction into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in Stillwater, Oklahoma for his lifetime service to wrestling. She said that Mr. Belveal related that he viewed people who were previously selected into the Hall as his role models and heroes and he felt very humbled and honored to think of himself joining that group. Ms. Delapoer said that there would be an induction ceremony and dinner for Mr. Belveal on May 2 in Tigard, Oregon.

**TIMBER RIDGE STUDENT REPORTER**

Executive Assistant Jim Haggart introduced Timber Ridge School Student Reporter Kyland Hart. Mr. Haggart said that Kyland is an eighth grader taking Leadership, Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Health and PE. His favorite subject is Social Studies. Mr. Haggart said that Board members would recall that Kyland was recognized as a Student All-Star at their February 23 meeting.

Mr. Haggart said that that Kyland has a brother Keegan, an eleventh grader at South Albany High School. His mother is Lacey Hart.

Board Chair Boehme welcomed Kyland Hart.

**STUDENT REPORTER**

Timber Ridge School Student Reporter Kyland Hart addressed the Board. His report is provided as an attachment to these minutes.

**STUDENT ALL - STARS**

Melinda Gonzales, Sara Henderson, Tyler Kelsch, Miguel Manaute and Justin Montgomery of South Albany High School and Haylee Burgdorf, Talia Lynn, Conner Mole, and Robert Negrete of West Albany High School were recognized for their success in school and the community. Ashlea Davenport and Luis Garibay of Albany Options School were also honored.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Lucy Borst of Albany said that she has lived in the Tadena area for 36 years. She said that she previously worked for the school district at Tadena, Central, Waverly and Clover Ridge Elementary Schools before retiring in 2006. She said that she had made life-long friends with the parents of those students. She said that she was blessed to work with great teachers and administrators. She spoke of the proposal to reconfigure the grade structure at Central and Tadena Schools. She said that she was speaking as a parent and an advocate for parents who opposed the proposal. She said that changing the structure of the schools would impact children for years to come. She said that the continuity that each school could deliver over the course of six years would far outweigh any advantage that restructuring would have in the long term. She said that for parents with multiple children, that continuity would be even more important. She said that the older/younger sibling dynamic was important and if one split up those siblings at such a young age, it would adversely impact the home and school environment. She encouraged the Board to listen to the parents as to how their lives would be affected. She said that the issue was more than classroom academics. She said it was about their social well-being, their relationships with friends, their extra-curricular activities, and their families' ability to prepare them for school each day. She said that we live in a time when the parents of elementary children have full time jobs.



She said that they work hard for the future of their children, and asked that the Board not add another hardship to those family lives.

Richard Meaney of 823 Walnut Street in Albany said that since the Board's last meeting he had done considerable research. He said that he had a listing of references which he would later give to the Board. He suggested that the proposal to restructure the grades at Central and Tadena Schools would be for structural reasons. He said that the majority of the students would not be moving their home and their atmosphere outside of the school would not change. He said that it would be important to conduct a longitudinal study that would track children from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade in their academic and social experience. He noted that the situation was different than the Clover Ridge/Timber Ridge School structure because the Timber Ridge model would have the children at the school for six years. He said that those students would move schools twice while advancing through the school district as compared to the Central and Tadena Students who would make three or possibly four school moves. He said that he was in favor of keeping the schools as they were.

Anna Balkema of 31150 Willoway Drive SW in Albany said that she is the mother of a third grader at Tadena School. She thanked Directors Utt and Smith for calling her directly. She said that her family lives three miles from the Tadena campus but her child rides a school bus for 45 minutes. She said that on several occasions the bus did not stop at the designated bus stop. She asked who would supervise the bus drivers if her child was transported to Central School as she was worried about her child's safety. She said that her child told her of the proposed move but wondered if the child herself was at fault and mistakenly thought that Tadena School no longer wanted her there. Ms. Balkema asked if the restructuring of the schools was the best use of the district's money.

Jonathan Balkema of 31150 Willoway Drive SW in Albany said that he was opposed to the plan to make sister campuses of Tadena and Central Schools. He said that the stated reason for the restructuring was collaboration but he estimated that there could be other ways for teachers to work with other educators. He agreed that academic achievement at Tadena and Central schools was below the state average. He noted, however, that achievement at six of the district schools was also below the state average. He suggested that the district examine what was best for the district as a whole. He suggested that the proposal be tabled until the new superintendent could examine the proposal.

Dick Olsen of 732 Broadalbin Street SW in Albany said that he is on the City Council but he was speaking for himself. He said that it was a goal of the city to provide great neighborhoods. He said that people like the Central School neighborhood. He hoped that the Board would say no to the proposal to restructure Central and Tadena Schools. He noted that the Board might have a bond measure in the future. He asked if it would be a good idea to anger the parents in the Tadena and Central neighborhoods.

Anne Catlin of 424 Montgomery Street SE in Albany said that she is a Central parent. She said that her children would not have to move schools under the proposal but the issue caused her great concern as a parent. She said that some working parents would have to adjust their schedules to drop off and pick up children at two different schools. She said that there was much research



regarding the advantages and disadvantages of the restructuring proposal. She noted that the Board had heard little from Takena and Central teachers. She said that walking to school was good exercise but changing the grade structure might cause children to have to walk further to school or instead have to take the bus. She said that the buses would add pollution to the atmosphere. She asked for more time for parents to consider the proposal.

Barry Hoffman of 1240 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW in Albany said that he wanted to paint a picture of families in a K-5 structure. He said that families could walk together and converse with teachers and other families in a relaxed atmosphere. He then spoke of the difficulties of picking up two children from two separate campuses and the challenges of driving across town. He asked the Board to not change the structure of the two schools

Jim Johnson of 822 Eighth Avenue SW in Albany said that he has a daughter who is a third grader at Central School, a son who is a high school senior, and one child who has not yet started school. He said that he understood that something needed to change, but he said that none of the parents know what the problem was. He asked for a one year to save the schools in their present configuration. He suggested giving the schools one year to work with the new Smarter Balanced assessments and full-day kindergarten. He suggested that the schools have learning opportunities such as reading mentors and science fairs. He asked for activities to make school fun.

Brenda Wrightson of 3480 Oakville Road in Albany described the relationships between younger and older students as invaluable. She said that the bonding was something schools were privileged to have. She said that she was also concerned about transportation between the schools. She spoke of possible traffic congestion at the schools if the number of families served by the schools increased.

Joann Meaney of 823 Walnut Street SW in Albany spoke of the re-occurring mention of Takena Elementary as a small school. She said that if the grades were changed the populations would remain essentially the same.

Heather Slocum at 1115 Takena Street in Albany said that she did not agree with the proposal. She asked why the decision had to be made so fast. She said that her family lives across the street from Takena School. She said that moving children to Central School would result in having her ten year-old having to walk ten blocks to school. She said that the proposal had already created discord between Central and Takena families. She asked that time be taken to research the options with students, parents, teachers and administrators.

Denise Bigner of 211 First Avenue SW in Albany asked when the decision would be made. Board Chair Boehme said that the Board would not make any decision until it had all the information it needed.

Superintendent Delapoer said that staff would take the time to investigate the questions raised that evening. She said that she hoped to be able to make a decision in early May.

Ms. Bigner asked if there would be other opportunities for community input.

Board Chair Boehme replied that Board members read their emails. He said that there were additional ways to communicate with staff members and principals.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1) Minutes from February 23, 2015 Regular Board Meeting
- 2) Personnel
- 3) Financial

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

### **BOARD REPORTS**

#### **LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT**

Superintendent Maria Delapoer spoke of the State School Fund and provided the Board with a graphic describing what different funding levels would mean to the district. She said that the document was prepared by a coalition of organizations. She spoke of the Co-Chair's budget and explained that it was less than the \$7.5 billion needed to maintain the status quo.

She spoke of Senate Bill 322 which concerned the ability of the district to continue to send students to Linn Benton Community College after they completed high school. She said that currently, the program was provided through the State School Funds, but she acknowledged that no one believed that it was the best way to fund the program. She said that the version she saw earlier in the year would continue the program but at a reduced rate. The proposal she saw last week would eliminate the program within two years. She said that she was working with other area school districts, Linn Benton Community College and the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce to provide information to legislators.

Board Chair Boehme asked if the Bill could impact current seniors. She said that it could. She said that she met with State Representative Andy Olson on March 6 to discuss Senate Bill 322 and State School Fund levels.

#### **WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen spoke of the District Facilities Advisory Committee. He said that they had the second of six scheduled meetings, although it was likely there would be additional sessions. He said that the work included a presentation on 21st century learning by the assistant superintendent. He said that his staff was fulfilling information requests from the committee including a prioritization of the project listing prepared by contractor DLR group. He said that the work included maintenance, safety, ADA, and learning matters. He said staff was considering four dates for optional site visits at the schools. He said that the next meeting would be March 31 at the district office.

#### **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Board Chair Boehme said that he would have a report on the superintendent search later in the session.



### ***STUDENT REPORT***

South Albany High School Student Board Member Stephanie Dilbone said that spring sports started March 2. She said that the dance team and debate teams took home wins at the state level competitions. She said that the “Rebel Games” were March 5 and were won by the seniors. She said that the school play, “The Curious Savage” would begin at 7:30 p.m. on Friday in the Little Theater.

### **REPORTS**

#### ***MENTOR PROGRAM***

Human Resources Director Randy Lary introduced North Albany Elementary School Principal Tracy Day and said that she would discuss the Oregon Mentor Grant. Mr. Lary said that 20 percent of the district’s teachers were hired within the past two years. He said that the district had two programs in place to help develop those teachers. He said that Ms. Day and her team were present that evening to discuss the Oregon Mentor Grant which was operated through the Oregon Department of Education.

Ms. Day said that the local program, guided by the Oregon Department of Education, was “COPAL” which was a partnership between Corvallis, Oregon State University, Philomath, Albany, and the Lebanon School Districts. She said that the coordinator organizes professional development sessions three times a year for new teachers and meets with mentors once a month.

She said that last year was the first for the grant and 16 teachers and six retired teacher mentors participated. She said that this year, 25 first and second year teachers, three retired teachers and one current teacher mentor participated. She said that the structure was different from the Teacher Incentive Fund mentor program in that in this program, the mentors were retired teachers. She said that retired teacher Donna Pensinger was working with elementary teachers.

Ms. Pensinger said that her group consisted of seven first-year teachers and three second-year teachers. She said that she started the year by helping teachers unpack boxes and set up their classroom and technology. She said that the initial focus was on classroom procedures and writing lesson plans. She said that they also worked on professional goal setting. She helped observe teachers and then followed up with their self-assessments and “next steps.” She said that she also video-taped teachers delivering instruction and then they watched the video and discussed the lesson. She said that another important piece of new teacher training was the analysis of student work. She said that the tool was a powerful technique that reinforced the need for formative assessments and focused, small-group instruction. She said that it was an integral part of solid assessment practice. She said that each of the new teachers was taught how to use the assessments and their analysis of student work in their instruction.

Molly Palmer said that she is a second grade teacher in her first year teacher at Oak Grove School. She said that her best asset was other teachers. She said that the mentor program was helping her learn the craft of being a teacher. She said that she has never been more excited. She said that it is nice to have the help of someone who has been there.

Ms. Pensinger read a letter from a second-year teacher who was also appreciative of having a mentor.

Director Gordon asked if all new teachers participated in the mentor program. Ms. Pensinger said that for the last two years, the program she discussed was for non-Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) schools. Mr. Lary said that the eight TIF schools had a different mentoring program.

**DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**CONTRACT EXTENSIONS/RENEWALS**

Human Resources Director Randy Lary said that Board members had three documents at their places. He explained that for contract teachers, the documents described contract extensions. He said that for probationary teachers, the documents identified renewals.

He said that because Director Smith has a family member who is a teacher, he wished to recuse himself from the vote on the contract renewal for that person. Mr. Lary said that to accommodate that request, one document was for a group of teachers, one was for that family member and one document was for administrators. He requested Board approval to either extend or decline to extend licensed employee contracts at this meeting. He said that the Board's actions would become public information after that action.

Action: Director Smith moved to approve the certified employee recommendations as presented in the large packet. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Action: Director Bricker moved to approve the certified employee recommendation for the family member of Director Smith. Motion APPROVED BY MAJORITY. Board Chair Boehme and Directors Bricker, Gordon and Utt voted to approve. Director Smith abstained from voting.

Action: Director Bricker moved to extend the contracts of administrators as presented. Motion APPROVED BY MAJORITY. Directors Bricker, Gordon, Smith and Utt voted to approve. Board Chair Boehme opposed.

**MODULAR PURCHASES**

Business and Operations Director Russ Allen said that at a previous meeting, the Board made a determination relative to the urgent facility needs for full-day kindergarten to place a modular classroom at North Albany Elementary and at Clover Ridge Elementary School. He said that he was bringing specific information relative the modular buildings and a request for authorization for their purchase.

He said that information at Board member places concerned upgrading the foundation to a "concrete stem wall foundation" at an additional cost, and for the larger structure, increasing the pitch of the roofline.

Mr. Allen also discussed the possibility of making the Clover Ridge modular a three-room classroom building if adequate space could be found on-site. He said that it was staff's recommendation to spend the additional \$50,000 to purchase the larger modular for that site. He



stated that the additional classroom was not need for the coming school year, but more space was always preferable to less space. He recommended that the Board authorize the purchase of two 42' x 64' three-classroom modular structures from Pacific Mobile Structures for \$166,208 each.

Director Gordon said that there was new home construction within the Clover Ridge attendance area and it would make sense to provide the school with the additional classroom.

Action: Director Smith moved to approve the purchase of the modular structures with the option of the larger modular at Clover Ridge School if possible. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **NEW SUPERINTENDENT**

Board Chair Boehme announced that the Board had selected Jim Golden to replace Maria Delapoer when she retires at the end of June, 2015. Board Chair Boehme said that Mr. Golden distinguished himself in the field of applicants throughout the search process by demonstrating a record of proven success. He said that Mr. Golden is currently the Superintendent for Sisters School District in Sisters, Oregon with 1,200 students where he has served for 5 years. Board Chair Boehme said that previously, Mr. Golden was Director of Special Programs for the High Desert Education Service District in Redmond, OR and high school principal in Crook County School District for 4 years. Before becoming an administrator, he was a teacher for special education and other various programs for 15 years. Board Chair Boehme said that Mr. Golden also teaches as adjunct faculty for the University of Oregon and Lewis & Clark College in their administrative licensure programs. He said that Mr. Golden has a Master of Science degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Portland State University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Geosciences from Oregon State University. Mr. Golden is currently on the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators Executive Council and serves on numerous state and local committees and councils.

Director Gordon said that the Board went through a rigorous, national search. She said that the directors reviewed 24 applications before narrowing the field for interviews and then further to two finalists. She said that the decision between the two finalists was very difficult and the district could have been well served by either person. She said that she was thrilled with the choice of Mr. Golden. She said that the Sisters School District has done wonderful things with art and has developed great partnerships with the community. She said that Mr. Golden's energy level was infectious.

Director Bricker said that this was his fourth superintendent search but this was the strongest field of applicants ever. He said that both finalists were very well qualified and he stated that Board Members had a difficult time choosing between the two. He said that one of the things the Board liked about Mr. Golden was his energy level. He projected that Mr. Golden would be an energetic member of the community.

Director Utt said that he the pleasure of participating in the site visits and was pleased with the selection of Mr. Golden.



Director Smith said that he also participated in the site visits which he believed were astronomically important to learn how the community felt about its schools. He said that it spoke highly about both candidates that people who did not have children in the schools felt positively about the school district, its superintendent and its teachers. He said that Mr. Golden fostered that appreciation in Sisters, Oregon and would bring that same enthusiasm to the Greater Albany District. He noted that the search was a fast-moving and an open and transparent process and he thanked everyone who participated.

Board Chair Boehme thanked search consultant Greg McKenzie for getting the word out and presenting the district with a deep and talented pool. He thanked the 25 members of the screening committee from across the community who each gave 4-6 hours of their time to review the 24 applications and help the Board select the candidates to be interviewed. He thanked the interview committee composed of the Board and staff and community members Jason Hay, Michelle Hawkins, Sue McGrory, Diane Smith, Kraig Sproles, Sarah Steen and Emily Valdez, who devoted 8-10 hours for the actual person-to-person interviews. He said that their insightful thoughts and observations helped the Board in their decisions. He said that reference callers Diane Smith, Michelle Hawkins, Helen Jacobs and Jim Haggart contacted a wide variety of people from the reference lists.

He said that the internet search team of Micah Smith and Emily Valdez viewed electronic information. He said that the site team members of Director Smith, Director Utt and elementary school principal Kraig Sproles visited Brush, Colorado and Sisters, Oregon and found that finalists Michelle Johnstone and Jim Golden were amazing candidates and as passionate about their districts as they were about education. He said that Mayor Sharon Konopa and City Manager Wes Hare took Ms. Johnstone and Mr. Golden out to dinner and helped them develop an appreciation for Albany. He said that Human Resources Director Randy Lary and Business and Operations Director Russ Allen were tour guides for the finalist visits. He thanked the South Albany and West Albany High School students, district employees and community members for their participation in the many discussion forums and their insightful questions. He said that Michele Johnstone was a class individual and a great educator. He projected that she would continue to lead and inspire children wherever she went.

Board Chair Boehme thanked the Board for their individual and collective efforts to bring the best that could be found for our students.

He thanked Executive Assistant Jim Haggart and noted that no one was irreplaceable but he was certainly close. He said that Mr. Haggart brokered all of the information for each of the groups and provided timely information so that a hiring decision could be made within a very short timetable.

Board Chair Boehme said that an opportunity like this made him proud to serve on the Board and to live in a community like Albany.

Action: Director Smith moved to extend a contract to and approve the hiring of James K. Golden as superintendent for the Greater Albany School District. Motion APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.



Board Chair Boehme said that Mr. Golden is very energetic, thoughtful, and bilingual. He has a special education background, has been high school principal, has worked at the education service district, and has been the superintendent of the Sisters School District. He is also the superintendent elect of the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators and is very well respected by his peers.

Ms. Delapoer said that she has known Mr. Golden for five years and has always enjoyed working with him on different committees. She said that she thought that Mr. Golden would be great fit for the district and the community.

#### ***CENTRAL AND TAKENA SCHOOL GRADE CHANGES***

Superintendent Maria Delapoer said that she would continue discussion of a proposal to configure Takena Elementary School as a grades K-2 campus and Central Elementary School as a grades 3-5 campus. She said that as the Directors knew, this would be a very important decision that would affect a large number of people. She did not want to take the matter lightly or rush through the decision.

She said that parents and Board Members themselves have raised question and concerns and she wanted to take the time to investigate all those questions and provide the Board with the necessary information to make a decision in the best interest of the children.

Ms. Delapoer said that she spoke to several elementary principals who she thought had some background in this kind of situation. She said that Rich Sipe was the principal of Fir Grove and Oak Grove schools when the district closed Fir Grove School. She said that at the time of the closure, the schools were configured with grades K-2 at Fir Grove Elementary and grades 3-5 at Oak Grove Elementary. She said that after the closure teachers and children were moved to Oak Grove School where there were multiple teachers per grade. She said that he is now at Tangent School where there is just one teacher per grade.

She said that she also spoke to Waverly principal Anne Griffith. She noted that Ms. Griffith has some grades with two teachers and some grades with just one teacher. She said that Ms. Griffith would share how those different parts of her school worked.

Ms. Griffith said that in the past, Waverly Elementary has had blended classrooms with children from more than one grade in the same classroom. She said that this year she has one kindergarten teacher, two first grade teachers, two second grade teachers, two third grade teachers, one fourth grade teacher and one fifth grade teacher. She said that in preparation for the Board meeting, she spoke to her teachers.

She said that teachers discussed collaboration, professional learning communities, and reflection. She said that collaboration included curriculum planning, the reading program ReadyGen, and MathStudio. She said that teachers were doing the math together before teaching the math, creating formative assessments, and creating and designing learning activities. She said that teachers told her that they talk about learning objectives all the time. She said that being the only teacher at a grade level was challenging to do.



Ms. Griffith said that during the professional learning community work, teachers and their grade level counterparts, would analyze student data, problem solve, identify their next steps and determine what interventions would look like. She said that educators who were the only teacher at their grade level had no one to talk to. She said that her school was blessed to have a reading teacher and she could talk to the kindergarten teacher. She added that if there was more than one teacher per grade; the teachers could sit side-by-side when scoring writing samples.

She said that having more than one teacher at the same grade level promoted teacher reflection. She said that teachers were talking a lot about their practices in reading, writing and math. She said that through reflection they were refining their instructional practices which were leading to greater student growth.

An audience member asked if Waverly School would always have two teachers in the same grade level. Ms. Griffith said that the district and School Board were trying to avoid blended classrooms. Ms. Delapoer said that she tried to balance class sizes across the district.

Superintendent Delapoer said that she had gathered information from Central and Tadena Elementary School principal Lisa Shogren. She said that Ms. Shogren structured her buildings to create as much time as possible for teachers to share best practices.

She said that schools were asking a lot of teachers. She said that new initiatives included changes in the curriculum, the Common Core, and all of the things they needed to learn to implement those programs. She said that the district needed to ensure that whatever it did provided teachers with as much support and resources as possible. She said that she would continue to look at ideas but what the district had learned from the professional learning communities was that having a colleague to share ideas best practices was valuable in helping teachers be the most effective educators they could be.

Ms. Delapoer said that there would be more discussion to come. She asked for two Board members to research questions as a sub-committee and reach out to parents and community members for discussion and information. Director Bricker and Director Gordon agreed to participate.

Certified association president Sue McGrory said that she received information from teachers at Tadena and Central School. She said that teachers were conflicted. She said that they understood that having more than one teacher per grade provided much more flexibility. She said that was true when a student did not get along with a teacher. She said that teachers understood that there would be more resources and more chances to collaborate. She said that they wanted to do what was best for students.

She said that the other side of the issue was the human side. She said that having to close a school or move a classroom would result in grief and loss. She said that the school would lose teacher partnerships and the family community. She also spoke of the stress of change. She said that at the elementary level, there were considerable changes in the curriculum. She noted that several years ago, Central School teachers had to pack up and have everything moved out of their classrooms

for the seismic upgrade to the building. She said that some teachers were concerned that other teachers might not want to partner with them.

Board Chair Boehme said that the district was not looking to close a school as it already does not have enough classrooms. He emphasized that the move would not be made for any sort of financial reasons. He said that the proposal was about doing what was best for kids. He said that there was more research to do.

**EARLY LEARNING HUB MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Superintendent Maria Delapoer said that Board members had in their packets a draft Memorandum of Understanding with Linn Benton Community College describing the district's participation in the Early Learning Hub. She said that the program was established last year and the Greater Albany School District was a participant with Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties as well as parents and representatives from the health care industry.

Board Chair Boehme directed that the document be returned to the Board at the Consent Agenda of the next Board meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**FREE AND REDUCED FEE MEAL PERCENTAGES**

Board Chair Boehme noted that Business and Operations Director Russ Allen provided a report in their packets indicating the percentage of students qualifying for free or reduced fee lunches by school during the last three years.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Boehme said that there would be a parents' presentation on the Smarter Balanced Assessment on March 11 at the City Library. He noted that the Albany Public Schools Foundation's iRun fundraising event would begin at 8:00 a.m. on March 14 at the North Albany Village Shopping Center. He said that the National School Boards Association conference in Nashville would be March 21-23 and Spring Break would be March 23 -27. He said that the next Regular Board Meeting would be April 13, 2015.

Board Chair Boehme adjourned the Board meeting at 9:02 p.m.

---

Jerry Boehme, Board Chair

---

Maria Delapoer, Superintendent

(Recorded by Jim Haggart)

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



Student Report  
Kylend Hart  
Timber Ridge School  
March 9, 2015

Good evening and thank you for this opportunity to share about Timber Ridge School. Our school has been very busy.

In December, Timber Ridge students conducted a clothing drive for foster children in Linn County. We donated eight large bags of clothing.

Also in December, third and fourth graders had their first spirit assembly which the students seemed to really enjoy.

In January, we had our spirit and student of the term assemblies. It was a successful end to the first semester.

In February, the school conducted a fund-raising drive, "Pennies for Patients" which raised more than \$360 for patients with lymphoma and leukemia. Mr. Braze and the Green Team made a bicycle generator which student pedaled the bicycle to generate electricity for the tablets. The fifth grade went to see a play at Linn Benton Community College.

In March, we had the "Wipeout" play put on by Ms. Shannon Brunson, Ms. Katie Hobson and Ms. Regan Allen. The music program had their "Tacos with Titans" fundraiser in which small groups played and sang for those who came. The spring music concert will be at 6:30 p.m. on March 12 and the PTC carnival will be March 14. Anti-bullying week will be March 16-20.

In April, we will be going to the Oregon Green Schools Summit and that will be very cool because all of the green schools from across Oregon will be there. We will learn how to make our school more energy efficient. The eighth graders will travel to South Albany High School for their annual visit.

The Smarter Balanced testing began last week and will continue for three or four more weeks. The testing will include all of our core classes except social studies and we just finished the district writing test. There will be a week-long break between each major test.

We have lots of good stuff going on at our school and the Leadership website keeps track of it all with monthly newsletters written by the Leadership students. We also put up video announcements.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Board.