Elkton School District
Charter Council Meeting
January 31, 2024

Present: Andy Boe, Sam Tupou, King Phelps, Randi Smith, Travis Heath, Melissa Whitley, Devin Hunt, Scott Cooper, Cynde Pakros, Sarah Wood, Cheryl Flick

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

We will review natural resources focus and integration with the upcoming science curriculum adoption. Mr. Hunt will cover all four items on the agenda.

- Cynde Pakros shared integration of local industry, Roseburg Forest Products, and relationship building with the Elkton Robotics students.

Review and acceptance of agenda

Devin Hunt

UCC Friday Academy

We would like to gather parents and students grades 8-12 in an evening or during the day and having a separate career night/day bringing in employers on a time/day that works for UCC representatives.

- Andy Boe shared that UCC hosted a Friday Academy thing in November, and we did miss out on it but Missy Olson is willing to come out here. Important to have an industry representative to come out with her and I would encourage that.
- Devin Hunt shared maybe bringing this into the Adulting 101 and extend the time with an adjusted schedule to have the time for students to meet including grade 8.
- Cynde Pakros shares– I would recommend bringing in Southern Robotics and they can tie into why an industry like that would build a college program.
- Sarah Wood asks – what are the subjects for the Friday academy now?
- Devin Hunt – Auto, paramedic, forestry, theatre, megatronics and water treatment is coming, nursing also.
- Andy Boe – The UCC president is trying to collaborate with the high schools in the county and the junior college. Kids can come and take college coursework on Fridays to work toward a licensure or certificate. They originally started with EMT, theater and auto mechanics.
- King Phelps – We had one kid do EMT and finish it and they get as much course work on a Friday as other kids the other four days of the week.
- Andy Boe – It's been an adjustment because of transportation and moving parts. One of the things that's good is it's one day and bad is it's one day. If they're involved in anything else, it makes it difficult. Roseburg has a big imprint on it, but the rural schools

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are trying to make it happen. Our goal is 2-4 kids each term and I don't know where we are with that this year.

- Cynde Pakros – There is a UCC Explore Event March 7th 4:30-6:30.
- Andy Boe states we will host a Career Fair further in the spring. I would like to see it paired down to something that kids can access. An evening program in the spring and focus on business and employers around the county. State agencies, ODOT but cool to have vocational folks who may want to recruit and bring kids in. Private folks who may not get the word.
- King Phelps - Maybe kids who have come through the school and are successful and would like to come in and speak about their experience and can connect with the kids.
- Andy Boe – There is an electrician in town recruiting. They're doing a project in Glide and in Drain doing evening trainings. I'll spread that information to you all and get the word out. We're so small we don't have enough kids. Those are the types of opportunities we need to talk about.
- Sarah Wood – Elk Creek Glass Blowing Studio opened up and the guy who owns it used to teach and he created a curriculum aligned with state standards so he could teach in Central Point. He has folded his production shop and is now just wanting to teach.
- Andy Boe – That is the type of person we need to reach out to.
- Sarah Wood – He is offering workshops.
- Andy Boe – Those are some of the places we don't think of.
- Cynde Pakros – EEAR always tries to do something art like at the grade school and that may be something to reach out to.
- Andy Boe – The career fair, let's not get into detail in getting that, but we have some dates on the UCC stuff. If anyone has any connections, we can use like maybe 7.

Natural Resources – Devin Hunt

Shared Project Learning Tree works with OSU and it's what we used originally when we integrated the natural resources curriculum. Project Wet and Project Wild. What I heard at the board meeting is while we're looking at science curriculum let's look at the integration of the natural resources curriculum. What I found out is that it is not a state approved thing and if we found something that integrated natural resources that is not approved by ODE. The ones that were state approved curriculums were probably not what we would be looking for. Interdisciplinary of environmental ed, that could be included. Some of the things we're doing that's leftover is the school garden, bugs, outdoor field trips that focus on environment and I think we could incorporate more field trips at the high school level.

- King Phelps shared that Nancy Soleim used to incorporate the archaeology dig.
- Andy Boe – Prior to me coming there were cross-curricular studies related to environmental field trips. It also leads you to cross walking with your curriculum that science studies crosses over to writing assignments in ELA. It gets harder as kids get older.
- Devin Hunt – I worked for South Umpqua SD and my job was to coordinate with an 80 acre farm forest and I worked with curriculum like this and it wouldn't be hard to integrate into the things we're doing already. I also wanted to point out a lot of the courses we already offer at the high school, Mr. Groth and Dr. Zeller, and K-8 and the

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experiments that are being offered. At the high school it wouldn't take much to hone in to what we're doing and hone in to an environmental ed direction.

- Andy Boe – There are a handful of kids who will start with a Friday AP Environmental Science piece, like our own Friday school.
- Sarah Wood – There are science topics like ecology would be an awesome subject to touch on, citizen science, can we talk about the what and the why of natural resources as to a charter school mission? What is the big picture. Why do we want to be a natural resources charter school and what does it mean to be a natural resources charter school so we can apply that vision.
- Cynde Pakros – I was surprised we came back around to natural resources as to vision and we came back to the reason we all live here is because of the natural resources
- Scott Cooper – Cross curriculum and getting to the kids about the opportunities we live among and I'm very excited to hear we are looking back at the natural resources. I would like to hear more discussion of the cross curriculum. The question of why is there's a new group of people here, it is exciting to have this conversation.
- Andy Boe - I like this idea of why. I think each one of us has a different perception of why. And I would like to ask this group to come back in a month and be prepared to discuss the why. The tension around what is important in natural resources. The conversation of climate change and all the other hard things that accompany natural resources. The curriculum like this does it for you.
- Devin Hunt – These are original, and we can get some new samples that are linked to the new standards but this is the same idea.
- Travis Heath – These are state approved?
- Andy Boe – I don't think they're ODE approved.
- Devin Hunt – We couldn't adopt it as a science curriculum and I don't think we would want to, but it would be used along with it.
- Sarah Wood – I think it's a way to ease back into it doing some quarterly/bi-annual field trip studies.
- Devin Hunt – I think quarterly or a little more often is doable.
- Andy Boe – I think it's what got us in trouble. Before I came, it started losing favor with teachers. We have to be careful with here's another thing too besides that. The work of integration has to happen and will take more than a year. It's important for this group to think about it and come back and discuss and then go back to the staff and maybe even the community.
- Devin Hunt – They do a good job, Project Learning Tree, linking back to the ELA, math, and science standards. It'll take someone really planning that as far as the scope and sequence. I have a link with all the curriculum the staff recommended, and you can dive deep if you'd like to.
- Andy Boe – I also don't want to give the impression that we can't do it. We have Friday professional development and perhaps it leads to a professional coach in each building and that's something this Charter Council will do is discuss and recommend to the Board to move these things forward.
- Devin – If it's not natural resources, we can pivot to whatever it is and we can have a broader discussion at the next meeting.

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Science Curriculum

Amplify Science is a K-8 curriculum. We can adopt K-5 or K-8. Second is Stem Scopes which is a K-12 curriculum. Amplify is one that was favorite of one of our elementary teachers. It is taught through a lot of literacy and every unit has a topic and a lot of it wraps around the natural resources. There were different age-appropriate workbooks. I have samples of the Amplify curriculum. Stem Scopes did not get as much favor of teachers in the elementary but could be okay for middle school and high school. McGraw Hill is one that was recommended for the high school. It's one Mr. O'Neal would like to go with and it's just a high school curriculum and one of the 3 approved.

- Andy Boe – We have to keep a handle on we still have to teach the chemistry/physics. Our kids have to be prepared. It's difficult to then transfer that. Mr. O'Neal was saying the more traditional textbooks we need to prepare kids for going forward.
- Devin Hunt – There are more options in elementary than you can consider, like 25. This seems like it would be a good fit for what we already do.
- Andy Boe – This stuff looks way more cross curricular.
- Devin Hunt – This is K-8 and the buzz word is "it's a phenomena" and there's an issue the kids have to solve. The Amplify K-5 is so exciting. The Stem Scopes has the experiments and it's kind of a textbook and kind of a work book. It has a lot of career integration. Amplify was different in that way. The science curriculum we have now, most curriculum is going to be a big step up, I think the kids are really going to like something new and fresh. I wouldn't swear by any of these because I haven't taught any of them but the one I was most excited about was the K-5 Amplify.
- Travis Heath – There's something different on each page and it's not all reading. There are little, short blips to read.
- King Phelps – The one above that, the high school one, probably hasn't changed much since I went to high school. We need to get the Chemistry part of the science upgraded. Some of the kids have been caught in that.
- Andy Boe – My kid was prepared for it but it's one area that needs to be shored up.
- Devin Hunt– When I send the links out, there are videos that walk you through everything. I think Stem Scopes would be fine in high school. Mr. Boe and I like a consistent curriculum and what we pick should be K-5 and K-8. I think looking at something that would be good in the K-8 building is the Amplify. I think Mr. O'Neal liked Stem Scopes for high school, I believe it was his second choice. 6-12 Stem Scopes is an option.
- King Phelps – I think it's important that the teachers who are going to teach it need to like what they're teaching.
- Andy Boe– They're going to be looking through those to make sure it lines up with the grade level reading levels. There are other pieces to the puzzle.
- Devin Hunt– Mr. Ciscell, our fourth-grade teacher, was very excited when he reviewed the Amplify samples. I felt like after talking to the elementary teachers we were moving in the right direction.
- Andy Boe – I ask that you all focus on the why of natural resources. We will talk to teachers and get more teacher input. All culminating with the August board work session and I develop my goals around that, and how do we develop that framework and then we transform into a natural resources school. All the while we work with staff to make some

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of the outdoor ed items happen. The next conversation we will start developing the framework. Also talk to folks so we can make a recommendation our community can get behind and support.

Next meeting February 28th, 6:00 p.m.

We have shored up our non-profit status as a charter school.

Travis asked about our previous meetings recommendation to the board. Andy Boe said it was accepted unanimously (ref. to athletics toward earning pe credit)

Cheryl Flick states she has contacts with construction and fire.

Discussion ensued surrounding careers and career exploration with students and skills.

Meeting is adjourned 7:12

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