

Ocean Beach School District No. 101

Board of Directors

Regular Business Meeting

May 24th, 2023; 5:30 p.m.

Location: District Office

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Ocean Beach School District 101 was held on Wednesday, May 24th, 2023 at 5:31 p.m. Hybrid, from the district office with a Zoom teleconference option. Present were:

BOARD MEMBERS

Tiffany Turner, Anna Taft, Nansen Malin, Don Zuern

Via Zoom Teleconference – John Holtermann

ADMINISTRATORS

Amy Huntley, Lisa Horsley, Dan Kleffner, Jim Paxinos, Chris Patana, Annie Fletcher

Via Zoom Teleconference: Susan Cousineau, Cheri Lloyd, Sheena Burke, Liza Sejkora, Audrey Slabbert

OTHERS PRESENT

Annie Vela, Jodie Housley, Erin Glenn, Tracey Crook, Don Crook, Kelli Hughes-Ham, Anthony Sanchez, Sammy Lloyd, Jace Linthakhan, Jerry Macy, Michelle Chabot, Brandon Chabot, Zoey Zuern, Hailey Hightower

Via Zoom Teleconference – Claire Bruncke, Kymm, MLT, Randie/Terrie Bloom, Brandon Cline, Jeanne Schmidt, Carolyn Perez, Glenn Trusty, Jackie Hofer, cindy Guzman, Kylie Cunningham, Amy Lomax, Allyce Oostgaard, Theresa Fleck, NPN Crain, Kristina Salas

NOT PRESENT

Declaration of Quorum, Call Meeting to Order

Board Chair, Tiffany Turner, declared a quorum and called the regular business meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Flag Salute

Turner led the flag salute.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- April 26, 2023 Special Board Meeting
 - April 26, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
 - May 10, 2023 Board Work Session
- Taft moved to approve. Vote carried 5-0.**

Agenda Revisions and Approval

No agenda revisions.

Taft moved to approve. Vote carried 5-0.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Taft moved to approve. Vote carried 5-0.

The consent agenda included the following items:

- Personnel Report
- Warrants
- Donations
- Contracts for Approval
- Salary Schedule

Public Comments

Claire Bruncke first congratulated the Student Board Representative on their last board meeting of their senior year, and was grateful for all of their work this year both as the Board Representative and as an ASB student. She then spoke about the Dylan Jude Harrell Community Center being awarded the 21st century grant, and they will also apply for funding for 6-12.

Student Board Representatives Report

The Student Board Representative, Zoey, gave her final report to the board. Zoey mentioned that Prom was a success, that ASB had an annual budget meeting, that seniors last day is June 8 and graduation will be on the field at IHS on the 10th at 5:30PM. She also noted some other upcoming events, the moving up assembly and the IHS Oscars.

Yak night was a success at Funland and Zoey gave thanks to Tim Harrell, Jazz Band hosted a jazz night concert, and the Southwest Washington Small Schools hosted mass band at the high school. The baseball team made it to the opening round of the state tournament, the golf team sent two athletes to state, three athletes are competing in track State, and the spring sports season was the most successful season this year.

Zoey lastly remarks that she is thankful to the board for allowing her to represent IHS as the Student Board Representative for the last 2 years, and would like to thank the board for the time they volunteer to make the district a great place to be a part of.

Superintendent Report

Huntley begins to report on the progress on the Seismic project. OBSD is close to end of Phase 1, the next steps are with OSPI to have questions from the committee, and then we move to round two. There was a board member clarification question that the grant does not include the stadium, just the high school building. The same company that worked on the stadium is the company that is doing the structural work. Huntley details that we are moving to the next stages in the FEMA grant process, which is an urgent repair grant, those funds are to be focused on the boiler at OPE. However, the builders at Hilltop and Long Beach are in need of repair as well soon. This urgent repair grant would supply approximately \$500,000 which should reduce tax payer burden as we look to repair for our facilities.

Huntley gives a shout out to our Skills USA students who are going to nationals in Atlanta. One of our students competed to design the pin for the National competition and won gold, which means that will be the pin that every participant receives in Atlanta.

Huntley updates on the budget, she is hoping to be able to bring a few teachers back from RIF, but there is still some work left to be done before that is clear. We are still hoping to be finished with budget before the end of June.

Huntley describes a rural partnership for more CTE pathways in small, rural schools. She explains that these program will pilot next year. We will offer 2 courses in a remote fashion to other schools as well, Careers and Education and Computer Science Principles, the details of this are still be worked out.

Lastly, Huntley outlines some important dates coming up for the school District. May 30 is a choir concert, May 31 is a band concert, June 4 is Baccalaureate, June 7 is Hilltop Year End conference, June 8 is the scholarship awards at the high school, June 9 is the first dance 6th graders can attend, and June 9 is also OBOA graduation, and of course June 10 is IHS graduation. Huntley states that we have more than the typical number of students graduating with an AA degree, mostly from Clatsop or Grays Harbor. Board member Zuern also would like to acknowledge and say well done to the Honor Society.

Lockdown Debrief

Huntley speaks to the lockdown events that happened previously at our high school and middle school. After any building incident, we always complete a series of debriefs. We have had debriefs at the buildings, the district, and with law enforcement. Up until now, we have had assemblies at the schools, two staff meetings and an open night for parents. We never want to go through this kind of event, but there is also no better training to go through. The lockdown lasted approximately 1.5 hours, the reason it took longer than expected is that there was no specific target law enforcement was looking for, so they needed to search thoroughly. Huntley appreciates law enforcement for its thorough actions, and was grateful when they found no threat.

Huntley shares that there are improvements we've thought of, one being that when parents want to pick up their children after an event like this, that it would be much more efficient to have parents stay in their cars. A board member asked how many students were picked up at the event, and Huntley stated that most of the Hilltop students were picked up, and many but not as many were picked up from high school. The post actions we are looking at are access to the building. Huntley asks Chris Patana to speak to this, where Patana outlines that key access is possible, and law enforcement did have keys already. Key cards are not a viable option due to no electricity in the doors once a lockdown is initiated. Patana addresses that key access is on our radar, but it is available to law enforcement and it is up to law enforcement to ensure that access is utilized.

Huntley continues, explaining that we've asked staff for their input, we've tried to gather more information and are very grateful for the action taken by Ilwaco firehouse, Lifeflight being on standby, ambulances prepped, and also our community lending a helping hand to students that were off campus.

A board member interjects that it was real, and wants to confirm if counseling has been available, that it is important not only for students but also our staff. Huntley responds that it's true some of our folks will handle the emergency really well, and won't feel any effects until the coming weeks. Other students and staff need support right away. There has been support at the schools and we have been having discussions with our staff to ensure we are supporting each other.

Additionally, Huntley explains that when our middle and high school go into lockdown for an incident like this, we also put the elementaries in lock out. That means that classes and activities inside continue as planned, but no one is allowed to leave the building or enter the building. We are working to get parents more information on this and other safety and security procedures in the future. A board member wants to know if there is a section on this in the student handbook, Huntley agrees that it is. The goal is also to have more parent events near the start of school or just after. The parent night event that occurred was really about this specific event, and we are hoping to have a more global scope on process and expectations.

ASB Budget 2023-2024

Huntley asks if the board has any questions on the budget, the board want to know if the budget is significantly different to last year. Huntley states that it is very similar, particularly the athletic budget is very similar. At the ASB budget meeting the students decided to budget for extra capacity for fundraising, and they don't plan to

have any new clubs except potentially E-Sports, which might already exist under a different name. Bruncke notes with coach turnover, making the budget seems to be a challenge every year, but in the end it does look relatively equitable through general athletics. Huntley remarks that she's asked ASB treasurer's and Advisor to closely monitor gates and referee costs, as we are predicting ASB will run out of funds in the coming years to pay for the referees.

Taft moved to approve. Vote carried 5-0.

Finance

Slabbert shared the district's financial status via PowerPoint. The updates for this time of year are pretty much as expected. Additional note that we received a new bus, which is great news. Additional highlight is on the audit, they thanked us for our timely communication and friendly attitude. The auditors stated that this helped facilitate a smooth audit process as well as help maintain a great working relationship with the dentist. The auditors did not identify any material misstatements during the audit.

Public Comments

Erin Glenn read a letter written by members of the Ilwaco High School staff and signed by 18 staff members that was in support of the current Ilwaco High School Principal. This letter read aloud articulated a desire to be reached out to about staffing changes before the decision was made, and reflected on the positive change at the high school that the writer attributed to Lisa Horsley. Erin Glenn then read a letter of support for Lisa Horsley that she authored. Erin articulates that Lisa is committed, experienced and capable, and that in Erin's personal opinion, one of the most experienced and capable she has encountered in her 27 years of working in the district. She states that Lisa strives to reach Ilwaco High School's most vulnerable students on a daily basis, and that she is a strong advocate for the underdog, or students who have not always formerly been recognized at school. Erin mentions that she believes Lisa Horsley has not received absolute support from the administration, and expresses that she feels she is able to teach students again, due to the new policies around phones in the classroom. Erin states that transition is always challenging, and deeply impactful for students and staff, and reflects that she feels Lisa has been dedicated and professional. Erin is offered other folks' time to continue reading her letter. Erin continues by saying that Ilwaco High School has experienced 15 staff members exit in the last 3-4 years and does not believe exit interviews have been conducted to understand the dysfunction in the school culture. She speaks to staff members currently still under stress, but says it seems they feel more able to express themselves without fear of retribution. Erin states that as the OBEA union rep this year, she has been involved with many meetings with staff members and Lisa Horsley and feels as though Lisa always interacted with dignity, respect and kindness. Erin says that she has not heard any complaints from a classroom teacher about Lisa, and that no teacher has spoken an ill word of Lisa. Erin continues by discussing the climate and culture issue at Ilwaco High School, stating that people have described the high school as being "on fire." She speaks to Lisa's ability and improvements made during staff meetings, and having follow through. Erin is offered other folks' time to continue reading her letter. Erin continues to say that Lisa came into an unstable work environment, noting that Ilwaco High School has had unprecedented incidents with staff members and conflict this year, and states that she believes Lisa came into the situation without appropriate briefing or background knowledge. Erin highlights the policy changes Lisa enacted in regards to phones and vaping and states that these changes are necessary and essential, even if the students have not been pleased. Erin believes we should empower our students to have a voice in leadership and governance of our school, and that the principal should always be a central part of that exchange. Erin notes that both Lisa Horsley and Lisa Emmerich are highly experienced administrators and both have experienced instances of undermining by students and staff. Erin concludes by saying she is fearful for the future of both her son as a student and herself as a teacher, she is disappointed and hopes that she will survive the three years until her son graduates and she eventually retires. She hopes that Lisa will be retained and allowed to do the amazing work of the Ilwaco High School principal.

Tracey Crook addressed the board as well. Tracey had her contract non-renewed and believes that there are funds available for her work. Tracey states that the school district receives funding for our McKinney Vento students, of which there are plenty, and we have a deep commitment to help these students. Tracey states that interventions in reading and math are key. 1/3 of her class arrived at pre-k level, or 1st or 2nd, when she teaches a 3rd grade class. All students were reading at the late 2ns or 3rd grade level by the end of the school year. Tracey states to the board that they must look at data more than their STAR levels. Tracey is willing to provide tutoring and believes the McKinney Vento funds are available for this. Tracey concludes by saying she is aware that what we are seeing is a result of COVID effects, but that shouldn't deter us from seeking academic improvement.

Anthony Sanchez made public comment in regards to Leena Couling receiving RIF notice. Anthony says this is a mistake, that Ms. Couling is always engaging and accessible, and encourages her students to reach out to her when they need support. Anthony in his 9 years of being taught, Ms. Couling stands out as a teacher who actually listens to her students, who treats her students like people, and is disappointed that teachers are RIF'd on seniority rather than effectiveness.

Tina McGuire, from Ilwaco High School, also makes a public comment. Tina is a paraeducator and says that the High School is in need of help in the math department. She feels helpless because she cannot help when students have questions on the material, and that a big frustration is that none of the paraeducators could help. She says she sees a lot of students struggling.

Jerry Macy, retired school district admin, also makes a public comment. Jerry learned from his work in schools that everything is incredibly personal, and everything is emotional. He sees this reflected in tonight's board meeting, too. Jerry has concerns on multiple topics, but understands how complicated it is. Jerry remarks that retirees have no idea how difficult it is, and is appreciative for all of us being here. Questions of integrity and professionalism seem to be the root of our issues. Jerry reflects that in a small district like ours, with a very small staff, these issues are ever present. He expresses his gratitude for all of our work.

Principal & Director Reports

Annie Fletcher of Long Beach Elementary gives a short presentation on the Spring Scholastic Book Fair in addition to her monthly report. They collected \$5700 in sales, prior years had around \$3000 in sales. They also collected over \$1000 in donations from parents, volunteers and staff which allowed LBE to put books in the hands of the 48 students who were unable to buy anything. They were able to use Scholastic Points to get 283 paperback books to give to LBE students prior to summer, and will use remaining Scholastic Points to purchase hardcover books for future library circulation. Fletcher expresses gratitude to the five volunteers from the community, the parents and extremely supportive staff who made this a success.

Liza Sejkora adds to her monthly board report remarks on State scores and how we as a district address them, noting that one snapshot is by narrowing state standards and identifying power standards. Also through teacher leaders, pacing, anchor activities, anchor books, and all of this is built into PD Wednesday time when the students have early release.

Lisa Horsley, in addition to her monthly board report, wanted to shine a light on Steve McConnell in gratitude for the job fair which was a success at the high school.

Informational Items

- May 29 is Memorial Day
- June 9 - Alternative School Graduation
- June 10 - Ilwaco High School Graduation
- June 16 - Last Day of School (half day)

Input/Reports from Board Members

The next regular board meeting is June 28th, the next work session is June 14th which was rescheduled for 4:30PM. Zuern reminds that there is an upcoming Facilities Advisory Committee meeting, looking at locks at all buildings, and a big picture on our facilities in 1 year, 3 years, 5 years and 10 years - hoping to avoid all sites needing work at the same time which is seeming like the current situation. Taft reports volunteering at Hilltop Bookfair and was impressed that almost every child who purchased a book chose to round up their purchase. It was a very enjoyable experience and even more so to see so many of our students loving books. Malin remarked that it would be great to see some marketing for the community around the scholastic book fairs, they would want to help and would be willing to volunteer their time. Malin also remarked that everyone is always welcome to email the board, sometimes they are prevented from replying other than in acknowledgement, but they all have open doors. Turner thanked everyone for coming, particularly the students who showed up and spoke and said things that might've been hard to say. Turner was grateful for the turnout and hopes to see more folks at our other board meetings.

Executive Session for Qualification of an Applicant or Performance of an Employee

Executive session began at 7:11PM for approximately 15 minutes. Extended for 5 minutes. At 7:31PM
Taft moved to approve the new student board representative, Hailey Hightower. Vote carried 5-0.

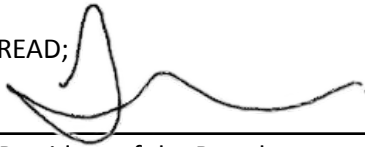
Executive session began again at 7:32PM. It was extended for 20 minutes, 10 minutes, 5 minutes, 5 minutes, 5 minutes and 5 more minutes. The board left executive session at 8:24PM. Malin addressed the public meeting by saying there is no motion to be made. The board does not get to make decisions on staffing except the one person that they can, the Superintendent. The Superintendent has the right to make staffing choices, and that is the policy of the board. Malin reflects that this is a highly unusual event and encourages all to talk to the Superintendent about it, but that today they must do what is in policy.

Malin moves to uphold the right of the Superintendent to making staffing decisions, and follow the policy that the Superintendent makes those decisions. Vote carried 5-0.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Turner adjourned the regular meeting at 8:31 p.m.

APPROVED AS READ;



Tiffany Turner, President of the Board



Amy Huntley, Secretary to the Board