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Board of Directors Board Minutes May 18, 2021

- Board Members** Board Chair Scott Reynolds, Vice Chair Peggy Kinkade, Directors Seana Barry, Gwen Carr, Matt McGowan, Bob Moore and Carol Moorehead
- HDES Staff** Paul Andrews, Superintendent; Rochelle Friend, Chief Financial Officer; Anna Higgins, Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer; Lauren Lester, Legal Counsel; Kathy McCollum, Director of Alternative Learning Options; Shay Mikalson, Chief Student Success Officer; Rachel Wenten-Chaney, Chief Information Officer and Shelley Knutz, Executive Assistant
- Call to Order** Board Chair Scott Reynolds called the May 18, 2021 meeting to order at 5:31 pm

PRESENTATIONS and REPORTS

Fiscal Report

Rochelle reported the latest State School Fund estimate for the 20/21 school year is \$192k less than we anticipated for the year. The budget was built at the height of the pandemic when there was significant uncertainty about what the year would bring so the reduction is not surprising. Interim audit work has been completed with the new auditors and went very well.

Many of our State contracts are allowing us to roll unspent funds into the coming year, with a new spend-by date of September 30, 2021. We have been awarded a regional student suicide prevention grant in the amount of \$1,041,895 from Central Oregon Health Council. These funds are to be used over the next three years. Shay mentioned that this grant is from the great work of Whitney Schumacher and will go directly to the districts.

Alternative Learning Options

Superintendent Andrews introduced Kathy McCollum. Kathy is the Director of Alternative Learning Options (ALO) and part time grant writer. Kathy came to us in retirement looking for part time projects. She excels as both the ALO Director and as an amazing grant writer.

Kathy reviewed the 13 alternative learning sites in Bend-La Pine, Crook County and Redmond School Districts. In accordance with OAR 581-022-1350 and ORS 336.615 and ORS 338.095 the annual evaluation must include: Staff, Curriculum, Discrimination, Registration, Site Evaluation, Tuition and Fees, Contract, Expenditures, Achievement of Standards and Attendance. In addition to the evaluation, Kathy conducts monthly site visitations, organized bi-monthly meetings of the ALO administrators. She assists in facilitating and/or finding resources for staff meetings.

Kathy truly enjoys working with all of the sites and the staff. In her 47 years of working in education, she has found High Desert ESD a great place to work. It is well managed and run by exceptional staff. Scott asked how the programs have been affected by COVID. She said Oregon Youth Challenge had to modify their program last year but are thankful to be starting up their regular program with a new group of students.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

First Reading Policy – JGA Corporal Punishment

Superintendent Andrews noted this policy has been in place since 2007. We are recommending the revision of language in accordance with ORS 339.285-339-303. Let him know if there are any questions. It will be on the June Consent Agenda for approval.

Superintendent Report

- Oregon has been hit by this current COVID surge. The numbers seem to be plateauing a bit. There is confusion with the governor's guidance on masks. All of our staff are still required to social distance and wear masks and this pertains to outdoor meetings as well. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will be releasing new guidelines in late July. Shay said a discussion draft will be released in June. Districts are focused on finishing strong and are anxious for this draft to help them begin planning for next year.
- Legislative Update: OAESD lobbying is spending time on increasing Regional Inclusive Services by \$10M. Legislators wanted to lock in the State School Fund at \$9.3B and the K-12 education lobby is pushing for \$9.6B. SB334 will require board and superintendent trainings. OEA has advocated for a class size bill, which will require class size to be a mandatory subject of bargaining.
- There will be an ESD-wide equity gathering tomorrow. The workgroups will all be reporting out on the work they have accomplished. There is a focus on aligning OAESD and HDESD on equity.
- Superintendent Andrews thanked Bob as he is finishing up his term as OAESD past-chairman. He did an incredible job leading the organization and representing us. HDESD is grateful for his time and service to this statewide organization.
- There will be two more fireside chats this year. At the last chat Superintendent Andrews invited Joel Hoff (CCSD Assistant Superintendent) and Juan Cuadros (BLS Executive Director of Teaching and Learning) to talk about each district's plan for summer programming.
- Fall plans include the Administrative Legislative Team retreat on August 26. New employee orientation on August 30 and the all-ESD gathering on September 2.
- Superintendent Andrews mentioned Shay's additional role. Shay has been hired to serve as the Jefferson County ESD (JCESD) Superintendent. Superintendent Andrews is happy to have Shay in this role as we have worked to build the JCESD relationship over the years. Shay will continue to serve as the CSSO of HDESD as well.
- Superintendent Andrews will be traveling to Pennsylvania to watch his cousin receive her Doctorate Degree over the Memorial Day weekend.

Board Chair Report

- Peggy recently learned of her role (as Vice Chair of the board) in the annual evaluation of the superintendent. She has researched some options that may work for this. Superintendent Andrews has encouraged the board to hold him accountable to the goals they set for the ESD 2 years ago.
- Update on election process 3 elected positions and 2 appointed. Shelley will send out the appointed application to the board members so they can forward it on to interested individuals. The application period begins on June 1.
- Bob gave the OAESD update. He asked if Carol would like to be on the steering committee for implementing the OAESD's equity position statement.
- Fall conference will look differently than in years past. It will not be held in Portland. More details will follow.

ACTION ITEMS

Donation Agreement – Alyce Hatch Center

Lauren Lester has taken the leadership role on formulating the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Alyce Hatch Board and High Desert ESD Board receiving their generous gift of the Alyce Hatch Center for continued use for High Desert ESD early childhood programs. We will hire a title company to help with the process. The Alyce Hatch

Board is trusting us to keep the name of the building and the purpose intact after the AHC board dissolves. Paul mentioned the plaque and Bob suggested both boards be listed on the plaque. Paul will contact them for the names and Shelley will get the names together for High Desert ESD.

- **Bob Moore moved and Matt McGowan seconded a motion to accept the Alyce Hatch MOU as presented. Motion carried 7-0**

Approval of Insurance Providers

Rochelle explained the RFP process and proposals that were received. The review committee reviewed each proposal and are recommending PayneWest as Insurance Agent of Record and general liability. They are also recommending La Porte & Associates as the agent for our workers' compensation insurance as defined in the RFP.

- **Carol Moorehead moved and Bob Moore seconded a motion to approve the review committee's recommendation of PayneWest Insurance as the ESD's Insurance Agent of Record and as the agent for general liability insurance and selection of La Porte & Associates, Inc. as the agent for workers' compensation insurance as defined in the RFP. Motion carried 6-0 with Matt McGowan abstaining due to a conflict of interest.**

2021-22 Board Meeting Calendar

The Board reviewed the proposed meeting calendar for 2021-22. Superintendent Andrews asked if they would like to go back to meeting in person or continue on virtually. There was consensus that in person is preferable. This will begin with the June meeting. If anyone doesn't feel comfortable meeting in person, please let Shelley or Superintendent Andrews know.

- **Seana Barry moved and Carol Moorehead seconded a motion to approve the 2021-22 Board Meeting Calendar as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

Consent Agenda

- **Bob Moore moved and Gwen Carr seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0**
 - Personnel Report for May 2021
 - Budget/Board Minutes for April 20, 2021

Executive Session

The regular session adjourned to executive session at 6:51 pm under ORS 192.660(2) (d) – Conduct deliberation with person designated to carry on labor negotiations.

The May 18, 2021 Board of Director's meeting reconvened and then adjourned at 7:18 pm.

Scott Reynolds, Board Chair

Shelley Knutz, Executive Assistant