



Jefferson County Education Service District
BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Regular Session – 5:30PM

Hybrid: In-person and Electronic Meeting via Zoom
Jefferson County ESD, 295 SW Buff St., Madras, OR 97741

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Time: Dec 7, 2022 05:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
Phone+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) Meeting ID: 867 8816 2967 Passcode: 045315

2022/2023 Board Members: Chair Joan Starkel; Vice-Chair Daniel Petke; Jamie McLeod-Skinner; Dani Cowdrey; Barbara Ibrahim and Raylene Thomas

REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ATTENDANCE: Chair Joan Starkel, Vice-Chair Daniel Petke, Jamie McLeod-Skinner, Dani Cowdrey, Barbara Ibrahim and Raylene Thomas

ABSENT: None

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Sue Matters

WELCOME - REGULAR SESSION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / ROLL CALL

Board Chair Joan Starkel called the meeting to order at 5:30pm with a moment of silence in honor of the heroes that lost, and in remembrance of Pearl Harbor, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Board Chair Joan Starkel called for a motion to adopt the agenda.

Jamie McLeod-Skinner moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Barbara Ibrahim; motion passed unanimously – **Approved 6/0.**

The Board Chair Joan Starkel paused for a roll call and board secretary documented board member attendance.

COMMUNICATION / PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS / DISCUSSION

- **OAESD Governance Council Update**

Superintendent Shay Mikalson shared an update about the OAESD Governance Council meeting that he and Dani Cowdrey attended that took place on November 10, 2022. He summarized three updates for board members:

1. He referred to page three of the board-meeting packet, the document *Potential 2023 Legislative Issues* and explained the call for legislative advocacy.

Jamie McLeod-Skinner suggested for the next document that they not use all the acronyms.

2. He referred to page four of the packet and explained the OAESD Officer Council elections the board has the opportunity to nominate eligible members of our or other ESD boards for Chair-Elect. Superintendents may nominate themselves or other ESD superintendents for President-Elect. Nominations will be brought to the board at the January meeting.

Superintendent Mikalson shared, if someone from our region is not nominated, it would be the first time in about fifteen years that our region would not be represented on the Council.

3. Superintendent Mikalson shared that the Spring Conference will take place May 10-12, 2023 in SunRiver and our board advisors are invited to attend.

Superintendent Mikalson welcomed Dani Cowdrey to weigh in on her takeaways of the meeting. Dani Cowdrey echoed what Superintendent Mikalson shared, stating that there was large concern about reduction in enrollment and expressed the importance of legislative advocacy.

Superintendent Mikalson explained there are thirty-three legislative positions either brand new, or stepping into a new position, which means a lot of institutional knowledge has changed. He also said that OAESD would provide updates on opportunities that he would continue to share with board members.

- **Legislative Summit Update**

Superintendent Mikalson shared that the Central Oregon K-12 Legislative Forum will take place on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 from 5:30-7:00pm at High Desert ESD. The following elected officials are invited to attend: Representative Emerson Levy – District 53, Representative Jason Kropf – District 54, Representative E Werner Reschke, District 55, Representative Vicki Breese-Iverson – District 59, Senator Tim Knopp – District 27, Senator Dennis Linthicum – District 28, and Senator Lynn Findley – District 30. All JCESD board members and advisors are welcome to attend; if board members would let him and board secretary know they will inform HDESD of the group RSVPs.

- **OAESD Equity and Racial Justice Statement Discussion**

Superintendent Shay Mikalson referred the board to pages 5 and 6 of the board packet - *OAESD Task Force on Equity and Racial Justice Position Statement, Core Beliefs, and Actions by the Association in Response to the Position Statement*. He shared that he and Jamie McLeod-Skinner had a conversation of concern expressed around the issue about Culver deciding to bring students home from Camp Tamarack related to gender identity of camp counselors; the conversation with Jamie McLeod-Skinner was about what is the

JCESD's role around this controversial decision made. Superintendent Mikalson said JCESD does not have a role around the decision made by Culver on Camp Tamarack; but both agree that there should be some conversation around policy, on equity and racial justice with our board and what it means for us. He then welcomed Jamie McLeod-Skinner to speak on the topic and opened for board conversation.

Jamie McLeod-Skinner shared her perception of Culver's decision on Camp Tamarack, and how the community has responded. She shared her personal experience and requested that the board reflect on the response and consider ways to move forward with compassion, in an effort to create a safe environment – explaining that we all have differences, we do not have to understand, agree or advocate but we do have a role, (in line with this policy) in an advisory capacity, to use these opportunities for teachable moments, to possibly provide training and/or advise to help create a safer sense of community for students. Jamie McLeod-Skinner explained that she does not have an exact 'action item' that comes to mind, but perceiving that silence-is-consent, she requests that the board reflect and consider how to incorporate in terms of what we may offer, to promote a safe space. She also believes there needs to be a statement made when these kind of decisions are made, a statement about working to create a safe space. Jamie McLeod-Skinner then welcomed her colleagues to ask questions and/or comment on the topic.

Discussion took place - board members weighed in with thoughts and comments, ranging from how they do not want to judge without knowing all the facts of the situation; cautioning the JCESD when giving advice if it has not been requested. They considered various options to take in response to decisions that may be made in our districts, and how we can learn from this and do better. They also thanked Jamie McLeod-Skinner for bringing this topic up for reflection and review, it is important to consider in this time of heightened violence across the country.

Superintendent Mikalson referred to page six of the board packet, *Recommendations for Actions by the Association in Response to the Position Statement*. He pointed out the seven recommendations for actions association in response to the position statement, and he specifically explained various ways as an ESD we have worked, and continue to try and elevate voice; explaining that LGBTQ is an area that we will continue to elevate and learn, this is an on-going process.

Board members agreed that it is important to promote a safe-space, consider resources available to our students, employees as well as our community and consider the message that we send in making decisions in the future.

It was also noted that although training is made available, when the training is 'optional' many people opt to not participate in the training which leaves a group of people that have not been brought into the important conversations and considerations.

Jamie McLeod-Skinner thanked her colleagues for their willingness to listen and participate in the conversation this evening.

Chair Joan Starkel summarized by sharing that conversations have taken place between Culver and Camp Tamarack to move forward and we have learned from this experience. She proceeded to the next agenda item.

HEARING OF CITIZENS, DELEGATIONS AND STAFF MEMBERS:

(Option 1) (Board Chair will offer opportunity during meeting) The Board of Directors reserves this time for citizens to speak to the Board; because time is limited, as a standard practice, and courtesy to others and to maintain our meeting schedule, guests will be allotted three minutes (or less if needed, based board chair prerogative) to speak. If you have a group attending regarding the same topic, you will need to appoint one speaker.

➤ **Remote access attendees:** Please raise your hand and enter your name in the chat to be called on by the board chair.

➤ **In-Person attendance:** Sign-in on the sign-in sheet at the room entrance and wait to be called on by the board chair.

(Option 2) Written Comment: The JCESD Board may accept public comment in writing prior to the meeting. If you are a member of the community and wish to provide a public comment they will be taken in written format ONLY. Written comments must be received by 1:00 pm on the date of the board meeting and will be read during the public comment section of the virtual meeting. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

There were no comments from either provided option this evening.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of **November 2, 2022** Meeting Minutes
2. Personnel
 1. Marie Pesek, SLPA *[following resignation of Angela Blake]*
 2. Retire/Rehire – Barbara Garland
3. Accounts Payable Vouchers
4. Financials

Chair Joan Starkel took a moment to thank Barbara Garland for her dedicated service to the district all these years. Superintendent Shay Mikalson echoed Joan Starkel's comments. It was noted that the personnel request is for Barbara Garland to retire and to be rehired. Chair Starkel called for a motion for the consent agenda.

Barbara Ibrahim motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Dani Cowdrey; motion passed unanimously – **Approved 6/0.**

Dani Cowdrey asked if there is a reason for the resignation of Angela Blake. Superintendent Mikalson said she is remaining in the district, but for a different district.

B. Resolution #23-02, Resolution to Transfer Appropriations with the General Fund

CFO Martha Bewley explained Resolution #23-02 and #23-02. Chair Joan Starkel called for a motion for Resolution #23-02.

Jamie McLeod-Skinner moved to approve Resolution #23-02, Resolution to transfer appropriations with the general fund, seconded by Dani Cowdrey; motion passed unanimously – **Approved 6/0**.

C. Resolution #23-03, Resolution to Adopt Supplemental Budget

Chair Joan Starkel called for a motion for Resolution #23-03.

Dani Cowdrey moved to approve Resolution #23-03, Resolution to Adopt Supplemental Budget, seconded by Jamie McLeod-Skinner; motion passed unanimously – **Approved 6/0**.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Board Chair Joan Starkel called for an executive session and requested that all attendees, with the exception of board members, Technology Director David Hicks and Board Secretary be excused from the meeting until we reconvene in regular session.

Start Time: 6:27PM

In accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(i) the board will now meet in executive session to review and evaluate the performance of the chief executive officer or any other public officer, employee or staff member, unless the person whose performance is being reviewed and evaluated requests an open hearing. Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on or otherwise disclose any of the deliberations or anything said about these subjects during executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No decision may be made in executive session. At the end of the executive session, we will return to regular session.

End Time: 7:29PM

RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION

Once the remote attendees entered the meeting, Board Chair Joan Starkel reconvened in regular session at **7:31pm**.

POTENTIAL ACTION ITEM *(following the Executive Session, if needed)*

Board Chair Joan Starkel called for a motion following the executive session discussion.

Jamie McLeod-Skinner motioned to refer to the Board Chair and Vice-Chair to discuss with the superintendent and bring a proposed document of general contract changes to the board in January 2023, seconded by Barbara Ibrahim; motion passed unanimously – **Approved 6/0**.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- Board members and Superintendent Mikalson shared about their experience at the OSBA annual convention. They really enjoyed the keynote speakers. Superintendent Mikalson will research if they recorded the keynote speakers in order to share with other board members who were not able to attend.
- Raylene Thomas shared about her first experience at the NIEA Convention. She shared what she took away the most was the opportunities for our indigenous students, the possibilities, the

resources and opportunities available – the entire experience was amazing. She would highly encourage others to attend in the future.

- Discussion took place that there has been expressed interest in the Culver position but no formal decision yet.

REMINDERS:

- JCESD Regular Session Board Meeting (5:30PM) – **Wednesday, January 11, 2022** [note date/2nd Wednesday due to New Year’s holiday].
- Central Oregon regional education-legislative forum **Wednesday, January 4th from 5:30pm at HDES**
- [Added] Board members are invited to the potluck on December 15th.

MEETING CLOSURE/ADJOURNED

With no further business, Board Chair Joan Starkel adjourned the meeting at 7:44pm.

**DRAFT to Board for Approval at next meeting:
January 11, 2023**

Tessa Bailey, Board Secretary

Board Chair Joan Starkel

Superintendent Shay Mikalson

Date

Date