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FINAL
Commitment, Excellence, Community

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

**Monday, October 14, 2013, 7:00 p.m.
Pleasant Hill Community Center**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 The meeting of the Pleasant Hill School Board was called to order by Chair Mr. Oldham at 7:00 pm in accordance with the public notice of this meeting. Other Board members in attendance were Vice Chair, Kevin Parrish; Wylda Cafferata; Barbara Orre; and Curt Offenbacher. Also present were Tony Scurto, Superintendent; Devery Stoneberg, Elementary Principal; Randy Fisher, High School Principal and Thad Holub, High School Assistant Principal.

Mr. Oldham read the District's Mission Statement aloud.

2.0 INTRODUCTION OF AUDIENCE

2.1 Audience members introduced themselves and were welcomed. In attendance were, Sierra Johnson, High School Junior; Marietta Bonaventure, High School English Teacher; Susie Rexius, Pleasant Hill Foundation; Cindy Fitzpatrick, Pleasant Hill Foundation; Thad Starr, Elementary Parent; Kelli Martin, High School Math Teacher; Sherry Bryson, Pleasant Hill Foundation; Deepraj Pawar, High School Student and Mrs Pawar, High School Parent.

3.0 ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA. A revised agenda was provided to the Board by Tony Scurto, Superintendent.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 By consensus the September 23, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes were approved. (Exhibit 1314-19)

5.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION ITEMS (Part 1)

5.1 Presentations

- The Board presented Deepraj Pawar a Student of the Month Medal and Certificate in appreciation of her participation and service. Ms. Pawar serves as Associated Student Body President; Destination Imagination Team Captain; Yearbook Editor in Chief; Newspaper Report; Varsity Chess Team Member; Mr. Billie Coordinator; REACH Club President; a Lunch Buddies Mentor; National Honor Society Member and Recycling Club Member.
- Improved Student of the Month Awards were announced as Senior, Keegan Veltman; Junior, Isaac Lewis; Sophomore, Ty Callaghan; 8th Grade, George Putnam and 7th Grade Kaylor Quinn.

- Amy Cunningham was recognized as Volunteer of the Month. The Board thanked Ms. Cunningham for her service as Popcorn Chair and Coordinator of the Jog a Thon as well as for her many hours of service to the Elementary School.

5.2 Pleasant Hill Education Foundation Report

Susie Rexius, PH Foundation Board member told the Board the Foundation wishes to gift back the Pleasant Hill Community Center to the Pleasant Hill School District. She provided a brief history of the Community Center and the Foundation's fundraising efforts for the project which totaled \$601,097. Ms. Fitzpatrick reviewed usage of the building noting use has increased 439% since its opening in October 2012.

Board Chair Oldham thanked the UO Foundation on behalf of the Pleasant Hill School District and Pleasant Hill Community saying that many volunteers contributed significantly to make it a success. Cindy Fitzpatrick thanked Bruce Patterson, Building Manager and Dana Parrish, Construction Manager for their work on the project. Board Member Wylda Cafferata thanked the Foundation for the Community Center noting the Ford leadership meetings are held there and provide an opportunity for many who do not interact with the school to be on campus.

Sherry Bryson, Foundation Executive Director said the Foundation opened a grant opportunity to the PHSD and others in charge of district enrichment programs. Grant submissions have been received totaling \$52,761 with funding decisions to be made Thursday, October 16, 2013. Ms. Bryson said the Foundation is looking to school administration for feedback and assistance in prioritizing these requests. The majority of requests are technology associated.

5.3 Operation Impact – Food

Operation Impact 2014 President, Student Sierra Johnson explained Operation Impact's mission is to strengthen local families and communities by exploring and creating a dialogue about world issues. The overarching 2014 theme is food including lack of, sustainability, healthy eating, budget and waste. The Operation Impact Festival is scheduled for March 3, 2014 and will have both site visits and volunteer opportunities available. Ms. Johnson mentioned many awards received for her work associated with the Operation Impact Festival including the Wholistic Peace Award and Spirit of Unity Award from Harold Schmitzer.

5.4 State School Report Cards (Exhibit 1314-20; Exhibit 1314-21; Exhibit 1314-22)

Tony Scurto, Superintendent provided a summary of the exhibits stating PHSD is holding well against state averages with strong elementary reading and math scores. He noted several gaps within subgroups including students with disabilities and economically disadvantaged students. Responding to a question from Board Member Offenbacher regarding a correlation between meeting and exceeding state standards and graduation rates, Randy Fisher replied standards are tied to both graduation and completion of essential skills. Wylda Cafferata expressed her long-term concern around these gaps and said the Board is morally and ethically bound to see that PHSD's economically disadvantaged students have an equal chance of achieving.

The Board agreed that while the PHSD's performance is a little above state average that is not good enough. They agreed targets are set correctly and the

next step is to develop strategies for success. Superintendent Scurto said these report cards will be publicized and shared with students, staff and the general public within the next week.

5.5 Achievement Compact Update

Tony Scurto provided the targets identified by the Pleasant Hill Improvement Plan (PHIP) committee and accepted by the School Board for 2013-2014. He noted the target data is located inside the boxes with prior year real numbers outside the boxes. He said ODE has directed the bar be continually raised to meet the graduation rate goal of 100% by AY 2025. Randy Fisher clarified the High School report card only counts those within the high school buildings, while the District report card counts both the building and off site. Responding to a question from Kevin Parrish, Tony advised the PHSD does not have a regional compact yet, but one has been discussed to set targets within Lane County. Tony Scurto noted there may be some benefit from a regional compact including a birth to preschool effort..

5.6 Academic Enhancement

Randy Fisher provided the 2013-2014 Advisory Schedule (handout) and explained the activities taking place. He explained that each student is assigned an advisor and they check in with that person to obtain their help session placement. Students can be placed by teacher input, student input and grade input. Feedback solicited from the students reflects requests for more help sessions and less advisory time, however some advisory time activities are required for graduation. Kevin Parrish said that 7th and 8th grade does not seem appropriate for career counseling taking place during advisory and suggested lengthening help time for these groups instead. Tony Scurto explained the history behind the Academic Enhancement time, correlating it back to the Guide Schedule used in the 90's. He said one goal of the schedule is the long-term connection between the adult in the building and the students. He stated that relationship, relevance and rigor are needed to insure student success. He also reminded the Board this is a program Pleasant Hill School District was at one time recognized for.

Principal Fisher asked the Board for clarity on whether the High School should continue to run the Academic Enhancement schedule for the students. Board Member Parrish said he agrees with the help session but asked if there is value to the advisory session. Board Member Offenbacher asked if the students that don't require help are provided productive options for their time. Randy Fisher answered that those students are using time to complete projects and homework. Board Member Cafferata reminded the Board this is a new program and while the Board could have waited 2-3 years to fully vet the program the students' needs are being met by instituting this earlier rather than later. She requested staff be anonymously surveyed to help obtain data on the value of this schedule. Board Member Orre asked if taking time away from the classroom to catch students up slows the momentum of the classroom reaching its potential. Randy Fisher replied that is unknown until the achievement data is reviewed.

Randy Fisher advised for example that 4 teachers are assisting with math during this help time and in his assessment students are on task and being productive during the Academic Enhancement time. A suggestion from the audience mentioned using the wood shop, metal shop or culinary spaces for additional

enhancement. Board Member Orre said that a red flag is present if that much assistance with math is required. Math Teacher Kelli Martin explained that many students may have a passing grade in math, however wish to either increase their grade, or receive more assistance.

Wylde Cafferata said she would like to see a committee of parents and teachers working on these issues.

5.7 Assessment / Grading

Tony Scurto said the PHSD has been working toward a more standards based approach for some time. This discussion was accelerated last year when HB 2220 was passed. This bill was written to report yearly to students and parents how students are doing toward meeting state standards when the standard is separated from any behavior that goes into it. He said the clear definition of this was not clear through winter and spring 2013. He referred to Grading System for Secondary Schools policy IKA (handout) and policy IK (handout). He said that the PHSD has never been uniform as to how teachers' grade students. He said while some teachers are keeping things similar but moving toward standards, others are more aggressively moving forward. He advised while deciding on how to address these standards the PHSD is thoughtful about the following: What do we want students to learn; how do we know when they've learned it? Wylde Cafferata provided research from other districts including samples from Springfield and Creswell. Responding to comments from the audience and Board Members both Tony Scurto and Randy Fisher said teachers are to set grading standards for homework and assignments, outline those on a syllabus and provide it to students at the beginning of the class. The board discussed with the audience, including Darlene Baker and Kelli Martin whether the grading of homework was beneficial to student learning.

Wylde Cafferata suggested turning the issue over to the PHIP to discuss a grading policy for K-12 as the current policy does not fit PHSD needs. The issue was added to the action log at the Board's request. John Oldham agreed and said in the short term more clarity is needed for students, staff and parent.

6.0 PUBLIC FORUM – Sherry Bryson was recognized and said coming from a disadvantaged family she found the program very beneficial. She explained her guide teacher followed her throughout her education and assisted with her education and career guidance. She said the program was positive for her education. Darlene Baker was recognized and said while the Board's discussion on the Academic Enhancement time is important, the students' feedback is also important. She thanked the Board for being open to public input and dialogue around issues.

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

7.1 Personnel

7.101 Approve Ashley Oliver, Temporary 5th Grade Teacher, Elem

Mr. Parrish moved to approve the personnel consent agenda as presented. Mr. Offenbacher seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

8.0 BOARD ACTION ITEMS

8.1 New Business

8.101 PH Education Foundation Gift – PHCC

Kevin Parrish moved to gratefully accept the gift of the Pleasant Hill Community Center from the Pleasant Hill Foundation. Wylde Cafferata seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

8.102 Certified Teacher Negotiations. Superintendent Scurto summarized the negotiation explaining the local group approved a \$50.00 insurance increase and a 1% COLA.

John Oldham moved to approve the certified teacher contract modification as presented. Kevin Parrish seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

8.103 Classified Negotiations. Tony Scurto explained the negotiation has been completed however the local association has not yet met to accept it. He reviewed the tentative contract language.

Barbara Orre moved that 8.103 Classified Negotiations be moved to Old Business for the subsequent Board Meeting. Kevin Parrish seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

8.104 Facility Use Fees. Tony presented the Board a draft Facility Use Fee Request Form explaining that usage requests for the PHCC and turf field are rising. He said the PHSD has kept useage rates low but need to cover facility cleaning with a fee. Kevin Parrish asked if these fees also cover a reserve for maintenance funds. Tony Scurto replied they do not as presented, however the Foundation has a \$10,000 reserve for maintenance. Both Kevin Parrish and Wylde Cafferata requested review of comparable facility rates be provided to the Board. Tony Scurto added he would like Class II rate for the PHCC main room raised to 12.00 per hour and the Field section clarified to Turf Field with rates for Class II and III, \$20.00 and \$30.00 respectively. John Oldham requested a line item of "at the District's Discretion" be added. Tony Scurto agreed to bring a second version to the Board at the next meeting for review.

8.2 Old Business

8.201 Budget Committee Recruitment. The two empty positions have received no applications or expression of interest to date. Tony Scurto requested that the Board Members begin personal recruitment to assist in filling these positions by December.

9.0 REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS (Part 2)

9.1 Superintendent's Report (Exhibit 1314-23)

Tony Scurto provided the Board the updated Expenditure/Revenue Sheets. No comments or questions were received from the Board. These will be provided by Supt. Scurto and Business Manager Passerotti at each meeting for Board review.

Tony Scurto reported the Facilities group has over 100 surveys entered and is considering holding another facility meeting on October 30th to review the feedback and continue moving forward. He advised due to the bond markets changing the assessed valuation is affected and will be reviewed in detail this Thursday. Kevin Parrish asked the status of the mailer to be included with EPUD mailings. Tony advised he would follow up on that item. Kevin Parrish suggested that more exhibits be built and placed in visible locations. John Oldham suggested a large sign by the bus barn and adding details to the reader board.

9.2 Principal Reports.

Devery Stoneberg reviewed the Elementary Principals Report (handout) highlighting the Jog a Thon Success. She explained with the new hire of 5th grade teacher Ashley Oliver, class sizes have been reduced to 22 a section as well as relieving vocal music class sizes. She mentioned the Easy CBM system is still being integrated and a new touch screen is required to fully utilize it. A grant has been written to cover that equipment. Ms. Stoneberg solicited participation for Book Club Leader which takes place weekly every Wednesday.

Randy Fisher reported the High School is working hard toward common course standards and have been using staff time on early release Wednesday for building common syllabi and assessment as well as best practice discussions. He reported High School Staff completed an in-service on Google Chrome Books and Google Drive. He added teacher goals are being written which include two student learning goals and a professional goal. He invited the Board to participate in any early release Wednesday or Monday help session to see what is taking place during those times. Tentative changes in Athletics include an OSAA recommendation for a new League which may include Harrisburg, Creswell, Pleasant Hill, LaPine, Glide and Coquille. Kevin Parrish asked who bears the extra travel expense to which Fisher explained it is taken from gate receipts and athletic fees. Wylda Cafferata thanked the principals for their report.

- 9.3 Action Log. The action log was provided for review. The Board asked for any completed items to be hidden from the printed version. Tony Scurto said the Wellness Policy is completed but regulations should be followed up on and Board topics need to be scheduled. He said an additional technology report might be helpful to the Board. Curt Offenbacher asked if there is any coordination with the Foundation for their technology grant requests to which Randy Fisher explained that discussion is taking place within the Technology Committee this week. Wylda Cafferata requested items be taken from the Charge Document and placed in the action log.


10.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER

- OSBA Annual Convention, November 14-17, 2013
- OSBA Fall Regional Meeting Report. Wylda Cafferata reported the OSBA meeting was focused on interaction with other Board Members. She reported participating in an outstanding conversation on how to contact your legislator. Kevin Parrish said the Special Session dominated the conversation. John Oldham thanked Wylda Cafferata and Kevin Parrish for representing the PH School Board at the Regional Meeting.
- Picture retakes will be held October 29, 2013 8:00 am – 10:30 am

11.0 FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

- Board Meeting – November 18, 2013, 7:00 p.m., PH Community Center
(Note: only one Board Meeting will be held in November)

12.0 ADJOURNMENT – The Board meeting was adjourned by the Board Chair at 9:44 pm.

Signed:  on this 28 day of Oct, 2013.
Mr. John Oldham, Chair