Commitment, Excellence, Community

BUDGET HEARING &
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, June 23, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING ON APPROVED BUDGET

1.0 CALL TO ORDER
Chair John Oldham announced a public hearing on the Approved 2014-15 Budget at 7:00 p.m.

2.0 QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS
No community member offered questions or comments. Business Manager Caroline Passerotti briefly reviewed changes made to the Proposed Budget by the Budget Committee in the Approved Budget.

2.0 ADJOURNMENT
Chair Oldham closed the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

1.0 CALL TO ORDER
The regular meeting of the Pleasant Hill School Board was called to order by Chair Oldham at 7:03 p.m. Other board members in attendance were Vice Chair Kevin Parrish, Wylda Cafferata, Curt Offenbacher and Barbara Orre. Others in attendance were Tony Scurto, Superintendent; Caroline Passerotti, Business Manager; Randy Fisher, High School Principal; Thad Holub, High School Assistant Principal; Devery Stoneberg, Elementary Principal; and Connor Baker, Student Representative.

Kevin Parrish read the Mission Statement aloud.

2.0 INTRODUCTION OF AUDIENCE
Tanner Perrine, Project Manager with Lease Crutcher Lewis; Scott Rose from the DLR Group; and Rose Wilde, Lane ESD board member, introduced themselves.

3.0 ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA
Superintendent Scurto requested that the Board convene an Executive Session following the regular board meeting for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations, as permitted under ORS 192.660(2)(d). In addition, the following changes to the agenda were made:

Pleasant Hill School District No. 1 is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
• 7.0 Consent Agenda, 7.1 Personnel:
  o The Assistant Volleyball Coach was corrected from Jaala Vedder to Rachel Thurman.
  o 7.104 Approve hire of Nicole Sharr, PHHS Interventionist was added.
• Board Action Item 8.107 Transfer additional $10,000 to Technology Reserve Fund was moved to 5.0 Reports and Discussion Items, 5.4.

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Minutes of the June 2, 2014 Board and Budget Committee Meeting Minutes and June 16, 2014 Board Work Session Minutes were approved by consensus. Chair Oldham requested that the Budget Committee minutes and Board minutes be presented separately.

5.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION ITEMS
5.1 Rose Wilde, Lane ESD Board Member, gave a presentation on the 90 by 30 Initiative, a county-wide effort initiated by the University of Oregon to reduce child abuse 90% by 2030. Ms. Wilde aims to form a 15 to 20 member regional leadership team to identify the most effective prevention measures for communities from Pleasant Hill to Oakridge. She shared the initiative’s core values and encouraged involvement of local leadership. Mr. Oldham thanked her for her presentation and support of this worthy cause.

5.2 PHHS Principal Randy Fisher provided a recommendation for alternative education providers in 2014-15, indicating that all but three (still pending) had been evaluated by Lane ESD and explaining that placement in these programs depended upon students’ instructional and behavioral needs. In response to a question from Curt Offenbacher, Superintendent Scurto stated that most alt. ed. programs were private or non-profit. It was also clarified that the Lane School, like Life Skills, was not included on the list of programs approved for use by Lane ESD since it is an ESD program. However, it was agreed that the Lane School would be added.

Kevin Parrish asked how the cost of alternative education programs was determined. Business Manager Passerotti indicated that Oregon Administrative Rules contained a formula for calculating charges based on the district’s projected operating costs. Superintendent Scurto further clarified that the state provides funding to school districts for high cost disability students which cost the district over $30,000 per year in addition to the second weight funding included in the State School Fund formula. A discussion followed about the inadequacy of federal and state funding to support costs associated with high needs students.

5.3 Ms. Passerotti called attention to the 2013-14 Revenue/Expenditure Report in the board packet.

5.4 Mr. Scurto explained that an additional $10,000 transfer was being made to the Technology Reserve Fund in response to a request by the Technology Committee to fund the purchase of additional ChromeBooks. He indicated that the total transfer was still less than budgeted.
6.0 PUBLIC FORUM
Dave Moch, who joined the meeting after it began, asked how much the new bond was expected to increase property taxes. Superintendent Scurto stated that the average tax rate over the last ten years had been $2.20 per $1,000 of Assessed Value and that the current tax rate was $1.63 per $1,000. The new bond is estimated to cost around $2.15, maybe lower depending on assessed property values.

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA
7.1 Superintendent Scurto reviewed the following personnel actions:
   7.101 Approve 2014-15 Fall Coaching Contracts -
   - Kristine Dunn, Head Girls Soccer Coach (1.0 FTE)
   - Don Fisher, Assistant Football Coach (1.0 FTE)
   - Randy Fisher, Co-Head Football Coach (.5 FTE), Co-Assistant Football Coach (.5 FTE)
   - Wayne Hazel, Co-Assistant Football Coach (.67 FTE)
   - Erik Hoberg, Co-Assistant Football Coach (.67 FTE)
   - Kayla Meyer, Head Volleyball Coach (1.0 FTE)
   - Kirk Miller, Co-Head Football Coach (.5 FTE), Co-Assistant Football Coach (.5 FTE)
   - Dan Skipper, Co-Assistant Football Coach (.67 FTE)
   - Nicholas Smith, Head Boys Soccer Coach (1.0 FTE)
   - Beth Sprague, Head Cross Country Track Coach (1.0 FTE)
   - Jaala Vedder, Assistant Volleyball Coach (1.0 FTE) – Changed to Rachel Thurman
   - Jessica Wolpe, Varsity Cheer Coach (1.0 FTE)
   7.102 Approve hire of Noell D’Agosta, PHHS Registrar
   7.103 Accept resignation of Beth Sprague, Board Secretary
   7.104 Approve hire of Nicole Sharr, PHHS Interventionist

7.2 Superintendent Scurto also reviewed the following annual appointments, noting the addition of a change in the district’s Section 125 administrator. In response to a question from Mr. Offenbacher, Ms. Passerotti explained that this is the insurance company that manages flexible spending plans that permit employees to pay medical and certain other costs with pre-tax dollars.
   7.201 Designate Superintendent, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk.
   (The Superintendent is Clerk by Oregon Law ORS 332.515.)
   7.202 Designate Caroline Passerotti as Business Manager.
   7.203 Designate Superintendent Tony Scurto as Budget Officer.
   7.204 Designate Pauly, Rogers and Co. as official auditor.
   7.205 Designate Siuslaw Bank and the Local Government Investment Pool as depositories for school funds.
   a. Allow the Superintendent the discretion to invest in other depositories.
   b. Allow the Superintendent the option to change depositories.
   7.206 Designate the Hungerford Law Firm, L.L.P., as legal counsel.
   7.207 Designate Property & Casualty Coverage for Education (PACE) as the District’s liability insurance carrier.
   7.208 Designate Tammy Fitch of WHA Insurance as Agent of Record.
   7.209 Designate American Fidelity Securities, Inc. as Section 125 administrator.
   7.209 Approve Fidelity Bonds in the amount of $100,000 each for the Superintendent and the Business Manager.

Wylda Cafferata moved to accept the Consent Agenda as amended. Barbara Orre seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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8.0 BOARD ACTION ITEMS

8.1 New Business

8.101 Approve Resolution Adopting the Budget, Making Appropriations, and Imposing and Categorizing Taxes

Kevin Parrish moved to approve the Resolution Adopting the Budget, Making Appropriations and Imposing and Categorizing Taxes. Wylda Cafferata seconded the motion and pointed out for the benefit of the audience that the budget had been discussed in great detail in previous meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

8.102 Approve Resolution for Disbursements of General Fund Monies

Kevin Parrish moved to approve the Resolution for Disbursements of General Fund Monies. Curt Offenbacher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.103 Affirm Election Results and Declare Voter Approval of General Obligation Bonds

Kevin Parrish moved that the Board affirm the election results and declare voter approval of the district’s general obligation bonds. Wylda Cafferata seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.104 Superintendent Scurto led a discussion of the district’s next steps in the bond process. He commented on the district’s good relationship with the DLR Group, which produced a very good facility plan for the district, and recommended that the district go through a second competitive process to ensure the selection of the best architect to implement the plan. He also noted that that the district has the option to continue with DLR Group and that going through a competitive process might put us a little behind schedule. He believes, however, that making the best possible architect selection is the most important next step. Mr. Scurto reviewed his plans to appoint a review team including board, community members, and principals. This group will review proposals, visit campuses, and interview finalists. He proposed a similar timeline project manager selection, with the hope of bringing recommendations to the board at the August 15 board meeting.

There was a lengthy discussion about board participation in site visits and interviews, with consideration to the requirements of public meeting laws, and how the board would distinguish among architects. It was agreed that the review committee and superintendent would make recommendations and the board would hold deliberations and make the final decision. Mr. Scurto reminded that architect selection was based on service and not price.

Board members agreed to be available for additional meetings if needed to stay on schedule to the extent possible. They conducted a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of electing to use a competitive process for the selection of architect and agreed that a solicitation for project manager could be done at the same time.

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Kevin Parrish moved that the district utilize a competitive process to obtain architectural design services. Wylda Cafferata seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair John Oldham stated his appreciation for the work the DLR Group performed and their contributions to getting the bond passed. He expressed his hope that they would participate in the RFP process for architect. Scott Rose of the DLR Group said they would submit a proposal.


Curt Offenbacher moved approval of the recommended alternative education programs for 2014-15, with the addition of the Lane School. Barbara Orre seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.


Curt Offenbacher nominated John Oldham as board chair. Wylda Cafferata seconded. With no other nominees, the board unanimously approved the nomination.

Wylda Cafferata nominated Kevin Parrish as vice chair. Curt Offenbacher seconded. With no other nominees, the board unanimously approved the nomination.

8.2 Old Business


To recognize increased food costs in the breakfast program, bring lunch prices into closer alignment with USDA lunch price equity requirements, and respond to higher milk prices, it is recommended that breakfast prices be increased by 15 cents, lunch prices be increased by 10 cents, and milk prices be increased by 5 cents for the 2014-15 school year, as stated below:

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>$1.25</td>
<td>$2.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td>$2.55</td>
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Milk $0.40

Board members expressed concern about students who are unable to afford paid meals. Mr. Scurto and the principals explained staff efforts to help students apply for free or reduced price meals.

Kevin Parrish moved that the Board approve recommended meal price increases. John Oldham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.202 Superintendent Scurto presented changes to Policy JECB—Admission of Nonresident Students, and a brief discussion was held about how different districts were responding. Mr. Scurto indicated the state Legislature is likely to address the subject of inter-district transfers in its next session, hopefully creating more alignment among the different ways students can be admitted to a district other than their district of residence.

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Curt Offenbacher moved approval of recommended changes to Policy JECB – Admission of Nonresident Students. Kevin Parrish seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.203 Mr. Scurto explained that Policy JF/JFA—Student Rights and Responsibilities was not formerly included in our district policies but that it was legally required to match the requirements of the ORS. He recommended that the board accept the policy as drafted by OSBA. Wylda Cafferata expressed concern with the definition of “reasonable” included in the language and cited the board’s responsibility to observe District rules instead.

Kevin Parrish moved approval of Policy JF/JFA – Student Rights and Responsibilities, as modified by Ms. Cafferata. John Oldham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.204 Mr. Scurto presented revisions to Policy JFC—Student Conduct and explained the need for the policy to be implemented without bias. He indicated the handbook on student conduct was also required to be shared with employees.

Wylda Cafferata moved approval of Policy JFC – Student Conduct. Kevin Parrish seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.205 Mr. Scurto explained that the primary change in Policy JFCJ—Weapons in the Schools was to remove zero tolerance language, which was not in our district policy. He stated that possession of a firearm still resulted in an automatic expulsion, and the response to possession of a knife depended on the manner in which it was used. He explained that the intent of the change was to insert reason and discretion into the process, and that our board could still recommend modifications. Following discussion about possible confusion resulting from the proposed language, the board agreed to postpone action on this policy until the fall of 2014. The Superintendent agreed to determine whether the language represented the law or OSBA language. In response to a question from Mr. Parrish, Mr. Scurto clarified that knives are prohibited and confiscated, just not always automatically resulting in expulsion.

8.206 Mr. Scurto presented Policy JG—Violence and Crime/Student Discipline. While he noted that Bethel, Springfield and Eugene school districts do not have this policy, he recommended that our district approve it as it was research based and applies without bias. Ms. Cafferata expressed concern that language in the third paragraph stating, “The Board seeks to ensure a school climate...” was not strong enough and asked that our policy be restated to say, “The Board shall maintain a school climate...”

Kevin Parrish moved approval of Policy JG –Violence and Crime/Student Discipline, as modified by Wylda Cafferata. Ms. Cafferata seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.207 Mr. Scurto reviewed changes to Policy JGAB—Use of Restraint and Seclusion.

Kevin Parrish moved approval of Policy JGAB –Use of Restraint and Seclusion. Ms. Cafferata seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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8.208 Mr. Scurto recommended that the board approve 45 inter-district transfer slots for the elementary school, subject to grade level restrictions, and 34 slots for the high school, with priority placement for siblings and students currently attending Pleasant Hill schools. He explained that districts were permitted to limit the number of students exiting their district, but that most Lane County superintendents were releasing all students requesting transfers and that he recommended that Pleasant Hill do the same. It was reiterated that the number of transfers the district accepted could be changed after fall enrollment was established.

Kevin Parrish moved approval of the superintendent’s recommendation on Interdistrict transfers. John Oldham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9.0 FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS
The Superintendent stated that the next Board Meeting and Board/Administrator Charge was scheduled for August 15, 2014, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. There was discussion of the potential need for another meeting prior, in relation to the selection of an architect firm. It was confirmed that a meeting could be called with two days’ notice and still meet legal requirements.

10.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER
PHHS Principal Randy Fisher indicated that OSAA might treat students who wished to participate in athletic programs differently, depending upon whether they enrolled under an inter-district transfer or open enrollment. He stated he would investigate this and follow up with the Board in a future meeting.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT to Executive Session. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. to Executive Session, Labor Negotiations, ORS 192.660(2)(d). The audience was excused.

12.0 RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION at 9:02 p.m.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT at 9:03 p.m.

Signed: ___________________________, this 22 day of Sep., 2014.
John Oldham, Board Chair

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