

PHOENIX-TALENT SCHOOLS
Regular School Board Meeting
Thursday, May 7, 2020
7:00 p.m. – **Virtual ZOOM Meeting**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

- Chairman Craig Prewitt called the virtual meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other Board Members present: Vice Chair Dawn Watson, Directors Alexis Di Fruscia, Lori Ghavam, Sara Crawford, and Michael Campbell. Absent: Rick Nagel. Also present: Toby Walker, Dave Ehrhardt, Kent Vallier, Aaron Santi, Heather Lowe-Rogers, Curt Shenk, Shawna Schleif, Melinda Lidbetter, Javier del Rio, Tiffanie Lambert, Supt. Brent Barry and Denise Skinner.

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE

- **TMS Principal Aaron Santi** acknowledged teacher appreciation week. TMS shared some video cheer along with bags of goodies for the staff. The teachers do such a great job and more than we have ever asked them to do in this current environment. Fifth grade transition activities are happening now. Heather Lowe-Rogers has been meeting with each fifth grade class via google hangout or zoom. Mrs. Lowe-Rogers answered their questions and talked about electives. Mr. Santi thanked the classified staff for being willing to step up to any assignment they are given and being so flexible and a great support to us.
- **PHS Principal Toby Walker** said that today they had the staff drive through for food pick up for the teachers. Mr. Walker, Dave Ehrhardt, Kent Vallier, Mayra Silva and Christie Sanders organized a drive-up, food pick up. There was food from Angelo's, El Comal, and Subway. It was a practice event for the hopeful drive-in graduation event. The Valedictorians selected are Sienna Bauer, Hannah MacLennan, Student Representative Clarice Mathewson, Brandon Morrison, and Elana Tegner. All of those students have been at PTS since kindergarten. The Salutatorians selected are Emily Weaver, Student Representative Karli Farrimond, and Elaina Salcedo. Two of the three salutatorians have been in the district since kindergarten.
- **PES Principal Shawna Schleif** thanked all the teachers for teacher appreciation week. The classified staff created and delivered gift baskets to the teacher's houses and we created videos from the students. The teachers created a video message to the families letting them know that they are doing a wonderful job of filling in and supporting us as a community of learners. Mrs. Schleif gave a shout out to Kerri Brooks who is the teacher of the RISE program. Each week Kerri puts together bins of items and has the IA's deliver them to the families. When Kari and her teams are teaching, these items are for helping and coaching the parents about how to interact with the students with the curriculum she is teaching. Mrs. Schleif said that she is excited about the new hires that they are bringing to PES. There are three, two-way immersion teachers and they are choosing us and we are very grateful.

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE (cont.)

- **TES Principal Curt Shenk** echoed thoughts about teacher appreciation week. Mr. Shenk acknowledged all of his staff and said that they decided this year to celebrate all roles instead of separating into classified and teachers. All staff have roles in teaching our students. We will be delivering some gift cards tomorrow to the staff and a note of appreciation for everything that they do. Mr. Shenk is very grateful to have the staff that he does and for what they do for the families and the community.
- **Tiffanie Lambert spoke on behalf of OHES Principal Jeff Carpenter.** Mr. Carpenter wanted to recognize the teachers and thanked them for all that they do. Mr. Carpenter thanked the classified staff for creating goodie baskets for each teacher. Mr. Carpenter said that the participation rate in distance learning is continuing to increase each week. Students are connecting with their teachers and the specialists. The students and staff continue to grow socially and academically through the hangout sessions. The cafeteria is coming along and looking great. Walls are going up in the main building to close off the open classrooms.
- **Chairman Prewitt** thanked Melinda Lidbetter and her staff from Sodexo for supplying thousands of meals and for First Student for delivering the meals via the bus routes. It is a remarkable mobilization of meals and transportation and we appreciate what both groups are doing so much.
- **Melinda Lidbetter** from Sodexo referenced the participation sheet that was provided to the board members. On week one 874 meals were given out from three locations; week four 3,993 meals were delivered which was when we started the bus routes; week seven 10,646 were delivered and that included the weekend meals. Melinda thanked the district for providing Sodexo employees with a special meal on Friday, which was national lunch hero day. The bus drivers have been great and play a large part in the effort to provide food to the students. We are feeding about 68% of what we normally would during the school year.
- **Chairman Prewitt** acknowledged Supt. Brent Barry and Denise Skinner for successfully putting the Zoom virtual meetings together.
- No Student Reps were able to join but Chairman Prewitt thanked them for their service and wished them the best as they move on from PHS to whatever careers they have ahead of them. Chairman Prewitt announced that Adrian Stanfield has been accepted to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. It has been a pleasure to have the four student representatives on the board.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

PROGRAM REPORT: TMS STUDENT QUESTIONS

- Chairman Prewitt said that we would have normally been at TMS last week and thankfully, Mr. Santi reached out to the students through their teachers and asked them for their input on questions they may have that they would like to present to the board.
- Chairman Prewitt asked Mr. Santi to answer questions 3 & 4.

**PROGRAM
REPORT: TMS
STUDENT
QUESTIONS**

Question #3 - How do we know we are going to pass the current grade we are in and will students be held back a grade for not being able to fully educate themselves because they do not work well with remote learning? Mr. Santi said that we are not going to be retaining any students and all students will move forward as they normally would have.

- Question #4 – Will we be getting yearbooks this year and how can we purchase them? Mr. Santi said yes we are moving forward with the yearbooks. The yearbooks will be delivered to the school and we will have a pick up date for the students to purchase them.
- Director Sara Crawford asked Mr. Santi about question #14 - Why is every single YouTube video restricted. Mr. Santi said that our district filters restrict access to certain domains. We have been working with the tech department to find alternate ways to reach the sites that our firewall prevents from accessing.
- Director Sara Crawford asked about the cell phone committee and if they are still meeting and what is going on with that process as it relates to Question 13. Supt. Barry stated that we were pretty close to proposing a policy to the board from the cell phone committee but then COVID 19 hit and we did not have a chance to vet it through students, families, and staff. Kent Vallier said that the committee had met every month since September and the last meeting was in February. The committee was proposing for grades 6-12 to be more restrictive than what we have in place. At the high school level, phones could be out and used before and after school and at breaks and lunch. No phones will be allowed in the hallways or in class; they would have to be totally out of sight. The proposal for TMS was that students would be allowed to bring their phones and use them before and after school but the phones would have to be left in their locker during school and not on their person throughout the school day. Students with special needs will be accommodated and parents will need to meet with building administrators for exemptions.

**CITIZEN
COMMENTS**

- Citizen comments were not taken verbally during the meeting, but were accepted via email until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 6, 2020. No public comments were submitted.

**SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT**

- Supt. Barry recognized Sodexo and First Student stating how much we appreciate them and that it was a fun honor to deliver the meals to their staff last Friday. Supt. Barry thanked Javier del Rio for coordinating the event with Melinda and Jonel Todd and organizing the event with Lithia and Common Block.
- Supt. Barry referenced the draft of the plaque of what will be memorialized in the new high school. Supt. Barry asked the board members to reach out to him if they have any questions or comments.
- Supt. Barry said that on May 20 we would be accepting bids for the PES Seismic project. We will be reviewing the bids on the 21st and possibly the morning of the 22nd. We are expecting to receive three or four bids. If any board members would like to volunteer to help review the bids, please let Denise or myself know.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT (cont.)

- Supt. Barry said that we are looking at a new option to find classified substitutes. There is a possibility to get in with multiple districts to see if we can find more support for classified substitutes than we have now. We are hoping the new option will come to fruition and we will have jobs filled at a much higher rate.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of the Agenda
- Approval of Minutes for 4/23/2020
- Personnel Report
- Approval of Board Policies

- Chairman Craig Prewitt presented the Consent Agenda for review which included the following:
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes 4/23/2020
- Personnel Report which included the following:

EMPLOYMENT

Cassandra Gannaway, as Special Education Teacher at Talent Middle School, effective August 28, 2020. Ms. Gannaway replaces Harry Prosis.

Stephanie Knutson, as Math Teacher at Phoenix High School, effective August 28, 2020. Ms. Knutson replaces Karen Pogue.

Jordan Lambert, as Elementary Teacher at Talent Elementary School, effective August 28, 2020. Ms. Lambert replaces Wendi Holcomb.

Estrella Medrano, as Two-Way Immersion Teacher at Phoenix Elementary School, effective August 28, 2020. Ms. Medrano replaces Emily Davis.

TRANSFERS/REASSIGNMENTS

Cari Baker, from .75 FTE ELD Teacher at Orchard Hill Elementary School to 1.0 FTE ELD Teacher at Phoenix Elementary School, effective August 31, 2020.

Allison Callister, from Secretary I at Phoenix High School to Office Manager at Phoenix Elementary School, effective August 12, 2020.

RESIGNATIONS

Susan Cockrell, as Child Development Specialist at Phoenix Elementary School, effective May 6, 2020.

Brian Goodwin, as Information Specialist for Phoenix-Talent Schools, effective May 6, 2020.

Cesar Flores, as Counselor at Phoenix High School, effective June 30, 2020.

CONSENT

AGENDA (cont.)

- Personnel Report
- Approval of Board Policies

INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER SLOTS FOR 2020-2021

- Board Policies: AC-AR and KL
- On motion by Director Sara Crawford, seconded by Director Lori Ghavam, to accept the consent agenda as presented.
- After discussion on policy AC-AR, the consent agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
- Supt. Barry said that there is no modification to the transfer in slots and the zero transfer out slots will get us in line with our neighboring districts who have the same policy. Last fall we had a complaint for not admitting a student to our TLC classroom who had requested a transfer. Per our legal counsel's advice, it is recommended that we add specific language to address capacity of our special programs including TLC and RISE. After questions and discussion, the board agreed to limit the special programs to resident students only.
- On motion by Chairman Prewitt, seconded by Director Michael Campbell, to approve the 2020-2021 Interdistrict Transfer Slots as presented inclusive of the language, *'Pursuant to ORS 339.127(4), and because projected enrollment in the District's Transitional Learning Center (TLC) and Reaching Independence through Structured Education (RISE) is already at capacity with existing District resident students, consent is not given for any interdistrict transfers into the TLC and RISE program for the 2020-2021 school year'* was approved as per the following vote:

Ayes: Campbell, Crawford, Di Fruscia, Ghavam, Watson, Prewitt

Noes: None

Absent: Nagel

Abstain: None

LEGISLATIVE/ FINANCIAL UPDATE

- Supt. Barry said that he and Javier del Rio discussed today that we are not going to try to estimate what a worst-case scenario will be in regards to the state budget. After stating at the last meeting that we would be planning for a 10% reduction scenario, we heard the next day that it could be up to 17%. Supt. Barry said that it does not take into account the rainy day fund for education and there will be some stimulus funds coming to schools. Yazmin Karabinas is creating a budget that is realistic and has many options. Supt. Barry is grateful for all of her hard work preparing the budget. Supt. Barry feels that we should be able to get through next year with our ending fund balance; however, it is the next two years we are unsure of and could be a challenge.

FACILITIES/BOND UPDATE

- Chairman Prewitt asked Jon McCalip for comment. Jon said that he sent a 3D tour of OHES to the board earlier in the day as well as the drone videos. The project at OHES is on schedule and on budget. The HVAC upgrades should be completed by mid-June.

**FACILITIES/BOND
UPDATE**
(cont.)

PHS new construction is on time and on budget. The greenhouse construction has started and they are about ready to start the foundation for the Vet Tech building. Design for Phase 3, the remodel, is underway and progressing well. The stadium project is near completion. TMS is on time and on budget. There have been some slight delays on the HVAC equipment due to COVID 19 but it will not affect the completion date. PES seismic bids are due May 20. We had seven general contractors show up to walk the job. The majority of the facility staff started back full time. The grounds crew have been keeping up with spring grass. We announced that we would be spraying OHES and PHS, however we will hold off on PHS for another week due to the plant sale tomorrow. The spray we are using is the organic avenger, which is the same chemical that the City of Talent uses.

- Director Sara Crawford asked about a construction classroom and looking for funding. Mr. McCalip said we are moving forward with the design and putting in a steel building between the stadium and the greenhouse. The anticipated cost is \$250,000. It will be a bare bones steel building with power, internet, and heat and we plan to have the students complete the finish of the inside of the building.
- Supt. Barry said that we have an option with measure 98 funds as we have a sizeable carry over fund for this year that could be utilized for the construction of the building. If measure 98 is fully funded for next year, we will have some unallocated funds that we could put to this effort. Supt. Barry met with a foundation today who is very interested in supporting this project. The trades continue to be a big request and we are looking forward to providing the space for the students.
- Jon McCalip said we have a preliminary bid for Phase 3. We had to make quite a few cuts because we were over budget. We gave them permission to go ahead with the design and they should have the designs done by the end of the month. It will then go to Adroit for their final bid.
- Supt. Barry said that we applied for and we feel we have a good score submitted for TMS for the seismic grant. We should know within the next few weeks if we receive the grant. Supt. Barry is excited to see the next HMK report to the board. We have leveraged an extra 7-8 million dollars with matching funds, with the Red Grant, Seismic Grants and more in funds with extra grants.

**COLE MINE ROAD
PROPERTY**

- Chairman Prewitt said that last fall we discussed when would be a good time to sell the property at the corner of Cole Mine Road and North Phoenix Road. We decided that if we wait until June to sell the property, we would be able to use those proceeds in any way we choose. Chairman Prewitt suggested that we have the real estate transaction handled by our attorney Thad Pauck to facilitate the sale.
- Chairman Prewitt asked for comments regarding the sale of the property and it was agreed to continue going forward with the sale.

- Supt. Barry will continue with the work and bring a pricing estimate to the board most likely in an executive session at the June board meeting.

REVIEW OF NEXT MEETING

- Chairman Craig Prewitt said that we do not have any action items for the May 21 meeting and asked if the board would like to defer the meeting to the June 3 meeting. It was decided to cancel the May 21 meeting. Chairman Prewitt reminded the board of the Budget Committee meeting scheduled for May 27, which will be a virtual meeting at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

- Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Brent Barry, Clerk of the Board

Craig Prewitt, Chair

Recording Secretary:
Denise Skinner, Board Secretary