

PHOENIX-TALENT SCHOOLS

Regular School Board Meeting

Thursday, May 6, 2021

6:00 p.m. – Virtual Google Meet

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dawn Watson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Other Board Members present: Vice Chair Michael Campbell, Directors Rick Nagel, Nancy McKinnis, and Sara Crawford. Absent: None. Also present: Aaron Santi, Toby Walker, Dave Ehrhardt, Randy Waite, Kent Vallier, Shawna Schleif, Curt Shenk, Bryan Flores, Estefania Ortiz, Amy Honts-Stark, Lisa Rullman, Tiffanie Lambert, Javier del Rio, Jake Patoski, Supt. Brent Barry and Denise Skinner.

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE

- **OES Principal Curt Shenk** gave a shout out to his Resource teacher Arica Cassarotti. She is doing a phenomenal job leading her team and serving the students on IEP's. She is also leading a small group of staff members on a six week training on emotions and learning how to regulate them. Mr. Shenk shared his appreciation for all the dedicated teachers serving the Orchard Hill community. They are all very caring and work incredibly hard to give our students an excellent learning experience. Mr. Shenk finished with a quick thank you to the classified staff who have rolled out the red carpet this week and have really spoiled our teachers each day. Mr. Shenk is blessed to work with his staff and be a part of this District.
- **PHS Principal Toby Walker** shared that this is Teacher Appreciation Week and as he has reflected on what our teachers and staff have gone through this year, it is amazing. They have all been super heroes with hybrid, in-person, and CDL. For seniors who have been impacted by the fires, their graduation announcements and photos have been paid for by a generous donation from the community. Twenty-five seniors out of the fifty who were impacted by the fires chose to take the advantage of the generous gift, and were given the announcements and pictures today. Christie Sanders did a great job ordering them.

We had 268 students who made honor roll this year through third quarter. They received certificates and the world renowned gigantic cookies. Mr. Walker thanked Randy Waite for organizing that and to Sodexo for baking the cookies.

The Future Planning Center held a decision day last Friday and over 50 seniors shared where they are planning to go to school. Mr. Walker thanked Dave Ehrhardt for being the MC. The next steps for seniors are starting to become very real.

- **TMS Principal Aaron Santi** said this is Teacher Appreciation Week and the staff has done a great job adapting to everything that has been thrown at them this year. Our eighth graders will be having an orientation next Tuesday at the high school. The eighth graders are

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE (cont.)

excited to see the new high school. Mr. Santi thanked the office staff including Susy Schofield, Julee Lockett, Misty Hutsell, Jordan Ruiz and Asst. Principal Kent Vallier. They are tasked daily in dealing with absences and coverage for supervision and teaching assignments. Sometimes, they jump in and substitute. This has been one of the most difficult years so I want to thank them for all that they do in keeping things going.

- **PES Principal Shawna Schleif** said even though this is Teacher Appreciation Week, a week just doesn't do it justice. The amount of dedication, time, care and love that our teachers put into our schools and our students is just amazing.

The classified staff has done an amazing job of recognizing the teachers with creativity and support. We have had community members and businesses send gift cards to show their appreciation and everyone has been so supportive. "Without teachers, life would have no class!"

Mrs. Schleif gave a shout-out to PES Title teacher Shawn Spillane. We have our final end-of-year assessments coming up and he's done a phenomenal job of organizing everything, especially since he's often pulled into subbing for teachers.

- **TES Principal Heather Lowe-Rogers** – Asst. Supt. Tiffanie Lambert spoke on her behalf. This week is Teacher Appreciation Week and Mrs. Lowe-Rogers gives a HUGE shout out to all of the teachers at TES and across the district for their herculean efforts to serve students this year. What they have been able to pull off this year has been nothing short of a miracle. We love and appreciate them more than any words could convey.

This week wouldn't be complete without acknowledging our pre-service teachers, as well. This year at TES we have 4 incredible student teachers who are well on their way to changing lives for the better.

Speaking of amazing people, Happy Mother's Day to Board members Dawn, Sara, and Nancy! The work of a mother (and especially dedicated, inspiring, smart ones like you) is what makes the world go 'round. May you get utterly spoiled this weekend!

Finally, Mrs. Lowe-Rogers wanted to highlight the great partnership we have developed with LaClinica at TES this year. Schools have always felt like the heart of a community. Having the professional mental health and nursing services available on-site strengthens this notion and enables us to better serve the families we work with. Thank you to the board for supporting this collaboration!

- Asst Supt. Tiffanie Lambert wanted to not only recognize the teachers for Teacher Appreciation Week, and school lunch hero's day, but it is also National School Nurse Day. Mrs. Lambert gave a huge thanks to

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE (cont.)

school Nurse Carrie McDonald for all that she does. She has been a critical person in opening schools safely and helping to keep them open.

- **Amy Honts-Stark** said she was able to see a lot of what was happening at the high school this week for Teacher Appreciation Week and the teachers were pretty excited. We have provided just under 20,000 meals for breakfast and lunch for the month of April. Mrs. Honts-Stark thanked all of her staff for School Lunch Hero Day which is today and for all of their hard work. We have served over a hundred different varieties for the fresh fruits and vegetables program so far this year.
- **Rich Hobbins**, teacher at TMS, said he is present as a representative of the certified staff and president elect for the Teachers Association. Mr. Hobbins thanked the Board for the gifts that they have received. The kindness was spread out in our building and we were able to get \$50 gift cards to those staff who work in the cafeteria for School Lunch Hero Day. Mr. Hobbins invited the board to attend the district wide soccer game on May 22nd.
- **Director Sara Crawford** gave a shout out to John Cornet for putting on an amazing event at the high school for the PHS Twilight Distance Invite. It was impressive to watch track athletes run and to see how much they enjoy it. Kudos to John for putting that on and to Dave Ehrhardt for all of the work he does for our athletics and activities.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- **Bryan Flores** said seniors have just a few weeks left. College decision day was last Friday and it was pretty amazing. All the seniors really enjoyed it and hopefully next year the seniors will get to enjoy it without having COVID as an issue. Bryan shared that he has decided to go to OSU to study engineering.
- **Estefania Ortiz** said that we now know that prom is happening so it is very exciting. Leadership is excited to give the seniors a fun night. Decision day was amazing to see friends and hear about all the seniors' decisions. Estefania said she has decided to go to OIT and major in dental hygiene. In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, Leadership provided some snacks for the teachers because they are thankful for them and all that they do. Estefania is excited about the cookie for honor roll and she feels like that will be part of her legacy at PHS. Because of Leadership and herself, they are now back at PHS.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Chair Dawn Watson said there were no comments received prior to the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Supt. Barry spoke about news from the state and what it means being in the extreme category at the county level and what that means for our schools. Tomorrow we will move back into the high level and hopefully it will stay in that category or go lower. Senator Golden and Representative Wallan called this morning along with Director Allen of OHA to discuss graduation planning. We are hopeful to hear something in the next few days on guidance so we can have a clear vision and a plan for what June 12th will look like for our seniors.
- Supt. Barry shared with the Board two policy rewrite options with OSBA. Supt. Barry suggests that we go with the desk rewrite option based on time of staff and board involvement in the process. It also mirrors how we adopt policy and what we have done in the past. Supt. Barry asked members to reach out to him soon if they have any comments before he makes the decision.
- Supt. Barry shared that there will be a vaccine clinic at TES on Saturday. We have been approached by OHA and FEMA locally about providing opportunities for students for vaccinations. If that is something we are going to provide for on campus, Supt. Barry would like for the Board to weigh in with comments or concerns. Mr. Walker has sent out a survey to students to gather information on what the desire is and we are processing that now.
- Chair Dawn Watson spoke about an editorial in the Mail Tribune that mentioned our District and the Medford District. The opinion was that graduations needed to be an exception for the students and it was a nice article.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes from 4/22/21
- Personnel Report

- Chair Dawn Watson presented the Consent Agenda for review which included the following:
 - Approval of Agenda with the addition of a discussion item #8 to discuss moving the June 2 meeting to June 3.
 - Approval of Minutes from 4/22/2021
 - Personnel Report

EMPLOYMENT

Jamar Boyd, as Instructional Leader TOSA at Talent Middle School, effective August 27, 2021. This is a new position.

Karinn Calhoun, as Instructional Leader TOSA at Talent Elementary School, effective August 27, 2021. This is a new position.

Aletia Dussaq, as Two-Way Immersion Teacher at Phoenix Elementary School, effective August 27, 2021. Ms. Dussaq replaces Shannon Lozano.

Lori Evans-Duval, as Instructional Leader TOSA at Orchard Hill Elementary School, effective August 27, 2021. This is a new position.

Emily Gonzales-Zentgraf, as 7 Hour Instructional Assistant at Orchard Hill Elementary School, effective May 6, 2021. This is a new position.

- Personnel Report (cont.)

Miguel Gutierrez, as Two-Way Immersion Teacher at Talent Elementary School, effective August 27, 2021. Mr. Gutierrez replaces Ginger Akil.

Jacob Ledesma, as 7 Hour Instructional Assistant at Talent Elementary School, effective April 26, 2021. This is a new position.

Beatriz Rodriguez-Rivera, as Agriculture Teacher for Phoenix High School, effective August 27, 2021. Ms. Rodriguez-Rivera replaces Hillary Emerson.

Kendra Theiring, as 7 Hour Instructional Assistant at Talent Elementary School, effective April 29, 2021. This is a new position.

TRANSFERS/ADDITIONAL HOURS

Olga Cornet, from 3 Hour Instructional Assistant/1.5 Hour Playground Assistant to 7 Hour Instructional Assistant at Talent Elementary School, effective April 26, 2021.

David Ford, from .50 FTE to 1.0 FTE Construction Teacher at Phoenix High School, effective August 30, 2021.

Nuvia Pineda, from 3.75 Hour Instructional Assistant/2.25 Hour Playground Assistant to 7 Hour Instructional Assistant at Talent Elementary School, effective April 26, 2021.

Pam Ward, from 1.0 FTE Elementary Teacher at Talent Elementary School to 1.0 FTE Instructional Leader TOSA at Phoenix Elementary School, effective August 30, 2021.

RESIGNATIONS

Ruth Aguilar, as 6 Hour Bilingual Instructional Assistant at Phoenix Elementary School, effective April 26, 2021.

Piedad Carrera Flores, as 7 Hour Instructional Assistant at Phoenix Elementary School, effective May 3, 2021.

RETIREE RE-EMPLOYMENT RESCISSION

Chris Dovci, as Reading Specialist at Orchard Hill Elementary School for the 21-22 school year.

On motion by Chair Dawn Watson, seconded by Director Rick Nagel, to approve the consent agenda with the addition of an information and discussion item #8 to discuss moving the June 2 meeting to June 3. The consent agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

TEXTBOOK ADOPTION

Amplify Science,
Lawrence Hall of
Science, The University
of California Berkeley,
2018 Edition

- Information and Discussion item #5, Science Curriculum & Textbook Review was moved to an action item for Textbook Adoption by suspending the rules per motion noted in item #5.
- On motion by Vice Chair Michael Campbell and seconded by Director Nancy McKinnis to adopt the Amplify Science curriculum by Lawrence Hall of Science, 2018 Edition, was approved as per the following vote:

Ayes: McKinnis, Nagel, Campbell, Crawford, Watson
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

RECESS

- None

FACILITIES/BOND UPDATE

- Supt. Barry said that the summer work is in full planning stages as this is the time we spend and utilize the construction excise tax we receive. The maintenance department reached out to ATI and asked if the PES grass area would work for their graduation and it looks as though it will. The construction/remodel project here at the high school is on schedule and on budget. ESSER funds will provide HVAC upgrades in places that we weren't able to do with bond funds so Jon McCalip has been applying for capital improvements through ODE and they have been approved. We have spoken to local contractors and some in the Portland area, knowing schools have access to ESSER funds. For those that don't get projects in and bids and on the calendar, there is a risk of not being able to get those projects done by the time those funds expire. Supt. Barry appreciates Mr. McCalip's oversight on these projects and getting them started.

LEGISLATIVE/ FINANCIAL UPDATE

- Chair Watson said that the budget is still being worked on and should come in at \$9.3B or \$9.4B. HB 2001 has diversity language for schools and it is still being updated to pass. Chair Watson spoke about the hearing for the wild fire bill and thanked Tiffanie Lambert and Supt. Barry for their testimony. Pam Marsh also spoke passionately about our District and why we should receive the guaranteed stable funding. May 19 is when they will forecast and give us a better idea of what our budget will be.

ALMEDA FIRE UPDATE

- Vice Chair Michael Campbell shared that there are still 776 people who are living in hotels that have been displaced by the fires. There continues to be discussion on how to help those who were not eligible for FEMA assistance or government housing. FEMA was able to find space in existing mobile home parks for the number of units needed without using our property on Colver Road. Vice Chair Campbell thanked the Board, Supt. Barry, Jon McCalip, and the community for their support.
- The Gateway project by the round-a-bout in Talent is separate from FEMA and is for those who weren't eligible or didn't receive FEMA assistance. It is specifically targeted for families in our district to have priority. Hopefully construction will start Memorial Day weekend.

DIVERSITY EQUITY, & INCLUSION

- Chair Dawn Watson said at the last DEI meeting they were planning to wrap things up for the end of the year since Clint Rodreick is moving on. Mr. Rodreick is preparing a draft of a plan for moving forward. There is work on a video and training for teachers and staff for the next inservice day.

**DIVERSITY
EQUITY, &
INCLUSION** (cont.)

- Supt. Barry said we did purchase equipment for translation and we have tested it and it seems to be working. There will be a test run on awards night to be sure it is all in working order for graduation.
- Chair Watson mentioned that Toby Walker's newsletter has an interpretation button and she appreciates the Admin team for all their work in finding new ways to help us move forward.

**SCIENCE
CURRICULUM &
TEXTBOOK
REVIEW**

- Asst. Supt. Tiffanie Lambert gave a brief presentation to the Board regarding instructional materials for elementary and middle school science. The curriculum committee came up with five non-negotiables when selecting the curriculum. Amplify Science not only met the criteria desired but has state-of-the-art practices in science teaching and learning.

If the board would chose to suspend the rules and move to an action item to adopt the science curriculum, we would be able to purchase the materials tomorrow so that we can get teachers editions before teachers leave for the summer in case anyone would like to start planning. We could also have training provided by Amplify before teachers leave for the summer which would be voluntary for those who might want to use the curriculum for summer school.

Vice Chair Michael Campbell thanked Mrs. Lambert and the committee for their time and efforts in being selective in finding materials that represent our students and is equitable.

- Vice Chair Michael Campbell motioned to suspend the rules and move the adoption of the science curriculum to an action item. Director Rick Nagel seconded the motion.

Ayes: McKinnis, Nagel, Campbell, Crawford, Watson
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

**REVIEW
ADMINISTRATIVE
& CONFIDENTIAL
SALARIES**

- Supt. Barry said for any positions, we want to be sure that we remain competitive and are able to recruit and retain staff. We are continuing to gather information from similar Districts and local Districts to see where we compare. We hope to bring more information to the June meeting.

**REVIEW DISTRICT
TRANSFER SLOTS
FOR 21-22**

- Supt. Barry referred to the interdistrict transfer documents in their blue folders: A summary of the current status of 20-21 transfers (both in and out) by grade level. The second was a proposal of recommendations for 21-22 and a recap of the transfer requests (both in and out) received to date for 21-22. This will be an action item at the next meeting.

REVIEW OF NEXT MEETING

- Chair Dawn Watson asked the Board if they would be willing to move the June 2 meeting (Wednesday) to June 3 (Thursday). We will have this as an action item for the next meeting.
- Chair Dawn Watson reviewed the draft agenda for the board meeting on Thursday, May 20, 2021 at PHS & via Google Meet at 6:00 p.m.

Action Items:

Establish District Transfer Slots for 2021-22
Approve Student Transportation Services Contract
Board Meeting Date Change for June

Information & Discussion:

Facilities/Bond Update
Legislative/Financial Update
Alameda Fire Update
Equity Diversity & Inclusion
Review Student Handbooks
Review Food Service Contract
PTVA Institution Request Form
Board Policy Review – CBA, IIBGA, IIBGA-AR

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Brent Barry, Clerk of the Board

Dawn Watson, Board Chair

Recording Secretary: Denise Skinner
Board Secretary/Executive Assistant