

Orchard Prairie School District No.123
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
In-person School Board Meeting – May 16, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Chairman Dan Cutler, Dennis Miner, Rod Sprague, Naomi Lathrum and Carol Hollar
Superintendent in Attendance: Suzanne Savall

Additional attendees from the community and one staff member were in attendance

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:34pm. Flag salute led by chairman.
2. Minutes from the April 11th, 2022 regular meeting were reviewed.
 - a. Dennis motioned to accept the minutes as submitted, approved unanimously.
3. Meeting agenda reviewed
 - a. Added a 1st grade student issue discussion
 - b. Added a school end of the year field trip to Tubbs Hill
4. Comments for the good of the school
 - a. Covid situation at the school.
 - b. Suzanne submitted a written Superintendent report. Shared issued with the current nursing space and needing to find another place for it to be. Rod brought up the idea for a portable. The board will discuss this at an upcoming board meeting.
Sprinkler system needs to have the main pipeline from the well replaced. Idea to connect to the Pasadena Elementary system and get off the well system. Board will handle this issue in house.
5. Correspondence
 - a. None
6. Reports
 - a. Report on staffing changes. Suzanne met with staff and they all want to hire a replacement for Janet's position. Hire a new 5, 6, and 7th teacher and they recommended we consider Cynda Weitz, who has completed her student teaching here and has done extracurricular subjects for all grades over the last two years. Staff is also requesting 2 conference prep-days, additional collaboration days each month for next school year. Superintendent is recommending we give the classified staff a raise this next school year. The state is giving the district a 5.5% COLA for next year, but it is up to the board on if that full amount is flowed to the staff.
 - b. Report on a student that has demonstrated instances of aggressive behavior toward other students. There has been additional coverage on the playground. There was a suggestion to have additional staff member help alleviate the concern of aggressive behavior during unstructured time, i.e., recess ,and a reminder to the teachers and staff to move throughout the playground during supervision time. The board will continue this discussion in more detail during new business, under staffing changes.
7. Old Business

Approve Resolution 123, authorizing Issuance of District Procurement Card. Chairman waiting to approve until we receive information from Rachel Barnett about why we are using Bank of Montreal.
8. Review of Budget Status Reports April 2022
 - a. Ending fund balance \$431,711.05
9. Approval of Operating Expenses for May 2022

Carol made a motion to approve the operating expenses for May 2022. Discussion. Unanimously approved.

a. Payroll and Benefits	\$80,456.19
b. Accounts payable	\$26,181.62
c. Total	\$106,637.81
10. New business
 - a. Tubbs Hill field trip for end of the year trip. Teachers provided justification to the board on the reason and learning curriculum for the students during the trip.

- i. Naomi motioned for us to approve the field trip to Tubbs Hill. Discussion. Unanimously approved.
- b. First viewing of Board Policies 5253, 5253P, 3112 and 3112P
 - i. Naomi motioned us to table these policies to the next board meeting. Unanimously approved.
- c. Consider Superintendent candidates. Discussion about the 6 candidates provided from Michael Dunn.
 - i. Rod made a motion to consider Joseph Beckford and Kim Spacek. Not approved.

Discussion around the 6 candidates and who the board unanimously did not want to consider.

 - ii. Carol made a motion to interview Kim Spacek, Joseph Beckford, Rachel Eifler and Jose Melendez for the superintendent/principal position. Discussion. Not approved.
 - iii. Rod made a motion to interview Kim Spacek and Joseph Beckford. No second.
 - iv. Dennis made a motion to interview 3 candidates' total. Amended.
 - 1. Amended motion to interview Kim Spacek, Joseph Beckford and Jose Melendez. Unanimously approved.
- d. Set up interviews with candidates
 - i. Wednesday May 25th : Board interviews between 12 - 3:30pm at Sprague's Residence, Staff interviews between 3:30 – 5:30pm at School (rough schedule)
- e. Consider staffing changes. Discussion about desires of the staff for additional collaboration time, as noted in the superintendents' report. Amount of time in other districts of 240 minutes or more of prep time per week. Currently our staff receives 45 minutes per week. They really want to find a way to get more time for prep. Some parents shared a concern of adding another ½ day every other month to the school schedule due to the difficulty of finding childcare on those days. Board will take into consideration the input from both parties when it comes time to approve the 2022-2023 school schedule.

Superintendent asked the board to discuss the 5th, 6th & 7th position and if we agree to offer this position to Cynda Weitz. This hire is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the staff, and the board gave her the go ahead to make the offer.

Superintendent also gave the recommendation to the board to consider hiring another certified staff person for next year to alleviate the additional prep time that the staff are requesting.

- i. Rod moved to consider a 2.5% COLA, keeping 3% in reserve for the general fund. No second.
- ii. Dan moved to approve the 5.5% COLA increase on their fiscal 2022-2023 school year salary. Approved by majority.
- iii. Dan moved to approve an additional 2% increase to the classified staff salary for the fiscal 2022-2023 school year salary. Approved by majority.

Further discussion on supervision. The board members have directed the Superintendent to write a letter responding to the parents that were present at the board meeting today with concerns about a student. Make sure we relay the immediate changes: certified teachers will be on a rotation during recess now for additional supervision, additional supervision during PE by the Superintendent, reminder to staff currently on recess duty to be more diligent in supervision during recess AND establish a zoned rotation to remove the temptation to congregate during recess.

- f. Consider how the building committee will be structured and operate. Discussion around proposed committee purpose and requirements that Rod and Dan created, and what the first meeting should cover. Dan will send out the outline to those who signed up for the committee and we will set the first meeting for June 4th, 9am at the school.

11. Executive session not needed.

12. Confirm Next Board Meeting June 20th, 2022, 5:30 pm

13. Meeting adjourned at 9:36pm.