

MINUTES
OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF DISTRICT NO. 40, YAMHILL COUNTY
McMINNVILLE, OREGON

The Board Business Meeting was held December 13, 2021,
both in person and via zoom at the
McMinnville School District Office, 800 NE Lafayette Ave.,
McMinnville OR 97128

The link was <https://msd40.zoom.us/j/215496199>

At 7:30 p.m. The Board of Directors of McMinnville School District opened the board business meeting in Regular Session. The meeting was called to order by Chair Benner.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Carson Benner
Ms. Abbie Warmbier
Mr. Larry Vollmer
Mr. Gerardo Partida
Dr. Paul Haddeland
Ms. Janis Braich
Mr. Jason Bizon

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATION:

Debbie Brockett, Superintendent
Cherice Bowden, Board Secretary

STUDENT ENVOYS:

Kaia Brantner
Opal Primozich

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Andria Burton

AUDIENCE:

Loretta Kitt, Jessica Kitt, Lauren Berg, Abbygalle Cain, Andria Burton, Charity Burton, Amy Bowman, Owen Clark, Annette Clark, Michelle Graham, Shauna Zavala, Nicholas Bowman, Courtney Walsh, Tracy Brandt, Amy Fast, Kai Brantner, Opal Primozich, Lacey Summer, Steffanie Frost, and Kourtney Ferrua. See attached list of virtual attendees.

1.4 Introductions and Communications

Superintendent Brockett introduced the students: Andria Burton, Loretta Kitt, Luna Miller (out ill), Owen Clark, and Bella Benham, counselor Mrs. Michelle Graham, and Student Management TOSA, Mrs. Shauna Zavala from Wascher ES. She announced in January, due to technical advancements in the boardroom we will only be taking written public comments, the public is welcome to attend, but only written comments will be taken until the technical difficulties are worked out to have live Zoom, as well as in-person comments.

1.5 Student Reports

The staff reported the Wellness Center provides scheduled appointment breaks for students and building skills. It may look fun, but it is so much more. Kids are learning to pay attention to their feelings, pay attention to their bodies. Stress is high for adults and kids, kids need to know you can have breaks. Students are given an appointment card to come to the center; the card will have a mood meter. Andria Burton said her favorite station was the yoga station; it makes her feel happy and calm, it helps her be ready for something stressful. Loretta Kitt's favorite station is the drawing station; it takes her mind off of things, when she leaves, she is always happier than when she came. Bella Benham said her homework makes her feel stressful sometimes, the Wellness Center helps her feel calm, and her favorite station is the nature nook. Owen Clark said his favorite station is the space station. He is excited and curious to know what he will do when he gets back to class, and he uses calming strategies. Luna Miller was ill, and her statement was read. She feels happy and calm. It lets her know she can do writing. Janis Braich asked; how do you decide when to go to the Wellness Center? The students are assigned a time to go once or twice a day. She asked Owen what he liked about the space station, and he said, it is dark; there are fidgets you can play with, and blankets to cover up with. Abbie Warmbier asked if they were seeing a difference. The school is seeing less referrals since the Wellness Center. The teachers coordinate for students that are withdrawn, having a hard time sitting still, and dealing with stressful times. Larry Vollmer said it was a pleasure visiting the school, there are a lot of cool activities for students to use. It is top notch. Gerardo Partida was curious what the difference was between 2020 and now. The center is new for this year and the administration knew the students would need support upon returning to school and they were proactive. Chair Benner thanked the parents and students for coming to the Board meeting.

1.6 Review of Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda

2.0 Consent Agenda

2.1 Gifts to the District

The Board accepted with gratitude, gifts to the District: Bill Wild donated books in the amount of \$137.00 to Duniway MS for the Art Department, Dean & Debbie Klaus donated a check in the amount of \$2000.00 to MHS for the Wrestling Club, Madisyn Rohde donated a check in the amount of \$500.00 to Duniway MS to purchase PE equipment and supplies, McMinnville Cooperative Ministries donated a check in the amount of \$75.00 to Buel ES for students needs, Marian

Garmley-Pekkola, CPA, donated a check in the amount of \$1000.00 to Grandhaven ES for the student resource room and needy students fund, Jack Maxwell III Agency, LLC, donated a check in the amount of \$300.00 to MHS for Thanksgiving dinners, Lloyd & Rebecca Newhouse donated a check in the amount of \$1000.00 to Memorial ES in the memory of Margaret Butler, Heather Acker, LLC, donated a check in the amount of \$100.00 to MHS for the resource room, and Macy & Son donated a check in the amount of \$1000.00 to MHS for Cheer Nationals.

2.2 Approval of minutes of the November 8, 2021, Business Meeting and the November 22, 2021, Work Session minutes approved.

2.3 Personnel actions were approved.

On motion by Larry Vollmer, seconded by Janis Braich the Consent Agenda was approved on a **unanimous vote**.

3.0 REPORTS

The Board heard Monthly Reports.

3.1 Student Envoy Report

Speakers Kaia Brantner and Opal Primozich reported that they sold 500 tickets for the Winter Formal. The turn out was incredible. December 1, is the community drive kickoff, the annual food drive with 4356 already collected, and they are having a resource room drive, the last day to contribute is December 14, 2021 by 4:00 p.m. They had a winter week with pajama day, the annual bizarre and the auditions for the winter and spring shows are complete. Jason Bizon felt good seeing students out and about, Abbie Warmbier wanted to know what the teacher incentives were. One teacher carries the can for the food drive, others have their own incentives, it is up to the teacher what the incentives will be. They also reported that they are number one in fundraising.

3.2 Principal's Report

Lauren Berg reported about the Wellness Center. They have a new team with two skills trainers. They use effective strategies for building and making students successful, there is a calming corner, a walk catwalk that is student driven, there are six steps the student can follow, and the center is available for students all day long. They meet two days a week and they have wellness Wednesday with morning announcements, digital mini lessons for the teachers to use in the classroom. She shared data about the Wellness Center and it showed it was helping students and none of the students said no to it being helpful. Jason asked about food being offered as an option. Food is not tied to the Wellness Center and they realize that some students may need a snack. Paul Haddeland was amazed and stated that most adults could not do this. Chair Benner wasted comparisons from before compared to now. There is no data available, but student needs are being met and there is not as much impact on their learning.

3.3 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Brockett reported that she is a member of the Chamber of Commerce

and attends many different events. She is meeting with more staff at Linfield and Chemeketa, reconnecting with the high school students to get hands-on experience with the partners. The HS Choir performed for the Rotary Club. She is focused on visiting schools. The Cabinet has done walks in all of the middle schools and elementary schools, general and special education. She gave a shout-out to the Patton Thespians, which had their first play, she really enjoyed the show. Student talents were shown in their work at the bizarre and it was incredible. She is looking forward to upcoming events. She gave a shout-out to Brian Skinner for the work he has done at the Resource Center. There will be a ribbon cutting in January. She is also a part of the Lemonade Committee

3.4 Director of Fiscal Services' Report

Samantha Nelson reported that as of December 1, the student enrollment is 6404 in the building. We are down 44 students since October 1. She is encouraged that although we are down compared to estimates, we are not out of line with other districts. The State will have the report out towards the end of January. Over all as of December 1, we have received 85 percent of the estimated property taxes. No other significant changes within the finances for the month of November. Janis Braich asked if the final audit was complete. Samantha will report out to the Board and the Fiscal Subcommittees next month. Chair Benner remembers at the beginning of the year we were high at the high school and low at the elementary, it seems to be an even distribution. Jason Bizon stated that we voted to increase the excise tax, where do the funds go. It goes into a fund account which is used for construction on the baseball and softball fields.

3.5 Director of Operations

Brian Crain reported on the Test to Stay. Students can only test to stay if they are exposed in school. If the student tests negative, they are allowed to stay in school. Paul Haddeland stated that OHA says five to seven days, and what happens if it falls on a weekend. The County recommends day seven, it is much more accurate. If it falls on a Saturday, we would test on a Friday, if it falls on a Sunday, we would test on a Monday. Larry Vollmer asked how do we help those that are not tech savvy? Parent Square does translate into Spanish and the website translates into Spanish as well. We will also communicate with the families to make sure they understand. Abbie Warmber asked if the student was exposed and they are vaccinated, who do they show proof of vaccination to? Anytime a student gets vaccinated, we have a system that goes into an alert ISS, we can use their name and birth date to determine if they have been vaccinated or not. Janis Braich asked how many parents do not access Parent Square. Brian Crain will work with the tech department to get data for who is not accessing Parent Square.

4.0 Unfinished Business:

4.1 Brian Crain presented the following policies for second reading.

➤ **BDA – Board Meetings**

On motion by Janis Braich, seconded by Paul Haddeland, the motion passed unanimously to approve the policies for final adoption.

➤ **BDDH**

On motion by Paul Haddeland, seconded by Abbie Warmbier, the motion passed unanimously to approve the policies for final adoption.

➤ **BDDH-AR – Public Comment at Board Meetings**

House Bill 2560 (2021) updated law governing public attendance and comment at public meetings of the board. When public meetings are held and access is made available in-person, the board must provide, to the extent reasonably possible, an opportunity to access and attend meetings by telephone, video or other electronic or virtual means; if in-person oral testimony is allowed during a meeting, allow the public to submit oral testimony by telephone, video or other electronic or virtual means; and if in-person written testimony is allowed, written testimony must be allowed by email or other electronic means. The policies and A/R above establish the guidelines and process for public comment at board meetings.

On motion by Paul Haddeland, seconded by Janis Braich , the motion passed unanimously to approve the policies for final adoption.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Brian Crain presented the following policies for first reading.

➤ **AC – Nondiscrimination**

House Bill (HB) 2935 added an aspect to the definition of discrimination in ORS 659.850 for race that includes physical characteristics historically associated with race such as natural hair and hair texture (see new footnote in AC and JB for full language). Another bill, HB 3041, revised the definition of sexual orientation and added a new definition for gender identity to the protected classes.

➤ **GBA – Equal Opportunity Employment**

House Bill 3041 & House Bill 2935 (2021) revised the statutory definition of sexual orientation (removed gender identity) and created a new definition for gender identity.

➤ **GBEA – Worker’s Compensation (Rescind)**

OSBA recommends following workers compensation law in statute and a policy is not required on this topic. OSBA archived GBEA – Workers' Compensation. This change left the policy code, GBEA, open for other use.

- **GBNA – Hazing, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Menacing, or Cyberbullying –Staff (Title Change)**
- **GBNA – AR**
- **IB – Freedom of Expression**
House Bill 3041 (2021) revised the statutory definition of sexual orientation (removed gender identity) and created a new definition for gender identity.

These policies will return for second reading at the next Board Business meeting.

5.2 Student out of State Travel *Speech and Debate*

On motion by Jason Bizon, seconded by Janis Braich , the motion passed unanimously to approve the policies for final adoption.

5.3 Student out of State Travel *MHS Cheer Nationals*

On motion by Larry Vollmer, seconded by Jason Bizon, the motion passed unanimously to a preliminary approval for the policies for final adoption.

These policies will return for second reading at the next Board Business meeting.

5.4 OSBA Superintendent Evaluation Service

On motion by Janis Braich, seconded by Jason Bizon, the motion passed unanimously to approve the policies for final adoption.

6.0 Adam Gray from McEa read a statement to the board.

Adam Gray provided a statement to the Board, Superintendent Brockett, and others. He thanked everyone for their continued support of staff and their wellbeing.

7.0 Public Comment:

There was one written public comment from Jerod Harney regarding the name change of Columbus ES, and one in-person comment from Lacey Summers. She does not want schools to eliminate Fridays, or have early dismissal. She does not agree with it and feels students are already short around two years.

Board Directors Comments

Mr. Gerardo Partida thanked Principal Berg. He feels the students; staff and parents need to be okay.

Dr. Paul Haddeland stated that every month we approve the Consent Agenda, and he wanted the people who donate to know that we appreciate them. He thanked Chair Benner for getting the superintendent evaluation information.

Ms. Janis Braich did not have any comments.

Ms. Abbie Warmbier stated that there is so much going on at schools. It brings joy and normalcy to our community. Received a letter home saying if you need food, the schools will deliver boxes of food to families. She wants to recognize and appreciates all of the extra work everyone is doing.

Mr. Larry Vollmer took a moment to thank Wascher Elementary school for hosting him for an entire day. He had lunch with the kids. They talked about literacy, writing and punctuation; he was reminded by one of the staff that auto correct doesn't mean it is correct. The school has a great environment.

Mr. Jason Bizon thanked the Board Secretary for the wonderful packet and keeping them in the loop and functioning. He wished everyone happy holidays.

Chairperson Benner informed everyone that he signs thank you cards every other week thanking those that donate.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Attest:

Board Chair

Superintendent