

CORBETT SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, January 20, 2010
GRADE SCHOOL LIBRARY/BOARD ROOM
Board Approved 2/17/10

The Board of Directors of Corbett School District No. 39, Multnomah County, Oregon, met at Corbett Grade School Library/Board Room in said district on Wednesday, January 20, 2010. The following members were present: Maureen Childs, Chairman; Bob Buttke; Charlie O'Neil; Mark Hyzer; Jeff Aho and Todd Mickalson. Brian James had an excused absence. Also present were: Bob Dunton, Superintendent; Robin Lindeen-Blakeley, Deputy Clerk and Randy Trani, K-12 Principal. Jan Younker, Deputy Clerk, had an excused absence. NOTE: The minutes are prepared to coincide with time scheduled matters and the numbering system of the agenda and is not necessarily the actual order of happenings at the meeting.

7:31 p.m.

1.0 PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1 CALL TO ORDER - FLAG SALUTE Maureen Childs – Board Chairman
-called the regular meeting to order and led the flag salute. She announced that Culinary Arts provided the two platters of snacks for the Board in honor of Board Recognition month.

1.2 Review and Acceptance of Agenda – no objections. It was noted that under **9.6 updates were made prior to 1/19, but not forwarded to the Board to show Brandon Sauce, Head Middle School Cross Country Coach; Peter Monahan, Head Middle School Baseball/Softball Coach and Andrew Mott, Head Middle School Track Coach.

1.3 Approval of Minutes Regular Meeting Action Item
a. December 16, 2009

Charlie O'Neil moved and Bob Buttke seconded:

RESOLUTION NO. **54.1-10** - RESOLVED that the Board approved the minutes of the above listed meeting.

The vote of the Board was 6-0.

1.4 Board Chairman Report Chairman Maureen Childs-
Thanks to fellow Board Directors and to their support of the District.

1.5 Review of Correspondence to Board – a. and b. announced at the meeting.

- a. Resolution from Multnomah County Superintendents
- b. Proclamation from the Governor – State of Oregon

1.6 Student Report
a. none at this meeting.

1.7 K-12 Principal Report Randy Trani

Corbett Grade: Continuing studies and unification of plants and animals of the Gorge and their many ecosystems with "Birds of Prey" presentations and plant canopy. (CREP) Columbia River Estuary Partnership and their focus with (LCREP) Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership have been instrumental along with the Raptors zoo exhibit, and clinics from Rowena Wild Life on injured birds. The PTA sponsored the annual Scholastic Book Fair and sponsors Art Literacy, the most recent project is a mural of the Cardinal in the gym foyer.

Murals are planned from one end of the hall to another, with the Columbia River Gorge painted to scale, and each class being involved in a multi-year project. There are volunteers and professionals and help
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from the PTA on funding. This is to tie in with "Learning In Depth" as part of the Kieran Egan philosophy, where each student has a topic and becomes the world's leading expert or be capable of that conversation. The blended K-3 Corbett Charter School class requires this; Corbett School District is making it optional. Medals were part of the kick off for the (as many as) thirteen years of study.

Corbett Middle School: Going 1/21/10 to the Children's Museum to look at exhibit structure for their upcoming projects. They will also visit the core sample that MAX is drilling in their work for Earth Science.

Corbett School: State testing in K-12th grades.

Corbett High School: All students in the 10th grade have been tested except for two in reading and math. Testing begins in science soon.

The boys and girls basketball teams are doing well. Wrestling is underway as well. State band competition should not have as many conflicts with AP exams this coming spring.

Mr. Trani passed out and read aloud a letter written by 2009 graduate Tyler Jones.

2.0 INTRODUCTION AND COMMENTS OF GUESTS AND REPRESENTATIVES

2.1 Gary Law – patron/Springdale School Community Association President, commented that he appreciates the Board for the opportunity to purchase the old Springdale School. He reported that the land use application went to Multnomah County Planner and is moving ahead with architect's help. After the Planner's review it will go to Hearings Officer at county in mid-March with a public hearing where comments are taken. A couple of weeks are then spent on the decision and by mid-April they should know. Corbett Children's Theatre has some obstacles for bringing their area up to code and will welcome help fundraising. There will be an appreciation spaghetti feed on February 2, 6:30 p.m. for those interested in attending.

2.2 Lori Luna, patron/9th grade teacher, talked about good things. She is in her tenth year teaching here and appreciates the administration for all the innovations, work and change they've accomplished. Her three kids all went to school here, two started when in kindergarten and one when in second grade. She noted how we have gone from mediocre district to high performing, and thankful to be a part of it. The support for middle school to a self-contained model is the best she's ever seen, and it seems to get better every year. The student teachers she works with marvel at the rapport between staff and students and the trust generated. She says teaching at the ninth grade is rewarding with the cohesion at high school because of the changes made at the lower grades for both children and adults. She said it would be an oversight not to thank Mr. Dunton and Mr. Trani for their support, freedom and opportunities to do the right things that keep her excited about teaching.

3.0 FINANCIAL REPORTS / MATTERS

3.1 Report

Information Item

Mr. Dunton explained the 2009-2010 Fund Analysis hand out to the Board with a new Projected Ending General Fund balance today. This updates the one received in the board packet, due to more recent expense report adjustments. The Adopted budget was based on an ADMw of 988 and 860 students and now is projected at 1008 ADMw and 883 students. Holly Dearixon, Curriculum Coordinator, submitted report to state with 887 students. The Revenue is solid. Expenses are an ongoing adjustment. Purchased Services are projected down and Supplies and Materials are projected up from our budgeted projections. Reimbursements under the Charter School will help the Balance Forward as much as \$200,000 in Revenue.

The audit has been seemingly endless and should have been done by now. We have another meeting scheduled 1/21/10 with the auditors. Reconciliation of our books/reporting to the bank statements is ongoing. The software and shared load processes we use with MESD has many versions and another testing cycle with upgrades is in process, which complicates reporting. Growing pains and additional changes in audit rules, makes the offering of advice from the auditors for organizing the books "auditing

their own work”, and not feasible. Other districts have many more hands to do the work than our staff of two Deputy Clerks and a part-time Business Office Assistant.

Todd Mickalson asked if all districts are audited.

Mr. Dunton answered yes, state requirement and mandated. We use an independent audit firm.

Maureen Childs asked if the programs we use are compatible with MESD.

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Yes, reports are abstracted from data that goes into a broad system, and no two districts are alike. There are add-ons and various differences in coding, with a constant learning curve of training and “webinars”. Thus, audits and bookkeeping take up a much larger share of the school year.

Our Projected Ending Fund Balance is \$268,515.00 with \$400,000 in Contingency. That puts us up \$218,000 above our Projected Beginning Fund Balance.

Todd Mickalson asked if that could be more.

Mr. Dunton said yes, conservative at this point, with this year’s funding not directly impacted on the election later this month. If the measures are voted down though, the legislators will probably call a special session, as funding will be in limbo for the last year of the biennium. We would then monitor expenditures and discretionary spending would be stopped.

Mark Hyzer asked if the numbers include reimbursement for the charter school.

Mr. Dunton said no, appropriate next year.

Jeff Aho added that speculation in newspaper would be a 6% hit if measures go down.

Mr. Dunton mentioned that doesn’t factor in medical premiums and PERS increases, so lots of pressure on expenditures.

Charlie O’Neil moved and Bob Buttke seconded:

4.0 Consent agenda resolution items 55.1-10 through 59.1-10** Action Items**

****9.2 Confirm hire for K-12th Grade Instructional Aide**

****RESOLUTION NO. 55.1-10** – RESOLVED** that the Board confirmed the hire of Diana Sizemore, .75 FTE Instructional Aide, effective January 4, 2010.

****9.3 Request for Family and Medical Leave (OFLA)**

****RESOLUTION NO. 56.1-10** – RESOLVED** that the Board approved the request for OFLA for 7th/8th Grade Charter School Teacher, Rhiannon Young, effective March 29, 2010-June 30, 2010.

****9.4 Request for Family and Medical Leave (OFLA)**

****RESOLUTION NO. 57.1-10** – RESOLVED** that the Board approved the request for OFLA for Secondary Art/Psychology Teacher, Anthony Young, effective approximately April 12 - 25, 2010.

****9.5 Revised Family and Medical Leave (OFLA)**

****RESOLUTION NO. 58.1-10** - RESOLVED** that the Board approved the revised request for OFLA for Megan Shaw, Charter K-3 Teacher, and effective approximately January 25, 2010 through April 15, 2010.

****9.6 2010 Spring Coaches**

****RESOLUTION NO. 59.1-10** -RESOLVED** that the Board confirmed the following coaches for the spring 2010 season: Collin Olcott, Assistant Varsity Track Coach; Bill Wilson, Head Varsity Softball Coach; Claudia Becker, Assistant Varsity Softball Coach; Ray Walters, Head Varsity Baseball Coach; David Walters, Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach; Brandon Sauce, Head Middle School Cross Country Coach; Peter Monahan, Head Middle School Softball/Baseball Coach and Andrew Mott, Head Middle School Track Coach.

The vote of the Board was 6 – 0.

5.0 CURRICULUM

5.1 No information at this time in the meeting.

6.0 STUDENTS

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6.1 No information at this time in the meeting.

7.0 TRANSPORTATION, BUILDINGS AND MAINTENANCE

7.1 No information at this time in the meeting.

8.0 CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

8.1 No information at this time in the meeting.

9.0 PERSONNEL

9.1 Vacant Positions Information item

Chairman Childs read aloud: The district has vacant positions at this time for Substitute Bus Drivers, on-call Instructional Assistants, Head Varsity Track Coach for 2009-2010 and Head Varsity Football Coach 2010-2011.

- 9.2 See 4.1
- 9.3 See 4.1
- 9.4 See 4.1
- 9.5 See 4.1
- 9.6 See 4.1

10.0 POLICY

10.1 No information at this time in the meeting.

11.0 SUPERINTENDENT DUNTON'S REPORT

11.1 Self Appraisal Relative to the Evaluation of the Superintendent – Policy CBG
This is in the Board packet for the Board's review.

11.2 Handout to the Board titled Excellence, Equity and SAT Progress. The analysis shows the gap in the general population of the various schools in free and reduced lunch categories (Edis/ED columns = Economic Disadvantage). For example, Corbett School District is at 22% Free and Reduced, Reynolds at 27%. Top scores are from 2008, U.S. News and World report in red. The total index is equal to the total passing percentages of reading, math and writing. The average gap includes total passing points, and shows we are good at serving ***all*** students. Mr. Dunton believes that one of his main priorities is for opportunities for Corbett School District students after high school, thus the analysis of SAT results, and the socioeconomic factors that are correlated there. Advanced Placement classes are also about getting ready for after high school. With more participation in AP, more are thinking about the SAT and four year degrees. They have told us it isn't possible, but this is what happens when you have teachers that can keep pace and a culture that buys into preparing for life after high school. We are extremely pleased by progress made and a lot of good work on the part of lots of people. SAT scores are a lifeline, not assessment scores. The 10th graders have higher assessment passing rates than in other years, which are upside down compared to the State of Oregon results. US News and World Report did not report us this year, but they talk to ODE, and may have not

been looking at K-12 schools. The Oregonian made mention of nine other schools, but a Standard & Poor's researcher noticed we weren't on the radar.

Newsweek does talk to our school, so we'll see what happens there.

Charlie O'Neil asked about 3rd graders testing at about 52% and how students coming in with only two to three years left made progress. How many of our students take the SAT?

We are waiting for a plateau that never comes.

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Compared to cohorts, we develop students for upper grades, so we're on track to catch up or pass up. We take our students seriously, and understand their progression. Mr. Dunton commented that 59% of our students have taken the SAT over the last five years, and 32 out of 46 students in the senior class last year (66-67%). The theme of board appreciation is appropriate, as Mr. Dunton believes he works for the greatest school board in the state of Oregon. It's unorthodox that the administrative team can take risks, and this doesn't happen without board support. He thanked the board.

Maureen Childs commented that it is exciting to see the progression.

In Oregon, we are the 14% growth in AP, and we are only 1/10th of one percent of Oregon students' population.

Jeff Aho asked about the correlation between AP and SAT. What about the AP expense to the school and potential budget problems. How much emphasis should there be on AP. What about the AP class and the AP exam.

Mr. Dunton answered that the Corbett Alumni Association helps prioritize AP program funding. There is a causal relationship, since our SAT growth is unprecedented, so the movement begs explanation. An AP program cost as compared to SAT participation is like a teacher turning on the lights. We would be making a mistake to think it an extra. We have 38% AP classes in high school, with all students in the same boat and direction. They cost about \$70 per exam at about \$36,000 in a \$5.9 million budget last year. They are high on priority. It takes six students to pay for these exams. Same philosophy of athletics with no cuts, but instead we save revenue by bringing students in. The classes and exams are intimately married, as passing the exam has value to kid and parent on outside validation. The course has lifelong value as to what is done next, and the exam is the serious piece.

Maureen Childs and Charlie O'Neil noted that we are paying for those who are disadvantaged and also it is the basis of equal opportunity, as we don't exclude anyone. Ms. Childs added that she has noted camaraderie in kids getting together to study for AP exams.

Mr. Trani has been a proctor, and has seen the huddles and the t-shirts.

Mr. Dunton noted that one of his pet projects is the Academic Decathlon. With two teams, Corbett School District and Corbett Charter School, dates include scrimmaging January 21 and 22, February 5 essay competition online and February 19 and 20 state competitions at Western Oregon University. There will be eight or nine other schools there (one from Washington).

12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION – ORS 192.660(2) The governing body of a public body may hold an executive session: (d) To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

We have no updates at this time, so no Executive Session this month.

RECESS – 8:48 p.m. The Board took a break to enjoy their recognition treats.

RECONVENE – 9:05 p.m. The Board reconvened to public session.

13.0 ACTION ON PROPOSED OR TABLED MATTERS TO FOLLOW EXECUTIVE SESSION

13.1 None at this meeting.

14.0 MATTERS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- 14.1 Charlie O'Neil verified with input from Eric Stevens, Budget Member and Booster Club President, that the Red & Black Auction is March 13, with a good auctioneer and a discount for a table of eight. Posters are up and tickets go on sale next week.
- 14.2 Todd Mickalson asked price for the Red & Black - \$35 per plate.
- 14.3 Randy Trani reported there is a home wrestling match on January 21 (district is also at home this year) and basketball here on January 22. Also, we've had more visitors to our school from Valdez AK, Gervais and ODE. Mid-term incompletes are up from first trimester, but we are still averaging less than one per student.
- 14.4 Mr. Dunton added that Siuslaw School District is sending two board members

and

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a teacher and administrator to visit on January 25.

14.5 Maureen Childs noted that Mr. Trani is now Dr. Trani and has co-authored a book that can be purchased online. She watched the Corbett Charter School lottery on January 13, noting the random picks and sibling priority. She has observed as a student teacher "Learning In Depth" in her connections with students in Sheri Dunton's classroom. She asked that our thoughts be with Brian James and his family in his absence this meeting.

14.6 Jeff Aho thanked Mr. Trani for his quick wit at a.m. meetings.

15.0 COMING EVENTS

15.1 Friday School Day, January 22, 2010

15.2 Voter Ballots must be returned before Tuesday, January 26, 2010, Special Election.

15.3 Monday, February 15, 2010, President's Day Holiday

15.4 Wednesday, February 17, 2010 – Regular Board Meeting, GS Board Room/Library, 7:30 p.m.

15.5 Friday School Day, February 19, 2010

15.6 February 25, End of 2nd Trimester – GS

15.7 March 4, End of 2nd Trimester – MS/HS

15.8 March 10, Regular Board Meeting, GS Board Room/Library 7:30 p.m.

9:12 p.m.

16.0 ADJOURNMENT