

MINUTES

13/ A work session was held on March 9, 2009 in the First Floor Conference Room of the District Administration Center to discuss Nutrition Services. Chair Nancy Bigley called the work session to order at 5:00 p.m.

Board members present included Chair Bigley, Garry Weber, Jonathan Light, Laurie Adams and Al King. Others identified in attendance included Nancy Golden, Brett Yancey, Bobbi Phillips, Gary Cole, DeAnn Kelley, Esmeralda Carlos, Tom Lindly, Dawn Strong, Tim Stephens, Teresa Suttan, Trina Gardner, Janice Hill, Alison Covey, Brenda Chandler, Sharon Gregory, Keith Hollenbeck, Sandy McEntire, Elaine Clark, Michelle Wilkerson, Betty Thomas, Donna East, Joyce Klopp, Yvonne Atteberry, Sara Ticer, Rob Hess, Matt Coleman, Sheryl Cramer, and Judy Burton.

• **Nutrition Services Update**

Brett Yancey introduced Bobbi Phillips, Nutrition Services Manager; Gary Cole, Nutrition Services Assistant Manager; DeAnn Kelley, bookkeeper; and Esmeralda Carlos, Central Office Data Assistant. He said it had been about nine months since the board decided to bring the district nutrition program back in-house. He then invited board members and others in attendance to share in dinner, prepared by the Nutrition Services staff, before moving forward with the meeting. He noted that the food being served consisted of signature dishes that were actually served to students in the schools.

Mr. Yancey reported that re-establishing the nutrition services in-house had been a huge project, and that when Chartwell's (the company previously providing these services) left, menus, recipes and food-buying contracts all left with the company. He explained that Bobbi Phillips was hired as of June 2008, and a relationship was re-established with the Applegate Trail Co-op. The central office for Nutrition Services was remodeled, making it more customer service oriented, and the department was restructured to include an office manager and a bookkeeper. Marketing plans and logos were developed, menus and recipes were created, staff training was provided and contracts for bread, milk and produce were re-established. Beyond these accomplishments, free and reduced lunch program applications processes needed revision, and ten positions needed filling, including three cafeteria manager positions.

In terms of continuing and upcoming challenges, Mr. Yancey noted that on April 6, 2009 the Oregon Department of Education would be auditing the nutrition program. He said that written procedures needed developing, policies needed informing and protocols needed development to ensure that all documentation was in place. Hazard analysis and critical control point issues needed addressing, largely around safety of food. Also work was needed in cooperation with the Operations Department to address issues regarding maintenance and replacement of facilities and equipment.

Bobbi Phillips remarked that her first task had been to listen to cooks, principals, students and district employees. An online survey was performed, asking how the past food services were viewed. The cooks, she said, wanted to feel proud of their work, providing nutritious and tasty meals. They wanted training and a voice in the development of the program, and Ms. Phillips found the general morale of the cooks to be low in the beginning.

Ms. Phillips recounted that she had developed a Top 10 List of priorities to be considered, including people, communication, quality, food, accuracy and accountability, automation, House Bill 2650 on Wellness, facilities and equipment, farm to school and school gardens, and catering analysis. She noted that educating students about food sources through gardens and information was important to her and that

she had wanted to do a business analysis of catering services that had been used in the past.

Ms. Phillips explained that work distribution was assessed across the district according to meals per labor hour, with the industry standard being 21 meals per labor hour, and that some redistribution of staff was done to make the workload fair. Collaborative work was done around menus, what kids would eat, nutrition standards, production planning, customer service, sanitation, food service training and staff morale.

Gary Cole described the results of a staff survey recently performed to assess the morale issue. He noted that staff responded very positively, saying they were much happier now in their work than in the prior two years. The only problem reported from the survey was a possible need for more substitute staff being available for when workers needed to take time off.

Copies of Nutrition Services menus were distributed to the board and audience. Ms. Phillips said the menus were a culmination of a lot of work learning to present colors, logos and information in what she called a "back to basics" theme. There was a big effort, she continued, to provide traditional home-style cooking that was delicious, tasty and nutritious, with soups being a basic offering, and also including cold sandwiches and a hot entrée.

She described the café concept, taken partly from Chartwell's previous service, though updated to include many more options than just pizza. These added menu choices were available only at middle and high schools. Twice each week pizza was served, she said, with Chinese food also served twice each week and tacos once each week. Vegetarian choices were also being added, she noted.

Approximately 54% of students qualified for free or reduced-price meals, Ms. Phillips reported. Because the application processing was quite involved, in past years the manual processing took until the end of October, which was against State regulations. This year a scanner was purchased, making it possible for 125 applications/ day to be processed, and clearing the backlog by September 9. Approximately 4000 applications had been processed in all, she added, with only one application/ household required. Mr. Yancey noted that Springfield was the first district to use the scanner application, and that the staff had actually developed the application form.

Less than one-quarter of elementary students participated in school breakfasts, Ms. Phillips stated. Cold cereals had been replaced with hot oatmeal, which she said the students loved. Middle school was more tricky, she noted, since the kids especially wanted junk food, and high school students preferred bagels for breakfast. There had been some decline in lunch participation, she reported, though not as big a decline as in previous years.

The Wellness policy, approved by the School Board, was a challenge to achieve, she continued, and staff were attempting to document items of particular interest, such as how to do a farm-to-school program, and a harvest-of-the-month program, which included the use of and education around Oregon-grown fruits and vegetables. House Bill 2650, nutrition standards for foods outside of the national school lunch program, was intended to promote wellness. Nutrition Services staff developed lists of foods that met these standards, so that student stores could choose healthier options. Soy milk would soon be available for students who could not tolerate dairy products, she added.

Ms. Phillips said that working to increase participation, expanding offerings for the café and working on next year's prime vendor were some of their upcoming projects. Meal prices needed to increase for next year to \$3.08/ meal, she noted. Government contributions were expected to increase to \$2.92 for the next year. The category of reduced-price meals might be eliminated, she noted. Through the Wellness Committee, a food focus subcommittee was working on ways to reach out to students, and to continue a

focus on providing educational information about where foods originate, which was presented in the meal lines.

In response to a question by Mr. Light, Ms. Phillips said she did like to measure turnover and morale of the staff, as these helped understand how to make adjustments with staff considerations. Mr. Light asked also about low numbers of participation in the meals programs, and Ms. Phillips responded that she wanted to develop a food focus committee as a way to connect with the students, including surveys. She noted that overwhelmingly she heard from middle and high school students that they liked junk food, and her commitment was to serving healthy meals. For instance, instead of serving French fries, which the kids all wanted, jo-jos and tater tots were being served as healthier alternatives. The students also loved pizza, she said. Mr. Light suggested that student councils and the student representatives to the Board were good groups of students to contact.

Ms. Adams voiced a concern about participation as well, noting that in the high schools only 23% of the students were being fed. Ms. Phillips responded that at Springfield High School 51% of the students were participating, and at Thurston 28% participated. Ms. Adams noted that with the statistics presented, it was notable that not even all the free and reduced meal students were being fed, which was a great concern. She said she totally supported the serving of healthy food, though it was important that it was appealing to the students. Mr. Light noted that there might be other factors than just the food, such as time and delivery of the food, as kids did not want to wait in line for their food.

Mr. Yancey remarked that he would like to bring back to the board some further statistics, such as a breakdown of the three populations of free, reduced and paid meals. He felt that more information could better represent the reality of participation. Ms. Adams insisted that surveying the students was essential, and that she wanted to understand what was going on with the kids that they were not participating at a much higher level with school meals. She was not willing to support an increase in food prices with declining numbers. Ms. Phillips reiterated that she was willing and committed to surveying the students.

Chair Bigley said she also would like to see results from a survey and sampling interviews with students. She wondered if students might see the food as healthy, but not what they chose to eat. Mr. Light added that the students might not be aware of the changes in the food from the previous system. He wondered if there was variability between the Thurston and Springfield campuses. Ms. Phillips said that at Thurston there were two lunch periods, but the students were still served in lines, and that ideally the serving area there would be remodeled to improve serving times. She added that the Coffee Cart was a competitor with the meals program, where a chicken sandwich was offered for \$1.00, and that it also seemed that more than just seniors were leaving the campus for lunch. She noted that in the current stimulus package there was \$100 million available for kitchen remodels for title schools.

The work session was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

### **Classified Employee of the Year Reception**

A reception was held in the boardroom beginning at 6:00 p.m. in recognition of the district's Classified Employees. Yvonne Atteberry, Oregon Education Association President, served as the emcee for the event.

The following Classified Employee of the Year Committee Members were introduced: Rose Burnette, Transition Assistant, Springfield High School; Cheryl Wallerstedt, Community Transition Program EA; Lisa Fjordbeck, Secretary, Admin. Building; Darlene Vermilyea, Community Transition Program EA; Linda Southwick, Secretary, Centennial Elementary; and Superintendent Nancy Golden.

Ms. Atteberry announced the nominees for Classified Employee of the Year for 2008-2009 and presented those in attendance with a folder containing the nomination forms from those who nominated them, a certificate of congratulations, and a gift.

**The nominees included:**

Carolyn Hatefi, A3	Elizabeth McGuire, Douglas Gdns	Johnny Montgomery, SHS
Gene Hill, Admin Complex		Judy Sales-Rocha, SHS
Kim Davenport, ASMS	Patti Shields, Douglas Gdns	Mary Birckhead, SHS
Kathy Harris, Brattain	Paula Anderson, Douglas Gdns	Sam McElwain, SHS
Toni Southworth, Brattain	Denise Oestreich, Gateways	Sandy McLean, SHS
Maria Olono, Brattain House	Kathy Bronson, Goshen	Vicky Trapp, SHS
Barb Lewellen, BMS	Lisa Glander, HMS	Hope Shepherd, SMS
Eric Orton, BMS	Rachel Sykes, HMS	Debbie Jarvis, Tech Svcs
Shannon Jackson, BMS	Jodi Egan, Moffitt	Pat Best, Tech Svcs
Tawnya Pratt, BMS	Toni Wilkinson, Moffitt	Alex Fisher, THS
Cammie DeMartine, BMS	Melissa York, Mohawk	Bill Purselley, THS
Dolores Romero, BMS	Becky Olsen, Page	Sherry Moore, THS
Jeanie Kadrmas, BMS	Bea Leslie, Ridgeview	Linda Bender, THS
Karen Galceran, BMS	Donna Pineda, Ridgeview	Bonnie Bergman, TMS
Karen Long, BMS	Brenda Gonzalez, SHS	Elaine Lessar, TMS
Marie Boman, BMS	Brenda Roney, SHS	John Jonqsmas, TMS
Helen Neis, Centennial	Carol Burge, SHS	Lynn Landerholm, TMS
Lori Umenhofer, Centennial	Cindy Irvin, SHS	Opal Phillips, TMS
Cheryl Wallerstedt, CTP	Diana Jordan, SHS	Sonya Black, TMS
Kevin Hillman, CTP	Glenda Harris, SHS	Bev Lenhart, Yolanda
Danelle Ralston, Douglas Gdns	Jan Townsend, SHS	Lynette Adair, Yolanda

Finalists included Carolyn Hatefi from the Academy of Arts and Academics and Gene Hill from the Administration Complex. Carolyn was described as *the heartbeat of the school, always willing to go above and beyond, and a selfless human being*. Gene was described as *always professional, easy to work with, responsible, dedicated and takes pride in his work*.

Sam McElwain, Vocational Assistant from Springfield High School, was named Springfield Public Schools 2009 Classified Employee of the Year. Sam was described as *he inspires students, wanted to work with you people and make the world a better place*.

All those in attendance were invited to stay for a reception to honor the classified employees.

A Regular Meeting of the Lane County School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on March 9, 2009.

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE**

The Springfield Board of Education meeting was called to order in the boardroom of the Administration Center at 7:00 p.m. by Board Chair Nancy Bigley and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance**

Board members in attendance included Laurie Adams, Nancy Bigley, Al King, Jonathan Light, and Garry Weber. Others identified in attendance included Nancy Golden, Marshall Curry, Kyle Barley, Cassidy Peterson, Logan Lewis, Torii Phillips, Alishia Whitehurst, Sara Ticer, Matt Coleman, Dawn Strong, Rob Hess, Jeff DeFranco, Karen Lewis, Judy Burton, Yvonne Atteberry, Sheryl Ott, Julie Collins, Shari Furtwangler, Jeff Butler, Jim Crist, Lesa Haley Mike Donnelly, Rosalynn Jaeger, Valerie King, Catherine

Calbreath, Dana Grant, Brady Cottle, Jeremy Hugo, Laura Madsen, and Victoria Stephens from the *Springfield Times*.

## **2. WORK SESSION SUMMARY**

Jonathan Light summarized the earlier work session on Nutrition Services. He thanked the staff for serving a wonderful meal and producing the new menus. He noted that staff morale seemed to be substantially up since the program was brought back in-house. He also remarked that board members requested students be surveyed to understand why student participation in the meals programs was quite low, and that a later report be brought back to the board.

## **3. RECOGNITION**

### **Battle of the Books Winners**

Paul Weill introduced members of the winning Battle of the Books teams who participated in the final battle at Agnes Stewart Middle School on Thursday, March 5, 2009. He noted that nearly 1,800 students had participated from across the district, representing approximately one-third of all students in grades 3-8. Each student volunteered to read sixteen books on their own in order to participate in the competition. He expressed excitement about the interest in reading generated by this project.

Mr. Weill introduced Jeremy Hugo and Laura Madsen, who then introduced the champion teams from Centennial Elementary School. The Golden Eagles team of Centennial Elementary was composed of Max Corzine, Leah Boysen, Ben Park and Amanda Kanwischer-Paris. Ms. Madsen thanked the board for providing multiple copies of all the books to each school.

Mr. Weill noted that the following Saturday the two champion teams would be going to regional competitions in Roseburg. He reminded the board that last year Springfield's elementary team and middle school team had each placed third in the state championship. He said that Springfield District was much more involved in this competition than most districts, which showed in their placement in the championships.

Brady Cottle introduced the winning Springfield Middle School team – Joseph Bowsby, Brittney Wichert, Armando Martinez and Anneleissa Coen. He noted that this team had competed against a Briggs Middle School team coached by Dr. Golden and also a team that had won third in the state competition the previous year.

## **4. PRESENTATION**

### **Reading Motivation Programs**

Paul Weill remarked that he wanted to put the Battle of the Books program in context, as part of the district's literacy initiative. In 2005-06, he said, the task force spent the whole year examining elementary literacy, with secondary literacy having been examined the previous school year. He showed a pie-shaped diagram of four different aspects of reading: curriculum, instruction, assessment, and motivation around reading. Without motivation, he noted, the other three had little worth. For him, he said, motivation was the *why* of reading, and the other factors were the *how* of reading.

Mr. Weill reported that district-wide motivation for literacy was provided through several programs beyond Battle of the Books. Reading Counts, a software program with over 40,000 books with quizzes and a point system, had been implemented in all middle schools and was in the process of implementation in elementary schools, he said. Because of these first two programs, a tripling of library circulation had occurred in the past two years, which was especially wonderful for boys who had previously lacked sufficient representation in the libraries. Reading had become "cool" for the kids, he continued. Gift of Literacy, SMART and Literacy Partners (middle school version of SMART) were three other literacy programs being used, he noted. With SMART and Literacy Partners, local businesses offered employees

time off to help in classrooms with student reading. At Briggs Middle School, he said, eighteen people came weekly to help students.

The Young Adult's Choice Grant, Mr. Weill continued, had recently been awarded to Bob Helm by the International Reading Association. The grant would be good for three years and would allow middle and high school students to read new books and write reviews that would be published in library journals. In exchange, the district would receive about \$85,000 worth of books over those three years. Springfield District was the only district on the West Coast to receive this award, he added.

Mr. Weill commented that school-based motivation programs included family read nights, read-a-thons, book fairs, book exchanges where students exchanged books from their homes with other children, Got Book program at Thurston Middle School, book clubs, book reviews, reading nooks and student literacy teams. At Springfield Middle School, he noted, ten to twelve students met weekly with an advisor to talk about the culture of literacy, what was being done in the school to help students with reading. This group held literacy socials where students discussed books, played games around books, had poetry events, and built a float that went around Springfield to talk about reading and their programs. He emphasized that here the students were taking leadership roles for cultivating reading in their school.

Classroom motivation, Mr. Weill continued, included the use of instruction, curriculum and assessment tools provided to the best possible degree, and to give students choice in terms of what they read, as choice helped improve motivation. Another important component, he said, was access to high quality, interesting texts at appropriate reading levels. Teachers needed to be aware of classroom reading interest and give "booster shots" for reading motivation when necessary.

Mr. Weill introduced a motivation equation: expectancy X value = motivation ( $E \times V = M$ ), where expectancy was the level at which a student felt he could read, and the value being how important reading was for the student. It was essential to have reading skill plus interest for success, he concluded, or Motivation = Skill times Will.

Chair Bigley and Ms. Adams expressed gratitude for this work with the culture of literacy, noting excitement at seeing the kids so deeply involved in it, and boys as well as girls. Mr. Weill responded that currently there is more good literature geared towards boys than in the past, which was helping.

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Bigley called for public comment. There was none.

## 6 CONSENT AGENDA

### A. February 23, 2009 Board Minutes

### B. Personnel Action, Resolution #08-09.040

Dawn Strong recommended that the Board of Directors approve the personnel action for licensed employees as reflected in Resolution #08-09.040 as listed below:

#### RETIREMENTS

Marcella Sather  
William Smith

#### ADMINISTRATIVE

#### CONTRACT RENEWALS

Jeff Butler  
Jay Carter  
David Collins

Julie Collins  
James Crist  
Richard William Davis  
John Dey  
Michael Donnelly  
Shari Furtwangler  
Carmen Gelman  
Dennis Gray  
Keith Hollenbeck  
Rosallynn Jaeger  
James Keegan

Catherine Kennedy-Paine  
Sarah Lewenberg  
Jeffrey Mather  
Margo McDonnell  
Susan McNair  
Edmund Mendelssohn  
Hai Nguyen  
Sheryl Ott  
Chris Reiersgaard  
Michael Riplinger  
E.J. Rotherham

Dawn Strong  
Carl Swan  
Sheila Turner  
Paul Weill  
Matthew Coleman  
Michael Fisher

Lesla Haley  
Dave Hulbert  
David Jacobson  
Valerie King  
Christopher Mitchell  
Sara Saxton-Ticer  
Brooke Wagner  
Kevin Wright

**PROBATIONARY  
CONTRACT RENEWALS**

Matthew Adams  
Wakerobin Arden-Gendel  
Amy Batson  
Jamie Baynes  
Dara Brennan  
Kristine Campbell  
Jennifer Carroll  
Constance Cesmat  
Ryan Christner  
Susan Coleman  
Jeffrey Congedo  
Melissa Cronk  
Allison Cunningham  
Tamara Dillon  
Chad Durfee  
Courtney Egbert  
Adam Fine  
Elizabeth Fisher  
Natalie Flindt  
Angela Fritsch  
Christine Gentile  
Melissa Glover  
Angela Gonzalez  
Holly Griffith  
Laurie Grote  
Misty Hall

Carolyn Hoshaw  
Sara Hoskinson  
Chiara Ihnat  
Stephany Johnson  
Hayley Krupicka  
Matthew La Bounty  
Eva La Mar  
Erin Marie Langsdorf  
Matthew Mahr  
Martin McDowell  
Bradley McKechnie

Zachary Morrow  
Benjamin Muir  
Justin Radabaugh  
Lisa Robbins  
Nikole Smith  
Leah Taylor  
Sarah Van Dusen  
Ana Vergara  
Joni Wareham  
Nicole Wenger  
Jessica Whelan  
Heather Williams  
Michelle Williams  
Jenifer Wuite de valle  
John Zreliak  
Mary Adams  
Zachary Adler  
Karla Alvarado  
Erica Anderson  
Matthew Auxier  
Sherry Baehler  
Elery Baird III  
Deanna Bellin  
Redskye Blackhorn  
Naudia Bosch  
John Carey  
Deborah Carter  
Shannon Clark  
Scott Crowell  
Bobbi Dano  
Margaret Dean  
James Dickey  
Michelle Dodson  
Mark Doll  
Joyce Douglas  
Philip Dube  
Kelley Edwards  
David Frost  
Kenneth Gillespie  
Stacey Glemboski  
Nandita Golya  
Megan Gonyea  
Jesse Grassest  
Jennifer Guiley  
Michael Gwynn  
Carrie Hald  
Angela Hansen  
Austin Hill  
Kristen Hobie  
Virginia Hoke  
Amy Isham  
Ashley Jessen  
Luanne Johnson  
Ian Jungjohann  
Adam Kennybrew  
Kathryn Lode

James March  
Ryan McClintick  
Tami McNamara  
Jocelyn Mendelsohn  
Robert Morales  
Lucy Nelson  
Jeffrey Nicholson  
Jennifer Orlandini  
Rachael Overall  
Daniel Ramirez  
Susan Reeder  
Amy Rowe  
Mary Saubert  
Elizabeth Schneider  
Nicola Shaddon  
Joyce Shain  
Moriah Shanahan  
John Sperry  
Donald Squires, Jr.  
Jennifer Stern  
Kathryn Tuyls  
James Underwood  
Lonnie Usrey  
Jennifer Utt  
Heidi Van Brunt  
Courtney Weeks  
Pamala White  
Angela Wienhold  
Wendy Zacharias  
Joey Barrote  
Tracy Boussetot  
Connie Bramhall  
Teresa Browning  
Jeffrey Cardwell  
Carrie Christian  
Marie Coonradt  
Elizabeth Cossen  
Brandy Edwards  
Holly Ellingson  
Robin Erickson  
Ashley Fountain  
Bryn Fredrickson  
Erin Fukuda  
Bree Fuqua  
Jamie Gaskill  
Erica Gingerich  
Carol Granados  
Dionne Hasforth  
Brikena Haxhiraj  
Robert Helm  
Michelle Jensen  
Joshua Jordan  
Katie Keeler  
Marilyn Lance  
Erik Lansdon  
Tiffany Lewis

Sara Lindsley  
Sarah Meston  
Joshua Metzger  
Carol Molaski  
Christian Noble  
Kristy Robertson  
Tama Rowan  
Natalie Rytlewski  
Jericho Schwab  
Sara Thornton  
Stacey Tuers  
Iton Udosenata  
Jason Valley  
Traci Vaughan

Karl Von Der Ehe  
Heather Welburn  
Robert Wilson  
Kristin Woodford  
Matthew Woodford

**TEMPORARY CONTRACT  
NON-RENEWALS**

Garth Gerot  
Grace Golden  
Cailey Harlacher  
Mary Harwood  
Sean Himmelman  
Shannon Kelly-Hagengruber

David King  
Janet Lichenstein  
Sheila Low  
Johnie Matthews  
Carol May  
Eloine Melancon  
Ryan Michel  
Byron Parra  
Christopher Plumb  
Clifford Raish  
Anna Sontag  
Justin Turcotte  
Elizabeth Weldy

**C. Board Policies, Resolution #08-09.041**

Keith Hollenbeck recommended that the Board of Directors approve the following board policies:

- BBAA – Individual Board Member’s Authority and Responsibility
- BBFA – Board Ethics and Conflict of Interest
- BBFB – Board Ethics and Nepotism
- BHD – Board Compensation and Reimbursement
- EDDA – Sustainability
- GBC – Staff Ethics
- GBI – Gifts and Solicitations
- IGAEC – Steroids
- IKGA – CIM
- IL – Assessment Programs
- ILBB – Juried Assessments
- IMB – Student Achievement Programs
- KBA – Public Records

**D. Financial Statement**

**Motion:** Ms. Adams, seconded by Mr. Light, moved to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

**7. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. 2009-2010 Academic Calendar, Resolution #08-09.042**

Rob Hess recommended that the Board of Directors approve the 2009-2010 Academic Calendar as proposed and pilot the split collaboration schedule throughout the district for the 2009-2010 school year.

He reminded the board that collaboration time for teachers was built into this calendar, as well as full-day professional development for classified staff, and that school would begin after Labor Day holiday due to school construction projects. Further, the calendar would allow schools to choose either the trimester or quarter systems. For staff collaboration time, he added, there would be a split strategy, with elementary schools having an early release schedule and middle and high schools having a late start schedule. He said that parents of all elementary students had received letters regarding early release, with feedback being mostly positive about the early release policy. Those families who were less supportive generally had children in both elementary and secondary grades and had concerns about organizing divergent schedules. As well, a note was added at the bottom of the letters saying that in event of budget constraints, the school board reserved the right to adjust the district calendar as necessary.

Ms. Adams remarked that she felt parents needed more communication about collaboration time for teachers. Dr. Hess agreed, and added that sixteen hours of collaboration time would cost about \$400,000, and that the message to convey was that staff members were using this time to collaborate about how to implement the RtI strategies rather than to receive training.

Chair Bigley commented that she believed some parents were concerned about the split strategies of early release and late start. Dr. Hess said that the decision on the split strategies was not needed immediately. Mr. Weber appreciated the cost-benefit analysis offered to the board, and expressed his trust that Dr. Hess and his staff had come up with a best practice strategy of early release for elementary students. He was happy to give the split strategy a go as a pilot project.

Mr. King expressed his concern that community outreach was sufficient to insure that families and the community were aware of impending budget cuts. Mr. Light added his concern that families were hurting financially in bad economic times, and the possibility that this pilot program could add additional pressure.

Dr. Hess agreed that there would be some problems, especially for families with students in different schools with different schedules. He noted that Willamalane would be available to help with student needs outside the school hours, and that all the issues would be tracked during the pilot part of the program to see if attendance was affected by the split schedules and also to assess the actual cost incurred.

Ms. Adams commented that bussing in Eugene District 4J was amazingly flexible, allowing for children to be transported to daycare and other programs, and said she hoped the Springfield bus transportation would become as flexible, especially since 70% of the bussing costs were reimbursed. Dr. Hess responded that there would be \$3000 additional cost for transportation with the split system, which was a 70% reduction from actual cost. He added that the Transportation Department was very service-oriented and would do everything possible to meet the needs of the students and families. He said there would also be some cost involved with after school care for some children, and it was yet unknown how many students would be involved.

**Motion:** Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Adams, moved for approval. The motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

### **B. Alternative Education Program Approval, Resolution #08-09.043**

Matt Coleman recommended that the board approve the following in-district programs and private contractors for alternative education services for the 2009-2010 academic year.

#### In-district Programs

- Gateways Annex for Tutored & Expelled Youth (GATES) Grades 6-12
- In-school alternative programs at SHS & THS Grades 9-12

#### Contracted Service Providers

- Creative Minds School Grades 6-10
- Northwest Youth Corps OutDoor School (ages 14-21) Grades 9-12
- Looking Glass: Riverfront School & Career Center (ages 14-21) Grades 9-12
- Lane Metro Youth Corps (ages 14-19) Grades 9-12
- Department of Youth Services:
  - MLK School (Court School) (ages 11-19) Grades 5-12
- Lane Community College (GED Prep only) (ages 16-19) Grades 10-12

Dr. Coleman thanked Sheryl Ott for putting the report together, and noted there was further data in relation to budget to present to offer a sense of past accomplishments and future goals related to alternative education placements. In terms of in-district programs, he reminded the board, there was a middle school program for grades 6-8. He did not recommend that this program become an alternative education placement because it had been reconstituted into home schools. Resources that were centralized had been redistributed to each of the home schools this year, he said, and support had been in the form of Educational Assistance support and a floating certified teacher consultant who was working with students and with school sites in all five middle schools. This had proved to be an effective alternative, he noted, although not without challenges. The funds were serving not only those students who would have been sent to an alternative program, but a range of other students as well, providing a better use of the funds.

The grade 6 program that had been run at Hamlin the first semester of this school year had already transitioned students back into their home schools, Dr. Coleman continued. There were no more grade 6 students waiting to come to this program, which he believed was at least partly due to the transfer of funds from the grades 7-8 program to support in the home schools. The disbanding of the grade 6 program was a realization of \$100,000 that was folded back into general staffing funds, he noted.

Dr. Coleman said he had consulted with Will Lewis in the Finance Office, explaining there was currently a projection of about \$250,000 for contracted services outside the district, and asking what this amount had been in the past. He learned it had been almost \$1 million in the 2004-05 school year. The investment in the development of Gateways into a full high school, the infusion of funding into the district's existing high schools and the development of A3, he said, had provided a significant positive financial impact on the district. He noted, as well, that the district's dropout rate had decreased to the lowest rate ever. In summary, he said, the contractors currently listed were definitely needed, and that significant savings had been realized in the development and expansion of district alternatives.

In response to a question by Mr. Light, Dr. Coleman listed the numbers of students using the services of the contracted service providers, as follows: 47 students total, with two in Creative Minds, fourteen in Northwest Youth Corps Outdoor School, eighteen at Looking Glass Riverfront School and Career Center, two in Lane Metro Youth Corps Department of Youth Services, nine at the MLK School and two at Lane Community College GED Prep.

Ms. Adams remarked that there previously had been about 300 students serviced by outside service providers, so that the reduction in these numbers was amazing. In response to her question about the highest cost program in the outside contracted services, Ms. Ott said that each student received the same ADM, approximately \$26/ day or \$5000/ year, for these contracted services. Other programs did cost more, she continued, but were managed through special programming.

**Motion:** Ms. Adams, seconded by Mr. Weber, moved for approval. The motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

## **8. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **A. Student Communication**

For the Academy of Arts and Academics (A3) Torii Phillips reported that fundraising was being done for graduation and an inspirational mural based on diversity was being worked on. She continued that on May 2 a beatnik poetry performance would be presented at Cosmic Pizza, with topics being gay rights and Australia's aboriginal rights. As well, College Now classes were available, and Art History mid-term exams would start the coming Wednesday. She added that school construction was going well, though was sometimes noisy.

Alisha Whitehurst reported for Gateways High school, saying they had a clothing and food drive going on in first period classes and that the class with the most would get to have a pizza party.

Kyle Barley of Springfield High School reported that this afternoon he and five other students had participated in a discussion with Tom Adams from KVAL regarding their feelings about the budget crisis, and he thought the segment would be aired either Thursday or Friday of the current week. Superintendent Golden noted that KVAL had been doing an in-depth story on the district, and asked the students what they had said. Kyle responded that students had said they noticed a lack of certain supplies, such as paper, at times and also a cut in field trips.

Ms. Adams asked if the students were feeling stressed about budget cuts, and Kyle responded that yes, there was stress as students were hearing rumors about what might happen and were wondering what the realities would actually be.

Marshall Curry, also of Springfield High School, said students often asked him what he knew, and he would reply that the board would let them know specifics once the board knew the answers. He said there were plans for a staff appreciation luncheon on April 10 from 12-1:30 in the Commons, and he wondered if funding would still be available for that. Chair Bigley responded that there would be funding, and plans should continue. Marshall invited board members, Matt Coleman and Superintendent Golden to the luncheon. He said the teachers were feeling a lot of stress, not knowing what the budget cuts would include, and because of the fact that the economy was still declining.

Ms. Adams and Chair Bigley agreed that the students could trust the board's promise that the seniors would be able to graduate in the way they wanted to graduate.

Kyle continued with his report, saying their first track meet would be held on Wednesday, March 18 at 3:00 p.m., their student talent show would be held on Friday, March 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade orientation would be held on April 2 from 4:00–7:00 p.m. in the Commons.

Marshall Curry reported that students had no school the coming Friday, March 13, and that the Midwestern League Band competition would be held at the school all that day. He said that on Monday, March 2 a Neighbor Night had been held at the school, in which nineteen neighbors had participated to discuss problems in the neighborhood and also to offer help with school projects. He said that the Middle School Science Olympics would be held on March 19, and that there would be no lunch following because of budget cuts. Marshall shared that his 16-year-old brother had been in the Reading Counts program when he was at Briggs Middle School, and that he had loved the program, especially being able to choose from 40,000 books to read.

Cassidy Peterson, reporting for Thurston High School, said that the next day, March 10, would be their Mr. THS first Contestant vs. Faculty basketball game at 6:00 p.m. On March 16, she said, the school would be having a Cold Stone fundraiser, for which an interview would be done on the KDUK Morning Show with some of the boys to advertise the fundraiser. She also noted that Men's Wearhouse had donated all the tuxes for the night of their pageant.

Logan Lewis continued for Thurston, reporting that their wrestling team had attended a state meet recently where two Thurston students won first place in their class division. At the district level, he said, Thurston's team had the most points ever won by any school, over 400 points, with the second team having only approximately 200 points. Last Friday, he reported, they had a Highlighter Dance, which was a lot of fun. It was a Mr. THS dance, where tickets were purchased from the contestants, and students wore white shirts which were colored with highlighters to glow under the black lights.

Logan also shared that the experience of Sherry Varo's death had affected students in a deep way, and that it had been inspirational to see the school come together to make T-shirts and buttons to sell and to help raise money to help her family. He passed a bucket around to board members and others to collect donations for the Children's Miracle Network.

Ms. Adams asked the student representatives how many of them participated in the school lunch program, and why they would not choose to do so. One student said he bought lunch from the school store, the Miller Mart, which he saved for after school. He preferred the food there, he said, and the cost was only \$1-\$2. Another student said he brought peanut butter and honey sandwiches from home, and that he was busy at lunch time. One student said he ate in the cafeteria most of the time. An A3 student reported having soggy sandwiches and many leftovers in their school lunches. Another student said she brought a homemade lunch every day and ate in the cafeteria. She noted that they had a big screen in their cafeteria which was used a lot to promote events, such as dances and food drives.

Chair Bigley asked about the length of lines to wait to get a school lunch. Thurston students said they still had long lines, so that many students would go off campus for lunch, and that some teachers allowed lunches to be brought into class. Springfield students said there was no longer a line problem for lunch at their school. A3 students reported that they did not have the high quality of food like what was presented by the Nutrition Services at the board's work session.

## **B. New Schools Construction**

Jeff DeFranco presented the monthly new schools construction report for Thurston and Maple elementary schools. He noted that board had approved using Virco for furniture, fixtures and equipment, and that these procurements were moving forward. As well, he said, the technology service team had been working with staff members at the new schools to finalize technology procurements. He reported that design of the grant-funded bike shelter and path was about 95% complete, and that the state had increased their grant amount by 10% to \$235,000.

Construction was moving from south to north in the two schools, he explained, with drywall taping and some interior painting being done in the southern areas with slower progress in the northern areas. Covered play structures at both schools had been installed, he added, and provided large areas for play. Sun shades were up at Thurston, he said, and some exterior stairs completed. Second storey classrooms at Thurston were painted, and one could get a sense of what a finished room would look like.

In terms of budget considerations, Mr. DeFranco remarked that the best hope was that the project finished under budget and that some funds could be returned for deferred bond basic projects. The top two alternates of interest had been two additional classrooms at Thurston and covered play structures, which had been added. Additional recommendation, he noted, would be to save as much as possible for other important bond basic projects next summer. The sense was pretty positive that there would be savings from the original budget, with 60% of the project now complete.

Two top priorities for additional funding, he explained, were playground equipment for both schools and electronic leader boards. There was a benefit, he said, to procuring the equipment via state contract rather than private contracting. Some old playground equipment had been salvaged, he continued, while some was no longer useful. His recommendation was to set aside funds to purchase new playground equipment for each of the schools, in order to line up with the life cycle of the new schools. As well, he noted that four school sites had been identified that could use some of the older playground equipment and that the old monkey bars would be brought to the new schools. He noted that approximately \$125,000 would meet the equipment needs for both sites. The electronic reader boards would cost \$30,000 total for the two schools, and Mr. DeFranco recommended these as high priorities. If both of these priorities were

funded, he explained, there would still be sufficient saved funds for deferred bond basic projects in the summer.

Mr. Weber asked if the covered play areas came with any fixtures, such as backboards. Mr. DeFranco believed there were basketball hoops and lights. Responding to a question by Ms. Adams, Mr. DeFranco said he would check on the possibility of having the lights be motion-activated for community members to use the courts at night.

He continued his report, saying that at A3 the construction finish line was in sight, with the next two weeks of spring break providing a great opportunity for progress. He showed photos of the covered bike parking topped with photovoltaic solar panel, noting this was the first photovoltaic solar project in the district, so that there was great interest to see how it would work. He said he could look into the possibility of the reader boards being solar powered at some point, and that perhaps some economic stimulus money could be solicited for that.

Mr. DeFranco also showed a photo of an outdoor space being created with benches and a picnic table, and some of the connecting links between the old building and the new. In the new science room, a lot of the cabinetry, sinks and counters were now in. While showing the clearstory in the front studio, he mentioned that in future construction he believed it was very beneficial to use clearstories because of the amount of light they provided.

In the performance studio, he noted, the special floating flooring had been laid. This room would probably be used, he said, for grand opening welcoming ceremonies, while the Wildish Theater was available when the whole student body needed to gather. He said that a small scale grand opening of the new A3 building was scheduled for Thursday, April 9 at 11:00 a.m. He was nervous about this time schedule, he said, because timing was tight to reach this goal. The early date was scheduled because of the availability of Senator Wyden and Congressman DeFazio. Because all furnishings and equipment were being funded by federal money, it was important that these federal representatives be present, he concluded.

Responding to a question by Mr. Weber about the brick façade finishing for the new construction at A3, Mr. DeFranco said that after much negotiation with other parts of the construction process, the final decision was that the full face of the building would be finished in brick. He believed that the project would come right down to the wire in line with projected costs. A few details would be yet unfinished at the April 9 date, he said. For example, the mural on the west side of the facility would be created in the summer, with grant funds of \$14,000. Student advisors had offered guidelines for the mural class, he added, and proposed designs would come to the board in the design phase. Torri Phillips said she was in the murals class, and that students were working on mural ideas. She said that three final choices of the class would be brought to the board.

Mr. DeFranco announced that on Tuesday, March 31 at 1:00 p.m. there would be a tour offered of the new A3 construction, which should be 95% completed by that date. The board was also invited to the April 9 grand opening ceremony which was previously mentioned, he added.

### **C. United Front**

Jeff DeFranco shared information about the upcoming United Front trip to Washington D.C. He noted that board members had been given copies of booklets that would be going to Washington D.C. as part of the legislative relations program.

There were three district proposals for this year, two being repeats from last year with slight adjustments based on delegation feedback. These two were 1) funding for the student and family support center,

which was scaled back to focus on preliminary architectural services and a program coordinator to help design the program and do a survey of student and family needs, and 2) funding for an Energy Smart Schools project, a district-wide energy audit, creating priorities and strategies for implementation, which had been scaled up since feedback clarified there was a lot of money available for this type of project.

The third project, new this year, was funding for the National Resource Education Field Program, which had been brought to the forefront by Mr. King and had been waiting for appropriate timing. He noted that the City of Eugene, Willamalane, and all partners were excited about this proposal, and there was a sense that the proposal had a very good chance for support. Funding would be for programmatic supplies to expand current projects, such as repair and restoration work near Agnes Stewart, creation of a native seed nursery, development of interpretive trails and signage, some funding for a high school professional technical program, some staff time and instructional resources.

Mr. DeFranco reminded the board of two congressional appropriations that were currently being implemented. One of these was for classroom technology and equipment at A3, which, he noted, was politically important to highlight for the general public where these items came from and the role of the delegation in expanding this program. The second appropriation was for school security at the four high schools, including card swipe systems and video cameras hooked to central TVR systems.

He reported that a \$410 billion omnibus package for fiscal year 2009 (beginning October 1, 2009) had just been passed by the House. He said there was an appropriation listed for Springfield School District for \$143,000 for the Arts Matter program, and that it was hoped that the Senate would move forward with approval.

Mr. DeFranco noted that congressional offices had clarified that earmarks were not 5% in addition to the budget, but were a 5% portion of the project. He said that earmarks were a way for money to filter down to smaller districts, such as Springfield. Earmark reform would most likely mean a reduction in the amount of earmarks available per congressman. Moving forward, proposals for earmark funding would be more transparent, he said, and this year Springfield's proposals would be posted on the congressmen's websites and open for public comment. He said he would let board and community members know soon how they could post comments on these proposals.

#### **D. Board Communication**

Mr. Weber thanked all involved with the Battle of the Books program, noting it was a great and delightful competition.

Ms. Adams added her gratitude for the Battle of the Books program.

Mr. Light reported he had attended A3's dramatic performance of *Children of a Lesser God*, and remarked on the amazing talent of the students. He offered an update on the Wildish Theater, noting they were still short one board member. He said that resident companies had been offering to be involved with the theater, and that procedures and protocols were being developed to deal with these opportunities. Mr. Light and other board members were reviewing Willamalane's contract and noting some things they would like to change in order to make it easier for Springfield's interests to work with the theater. A new website should be online soon. Another coordinator for the theater had just been hired, he added. There was a push, he noted, to build up the usage of the theater, with more community participation. The good news, he said, was that expenses so far were only 25% of what was projected. Responding to a question by Mr. King, he said the rental rate was \$80/ hour.

Mr. King said he had a friend who was a recording star and songwriter, and thought it would be fun to have her come and perform to promote the theater.

Mr. Light continued by noting it had been great to meet recently with local legislators. He remarked about frustration on many levels that budget information was so late in becoming known. He said the legislators would not know the budget realities until the last revenue forecast would be available on May 15, which was very late in every school district's budget cycle, and was creating great anxiety. He encouraged the student representatives to contact their legislators, noting it was unusual for the legislators to hear from students, and it would provide them with a fresh perspective.

Mr. King shared some data regarding the legislative stimulus bill reflecting effects on education funding. He noted that Oregon contained approximately 1% of the national population and Lane County held about 10% of Oregon's population, so it would be possible to scale the numbers accordingly. He also shared an informational handout regarding preparation for climate change impacts on an upper river basin in Western Oregon, noting that at times global warming topics would be coming before the board, and that these issues might eventually become a major science rigor for the educational systems and offer job opportunities.

Chair Bigley reported that the Springfield Education Foundation had grown its board membership from nine members to twenty-nine members, and that she found them to be a very energetic group. She also reported participating in Read Across America in two schools the previous week, where she read to students in grades 1 and 2. The past Friday she had attended a book character presentation at Ridgeview Mr. Weissbarth presented *Horton Hears a Who* with first graders providing sound effects. She also had seen this morning students from kindergarten through grade 2 at the District Office competing in the Battle of the Books program. Chair Bigley concluded by reminding board members that it was time to begin the evaluation process for Superintendent Golden, which would be finalized before the end of May.

Ms. Adams remarked that, considering all the unused land at the various school sites, she wondered if some of the land could be used for community gardens. She thought this might be a good way to contribute to the local communities, although she was not suggesting that anything be done about it any time soon.

Ms. Adams also commented that she and several others had attended Tim Moran's memorial service, and that it had been very remarkable.

Mr. Weber reported receiving an email from a couple of 4<sup>th</sup> grade "reporters" asking questions about Chair Bigley for a future newsletter article.

## **E. Superintendent Communication**

### **• A3 Charter School Application**

Superintendent Nancy Golden remarked that she shared the belief that budgetary communication was very important, that the schools had each been visited, and that she would make sure that the student leadership groups would be talked with as well to share information as well. Also, she noted, she would work with Mr. DeFranco to figure out how to communicate through Key Communicator and other groups to the community, especially once there was any important information to be shared.

Superintendent Golden reported that the A3 charter school application for a \$55,000 planning grant had been submitted on Friday, March 6. One of the advantages of A3 being a charter school, she noted, was that once students in Springfield School District had been accommodated, students from other local districts would be able to attend the school.

She also commented that she had attended Tim Moran's service and also Sherry Varo's service. She said it had been a very tough time, losing two important people from the community.

## **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

## **10. NEXT MEETING**

Chair Bigley announced that the next regular board meeting would be held on April 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, Chair Bigley adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

### **Executive Session**

Immediately after the Board Meeting, board members met in Executive Session (Non-Public) under ORS 192.660(2)(i) Superintendent Evaluation. Chair Bigley called the Executive Session to order at 9:41 p.m. Those present included Nancy Bigley, Jonathan Light, Laurie Adams, Al King, Garry Weber, Nancy Golden, Dawn Strong, Jeff DeFranco and Karen Lewis. Discussions included superintendent evaluation and timeline. The Executive Session was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

*(Minutes Recorded by Judy Burton)*