

HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS—MINUTES
April 8, 2014
District Administration Center, 3083 NE 49th Place, Hillsboro, Oregon

Board Present:

Kim Strelchun, Chair
Monte Akers, Vice Chair
Adriana Cañas
Wayne Clift
Glenn Miller
Erik Seligman
Janeen Sollman

Staff Present:

Mike Scott, Superintendent
Adam Stewart, Chief Financial Officer
Val Bokma, Assistant to the Board

Others Present:

Ed Hayden, Realtor
Andrea Castillo, The Oregonian
Kathy Fuller, Hillsboro Tribune

1. Executive Session

ORS 192.660(2)(i)—Evaluation of Superintendent and ORS 192.660(2)(e)—Real Estate. Board Chair Kim Strelchun called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. and moved the Board into executive session under ORS 192.660(2)(i)—evaluation of superintendent and ORS 192.660(2)(e)—real estate. The Board discussed the superintendent's evaluation with the superintendent; no action was taken.

After the evaluation discussion, Chief Financial Officer Adam Stewart and the District's realtor, Ed Hayden, joined the meeting. The Board discussed real estate matters with their realtor; no action was taken. Board Chair Strelchun moved the Board out of executive session and recessed the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

Board Present:

Kim Strelchun, Chair
Monte Akers, Vice Chair
Adriana Cañas
Wayne Clift
Glenn Miller
Erik Seligman
Janeen Sollman

Staff Present:

Mike Scott, Superintendent
Debbie Ashley, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Steve Larson, Assistant Superintendent, School Performance
Adam Stewart, Chief Financial Officer
Matt Smith, Executive Director, Secondary Education
Laurie Boyd, Assistant to the Superintendent
Val Bokma, Assistant to the Board
Zaida Rosa, Bilingual Interpreter and Translator

Others Present:

Jerry Willey, City of Hillsboro
Kristi Wilson, City of Hillsboro
Emily Moser, Lines for Life
Hillsboro Youth Advisory Council Students
Brooke Nova
Devin Hunter
Eric Weyrauch, HCU
Maureen Barnhart, HEA
Ed Hayden, Realtor
Andrea Castillo, The Oregonian
Kathy Fuller, Hillsboro Tribune

Board Chair Kim Strelchun reconvened the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

2. Work Session

Action Item: Approve Purchase of Future High School Site. Board Chair Strelchun explained that the Board would take action on the proposed purchase of a 40-acre site in South Hillsboro for a future high school, as discussed during the executive session. Board Chair Strelchun moved to make a land purchase at 22520 SW Rosedale Road, tax lot 1S222-02800, in the amount of \$2,250,000, as discussed in executive session. Board member Adriana Cañas seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Chief Financial Officer Adam Stewart and the District's realtor, Mr. Ed Hayden, verified that the purchase and sale agreement reflects the content of the letter of intent that the Board previously reviewed.

Discussion regarding the land purchase included the following questions and comments:

- The District has been searching for many years for a high school site.
- The purchase represents significant savings for tax payers and an effective use of District resources.
- As a result of recent legislation, building in South Hillsboro is expected to begin soon, and schools will be needed for the anticipated 2,300 to 2,500 new students.
- The cost of a comparable piece of property within the Urban Growth Boundary would be approximately \$12,000,000.
- The interest rate is better than the District would receive from a bank.

- A significant portion of the payment has been held in an account specifically allocated for property purchases.
- The sellers have agreed to carry a contract for four years, allowing the District to make payments.

Reports / Discussion Items:

- a. Anti-Bullying Final Presentation with Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Students. Superintendent Mike Scott explained that the District committed last year to develop a comprehensive city-wide anti-bullying campaign, and that the students' presentation represents the first step in the process. Superintendent Scott and Director of Safety and Operations Casey Waletich thanked the City of Hillsboro, including Mayor Jerry Willey and Volunteer Services Coordinator Kristi Wilson; students of the Hillsboro Youth Advisory Council; and Emily Moser and Donna Libemday of Lines for Life for their partnership in taking this first step.

Director Waletich explained that the process is on schedule, and that next steps in Phase 1 include:

- Presenting the materials to key stakeholders
- YAC students working with building administrators to plan the rollout for this spring and next fall
- Establishing key dates and milestones for Phase 2

He also explained that this is a long-term process, including many steps, that the materials will need to be continuously revised and refocused, and that buildings will customize the message for their own environments. He added that since the students developed the material and the message, they are passionate about it.

Ms. Moser explained that the students were provided with information and tools to create their own authentic, meaningful message, which can challenge the community to think more critically about issues and the need for system-wide change. She stated that long-term system-wide change can be accomplished by consistently employing multiple strategies in multiple sectors over a period of time.

The print materials and public service announcement developed for Phase 1 of the campaign were viewed by the Board. YAC students answered questions and shared their thoughts regarding the work of developing the message, including the following observations:

- They deliberately chose to avoid using the word "bullying" in the message because it has been used so much that it no longer seems meaningful
- Bullying does not only occur between students, but also between students and adults, and often between people who claim to be friends or may have previously been friends
- Joking can go too far and become bullying

Board members' comments included the following:

- Thanked the students and their advisors for their hard work

- Complimented the students on their talent
- Observed that the communication is very real and powerful
- Expressed the hope that the message can quickly be implemented beyond the high school level
- Emphasized that an emotionally safe environment is essential for learning

An invitation was extended to Board members to attend a red carpet event at the Hillsboro Civic Center on May 13 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. for the premiere showing of the public service announcement.

- b. Evergreen Field Project. Director Waletich provided information regarding an offer the District has received from an anonymous donor to fund and construct a baseball / multi-purpose synthetic turf athletic field at Evergreen Middle School. This project would be a very large financial gift to the District, and it would provide a large multi-use facility for the schools and community. The potential donor wants to provide students and the community with another venue for year-round activities, and is not requesting access to the field, a District contribution, or anything in return.

In response to Board members' questions, Director Waletich provided the following information:

- The organization has requested that its identity not be made public yet; if the District decides to move ahead, the organization will make an announcement at its fundraising kick-off event in approximately two weeks. (If the District declines the offer, the organization will proceed to raise funds for another cause.)
- The District does not have enough synthetic fields, and Evergreen Middle School is specifically in need of a field.
- The District's current sites with artificial turf are maintained through the City of Hillsboro, based on a mutual agreement; the maintenance for these fields is not labor-intensive.
- Artificial turf can be expected to last approximately eight to ten years; the organization might work with the District on replacing the turf, but is not making a commitment to do so; the District would need to save money for this expense – as it does for its other turf fields.
- The organization's fund-raising events are not anticipated to exhaust local resources, since much of the funding will come from outside of the state, rather than from the District's usual community partners.

The consensus of the Board members was to agree to have the organization pursue fundraising to potentially provide this gift to the District.

- c. Budget Update. Superintendent Scott and Chief Financial Officer Stewart informed the Board that the District's anticipated revenue is expected to increase by approximately \$4,235,335, based on new funding estimates from the state.

As a result of this information, revised multi-year revenue and expenditure estimates and 2014-15 budget recommendations were presented.

Discussion included the following aspects of the budget development process:

- The need to find a balance between rebuilding reserves and re-investing in depleted systems, after multiple years of budget reductions totaling \$70,000,000
- Consideration of the potential preferences of constituents and the community regarding the most responsible use of the additional funding (e.g., maintaining reserves or investing in current students)
- The sustainability of recommended expenditures
- The District's conservative revenue estimates, compared with actual state funding for previous years
- Background regarding state funding, which is based on factors that are not accessible to the District, including adjustments based on state-wide information gathered by the state

The budget update that will be presented at the April 22 Board meeting will provide additional information regarding the District's reserves, including bond interest and the ending fund balance.

d. Board Discussion Time. Board members' comments included the following:

- Director Seligman will be unable to attend the April 22 meeting due to a medical situation; he plans to return for the May 8 Budget Committee meeting.
- A question was asked about the bleacher replacement situation; Chief Financial Officer Stewart clarified that the original plan was to replace the bleachers at both Glencoe High School and Hare Field, but retrofit bids are now also being sought; this item is on the agenda for the April 22 Board meeting.
- The Latino Festival will be held in Hillsboro on Sunday, April 13.
- Board members expressed appreciation for the Collier and Thomas workshop, which provided valuable information and the opportunity to observe the pride and camaraderie of staff, how they value their work and honor their students.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.



Approved May 27, 2014