

**WILLAMINA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Regular Session  
December 09, 2024**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Willamina Elementary/High School Library**

The Willamina School Board of Directors met December 09, 2024 Regular Session in the Willamina Elementary/High School Library. Minutes are as follows:

**ATTENDANTS:**

Karley Strouse  
Dan Rinke  
Dave Shenk  
Roy Whitman  
Mike Gass, Superintendent  
April Johnson, Executive Secretary  
Angela Fasana – Tribal Representative

7:08 pm Regular Session called to order by Board Chair Karley Strouse followed by the flag salute.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

1. **Resolution #1** – Amends the OSBA dues schedule. Roy Whitman moved to amend the OSBA dues schedule. Dan Rinke 2<sup>nd</sup>- **VOTE 4 YES- MOTION CARRIED.**
2. **Resolution #2** -Creates the Oregon Rural School Board Members PRIDE Caucus and designates a seat on the OSBA Board of Directors and Legislative Policy Committee.  
Dan Rinke moved to approve Resolution #2, Karley Strouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. **VOTE: 4 YES- MOTION CARRIED**
3. **Resolution #3** Adopts the proposed Amendments to OSBA By Laws.  
Roy Whitman moved to adopt Resolution #3. Dan Rinke 2<sup>nd</sup>. **VOTE: 4 YES – MOTION CARRIED**

Information was given to the Board on the candidates that filed to represent our Region #13 (Yamhill/Polk County) for Legislative Policy and Board of Director position.

Dan Rinke moved to appoint Kraig Albright for Region #13 Board of Directors position.

Roy Whitman 2<sup>nd</sup>. **VOTE 4 YES- MOTION CARRIED**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Dan Rinke moved to approve the consent agenda as amended – David Shenk 2<sup>nd</sup>. **VOTE 4 YES – MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Supt. Gass reported on the events that he had attended as well as the events that have taken place on campus. He attended the law conference hosted COSA which included some workshops on school finance. He also stated that he learned board members were mandatory reporters and relayed if they wanted training on that we could provide that to them. In addition to meetings with Kiwanis, regional superintendents he also was meeting with union representatives for both classified and certified. On campus the students have been busy with canned food drives, shopping for a student, athletic events as well as preparing for the light parade. Supt. Gass also stated some new policies have been proposed through OSBA and would reviewed and sent out for the boards review as well. He also informed the board he would need a couple members to set on a committee to review the RFP for the bond construction. Supt. Gass also reviewed his 100-day goal tracker and feedback he received from staff on progress and areas that needed work.

Student representative Mikayla Mercier stated that the leadership class has been busy this time of year with collecting donations for shop for a student program as well as food donations. She stated it had been a collaborative effort with National Honor Society. She reviewed the current athletic programs and stated that the wrestlers were champions at the Tillamook tournament. She also expressed that it nice to see so many staff and students at the restoration Celebration event on Nov 22 and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mikayla reminded everyone of the upcoming blood drive on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Leadership class was looking forward to dress up days for holiday spirit week.

Several speakers were in attendance to discuss their programs.

Rebecca Arredondo and Mike Solem discussed the TAPP program, what it was and what the purpose of it within the district. She stated that the state recognized attendance decline especially with Native American students and provided funds to help address the issues. TAPP focuses in on the root causes of students not attending school and breaking down those barriers. They use different approaches for each grade level, but overall having a connection with family and students on a personal level and making that one on one connection has been very important. She reviewed data through a power point that documented the changes in attendance throughout the last couple years as well as yearly.

Brent Murrell – Safety director informed the board of several changes the district has been going through to improve the safety for students and staff. He stated that the district is now using a program called Vector to provide the necessary and mandatory training for staff and new staff. Additional AED machines have been installed and several staff members attended a CPR training meeting school board policy requirement. Brent also explained how the new lock blocks work. Updated exit maps were given out to all staff for their classrooms or areas.

Roy Whitman stated handicap signs in the front of the building directing traffic toward the back-parking lot where handicap parking is accessible would help visitors that have not been to our campus before.

Shawn Draper the behavior director reviewed behavior trends in our district. He compared data from our district to state and nationwide statistics. He described the trauma that students deal with and how that impacts their behavior on a daily basis. Mr. Draper discussed the current statistics with mental health, suicide and depression. He pointed out systems in place district wide that help staff to identify mental health issues with students and the resources in and out of district to help those students and or parents. Mr. Draper also stated that he felt in our local area (after working somewhere else) was well staffed in each location to help address the behavior issues.

Karley Strouse inquired about SPED Students in TIER 3 and Mr. Draper stated that yes there were a few students on IEP's but also state4d that there were plenty of students on IEP's that were not on the TIER spectrum.

Tribal Representative Angela Fasana expressed gratitude to those staff and students that attended their Native Restoration Day celebration at Spirit Mtn Casino. She stated it was a short month so there was not much to report other than they were open the week of Thanksgiving break and had activities and events for students to attend during that time.

#### **AUDIENCE TIME:**

There were no audience comments

#### **REPORTS & DISCUSSION**

Supt. Gass reviewed the current policy for drug testing and discussed the option of bringing the policy up to date. A general discussion took place on how the policy worked before with athletes and the updates that would make it more efficient. Supt. Gass stated they stopped testing during COVID but was putting it out there to see what the interested would possibly be in reinstating the policy. He would like to see it reviewed and revisited, especially upon hiring a new Athletic Director to help facilitate a new policy.

#### **DECISION ITEMS**

1. **Updating policy KJGA** – Impact Aid Native Policy and Procedures.  
Roy Whitman moved to adopt policy KJGA. David Shenk seconded.

**VOTE 4 YES- MOTION CARRIES**

2. **Resolution 24-25-01** – Execution of the OSCIM Grant Agreement  
Roy Whitman moved to adopt resolution 24-25-01 authorizing the execution of the general obligation.  
David Shenk seconded. **VOTE 4 YES – MOTION CARRIES**

**Future Agenda:**

Board secretary April Johnson inquired about having a work session to review board applicants to be appointed to position #2 before the next meeting in January. She stated she currently had two applicants.

She also asked for two board members to volunteer for the review on the committee that will be looking at the RFP's that come in for the Bond construction. Board members David Shenk and Roy Whitman volunteered.

Supt. Gass indicated he also needed to schedule a Special Session meeting to review expenditure of the Athletic/PE facility as early as next week. It was decided a Special meeting would be scheduled at the District Office at 3:45 with virtual attendance allowed for those that could not make it.

Supt. Gass also stated that Krista parent from COSA will be at the Leadership/BOE meeting to do a presentation on School Finance/PERS & Legislative session starting at 4:00 PM. January 13, 2025.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:41 PM