

**Gervais School District #1
School Board Working & Executive Session
Meeting Minutes Thursday, ~~March 16~~, 2023**

April 4

WORKING SESSION

Director Bustamante called the School Board of Gervais School District #1, Marion County, into a Working Session on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Board members present included: Henry Bustamante, Maria Caballero, Ana Contreras, Maria Contreras, and Angie Toran. Others present included Dandy Stevens, Sandra Segura, and Kristen Miles (OSBA Representative).

Visitor Guest Book:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Director Bustamante called the School Board Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2.0 INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Steven made the following announcements:

JUUL Settlement

Ms. Steven said she wanted to give an update on the JUUL litigation. It has been resolved, and the district will receive a monetary settlement.

The social media lawsuit outcome was announced and is being covered in the media. She shared that she had planned to share the information tonight, but things got ahead of her. She has been interviewed several times by TV stations regarding the topic. Things are going on Facebook about this topic. She wanted to clarify that staff and several parents support this and that it does not cost the district any money. Once the process starts, more districts will join. She indicated that the media outlets' asked questions due to our participation in the JUUL Settlement. They thought Gervais was a good example when they learned how social media affects kids dealing with social/mental health and with the constant pressures. They felt Gervais's kids were a good representation of what kids are dealing with nationwide.

Turf Fields

Ms. Stevens said that there was no update. She will have more information at the next regular meeting.

Daycare Program

Ms. Stevens announced that the district would be closing the daycare program for the coming year due to its inability to sustain itself. She expanded that to sustain the program; the district would have to ask the parents to pay more, which would be too costly for parents to pay. ESSER funds were being used to support part of this program because district staff members use that service. The district can no longer sustain the program due to the cuts in funding but would be glad to offer it in the future if funding is available.

Dr. Helms said that four staff members have children in the daycare that this decision would impact and that he has already had a one-on-one conversation with each of them to explain the reasoning for the decision to close the daycare. Eleven children use that daycare service, and numbers have come down due to financial issues or other factors. Current daycare employees most likely have a position at the preschool program due to the possibility of other employees' resignations at the end of the year.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

4.0 PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

5.0 REPORTS

None.

6.0 BOARD FOCUS/MEMBER TOPICS:

None.

7.0 CONSENT ITEMS:

None.

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

None.

9.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1 Review Information Regarding ELD Project and OSBA Scholarship with Kristen Miles

Ms. Miles discussed with the group things to start thinking about as they moved on with the project.

- As the data is gathered, a monitoring plan can be built.
- What point during the year would you like to hear about this data?
- What type of data do you expect the reports to contain?
- What are your expectations?
- What kinds of questions can you ask?
- What are the Strategic Plan priorities?

Dr. Helms shared that this year the district is being very intentional with ELD students taking the ELPA test because it's important data for this project. He said every EL student took the ELPA test before spring break, except four at the elementary school that needed to be tested. The goal is to finish the window by testing 100% of the students. Dr. Helms said that he has sat down with ELD teachers and checks in every two weeks, and Dr. Atwood is ensuring they keep the pace going.

Ms. Stevens said that she hopes that more students pass the test. There has been a conversation with students about the mindset. Especially those thinking that they cannot do it. She also shared that data shows that 9th graders struggled even before the pandemic with low percentages. Although by the 12th grade, they can catch up and make it.

Dr. Helms said that when he presents, he wants to be realistic but optimistic and feels we will see positive change. He feels that the interventions happening for those students all day, learning English, will help change things.

There was a brief discussion that there are 120 English Language Learners districtwide and that the high school alone has about 60.

Ms. Stevens said that once the data from this year comes in, it will be easier to set realistic goals. She added that the district staff is purposeful in all student assessments. Other assessments are reviewed as well to be able to gauge growth and determine where the gaps are in student learning. She recommended that the board to build accountability and set schedule updates to the board on I-ready, Equity Lens, etc. An idea that she suggested was reporting quarterly and discussing data points during scheduled working sessions. Ms. Stevens said these conversations would continue until the Strategic Plan work is done and every student can see themselves in the Strategic Plan poster.

Ms. Miles said that the data could be embedded with other reports, and the board's role would be to ask what is needed from the board. Some examples could be adopting a curriculum, approving professional development, etc. That will be something to remember as data is reported to the board. Ms. Miles said that as far as she has heard from all, the project is heading in the right direction, and she will send the scholarship money to the district for \$2500.

There was a brief discussion by the group regarding the timeline of the application and the process of how students will be communicated about this opportunity. The group discussed how great this opportunity is for the board to engage in student learning. The group agreed to review applications by the next board meeting to award scholarships.

9.2 Willamette Career Academy Funding-OSBA Letter

Ms. Stevens asked the board for approval regarding sending a letter to OSBA to respond to their lack of support for more funding for CTE opportunities and Willamette Career Academy. She stated that she is disappointed at OSBA because their organization partners with about twenty-two districts in providing certain services, and it's discouraging that there is a lack of support for student opportunities.

9.3 Update on Board Members Attending City Council Meeting

Ms. Stevens informed the school board they had been on the agenda to speak at the next City Council meeting. The group discussed the logistics of presentations and who will be presenting.

10.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Director Bustamante called an Executive Session at 6:54 p.m. under ORS 192.660 (2) (d) "Labor Negotiator Consultation."

Director Bustamante adjourned the Executive Session at 7:01 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Session.

11.0 ADJOURN

11.1 Adjourn Regular Session

Director Bustamante adjourned the Regular Session at 7:02 p.m.

APPROVED

A blue ink signature of Anna B. Contreras, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

Board Chairperson

A blue ink signature of Linda Seg, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

Board Secretary

