

OREGON-DAVIS SCHOOL CORPORATION
Wednesday, February 21, 2024
School Board Meeting, 6:30 PM
Minutes

Cafeteria/Gymnasium Oregon-Davis Elementary School, 5860 N 750 E, Hamlet, IN 46532

1. Meeting Opening

1.01 Call to Order-Ben

1.02 Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence-Ben, Bill Moment of Silence

1.03 Roll Call-All Present

1.04 Public Comment – will be taken prior to each vote

Recommendation to add Addendum 3.08 01-24 Resolution Transfers

2. Consent Agenda

2.01 Approval of the Minutes -

2.02 Approval of Financial Reports-

Accounts Payable 1/1/24-1/31/24

Payroll Claims 1/2/24, 1/16/24, 1/31/24, 2/14/24

2.03 Approval of Travel, Facility Requests, Fundraisers, and Donations

Professional Leave

2/13/24, Kathy Roberts, Field Trip to South Bend Chocolate Factory

Field Trips

2/13/24, South Bend Chocolate Factory Culinary Program

4/11/24

4/16/24

4/24/24, Aberdeen Manor Grades 9-12 Culinary Program

Facility Use

Grovertown-Hamlet-Oregon-Davis Alumni Group, June 8, 2024 4:00 PM HS Gym

Fundraisers

1/31/24-2/14/24

Oregon Davis Band, Cookie Sales (ABC Fundraising)

2/19/24-2/23/24

9th Grade Class, Penny Wars for Prom and Senior Trip

3/8/24,

12th Grade Class, Spaghetti Dinner, and Fun Fair, Senior Trip

3/1/24-3/31/24 Girls and Boys Basketball, Future Stars Basketball Camp
5/3/24, Yearbook, Spring Fling

Donations

Donation of Boys' Military Appreciation Game Uniforms by VFW Post 748.
Donation of \$1000 raised by the elementary to support the Smith Family.

2.04 Approval of Personnel Recommendations

New Hires/Assignments

Gayla Porch, Kindergarten
Nathan Middlebrook, JH Math
Brian Earnest, 5th and 6th Grade Girls' Basketball
Lee Nagai, 7th and 8th Grade Girls' Basketball
Andrew Wilcox, 6th Grade Boys' Basketball
Linda Bajgrowicz, Varsity Softball
Shelly Simon, Varsity Assistant Softball
Karson Lawrence, JH Softball
Kim Saylor, Assistant Varsity Track
Sarah Gillard, JH Track
Todd Briles Varsity Boys Golf
Todd Briles, JH Swimming

Resignations

Morgan Farlie

Mr. Bennett highlighted two of the donations. First, he thanked the VFW for donating the uniforms for the Hometown Hero game against Knox. Mrs. Lady did a great job hosting the event and we had a packed house. Second, thank you to the elementary for donating and raising \$1000 for a family who lost their house a week or so after Christmas.

I also want to mention a few new hires. The first is Gayla Porch, she is going to be teaching kindergarten and this is her second time filling in for us, as well as Mr. Nathan Middlebrook, who started after break, and will be teaching Jr. High Math.

Mr. Bennett read off the remaining new hires.

Mr. Hinds commented that it was great for board members to donate their time, however, was curious if we had a policy in place if there was a complaint lobbied against a board member, or procedures in place so the AD, principal, or superintendent were not put in a difficult position. Mr. Bennett responded that we do not have a written policy to govern that. Mr. Hinds added that maybe we could look at someone from another school that may have an unbiased opinion if a problem were to arise. Mr. Lady added that it could come to the board level if needed. Mr. Bennett noted that we did not have anyone else apply for the position, and was grateful that Lee stepped up to do it.

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Mr. Nagai, seconded by Mr. Hayes. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Discussion/Action Items

3.01 Recommendation to approve Conflict of Interest Statements for School Board Members.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Nagai, seconded by Mr. Hayes. Motion carried 5-0.

3.02 Recommendation to approve Mileage rate for 2024.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Nagai, seconded by Mr. Hinds. Motion carried 5-0.

3.03 Recommendation to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar.

Mr. Bennett discussed a few of the changes, however, the calendar is similar to past years. Mr. Bennett discussed possible legislative changes. He also noted that our calendar will be similar to Knox due to being a cooperative school for special education and vocational. Mr. Nagai noted the start day seemed early, Mr. Bennett agreed, and this is an area we could adjust if there are legislation changes allowing for more flexibility.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Nagai, seconded by Mr. Hayes. Motion carried 5-0.

3.04 Recommendation to approve the 2024 Fiscal Goals.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Nagai, seconded by Mr. Hinds. Motion carried 5-0.

3.05 Recommendation to approve Oregon-Davis School Corporation Wellness Policy.

Mr. Bennett discussed the minor changes that were made, and that we would be revisiting the policy with the assistance of staff and community members before the start of next school year.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Nagai, seconded by Mr. Hayes. Motion carried 5-0.

3.06 Recommendation to approve School Board Policy 6325 Procurement-Federal Grant Funds.

Mr. Bennett discussed the proposed change that was required from our most recent federal food service audit. Under Micro Purchasing, the threshold was changed from \$10,000 to \$50,000 per the recommendation.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Nagai, seconded by Mr. Hinds. Motion carried 5-0.

3.07 Recommendation to approve New Director of Operations.

Mr. Bennett discussed the opening that was created when Mrs. Miller shared her intent to retire, and with the passing of Mrs. Julie McLiver, we had a candidate that applied that would allow us to consolidate both of these roles, as well as assist Mrs. Salazar with some of her duties. Mr. Bennett discussed the applicant and her background and recommended Mrs. Christy Clark for this position. He shared that Christy is a community member, and her adult children attended Oregon-Davis. Mr. Lady shared that he sat in on the hiring process as well and believes her experience with creating budgets for maintenance, food service, etc. Mr. Hayes commented that she is a great person.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Minix, seconded by Mr. Hayes. Motion carried 5-0.

3.08 Recommendation to approve Resolution 01-24, inter-function transfers.

Mr. Bennett stated that we made a similar recommendation at the end of last year, so this year we are asking to adopt resolution 01-24 allowing us to make transfers from the Education Fund to the Operating Fund not to exceed 15%.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Nagai, seconded by Mr. Minix. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Other Business

5. Curriculum-

Elementary Archery Presentation: Mr. Jack Minter and Students

Mr. Minter shared a presentation that addressed how the program was started, the grant received to purchase materials, and the safety procedures that were put in place making it one of the safest sports students could participate in as long as safety procedures were followed. Mr. Young also helped with the presentation and assisted Mr. Minter in teaching Archery this past semester. Mr. Minter and students demonstrated their skills and safety procedures for the board.

6. Reports

6.01 Superintendent's Report-

Mr. Bennett shared an update from JMA. All equipment has been ordered, RTU's will arrive May 1st, air handling units will arrive May 14th, and chillers have a ship date of July 9, 2024. We have also been working with contractors on background checks. At this time, we do not anticipate any delivery issues. He also discussed that we hope to have the bulk of the work completed before school starts, however, we plan to have a couple rooms available if we have to move teachers to complete work.

Mr. Bennett discussed that the special education cooperative with Knox and North Judson is moving forward and superintendents met this week to discuss staffing and the upcoming school year. Mr. Bennett also discussed the need to bring back a special education alternative school for next year as a cooperative program.

Mr. Bennett thanked Mrs. Miller, Mrs. White, and Ms. Quinn, Mrs. Lady, and Mr. Corey for their work on the Bobcat Blast and in general for their help with the passing of Mrs. McLiver.

Mr. Bennett thanked Mrs. McDaniel, Kelsey at NIESC, and Mrs. Salazar for helping with our food service audit.

Mr. Bennett thanked Mr. Clemons, Mrs. Salazar, Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Brenda Miller, Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Hayes, and Mrs. McDaniel for all their help since the passing of Mrs. McLiver.

Mr. Bennett welcomed our new hires tonight. Nathan Middlebrook in JH Math, Gayla Porch in Kindergarten, and Christy Clark who will be joining us in April.

Mr. Bennett shared that he would be going to the Small Rural Schools Legislation Day on Tuesday, February 27th to get updates on current bills for this legislative session.

Mr. Bennett shared that he and Mrs. Kelsey Hayes would be attending Pre-Service Bus Driver Training March 26-28.

Mr. Bennett shared that training has begun for the switch over to Windows Based Komputrol.

The admin team will be meeting with the Marion University Ancilla team to discuss partnership opportunities for students and staff next week.

6.02 Principal's Reports

Mrs. White shared that it was National FFA Week, and complimented the FFA on the decorations in the HS Foyer and how nice the banners look.

She also shared the fundraiser the FFA would be doing to help the Starke County Humane Society. Students are bringing in food and supplies to donate to the shelter, and the staff member that gets the most items in their box, will receive a pie in the face. The FFA will also be going to WKVI on Friday for an interview. The FFA also hosted an FFA fun night with local FFA chapters.

Parent Teacher Conference will be held on Thursday, February 29. There will also be Cupcake wars taking place that evening as well. Teachers will be inviting parents to parent teacher conferences this year as well as sharing IXL data. There will also be sessions and information tables set up to help students with various items.

The band is selling cookie dough, and we also have our strawberry sales going on as well. Mrs. White shared the band will have two more band conferences this school year.

Ms. Quinn shared that Mrs. Good volunteered to take a pie in the face if the elementary students brought in things for the Humane Society Fundraiser.

Ms. Quinn shared that Mrs. Porch would not be able to be at Parent Teacher Conferences due to a prior engagement, so she will have more of an Open House format the following week.

We will have IREAD testing in the next couple weeks. We will be testing our third grade and second grade students this year.

The 5th and 6th grade girls will have their tournament this weekend.

Ms. Quinn thanked Mr. Minter and Mr. Young for all their help with the Archery Program.

7. Board Comments

Mr. Nagai asked about where we were at with the domes. Mr. Bennett shared that they are supposed to be working on them as soon as the weather permits this spring.

Mr. Nagai asked about cleaning out the bus barn. Mr. Bennett shared that we hope to open up the barn again in March.

Mr. Nagai asked how the new bus was doing. Mr. Bennett responded that Mr. Ferch is very happy with the bus, and we would be looking at purchasing another one or two this spring.

Mr. Minix complimented Mr. Minter and Mr. Young for Archery Program, and loves seeing the kids at meetings.

We also discussed the gym lights, and the need for exploring energy savings as well as making the gym brighter.

Mr. Lady asked if we were receiving On My Way PreK dollars. Mr. Bennett responded that we do have 4 or 5 students receiving funding. Ms. Quinn shared the problems we ran into this year on getting paperwork back from parents, and the plan to solve this in the future. The state representative from On My Way PreK will be at Preschool round up to help with this process this year.

Mr. Bennett shared that he went to a Starke County Community Foundation meeting before tonight's meeting to discuss possibly setting up a daycare center.

Mr. Lady shared that we are in year three or four and just wanted to make sure we are ready for when ESSER money runs out.

Mr. Lady also asked about Komputrol training and if that was just ECA or Both. Mr. Bennett shared that we will have both components after next week. Mrs. Miller shared that she is willing to stay on and help train Mrs. Clark when she starts.

Mr. Hayes asked how long Julie had been secretary? Mr. Bennett thought it was around 12 years, but would have to look it up after the meeting.

8. Future Meetings

8.01 Board Meeting: March 6, 2024

9. Adjournment

10. Notice

10.01 The Board's meeting site is fully accessible to all persons. Any person requiring further accommodations should contact the Superintendent with the School Corporation's administrative office at 5998 N 750 E, Hamlet, IN 46532, 574-867-2111, wbennett@od.k12.in.us.

Note: Any visitor may request to speak to any agenda item on the posted agenda. Visitors should inform the School Board President of such interest in advance by registering before the start of the meeting. A registration sheet will be available at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the meeting. Registration will close five (5) minutes before the start of the meeting and the Board President will recognize the visitor with special comments and concerns at the appropriate time. All citizens (patrons) are encouraged to attend all School Board meetings to give input and observe proceedings.