

Preliminary Business

Call To Order

Board Chair Pam Glenn called the Regular February Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Introduction of Guests

Chairman Glenn welcomed Wendy Clerget, Mike Campbell and Jennifer Teeter.

Consent Agenda

Following a few brief questions regarding the bills paid, Kaiger Braseth moved to approve the minutes and bills paid. Dan McDonald seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Reports

InterMountain ESD Report

Superintendent Lakey-Campbell reported that regional school districts are continuing to expand in-person learning as COVID case numbers decline. She also reported that the 2019-20 state graduation rates were released last week and Oregon raised its rate to an all-time high of 83% with our region leading the state. However, Superintendent L.C. stated that she felt the COVID guidelines established last spring had a significant impact on the increased graduation rate. She noted that these rates will more than likely decrease in the next couple of years due to the impact of distance learning. The IMESD board recently approved the 2021-22 Local Service Plan and presented the plan for local district approval during the month of February. The plan includes the expansion of special education administration and mentoring, technology staffing and infrastructure and business and finance services.

Principal Report

Mr. Mills reported that the District FFA competition was held here at Imbler a couple of weeks ago. He commended Mr. Cant for planning and organizing the event under the current guidelines. The FBLA Regional competition will take place this Saturday. This will be a Zoom event with participants zooming into their events from their respective schools. FBLA also delivered 80 Valentines care packages to the Grande Ronde Retirement Residence.

FFA, FBLA, NHS and ASB officers have been hosting this week's Spirit Week with events taking place throughout the week. There will be dress up days and class competitions hosted by each of the groups. The FFA Drive Through Community Breakfast will be this coming Friday from 6:00 - 9:00 am.

Mr. Mills reported that there are currently five football games scheduled and the volleyball schedule will begin with a game in Elgin Thursday night. Traditional Spring sports are slated to begin April 15th and Winter sports will begin in May. COVID guidelines will be used for hosting these events.

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Board Chair Glenn commented that she felt it was not safe to be playing football in the cold weather due to an increased risk for injuries. She asked if it was possible to play basketball among the Union and Wallowa county schools. Mr. Mills informed the Board that the county schools had put together a proposal for just that and sent it to the state for consideration. However, the request was not approved. Rather than having the athletes sit out, the league decided to participate in football and volleyball along with the rest of the state. Discussion ensued.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent L.C. reported that the next revenue forecast was scheduled to be released anytime. The Governor's budget includes \$9.1B designated for the state school fund while COSA and OSBA continue to advocate for \$9.6B.

It was reported that staff members interested in receiving the COVID vaccine have received their first shot. The second shots will be administered within the week. The most recent revision of Ready Schools, Safe Learners requires in-person schools to offer COVID testing if the county is in the extreme category. Tests would only be administered to students or staff who become symptomatic once they arrive at school.

Superintendent L.C. stated that proposed SB334 will require ongoing professional development for boards and superintendents. Committees are currently working to determine what the requirements may be.

New Business

Staff Appreciation

Kaiger Braseth wanted to make sure that the Board properly expresses appreciation to staff for longevity and for their willingness to make sure kids can be in the classroom during the COVID pandemic. Teresa Dewey will review staff anniversary dates and provide those dates for the March meeting.

Old Business

Calendar Discussion

Superintendent L.C. provided staff responses and graphs regarding four day week discussion. She noted that instructional days would need to be longer if the district went to a four day week. Concerns were expressed about the longer day, especially for the elementary students, and later end times for after school activities at the high school level. Wendy Clerget noted that she feels that she is further behind this year without Friday instruction. Discussion ensued. Consensus was to remain on a 4 ½ day week for the upcoming year. Darci Sweet suggested getting more input from staff and community for future consideration.

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Action Items

Approve 2021-2022 School Calendar

Dan McDonald moved to approve calendar option C as presented. Ken Patterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Approve 2021-2022 Budget Calendar

Teressa Dewey reported that the proposed budget calendar is the same format as the previous budget calendar. Kaiger Braseth moved to approve the proposed calendar as presented. Ken Patterson seconded the motion, which was unanimously passed..

Approve IMESD Local Service Plan

Superintendent L.C. stated that she was pleased with the service provided by IMESD and felt they do a good job of assisting schools. She recommended the approval of the 2021-22 IMESD LSP. Kaiger Braseth moved to approve the IMESD Local Service Plan as presented. Ken Patterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Approve Vacation Leave Request

Superintendent L.C. reported that they recently found out that they will be able to travel to Las Vegas for the NACAR races March 3 – 9, 2021. Ken Patterson moved to approve the requested vacation time. Dan McDonald seconded the motion, which was unanimously passed.

Approve Staff Resignation

Three letters of resignation were presented for approval. Todd Thompson submitted his resignation from the Assistant to the FBLA Advisor position while Wendy Clerget and Nancy McDonald both submitted letters of resignation from their teaching positions as they move into retirement. Superintendent L.C. expressed her appreciation to both Mrs. Clerget and Mrs. McDonald for their service to the district. Ken Patterson reluctantly moved to accept all resignations. Kaiger Braseth seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Approve Staff Hiring

Superintendent L.C. recommended the hiring of Brandy Blackman who has been serving as the Assistant to the FBLA Advisor in the absence of Mr. Thompson and Donnalee Rose for the temporary Para I position. Dan McDonald moved to approve the hirings as presented and Ken Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Budget Committee Appointment

Superintendent L.C. recommended the appointment of Cade Burnette to the budget committee. He is currently working on obtaining his administrator's license and is doing his practicum with the district. Ken Patterson moved to approve the appointment and Dan McDonald seconded the motion which passed unanimously

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Executive Session ORS 192.660(2)(d)(i)

Staff Negotiations and Superintendent Evaluation

At 8:15 pm, the Board entered into executive session to discuss staff negotiations and the superintendent evaluation.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the entered back into regular session at 9:04 pm and the meeting was adjourned.

Members Present

Wade Bingaman, Kaiger Braseth, Pam Glenn, Dan McDonald and Ken Patterson.

Others Present

Angie Lakey-Campbell, Superintendent; Michael Mills, Principal/A.D.; and Teressa Dewey, Deputy Clerk.

Chairman

Deputy Clerk