

**Nyssa School Board Minutes
Nyssa, OR**

Date: April 11, 2022

Time: 6:30 PM - Work Session

Time: 7:00 PM - Regular Session

Location: Boardroom of Administration Building

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to Megan Glenn at 541-372-2275 Ext. 0

In accordance with House Bill 2560 (ORS 192.670) all Regular session and Work session meetings can be viewed on the District YouTube channel Nyssa School District - Board Room.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqiPYR14VSsPQWF6wk00qNg/videos>

Board Members Present: Susan Ramos, Alesha Munk, Megan Robbins, Jeremy Peterson, Marlon Wilson, Pat Morinaka

Board Members Present via Zoom: Donnie Ballou

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Superintendent Johnson, Ryan Hawkins, Megan Glenn, Crystal Rideau, Kristie Hernandez, Araceli Gomez, Matt Murray, Scott Rodman, Brett Jackman, Chris Carlton, Kevin Draper, Becky Cuevas, Noemi Melendez, Becky Martinez, Josh DeAnda, Roger Hunter, Erin DeAnda, Gabe Fuentes, Bobby DeLeon, Brenda Kesler, Cindy Ramos, Mary Woodruff

Community Members Present: Emily Johnson, Maria Draper, Halle Draper, Mia Cuevas, Hendrix DeAnda, Chad Vineyard, Kate Vineyard, Molli Vineyard, Family members of Kate Vineyard: Shelby & Charlotte, Rosario Lopez, Ruperto Hernandez Melendez, Fatima Hernandez, Family of Jenna Blazzard, Amy Shuster, Sharla Froerer Richards, Hayden McDermmond, Ava Anderson and Family, Alexis Camarillo and Family.

Members of the Press Present: None

Call to Order

Board Chair Susan Ramos called the Regular Session meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Board Chair Susan Ramos called for a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Marlon Wilson made a motion to adapt the agenda as presented; seconded by Jeremy Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Commendations

A) Students

Elementary Grades K-2nd

Vice Principal Scott Rodman introduced the Kindergarten through 2nd grade student of the month as Jenna Blazzard. Her teacher, Mrs. Cudaback says that Jenna comes to school with a bright smile and great attitude, she is a role model who demonstrates following the rules, hard work and being an excellent student. Her music teacher, Mr. Evans says that Jenna has a smile and an amazing attitude in music, she participates well and is kind and considerate. Mrs. Steinmetz, her PE teacher, says that she is not much of a talker but her actions speak for themselves. Jenna is active and helps when needed and is a friend to everyone.

Elementary Grades 3rd-5th

Principal Matt Murray introduced the 3rd through 5th grade student of the month as Halle Draper. Her teacher, Mrs. Moats says that Halle is a conscientious student who gets her work done in a quick manner. Halle loves to read and her passion is infectious. She is competitive and wants to earn the highest Accelerated Reader points for her grade level. At the beginning of 5th grade Halle thought grade level math was beyond her, but her competitive nature helped her conquer and enjoy math. Halle is a writer and storyteller, but above all she exemplifies citizenship, moral character and work ethic. Mr. Evans, her music teacher, says that Halle is considerate and a kind student who contributes to class discussions. Halle has a good sense of humor and a pleasure to teach. Ms. Steinmetz, her PE teacher, says that Halle is a happy, kind, and helpful friend to everyone. She stays on task, is attentive, and an overachiever. There is never a worry if she is doing right or wrong.

Middle School

Vice Principal Araceli Gomez introduced the middle school student of the month as Fatima Hernandez. Mr. Moyes, her science teacher, says that she is a wonderful student with a positive attitude and someone who is always willing to help her table partners. Her art teacher, Mr. Boyer says he had no idea how talented she was when she walked into his beginner art class, but Fatima has quickly become an advanced art student. She is often showcased on the Wall of Fame for art and her art speaks volumes. Mr. Hunter, her math teacher, says that Fatima is outstanding and works well with her fellow students and she completes her work on time. Other middle school staff also described her as respectful, considerate, quiet but an amazing student.

High School

Principal Brett Jackman introduced the high school student of the month as Kate Vineyard. Kate is not only an exceptional athlete, but an exceptional student that shows kindness for others. Mr. Blanchard, her advanced math teacher, says that Kate works hard and "doubled" her efforts to get caught up after State Basketball. She is known for being respectful and kind to all. Mrs. Holdcomb, her track coach, says that Kate is a hard worker and a leader on the track team. Kate puts in the work to be successful. Mrs. O'Connor says Kate is prepared and ready to work and does her best in everything she does. Kate has found lots of success and friendships. Kate wishes to become a Lawyer; this year she organized a mock trial, which required 12 participants. Everyone involved learned a great deal from the experience.

B) Employee(s)

Vice Principal Araceli Gomez introduced the employee of the month as Becky Cuevas. Becky is a 2006 Nyssa graduate. She started her career with the District as an Instructional Assistant, but left to earn her teaching degree and has since returned to teach dual language at the Middle School. Becky has high expectations of her students, but does a great job helping students transition from the Elementary to the Middle School. Becky often gives up her lunch break to help support students. She has also dedicated her time to organize a book club and arrange special field trips for students. Becky helps make the Middle School a great place to be. She is often helping when the school is short on substitute teachers and willing to combine classes to cover the need. Becky is a great human being who works hard to strive to better the lives of others.

C) Parent(s)/Volunteer(s)

Vice Principal Araceli Gomez introduced the volunteer of the month, Bobby Deleon. Bobby has continued to commit to the youth of Nyssa. Bobby and his family have helped make this community better by making other kids a priority in their lives. Bobby wants to see kids thrive and help provide experiences to help change their path in life. Bobby volunteers countless hours beyond his coaching duties to help our youth in wrestling and tennis and to help build strong programs. He has helped facilitate wrestling and tennis tournaments for our youth ensuring they run smoothly and the events are successful. Recently he coordinated our first MS tennis tournament, where our MS tennis players were able to compete with surrounding schools and compete for medals and a team trophy. Bobby and his wife are always finding ways to make opportunities happen.

Visiting Patrons & Delegations

A) Spelling Bee Winners

Principal Matt Murray and Vice Principal Scott Rodman introduced the 2022 Malheur County Spelling Bee representatives from our district. Matt Murray explained that in order to represent Nyssa at the county bee, students not only had to be the best spellers in their class, but also the best in their grade level. The next step was to compete against 16 other students in their grade level at the county bee. Hendrix DeAnda finished second in the first grade league. Alexis Camarillo was the top speller in the county for the fifth grade and Ava Anderson was the top speller for the sixth grade. Top spellers for each grade level then competed against one another for an overall winner for Malheur County. Out of thousands of spellers in Malheur County, Ava Anderson was the top speller who will represent Nyssa at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C. this summer.

B) Sharla Froerer Richards - Public Comment

Board Chair Susan Ramos gave the floor to community member Sharla Froerer Richards. Sharla thanked the board for their support and work the board does and wanted to recognize the impact they have on the community and students. Sharla asked to address the school board members regarding public comment at board meetings. Sharla read part of policy BDDH to the board and stated that she understands there are policies for proper procedures, but wanted to make sure public comment was respected and allotted for at board meetings. Sharla asked that there be time to effectively participate in board meetings and that questions raised be promptly answered by the board. She reminded the board that the public has a responsibility to the education and wellbeing of the children in our district and asked that the public be able to speak freely and not be silenced. Sharla was disappointed at the previous regular board meeting where she witnessed community members be silenced and wanted to address the situation so that it is handled properly in the future and to allow community members their freedom of speech.

Discussion followed with the board members and those in attendance of ways they can allow appropriate time during board meetings for public comment.

Superintendent Report

1. Current enrollment

a. Elementary =	548
b. MS =	290
c. HS =	353
TOTAL =	1,191

Superintendent Johnson quickly updated the board with enrollment numbers for each school within the district.

2. Attendance/absentee rate

a. Handouts

Pat Morinaka requested current attendance data from Superintendent Johnson. Superintendent Johnson provided the board with data from semester one and semester two for each grade level and also total attendance per building within the district. In the Elementary school, data shows kindergarteners having the lowest attendance rate for both semesters, total average attendance for the elementary as a whole is 91%. Middle school data shows the eighth grade class having the lowest attendance rate with an average building attendance of 90%. Superintendent Johnson pointed out that at the high school level the Junior class presents with the lowest attendance rate and building attendance of 90%.

Attendance report on file at the District Office.

3. Dual Language Program review some math data

a. Still collecting data on English achievement

Superintendent Johnson asked Kathleen Burbank with assistance in collecting data regarding the Dual Language program. Superintendent Johnson provided the board with a handout outlining years 2016 to present (Grades 1-8), providing math and English diagnostic scores for students in English only classes and students in the dual language program. This data allows administration to follow students in the two programs and correlate test scores to measure growth and whether students are at grade level. Mr. Hunter, a math teacher at the middle school, wanted to note that currently there is not a common diagnostic test to track students K-8. Mr. Murray, the Elementary Principal, noted that information is correct. There is a common test to track K-5, but not K-8 at this time.

Data handout on file at the District Office.

4. Update on Title 1C audit

a. Letter from ODE

b. What financial impact?

i . Title 1C (migrant) is not part of the State School Fund, so we will not have to pay back the same as we did with the Title III (ELL) issue two years ago. The money, if any, to pay back will come from the federal Title 1C grant. We have a substantial amount in carryover, so it is not likely we'll have to cut any services.

Superintendent Johnson provided the board with a copy of a letter received from the Oregon Department of Education referencing the Title 1C program investigation. This situation is not typical and is something that was spurred by a complaint regarding the process of qualifying families into the migrant program. Gabe Fuentes, the Migrant Education Program Supervisor, was in attendance to answer any questions and explained the process for qualifying families. When families move into our district they fill out a COE (Certificate of Eligibility), based on their answers families are notified if they qualify for the migrant program. Once their COE is complete and they meet requirements for the program, recruiting staff notify and speak with the families. Gabe explained this investigation is to check quality control. From the years 2016-2019 the migrant department undergoes a yearly audit, during this process ten families are chosen at random and interviewed by telephone, all ten families passed the annual audit. At this time ODE has found nineteen families within the program that do not qualify for the migrant program, these families will be removed and all families will be re-interviewed by a team from ODE and COE's from the previous three years will be reviewed.

Copy of letter from ODE on file at the District Office.

5. Classified negotiations

a. April 20 and 26 (May 10-11 and May 25-26 if needed).

b. We can have up to three board members on this committee

Superintendent Johnson requested a maximum of three board members to participate in classified negotiations, Ryan Hawkins and Superintendent Johnson will also be on the committee. Megan Robbins and Alesha Munk will attend classified negotiations. Jeremy Peterson asked Board Chair Susan Ramos to contact him prior to meetings to see if he is available to attend if needed. Board Chair noted that it would be a conflict of interest for board member Donnie Ballou to be part of classified negotiations. First initial meeting will be April 20, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

6. Certified negotiations

a. First meeting April 27 at 7:00 pm initial meeting.

Superintendent Johnson let the board know that the Certified Union has set an initial meeting for negotiations, which will be April 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Board Chair Susan Ramos asked for any volunteers from the board that would be willing to be on the certified negotiations committee. Susan Ramos, Megan Robbins, and Donnie Ballou agreed to be on the negotiation committee for the certified negotiations. Superintendent Johnson and Ryan Hawkins will also be in attendance at negotiations.

Superintendent Johnson also wanted to remind the board and everyone in attendance of the Jazz Band dinner fundraiser on Saturday April 23rd as well as the FFA banquet on Tuesday April 12th at 6 p.m.

Financial Report

Business Manager Crystal Rideau presented the financials through March 31st. Revenue for the month was \$1.1 million, Crystal wanted to make note that there is an additional \$4086.00 on the operating statement. Two teachers within the district applied for a restricted federal grant and were able to do the work necessary and will now be paid out the grant money received. Expenses for the month were \$1,099,000 bringing the ending fund balance to \$3.1 million. This money will be carried forward until June, at that time a large amount will be paid out for the end of year payroll. There were no surprises to the general fund. The Middle School bond operating statement ended the month with \$307,000, collection of more tax payments will be received to be able to make the \$329,000 debt service payment. The Early Head Start operating statements' biggest expenditure are salaries and benefits. They ended the month with a balance of \$37,000. Food service ended the month just under \$20,000 in black. Crystal let the board know she is currently working on the 2022-23 budget and the first budget meeting will be Tuesday May 3rd at 6 p.m.

Consent Agenda

- A) Approve minutes of the March 14, 2022 Regular Board Meeting and Work Session minutes from February 28, 2022 and Special Session Meeting minutes from March 28, 2022.**
- B) Approve Financial Reports as presented**
- C) Hire:**
 - 1. Lorinne Van Corbach - Elementary Music**

2. **Emily DeLeon - Special Education Instructional Assistant (Transfer from Food Service)**
3. **Kierra Hernandez- Special Education Instructional Assistant**
4. **Ryan Moody - HS Assistant Baseball**
5. **David Boyer - MS/HS Art (One year)**
6. **Kent Blanchard - HS Advanced Math (One year)**

D) Resignations:

1. **Carol Steinmetz- Elementary PE**
2. **Carol Steinmetz - MS Boys Basketball**
3. **Anna Long - HS Yearbook**
4. **Brad Dalton - HS Boys JV Basketball**
5. **Michael Kononen - Custodial**
6. **Scott Rodman - Elem. Vice Principal**
7. **Crystal Fortney - HS Special Education Instructional Assistant**
8. **Ken Dickey - HS SMILE Advisor**
9. **Ken Dickey - HS Honor Society Advisor**
10. **Rebecca Murray - Food Service**
11. **Tashina Kuester - Early Head Start**

E) Retirement:

1. **Ken Dickey - HS Science (As of July 1, 2022)**
2. **Mark Lasnick - MS/HS Band (As of July 1, 2022)**

Board Chair Susan Ramos called for a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Alesha Munk made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; seconded by Pat Morinaka. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

A) Policy Updates

1. **IGBAF-AR Special Education-Individualized Education Program (IEP)**

Superintendent Johnson received a response from OSBA regarding Megan Robbins questions on policy update. OSBA response given to the board for review and is on file at the district office.

2. IGDJ - Interscholastic Activities

Pat Morinaka reviewed policy IGDJ once again with the board and believes it to be a good policy to adopt. Pat Morinaka recommended that the board choose language "will" in the last paragraph on the first page. " An employee determined to have violated rules and regulations of the OSAA will be subject to discipline, up to and including, dismissal. Pat Morinaka also recommended "may" in language on the last page in the first paragraph. "Employees, volunteers, or students in violation of OSAA rules and/or regulations may be required to remunerate the district in the event of fines assessed by OSAA as a result of their actions." High school principal Brett Jackman asked the board to consider language carefully to allow administrative jurisdiction when adopting.

Jeremy Peterson re-read the policy language to reassure Mr. Jackman that the language will allow administrative jurisdiction with OSAA violations.

Board Chair Susan Ramos called for a motion to adopt IGBAF-AR as suggested by OSBA and policy IGDJ as recommended by OSBA and with suggested language recommended by Pat Morinaka. Jeremy Peterson made a motion to adopt both policies with recommendations from Pat Morinaka; seconded by Alesha Munk. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

A) Appointment of Budget Committee Member

Board Chair Susan Ramos called for a motion to appoint one of the two candidates to the open budget committee vacancy. Both candidates' applications were reviewed in a work session meeting held prior to the regular session meeting. Marlon Wilson called for a motion to appoint Michael Hartley, stating that Michael has previous experience both on the board and the budget committee. Within that experience he was knowledgeable and asked detailed questions regarding the budget. Jeremy Peterson seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

B) Superintendent Contract

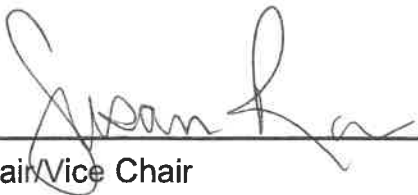
The board has completed part one of Superintendent Johnson's evaluation. Board Chair Susan Ramos called for a motion for renewal or non renewal of Superintendent Johnson's contract. Donnie Ballou made a motion to renew Superintendent Johnson's three year rolling contract; seconded by Alesha Munk. All in favor: Marlon Wilson, Megan Robbins, Susan Ramos, Donnie Ballou, Jeremy Peterson. Those not in favor: Pat Morinaka. Motion carried 6 to 1. The board has requested more time to discuss part 2 of the evaluation process regarding salary.

Board Study

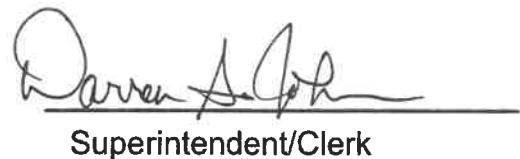
The board agreed to meet in Executive Session on April 25, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss Superintendent Johnson's salary.

Adjournment

Board Chair Susan Ramos adjourned the regular session meeting at 8:27 p.m.



Chair/Vice Chair



Superintendent/Clerk

Board Minutes by Megan Glenn, District Administrative Secretary