

**Nyssa School Board Minutes
Nyssa, OR**

Date: November 14, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM - Regular Session

Location: Boardroom of Administration Building

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, Megan Robbins, Pat Morinaka, Jeremy Peterson, Alesha Munk, Maribel Ramirez

Board Members Absent: Donny Ballou

Staff Members Present: Superintendent Johnson, Megan Glenn, Ryan Hawkins, Crystal Rideau, Josh De Anda, Erin De Anda, Sara Sapp, Matt Murray, Brett Jackman, David McDonald, Luke Cleaver, Araceli Gomez, Noemi Melendez, Jesse Melendez, Gina White, Kristie Hernandez, Roger Hunter, Lee Long, Anna Long, Melissa Vargas, Veronica Bunn, Cindy Ramos

Community Members Present: Amy Shuster, Lauren Sapp, Bryce Parker (Beniton Construction), Lizzy Sapp, Hendrix De Anda, Jazlene Melendez, Family of Osvaldo Bahena, Miriam Hernandez Lopez, Family of Nyssa De La Cruz-Riojas, Donnie Shuster, Emily Johnson, Silvia De La Cruz-Riojas, Ruperto Hernandez Melendez, Rosario Lopez Solis, Ruperto Hernandez Lopez

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.

Oath of Office - Maribel Ramirez

Board Chair Susan Ramos administered the Oath of Office to Maribel Ramirez. Maribel was appointed to Position #2, expiring June 30, 2023.

Adoption of Agenda

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

Commendations

A) Students

Elementary K-2

Principal Matt Murray introduced the Kindergarten through second grade student of the month as Hendrix De Anda. Hendrix is a second grader this year. His teachers say that he is easy to teach and always ready to learn. He has progressed quickly and helps others when he completes his work early. Hendrix has many great qualities and skills and his

participation in class is strong. Hendrix advocates for himself and others and has the ability to keep calm in tough situations.

Elementary 3-5

Principal Matt Murray introduced the third through fifth grade student of the month as Nyssa De La Cruz-Riojas. Nyssa is a fifth grader this year in the dual language program. Nyssa has made great improvements and has become more energetic with increased class participation. Her confidence has grown and her grades are improving.

Middle School

Vice Principal Araceli Gomez introduced the middle school student of the month as Miriam Hernandez Lopez. Miriam is a hard worker who demonstrates kindness and a willingness to learn. She has shown the ability to rise above expectations. Miriam is quiet, always on task and shows great skill in art. Miriam is a great example to others.

High School

Principal Brett Jackman introduced the high school student of the month as Osvaldo Bahena. Osvaldo is a senior with a GPA of 3.94 and is currently ranked 8th in his class. Osvaldo is kind, helpful and friendly. He is quiet but an insightful writer. Although Osvaldo is not a member of the Student Council he always shares his ideas and is willing to help in any way he can. He is a leader who is kind and has a bright future ahead of him.

B) Staff

Brett Jackman introduced the employee of the month as Anna Long. Anna has an excellent rapport with students. She is organized, detail oriented and an excellent communicator. Anna provides a safe place for students to learn. She works hard to grow as a professional, seeking additional professional development opportunities.

C) Volunteer(s)

There were no volunteer(s) recognized at tonight's meeting.

Visiting Patrons & Delegations

A) Amy Shuster

Board Chair Susan Ramos gave the floor to community member Amy Shuster. Amy wanted to address the board regarding four issues; bullying policy, COVID vaccinations, transgender bathrooms, and stuffed animals in school. Amy presented a written outlined letter to the board.

Bullying policy - Amy is concerned that administration is not the same across the board between all three schools. Amy is concerned regarding specific incidents in the elementary school and how these situations have been handled.

The board decided they would like to enter into Executive Session at another date and time to discuss specific discipline issues more in depth.

COVID vaccinations - Amy would like to know the board's stance if the CDC requires the COVID vaccine as a mandatory vaccination for children.

The board said they will always follow the law whatever that may be, but as of right now there is no law requiring COVID vaccination mandatory for school aged children so they cannot discuss what their stance would be at this time.

Trangender bathrooms - Amy is concerned for the safety of children allowing transgenders to use locker rooms/restrooms with other students.

The board referred to high school principal, Brett Jackman and Maintenance Supervisor Jesse Melenedez. Both stated that there are plans to provide a safe environment for all in locker rooms. This will take planning and guidance from the State. At this time there are procedures in place to accommodate everyone.

Stuffed Animals - Amy is concerned that high school students are allowed to bring and carry stuffed animals to school/classes with them. She feels this is a safety concern because students can hide dangerous items within the stuffed animal.

The board directed this topic to Principal Brett Jackman who said that administration as a team will look into this and discuss this further.

Discussion followed.

Letter from Amy Shuster regarding topics discussed is on file at the District Office.

B) Melissa Vargas - Staff Wellness

Board Chair Susan Ramos gave the floor to staff member Melissa Vargas (High School Counselor). Melissa wanted to address the board regarding staff wellness. Several handouts regarding research on staff wellness were provided to the board. Melissa is concerned about staff wellness and resources available to help staff. She would like to see a wellness policy, a committee committed to staff wellness, or a consultant to navigate help for staff members.

Pat Morinaka relayed that she was able to meet a Psychiatrist at the OSBA convention this past weekend, she will try and reach out to this person for guidance and direction. The board recognizes this is a challenge.

Handouts provided by Melissa Vargas on file at the District Office.

All Student Body President Update - Lauren Sapp

Board Chair Susan Ramos gave the floor to all student body President, Lauren Sapp for the high school student body update. Lauren reviewed fall sport outcomes, upcoming events/fundraisers, and attendance. She also relayed questions to the board from the student body.

Student body would like the board to be more visible at school events, they would also like to know how their decisions affect the student body.

The Student Body report is on file at the District Office.

Superintendent Report

1. Enrollment

a. Elementary:	540
b. Middle:	293
c. High:	<u>346</u>
d. TOTAL In-person:	1,179
e. MyTechHigh (Nyssa Virtual):	145

Superintendent Johnson informed the board of current enrollment numbers for in-person and virtual learning.

2. Title 1C update - I have been meeting with officials from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and our consortium partners to make sure we are meeting all requirements of their findings.

Superintendent Johnson gave the board an update on the Title 1C investigation. Through the re-interview process with ODE, some families were found to be ineligible for the program. This will most likely require the district to repay funds, at the moment that amount is unknown. ODE has instructed the district to stop all intakes for the migrant program. All intakes and eligibility determination will be done by a third party. The district is working to make sure all their requirements are being met as instructed by ODE.

3. Update on High School remodel project

Superintendent Johnson invited Construction Manager, Bryce Parker, from Beniton Construction, to give the board an update on the High School HVAC project. Bryce updated the board regarding the bid process that took place recently. There was a great turnout for the bid process providing good coverage for all scopes of the project. There is one major issue regarding the timeframe for delivery of the HVAC units. The specific units for the project are estimated to have a turnaround time from order date of 40 weeks, which makes a summer project unobtainable. There is a second option for HVAC units (Trane units), these units are comparable to the original estimated units but have a turn around time of a July delivery. This allows for work to be underway and installation ready once units arrive.

Pat Morinaka asked if the (Trane) HVAC units were adequate. Maintenance Supervisor Jesse Melendez and Bryce Parker explained that these units are just as good, they perform the same, just different models. Bryce also mentioned that the engineer has made sure that the design will support either unit.

Bryce presented the board with the final bid results estimate spreadsheet, which is on file at the District Office.

4. OSBA Conference - Suzy Ramos and Pat Morinaka

Superintendent Johnson wanted to give board members, Pat Morinaka and Susan Ramos an opportunity to give a report to the board regarding the OSBA Annual Convention they attended in Portland, OR.

Pat focused on sessions that focused on equity, student voice, family engagement and governance.

Some key notes:

- Empowering students today to succeed in an unpredictable tomorrow
- Humanity before education, you have to have empathy to really educate
- Fostering student success in a board role
- Always be communicating

Pat also mentioned that our side of the state is not well represented. She will be running to be a member of the color caucus. The purpose of this caucus is to help identify what affects students of color. OSBA is also sponsoring a rural school initiative to create a caucus. She hopes that this will increase their representation on our side of the state.

Susan Ramos was able to speak with board members from other small districts, which was beneficial. She attended a session on how to control a disruptive meeting. The motivational speaker spoke on his experience in school. Although his test scores, grades, and home life were not great he went on to be successful and attend a prestigious University. He accounts his success in continuing his education because he felt loved by an educator. Susan wanted to bring that message back to the district that one teacher can make a difference just by loving their students.

5. Presentation of student report cards - Ryan Hawkins and Principals

This is an agenda item later on in the agenda.

Financial Report

Before the financial report, Business Manager, Crystal Rideau presented to the board a request for a budget amendment. Superintendent Johnson applied for the grant HB4030 for staff retention and recruitment. Due to receiving unanticipated funds of \$171, 608.55 the budget will need to be amended to create fund 243 to the budget. These funds will need to be separate from the general fund for the purpose of maintaining separation of eligible HB 4030 expenses and will need to be spent by June 30, 2023. This grant will not be continuing as it is a one time grant.

Pat Morinaka made a motion to approve the budget amendment presented by Crystal Rideau; seconded by Jeremy Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Crystal then presented her financial report for the month of October. Revenue for the month was \$1,219,499 with expenditures of \$1,214,155. Early head start fund 230 ended the month of October with a balance of \$41,048.50. Early head start was able to fill a private pay spot helping to collect revenue for the program. Food service, fund 299, ended October with a balance of \$68,009.03. Child Nutrition Coordinator Gina Freel compared the count numbers this year versus last year. Counts were broken down by breakfast, lunch and snack. Due to the restructuring of serve times in the elementary, breakfast counts are down this year. This has caused a decrease in revenue of \$3900. Lunch counts have increased by an additional 2000 lunches. Food service was notified by the State that a secondary

round of Supply Chain Assistant funds will be available in the amount of \$26,888,85. These funds are to help with supply chain issues. Several contracted vendors are unable to provide necessary supplies, causing an increase in cost to be able to purchase supplies from non contracted vendors.

Consent Agenda

- A) Approve minutes of the October 10, 2022 Regular Session meeting and minutes from the October 24, 2022 Work Session.**
- B) Approve Financial Reports as presented**
- C) Hire:**
 - 1. Travis Sapp - HS Assistant Boys Basketball**
 - 2. Cresencio Ruiz - Transportation Helper**
 - 3. Sebastian Sanchez - MS Wrestling**
 - 4. Lorena Salgado - Custodian**
- D) Resignations:**
 - 1. Anthony Salomone - Transportation**
 - 2. Kevin Draper - HS Golf Coach**
 - 3. Cassie Robinson - HS Instructional Assistant**
- A) Policy Updates as discussed in October 24, 2022 Work Session meeting.**
 - 1. BBBA**
 - 2. CB**
 - 3. CPA**
 - 4. CPA-AR**
 - 5. GBEA**
 - 6. GDA**
 - 7. IGAC**
 - 8. IGAI**
 - 9. IGBAF**
 - 10. IGBAF-AR**
 - 11. IGBB**
 - 12. IGBB-AR**
 - 13. IGBBA**
 - 14. IGBBA-AR**
 - 15. IGDJ**
 - 16. IK**
 - 17. IKF**
 - 18. IMB**
 - 19. IMB-AR**
 - 20. JEA**
 - 21. JEA-AR**
 - 22. JGAB**
 - 23. KBA**
 - 24. GCBDA/GDBDA-AR(1)**

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 requested for further review from October 24, 2022 Work Session

- 1. DBEA**
- 2. IGBHE**
- 3. JHC**
- 4. KBA-AR**

The board discussed further language recommendations for policies DBEA, IGBHE, JHC, KBA-AR. The board all agreed on suggested language change and the revision to DBEA version 1 instead of version 2. Pat Morinaka made a motion to adopt policy DBEA version 1, IGBHE, JHC, KBA-AR with suggested edits; seconded by Jeremy Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

A) SIA (Student Investment Act) - Quarter 4 Report

Superintendent Johnson informed the board that the quarter four SIA report has been submitted. Copy of the report was provided for review by the board. SIA is the Student Investment Account created by the Oregon legislature to help fund schools. The strategies for the spending of this money requires community involvement and engagement. Superintendent Johnson informed the board that last year was the first year for SIA funds. Quarter four report informs the board and community how these funds have been spent. Superintendent Johnson also noted that it has been a great investment in people to be able to help hire additional staff where needed.

SIA quarter 4 report is on file at the District Office and posted to the district webpage at www.nyssa.k12.or.us.

B) State Report Cards - Presented by Ryan Hawkins, Brett Jackman, Luke Cleaver and Matt Murray

Ryan Hawkins presented to the board a slideshow with State Report Card data for the District, Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. Each Principal from their respective schools presented data to the board and informed them what they are doing to improve data.

Slideshow and State Report Cards are on file at the District Office.

C) Ryan Hawkins - Proposed ELD Curriculum Adoption

Ryan Hawkins approached the board requesting to forgo ELD curriculum adoption at this time. Ryan is requesting more time for himself and Araceli Gomez to research and gather assessments. Ryan has been in communication with ODE and the elementary school regarding the delay in adoption until next year. This is a new role for Araceli and she has been researching and working with an outside source other than ODE to find what is best for our kids here in Nyssa and to be able to make an informed decision. Ryan stated that the current curriculum is still a "good curriculum" and an approved curriculum by ODE. Current curriculum will continue for the current year with new adoption of curriculum beginning in 2023-24.

Alesha Munk made a motion to wait on ELD curriculum adoption until next year; seconded by Maribel Ramirez. Motion carried.

The board requested an update from Araceli Gomez by January regarding information gathered for the new curriculum.

D) Ryan Hawkins - Oregon Paid Leave

Ryan Hawkins discussed with the board the plan for Oregon Paid Leave. This leave would allow employees to receive leave under certain circumstances while protecting their job and receiving a percentage of their wages. The district will be required to pay 40% of the contribution rate. Ryan presented three options to the board regarding plans on how/when this will be paid. As a district a decision needs to be made regarding which plan we choose. Ryan presented the board with a spreadsheet detailing the three different plans. The State Plan was modeled after Washington's plan, which has had some issues after implementation in Washington. With this plan the district would need to start paying in January 2023 although staff cannot apply for the leave until September 2023. The Principal Plan really studied Nyssa and took a look at our employees and used data to estimate what percentage of our employees would take this leave. Turnaround time for payout to employees would be quicker than the State Plan. This plan also allows the district to not pay contributions until employees can access the plan in September 2023. The American Fidelity plan is similar to the Principal Plan, but would cost the district a little more money. Ryan Hawkins is asking the board's recommendation on which plan the district will use.

Jeremy Peterson asked why this is barely being brought to the board at such short notice. Business Manager Crystal Ridea and Payroll Clerk Kristie Hernandez explained to the board that this plan has been stalled by the State for years and the information provided has been vague with many questions unanswered. Crystal, Kristie, and Ryan have been reviewing these three plans for months trying to find more clarification to make the best informed decision.

Jeremy Peterson made a motion to approve the Principal Plan; seconded by Pat Morinaka. Motion carried.

Board Study

A) Policies needing further discussion

- 1. GCDA/GDDA-AR**
- 2. EFA**
- 3. GCQB**


The board will discuss these policies at a later date for further review.

Adjournment

Board Chair Susan Ramos adjourned the meeting at 9:23 p.m.



Chair/Vice Chair



Superintendent/Clerk

Board Minutes by Megan Glenn, District Administrative Secretary