

**Nyssa School Board Minutes  
Nyssa, OR**

**Date: February 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, Alesha Munk, Megan Robbins, Jeremy Peterson, Donnie Ballou, Marlon Wilson, Pat Morinaka

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Staff Members Present:** Superintendent Johnson, Ryan Hawkins, Megan Glenn, Crystal Rideau, Kristie Hernandez, Anna Long, Tara Hartley, Bobby DeLeon, Brett Jackman, Rebecca Martinez, Sara Sapp, Brian Beck, Lee Long, Travis Sapp, Luke Cleaver, Matt Murray, Roger Hunter, Spencer Esplin, Chad Cruickshank, Jason Lamb, Cindy Ramos, Emily DeLeon, Araceli Gomez, Kathleen Burbank, David McDonald, Mary Woodruff, Morganne DeLeon, Kristina Hernandez, Scott Rodman, Aaron Mills, Noemi Melendez

**Members of the Press Present:** None

**Community Members Present:** Ronaldo Bueno Family, Lizzy Sapp, Sharla Froerer, Maura Vivaldo, Ricardo Vivaldo, Nikolai DeLeon Family, Sabino Ibarra Family

**Call to Order**

The regular session board meeting was called to order by Board Chair Susan Ramos at 6:59 p.m.

**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 Morniaka. Motion carried unanimously.

**Commendations**

A) Students

**Elementary**

**K-2nd Grade**

Vice Principal Scott Rodman introduced the K-2nd grade student of the month as Nikolai DeLeon. Nikolai is in the dual language program, his English teacher Mrs.

Moody states that Nikolai comes to school with a good attitude and has shown growth in the past few months. Things are “starting to click” for Nickolai, instead of saying “I can’t read” he now says, “I know what that says!” Nikolai’s Spanish teacher, Mrs. Banuelos says that he has shown a lot of growth this year and has a more positive attitude towards Spanish and communicating with his peers. If he is unsure he will ask those around him and encourage others to do the same. He is caring and compassionate and a role model to others. Mrs. Steinmetz wrote that Nikolai is hard working and stays on task, even when things don’t come easy for him he is determined to be successful.

### **3rd-5th Grade**

Principal Matt Murray introduced the 3rd-5th grade student of the month as Sabino Ibarra. Mrs. Aguas wrote that Sabino is a bright student that takes pride in his work. His English and Spanish skills are equally strong and he works hard academically to be at the top of his class. He is a leader who is focused on helping make school a better place. Sabino is honest, kind, and friendly and represents his class as a “Bullpup Leadership” member. Mr. Evans wrote that Sabino is thoughtful and respectful and has excelled in learning the names, lines, and spaces in treble clef. Mrs. Steinmetz wrote that Sabino is considerate and works hard to do his best. He is dependable when a volunteer is needed and has great leadership skills.

Principal Matt Murray wanted to also take the time to remind the community of the Malheur County Spelling Bee to be held at the Elementary school on March 10th.

### **Middle**

Principal Luke Cleaver introduced the middle school student of the month as Ricardo Hernandez Vivaldo. Ms. Martinez wrote that Ricardo is always willing to help others including sharing his own school supplies. He is great at helping make sure new students feel welcome and that they know where they are going. It is wonderful to see him “step up.” Mrs. Cuevas says that Ricardo is often “the voice” and an advocate, although he is shy and reserved. He often checks in to make sure kids know where they are going. Mrs. Lazo says that Ricardo is always willing to go out of his way to help others. He is constantly working on improving his language skill and using what he does know to help his peers. He is comfortable in not knowing everything and risks being wrong, and understands that being wrong is part of learning. Mr. Long notes that Ricardo is considerate of other students and is motivated to assist when he can.

### **High**

Principal Brett Jackman introduced the high school student of the month as Ronaldo Bueno. Ronaldo is a Junior with straight A’s and excellent attendance, he is also ranked twelfth in his class with a GPA of 3.87. Ronaldo has a reputation at the school for being

kind and respectful. Mr. Long wrote that Ronnie is hard working, coachable, pleasant and encouraging. Ronnie is also driven, respectful and considerate of others. Ronnie is not only a great student, but is very helpful to his family. Ronnie helps his dad at work, helps transport and care for his siblings, and also helps translate for his family. He is a great example of the good in the world.

#### B) Employee

Principal Brett Jackman introduced Sara Sapp as the employee of the month. Sara works in the counseling office as a Graduation Specialist at the high school. Sara knows how to get things done even when it might be unpleasant. Sara goes above and beyond for our students and wants them to succeed. Her efforts towards student support is appreciated. Brett stated that when he arrived as a new principal it was helpful to have a knowledgeable office manager to help him learn the ropes. Sara is caring, nurturing, hardworking, feisty and tough as nails. Sara is a key player for student success.

#### C) Parent(s)/Volunteer(s)

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

### **Visiting Patrons & Delegations**

#### A) Anna Long/FBLA- Seeking approval for FBLA trip

Board Chair Susan Ramos gave the floor to Anna Long, FBLA advisor. Mrs. Long informed the board that typically in April the FBLA students attend State FBLA in Portland, which consists of 17-35 students. This year FBLA members met as a chapter and decided they would like to plan an alternate trip. The past two years have been canceled due to COVID, this year it is in person, but there are COVID requirements for attendance (i.e. vaccination requirement or negative test 48 hrs prior). The members also felt that Portland is not as safe as it once was. They feel they can plan alternative events for learning that would be beneficial outside the State competition in Portland. Using the same timeframe at State FBLA (Wednesday-Friday) at the end of March into early April they would like to travel to Boise State School of Business and Idaho State School of Business where the students would meet with entrepreneurs. This trip would be safer, less restrictive, and still be beneficial. Starting next year FBLA will still be part of Oregon FBLA, but will be competing in Idaho. It is the same as FBLA, but named differently (Business Professionals of America). Regional competitions will now be in Parma and State will be held in Boise. Competing in Idaho will be cost effective, less travel and all around better for our students.

Mrs. Long also wanted to discuss their canceled trip to Florida for the National Leadership Conference. This trip was to take place in the fall, but was canceled due to COVID. Airline tickets were already purchased prior to the cancellation so there are airline vouchers that will need to be used within one year using the original names the tickets were purchased. To use these airline vouchers the members and chaperones would like to go to Dallas, May 4-8th for the National Business Professionals of America conference. This trip would include 6 students and 2 chaperones. This will introduce our students to BPA which they will be competing in next year and help them gain experience.

Board Chair Susan Ramos called for a motion to approve the proposed trips to Boise State, Idaho State, and Dallas, TX. Jeremy Peterson made a motion to approve; seconded by Marlon Wilson. Motion carried unanimously. The board would like Mrs. Long to give a follow up report after their trips.

#### B) OEA- Bobby DeLeon

Board Chair Susan Ramos gave the floor to Bobby DeLeon. Mr. DeLeon emailed the board a letter written by the OEA regarding input on the 2022-23 calendar. Their email was in regards to the early release proposed calendar, which is not the calendar that will be presented tonight. Superintendent Johnson met with members of OEA prior to tonight's meeting and took their suggestions into consideration and revised a new calendar for consideration at tonight's meeting that removed the early release Mondays. The OEA just asks that moving forward they seek input from staff so they feel that their voices are heard. They would recommend a calendar committee in the future.

Community member Sharla Froerer asks what the timeline would be moving forward for the approval of next year's calendar and when the parents would have that calendar available to them. Superintendent Johnson stated that no later than March regular board meeting the board would like to have a decision. The latest draft of the 2022-23 calendar will be proposed later in the meeting.

#### C) OSEA-Cindy Ramos

Board Chair Susan Ramos gave the floor to Cindy Ramos, President of the Classified Union. On behalf of the Classified Union, Cindy is here to discuss further the request for COVID leave. On January 24th the board met in a work session, during this session the board stated that the classified union has a sick leave pool. Cindy wanted to clarify that they do not have a sick leave pool, in their previous contract they had a sick leave bank. Classified staff could donate sick leave and others could request to use the sick leave

that was donated, if they met the criteria. Cindy states that this does not exist anymore. What is now in the contract allows classified staff to donate time to another classified staff member if they meet the criteria. Language from the contract that states Sick Leave Donation is stated in section 8.6 A. Cindy explained that within the language of the contract this section was placed there for instances such as cancer, not for extended quarantine in regards to COVID. There was also a concern from the board about people abusing the sick leave. Cindy stated that in the proposed MOU that was written there is specific language that states "if quarantine is recommended by a healthcare professional," that way staff could not call in sick and request to use COVID leave, without written documents from a healthcare professional.

Alesha Munk asked if this request is for the remaining school year or moving forward as well?

Union member Kristine Hernandez stated they do not have a timeline on their request since we do not know how long staff will be affected by COVID.

Superintendent Johnson stated that he has done some research and has not found any surrounding school districts that are granting COVID leave.

Discussion followed regarding changing quarantine requirements, wording in the classified contract that states catastrophic events could embody COVID, and also government funding received by the school for COVID relief.

Pat Morinaka made a motion to table this discussion to further discuss at a work session when the board can gather additional information. The board will meet February 28, 2022 in a work session to discuss this further.

### **Superintendent Report**

#### 1. Proposed calendar discussion

Superintendent Johnson gave the floor to Ryan Hawkins to discuss the new proposed calendar for the 2022-23 school year. The proposed calendar mirrors this year's calendar. This calendar still reflects 165 student school days. The big difference, based on teacher input, is two weeks for Christmas, quarters more equal, and reduced teacher inservice days. Alesha Munk asked why there was a decrease for staff inservice days. Ryan stated that it was based on teacher feedback. The amount of inservice days were overwhelming and staff felt it was not beneficial. Work day will remain the same as previous year with a start of 7:45 a.m. and finished at 3:45 p.m.

Discussion followed between the board and those in attendance regarding scheduling issues not regarding the calendar days. Again, feedback recommended in the future to form a calendar committee. Ryan reiterated that this calendar draft was created based on several discussions with administration and feedback from staff.

Other comments from those in attendance were in regards to more Friday's off for tutorial Fridays or moving to a 4 day week. Superintendent Johnson stated that he is not in favor of a 4 days work week due to our demographics and the need for students to be somewhere safe, with access to food and educational instruction five days a week. Superintendent Johnson will evaluate the request for every other Friday off and draft a new proposed calendar.

The board stated they appreciate the feedback and will take everything into consideration before they adopt the calendar.

Pat Morinaka recommended that the administration take another look at the calendar and make some adjustments. Alesha Munk recommended this topic be tabled and further discussed at the February 28, 2022 work session meeting.

## 2. Mask rules from ODE/OHA

The Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Department of Education recently said no later than March 31st, schools will have local authority to decide whether or not to make masks optional. Superintendent Johnson and surrounding superintendents will meet on Wednesday to discuss this topic further.

## 3. Tennis court repair update

- a. We will not be able to do any repairs before the season, so we'll have to make do.

At this time no repairs will be able to be done prior to the Tennis season. Not every court has cracks, there are a few that have cracks that extend to the doubles line. There are enough "good" courts that we can move things around for practices and competitions for the courts to be playable for this season. Jesse is still currently getting prices for repair and researching different facilities that have had good experiences with long term repairs.

## 4. High School HVAC project update:

a. Architect and construction manager are working together and said that a start date of spring/summer of 2023 is best for the project completion in order to have all materials on hand and ready with supply chain issues currently.

The Construction Manager has been hired and they are working with the Architect to move forward. They have recommended that construction starts in the Spring of 2023. They want to make sure all supplies will be on hand when construction starts so that the project can be completed within the timeframe with no disruptions. Money being used for this project will need to be spent by September 30, 2024.

Jeremy Peterson excused himself at 8:37 p.m.

5. Policy JECB proposed language amendment:

**“For online-only students, enrollment shall be open twice yearly (prior to each semester) and closed before the semester begins. The school board may limit the number of accepted transfers into the online school.”**

This proposal is needed to encompass our online school enrollment (MTH). Superintendent Johnson received input from OSBA and this is the language that was recommended.

6. My Tech High (MTH) update

a. We officially have 11 elementary students enrolled as of today.

Originally there were 24 students who enrolled in My Tech High (MTH) but several districts denied inter-district forms. The State of Oregon only allows school districts up to 3% of students to leave their district boundaries to attend an online charter school. Many MTH registrations were denied due to this rule even though we are not enrolling students in a charter school. Superintendent Johnson and Ryan Hawkins have been working with school districts, superintendents and ODE to better understand the 3% rule and how to move forward. Currently we have 11 enrolled students.

Superintendent Johnson wanted to quickly discuss the Poverty to Posterity program. This program helps students not interested in college to gain experience to gain employment within certain career fields. Superintendent Johnson will meet with the President of TVCC and surrounding superintendents to discuss this program to find industries interested in allowing students to job shadow and create opportunities for students to explore different career paths.

## Financial Report

A) Approve Budget Amendment 2021-2022 - Resolution for HB 2444 Oregon FFA Extended Duty Contract subgrant so district personnel can manage approved programs of study in agricultural science and technology during the school year. Copy Enclosed.

Crystal Rideau presented a budget amendment to the board. The district received larger funds than what was budgeted, because this amount increases budgeted expenditures by 10% the board must approve this amendment to the budget.

Pat Morinaka made a motion to approve the budget amendment; seconded by Alesha Munk. Motion carried. All in favor, except Jeremy Peterson; absent from vote.

Crystal Rideau presented the financials. General fund was reviewed up to January 31, 2022. This month we revenue was increased at \$1,186,000, which was due to receiving our second payment of the Common School fund. Expenditures were just over \$1 million, which leaves the district with a carry forward of \$3.2 million. Operating statement for the middle school bond shows a balance of \$293,000 which will continue to collect tax payments until our payment is due in June. Operating statement for Early Head Start, ending January of \$45,642. This month there were three payrolls run, but otherwise a normal payroll. Approval of the bills reviewed for the time period of Jan. 1st-Feb. 4th. Food service operating statement ending January 31st ended the month with \$8560 in the black.

#### B) Adopt Budget Calendar for 2022-2023

Crystal Rideau presented a budget calendar to the board in July 2021, at this time she is requesting the board to adopt the budget calendar. This calendar will be published to the public on April 13th and April 20th in the newspaper, with the first meeting on Tuesday May 3rd at 6 p.m., this meeting Superintendent Johnson will go over his budget message and receive public comment. By May 25th the budget notice will be published online and in the newspaper. At the regular scheduled board meeting in June the board will be asked to adopt the 2022-23 budget. After adoption all paperwork will be delivered to the assessor by July 15th.

Marlon Wilson made a motion to adopt the budget calendar as presented; Seconded by Pat Morinaka. All in favor, except Jeremy Peterson was absent for vote. Motion carried.

#### **Consent Agenda**

- A) Approve minutes of the January 10, 2022 Regular Board Meeting and January 24, 2022 Work Session minutes.
- B) Approve Financial Reports as presented.



- C) Hire:
  - 1. Jacoby Hernandez- Student Information Specialist (transfer from Special Education Office Manager)
  - 2. Tracy Cleaver- HS Head Softball Coach
  - 3. Brian Beck- HS Assistant Baseball Coach
- D) Resignations:
  - 1. Rose Salomone- ELL/Student Information Coordinator
  - 2. Bobby DeLeon- MS Tennis Coach
  - 3. Heather Hert- NES Special Education Teacher/Case Manager
- E) Opening of Extra-Duty Contract:
  - 1. HS Assistant Softball
- F) Retirement:
  - 1. Dave Bieker- Elementary Teacher (Effective July 1, 2022)

Board Chair Susan Ramos called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Donnie Ballou made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; seconded by Pat Morinaka. Motion carried; Jeremy Peterson absent from vote.

### **Old Business**

#### A) 2022-23 District Calendar

This topic was tabled until further discussion at the Work Session meeting scheduled for February 28, 2022.

#### B) Review Policy JECB-Admission of Nonresident Students

Alesha Munk made a motion to adopt the amended language to policy JECB. Megan Robbins suggested the board re-evaluate the language so we are not forced to deny enrollment if it falls outside the semester time frame. The board would like to table this decision until they can discuss further at a Work Session meeting when reviewing other policy updates. This work session will be held February 28, 2022.

### **New Business**

- A) Inter-District #'s (Action Item)- As per Per Policy JECB (Admission of Nonresident Students) annually, by March 1, the board shall establish the number of student transfer requests into the district, and out of the district, to which consent will be given for the upcoming school year.

Superintendent Johnson reviewed with the board our current numbers regarding inter-district transfers. Ontario transfers are our highest number of inter-district transfers.

Discussion with administration regarding setting a fixed number to allow for the 2022-23 would be difficult to know the need versus the resources available. The middle school and high school administration would like to use the same language as the elementary school to state that they will evaluate their resources based on need to determine when the cap will be determined. Until a master schedule is built to know class options and class sizes it will be difficult to foresee how many students we will be able to allow. Donnie Ballou made a motion to allow each individual school to determine how many inter-district transfers they will allow for the 2022-23 school year. Inter-district transfers will be determined by school administrators based on class sizes and resources. Alesha Munk seconded the motion; all in favor, except Jeremy Peterson was absent for vote. Motion carried.

### **Board Study**

#### **A) Policy Updates-January 2022**

1. IGDJ- Interscholastic Activities-Optional (Currently do not have this policy)-Missed policy update from November 2021.
2. ACB- Every Student Belongs (Currently All Students Belong), Required
3. ACB-AR- Bias Incident Complaint Procedure, Required
4. DH- Loss Coverage, Highly Recommended
5. EEA-AR- School Bus Scheduling and Routing, Optional
6. GBA-AR- Veterans' Preference, Highly Recommended
7. GBL- Personnel Records, Required
8. GBLA- Disclosure of Information, (Previously highly recommended)  
DELETE
9. GCBDA/GDBDA-AR (1)- Family Leave\*, Highly Recommended
- 10.IGBAF-AR- Special Education- Individualized Education Program, Required
- 11.IGBAG-AR- Special Education- Procedural Safeguards, Required
- 12.IGBB- Talented and Gifted Program, Required

Board members were given copies of Policy updates for review. The board has requested a work session for first readings of policy updates. Work session is scheduled for February 28, 2022.


B) Budget Committee Members- one open position currently. Applicants must meet the required qualifications to serve.

The board will discuss further at a scheduled work session meeting on February 28, 2022 to decide on a deadline for applications.

**Adjournment**

Board Chair Susan Ramos adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

  
Chair/Vice Chair

  
Superintendent/Clerk

Board Minutes by Megan Glenn, District Administrative Secretary