Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Ocosta School District No. 172, Board of Directors, April 21, 2020, District Office/Zoom

Board Members: Greg Miller, President; Duane Pegg, Scott Jones, Debbie Carter-Bowhay, and Hillary Bearden.
(Joining via Zoom Session.)

Administration: Heather Sweet, Superintendent (hosting meeting at the district office); Nicholas French, Director of Teaching & Learning/Special Services; Christopher Pollard, Jr/Sr HS Principal. (Board members joined the meeting via Zoom Session. (Dr. Cindy Risher was not in attendance while on leave.)

Call to Order: 1.0 The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm and the flag salute was led by President, Greg Miller.

Approval of Minutes: 2.0 It was moved and seconded (DP/SJ) that the Board approve the minutes of the March 24, 2020 regular meeting as presented thereby ratifying all actions taken.
M/C, unanimous.

Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items 3.0 None

Consent Agenda: 4.0 Board member, Duane Pegg, asked the board whether or not policy and procedure 3424/3424P regarding Opioid Related Overdoses are necessary for Ocosta and if anyone at the district was trained to administer Narcan (Naloxone). Two board members stated that they’d rather be prepared than not have it on-hand and that staff members would need to be trained to administer the drug. Supt Sweet provided a cost estimate to purchase a Narcan kit: $120-$140 for two doses with an approximately 2-year shelf life. The board granted permission for Supt Sweet to purchase one to two doses for the district.

It was moved and seconded (DP/DC) that the consent agenda be approved, thereby approving items 4.1 – 4.11, which includes:

- Payroll warrants 538680 – 538700 in the amount of $653,178.74;
- Payroll Direct Deposits 900012968 – 900012969 in the amount of $4,850.80;
- Payroll warrants 538741 – 538745 in the amount of $2,825.02;
- Payroll warrants Accounts Payable warrants 538676 – 538679 in the amount of $9,605.12;
- Discharge of Jahleaha McPherson and Danielle Ross as Paraeducators;
- Resignation of Judith Serrano as HS Spanish Teacher;
- Hiring of Carla Silva-Ceja as Elementary Paraeducator;

M/C, Unanimous

Finance Reports: 5.0 It was moved and seconded (DC/DP) that the General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, and Department of Revenue warrants be approved, thereby certifying that the merchandise and services have been received and/or performed for payment: (optional reading)

- General Fund warrants 538702 – 538739 in the amount of $181,497.22;
- Capital Projects Fund warrants 538891 in the amount of $3,004.61; and
- Department of Revenue warrant 538740 in the amount of $63.57 on April 21, 2020.

M/C, Unanimous

General Fund Void 5.2 It was moved and seconded (DC/HB) that the General Fund warrant void be approved, thereby certifying that the merchandise and services have not been performed for payment: (optional reading)

- General Fund ACH Payment voided in the amount of $239.22;
- General Fund warrant 538674 voided and reissued as 538675 in the amount of $239.22; and
- General Fund warrant 538605 voided in the amount of $200.00 on April 21, 2020.

M/C, Unanimous

Informational Reports: 6.0
April Enrollment Report 6.1 Supt Sweet explained that the district allocation for enrollment will be a similar amount to the past two months and that OSPI will be determining the exact amount using a predetermined calculation. A P223 report was not required to be submitted to OSPI.

Superintendent’s Report 6.4 Superintendent Sweet spoke about:
- The board wished Greg Miller a happy 50th birthday.
- Supt Sweet shared a timeline of actions taken by the school since March 12th regarding the closure. The final item on the timeline being the closure of school for the remainder of the 2019/20 school year per the April 6th announcement from the WA Governor.
- District expectations and goals for classified and certificated staff during the closure were shared with the board.
- The role and work of the Superintendent during the closure was also shared with the board. Supt Sweet has been keeping busy with many webinars and zoom meetings.
- Supt Sweet has followed OSPI’s guidance regarding various areas including: Paid leave, school closure, flexibility for graduation, graduation waivers, special education guidance, food and nutrition guidance, required Paraeducator training, and grading guidance. Guidance regarding grading was just released this evening, 4/21. OSPI has stated that no students will fail during this closure, either a letter grade should be given or an incomplete.
- Budget Timeline: At the next meeting, the board will need to determine a projected FTE for 2020/21. Supt Sweet will review staffing needs with the building principals. Carrie Forrest will work with Supt Sweet to review funding allocations from the levy, grants, and basic education. The state will release the revenue forecast in Mid-June and when that is received, Heather and Carrie will work together to prepare the official 2020/21 budget. A public hearing will then need to be held for the budget and then the budget would need to be approved at the July 21, 2020 board meeting. Supt Sweet will discuss the 2020/21 budget timeline more at the next board meeting.
- End of Year Activities: Supt Sweet requested that everyone have a contingency plan for school events including: Graduation, Jr/Sr HS Banquet, Senior Trip, Moving Up Ceremony, Prom, Senior Night, and Dance Festival. Decisions regarding these events will be made sometime around mid-May.
- Sense of Community: The district continues to use the tags #together #weareocosta #southbeachstrong in social media posts. Many events are happening and/or are planned to promote togetherness during the closure, including: Friday night lights parade honoring seniors, a nighttime story read live on Facebook every night, the teachers made videos for students posted on social media, senior spotlight posts on social media, senior banners on the Levee Lumber fence, spirit week, virtual assemblies, hidden heroes and frontline heroes acknowledgements, virtual teacher lunch, and virtual game night.

Old Business: 7.0 None

New Business: 8.0

Proposed 2020/21 School Board Meeting Dates 8.1 Hillary Bearden asked why the board plans to do work sessions and not just hold regular meetings. Various board members explained the usefulness of holding work sessions prior to the regular board meetings. Supt Sweet then suggested that the June 2021 board meeting be changed from the 15th to the 22nd to allow for more time to pay invoices at the end of the school year.

Debbie Carter-Bowhay motioned to approve the proposed school board meeting dates for 2020/21 as discussed (with change from June 15th to the 22nd), Scott Jones seconded the motion. M/C, unanimous.

Leave Request (P.Quinby) 8.2 Hillary Bearden motioned to approve the request for leave during the 2020/21 school year for Phylicia Quinby, Debbie Carter-Bowhay seconded the motion. M/C, unanimous.

Questions or Comments: 9.0 Hillary Bearden asked about the teaching needs for next school year and would like to see three teachers for 1st and 4th grades to accommodate the large class sizes. Supt Sweet is looking into having a Kindergarten “jump start” time before the 2020/21 school year starts to better prepare Kindergarten students for school. Greg Miller asked about summer school and if it will be held. Supt Sweet says the school has the funding, so she’s waiting for the go ahead from the governor and OSPI before making a decision about summer school. Hillary Bearden also asked about the elementary principal arrangement with Dr. Risher on leave. Supt Sweet stated that Nicholas French is covering the principal role for the remainder of the 2019/20 school year. Supt Sweet also mentioned that when Phylicia Quinby goes on leave, Jennifer Wright will take over remote learning for her class.

Executive Session: 10.0 None
Adjournment: 11.0 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Miller, President

Heather Sweet, Board Secretary

Kristin Griffith, Board Clerk