

MINUTES

OF THE

SCHOOL BOARD OF DISTRICT NO. 40, YAMHILL COUNTY McMINNVILLE, OREGON

The Board of Directors of the McMinnville School District met in **Executive session** at **6:30 p.m. on February 24, 2020** in the School District Office at 800 NE Lafayette Ave., McMinnville, Oregon, Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i), Personnel Matters and pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h), Consultation with Counsel. The board adjourned the executive session at 7:30 p.m.

The Board of Directors met in **Work Session at 7:30 p.m.** Roll call indicated the following:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Larry Vollmer
Mr. Gerardo Partida
Mr. Carson Benner
Mrs. Barbara Carter
Dr. Tim Roberts
Dr. Paul Haddeland

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Janis Braich

ADMINISTRATION:

Dr. Maryalice Russell, Superintendent
Melanie Martinoff, Superintendent secretary

AUDIENCE: McMinnville School District Administrators, Israel and Ruth Valdez, Teresa Nava, Nichelle Greene, Marci Ingram, Cathy Bulloms, Kelly McIntyre, MEA union members, Jordan Robinson, Ella Taylor, sign language interpreters Sarah Comerford, Chris Starr, Shelly Shilhaneck, Kathy Mihladen, Eric Svec, Shane Fox, Melanie Turnbull, Jordan Robinson, Brian Bixler, Ashley Hernandez, Amber Ryerson, Andrea Brown, Bob Clark, Georgine Bennner, Amber Johson, Reid Kimura, Adam Gray, Cielol Tahmaseb, Katrina Amsberry, Pamela Stevens, Mimi Weinreb, and Steve Macy.

The Board chair called to order the work session at 7:30 p.m. to hear the SIA account presentation.

Ella Taylor spoke about the process required for the Student Investment account application which she helped to facilitate with the McMinnville School District. She went over the requirements that school districts go through for the Student Investment Account. First, the district conducts community engagement, listening sessions with students, parents and the public including groups such as a Spanish language speakers, and mental health specialists. The purpose of the student investment account is to address the mental and behavioral health needs of student, increase academic achievement, and reduce academic disparities. The funds can be used to reduce class size, and provide a well-rounded education, increased instructional time and health and

safety. Administrators spoke in detail about the outreach to all groups to get feedback. The School District reviews the information through the equity lens to make sure it encompasses all different groups. They incorporated research for effect size to improve academic outcomes for students.

The six investment strategies are:

1. Create structures in our system and schedules to support meaningful collaboration with staff. This is accomplished by increasing collaboration time without reducing student instruction time and increasing special education staffing to support students with disabilities.
2. Strengthen responses for student's health and wellbeing by collaborating with school staff, district staff, community partners and families. There are lots of activities including hiring licensed and classified skill building support, partnering with community health specialists for school based mental health, hiring social workers to facilitate behavior and family interventions. Also increasing school psychologists, speech pathologists, nursing services and counseling support.
3. Reduce class size by one throughout our system.
4. Provide Professional development and ongoing support with teacher leadership to support implementation. The goal is to increase the number of Teaching and Learning TOSAs and implement AVID school wide at middle school to enhance student success.
5. Expand opportunities for early learning, summer learning and afterschool enrichment. Expand early learning opportunities (Pre-K), hire summer learning and afterschool TOSAs, fund expanded summer programs, increase bilingual secretarial staff.
6. Enhance our partnerships with families to support student success. Hire an equity coordinator, provide after school opportunities to students for bilingual development in Spanish. Increase drop out prevention/family liaison for attendance, homeless and foster student support.

Susan Escure went through the details of the budget and activities.

The SIA application is available on the McMinnville School District website.

At the board meeting on March 9th, the board will be asked to approve McMinnville School District's SIA application. The board asked questions.

Chair Vollmer opened the meeting to public comment regarding the SIA application.

Nichelle Greene and Marci Ingram spoke about the homeless and dropout population. The current number of homeless students are 174 students for K-8 and at the high school, 75 students. There are many students living "Doubled up" which means they go to someone else's home to sleep, so not their own houses. These students need the district's help.

Kelly McIntyre, a counselor at Duniway Middle School, spoke representing the counselors. She spoke about student needs as seen by District counselors.

Israel Valdez, a parent and a pastor, thanked Dr. Russell, the school board and the staff for letting him speak about mental health. He said the plan looks amazing. As a parent and spiritual leader of some families, he sees that life is hard. Anxiety, depression, drugs, alcohol etc. indicate that there are mental health issues in society. Mental health

experts say the goal is to produce healthy members of society that will help our community.

Jordan Robinson, the district director of Lutheran services, spoke about how he appreciates the structure, the meetings and the plan that has been put together for the SIA. About ten years ago, they started working more closely with the school district. They have found that it is important to go to where the students are to provide the services needed.

Shelly Shilhanek, a teacher and a MEA executive council member, thanked administrators for the plan. The plan looks similar to their priorities. She said that the mental health goals from the plan will help her classroom. She said that her classroom has had daily room clears. She loves all her students but there are mental health needs. She said she works on kindness.

Shane Fox, a Patton Middle School science teacher, thanked everyone for the plan as it looks good. He wants to echo what the counselor said earlier. He thanked administrators for listening to staff, parents and students. He said the counselors were limited and have more students than the recommended 250:1 ratio. Shane said that he would like to see that ratio get closer to the recommended level.

Eric Svec, a Columbus Elementary classroom teacher and MEA bargaining chair member, thanked the board and Dr. Russell for all the work and listening sessions. He said the plan is close to where he would like it. He thinks there are things missing from the plan; a mental health team at the buildings, counselors, and a fully developed plan B. He wants more input on Plan B.

Carson said it is exciting to hear from the teachers and parents who are so passionate about their jobs and helping students. He thanked everyone for coming to this session.

Larry Vollmer thanked everyone for their participation tonight.

The Board adjourned at 9:00 p.m.