

**Northwest Regional ESD  
Board of Directors  
- REGULAR MEETING MINUTES -  
March 8, 2016**

**Attendance**

**Board:** Renée Bruce, Karen Cunningham, Earl Fisher, Connie Green, Lisa Poehlitz, and Ann Samuelson (Not in attendance: Dave Hollandsworth, Marilyn McGlasson or Christine Riley)

**Staff:** Rob Saxton, Robyn Bean, Janice Essenberg, Nancy Ford, Kerri Smith, Rick Wahlstrom, George Winterscheid, Lauren Slyh O'Driscoll, Megan Stenberg, John Jackson, and Laura Kanter Fellows.

**Guest:** Norie Dimeo-Ediger and Paul Barnum

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Poehlitz called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on March 8, 2016.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Director Fisher led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Poehlitz entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Green moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Fisher and approved unanimously.

**4. COMMUNICATIONS**

*None at this time.*

**5. SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Superintendent Saxton introduced John Jackson, Coordinator of the NWRES D Outdoor Science School. Coordinator Jackson introduced Norie Dimeo-Ediger and Paul Barnum with Oregon Forestry Resource Institute (OFRI) and thanked them for their partnership. Coordinator Jackson described two trainings OFRI hosted for the entire Outdoor School staff, as well as Multnomah ESD, at the Oregon Garden. OFRI fed and paid staff for the day, and Coordinator Jackson thanked OFRI for their generosity and continual meaningful support. Mr. Barnum thanked the Board for the honor and described the three year partnership that has formed between OFRI and NW Outdoor Science School. As OFRI celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Mr. Barnum shared his excitement for the opportunities emerging throughout the state to make forestry a more meaningful aspect of outdoor schools. Superintendent Saxton and the Board of Directors thanked OFRI for their partnership with a crystal award.

**6. PROGRAM PRESENTATION**

**A. NW Outdoor Science School**

Coordinator Jackson presented the Board with personalized wooden nametags that all Outdoor School participants wear during the program. Coordinator Jackson shared a student [video](#) about being an Outdoor School counselor. Director Bruce shared her child attended Outdoor Science School and was excited about the idea of becoming a counselor because of her experience.

Coordinator Jackson shared some of the challenges with the program, such as a need more recruitment of counselors and the need to expand to a fifth site to keep up with increases in enrollment. He also called out the celebrations of the program as one of the models for the state and the largest provider in Oregon. Coordinator Jackson shared a slide demonstrating enrollment rates over the last 15 years. Director Greene asked about recruitment of higher education students and Coordinator Jackson said they do have college age counselors. Director Green also raised a question about the changes in minimum wage. Superintendent Saxton said the minimum wage would be based on the Hillsboro requirements since NWRES D is the employer. CFO Essenberg added Outdoor School is the only program with employees making less than the new minimum wage amount. Coordinator Jackson thanked the Board and invited them to visit NW Outdoor Science School any time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. NWRES D Strategic Plan**

Superintendent Saxton presented an updated version of the strategic plan goals and metrics with special focus on two changes pertaining to 1) credit attainment at ESD schools and 2) ESD retention rates.

Chair Poehlitz entertained a motion to approve the strategic plan. Director Bruce moved to approve the NWRES D Strategic Plan as presented/amended. The motion was seconded by Director Fisher and approved unanimously.

### **B. NWRES D Budget Committee Member Vacancies**

Superintendent Saxton provided an overview of the budget committee vacancies and presented the Board with three new Budget Committee Member applications.

Maureen Wolf (Zone 1)  
Alice Hunsaker (Zone 5)  
JP Richards (At-Large)

Chair Poehlitz entertained a motion to appoint members to the Budget Committee. Director Green moved to appoint the individuals as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Fisher and approved unanimously.

### **C. Policy Review 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Assistant Superintendent received no changes or comments.

Chair Poehlitz entertained a motion to adopt policies. Director Bruce moved to adopt policies BBFA, BBFB, GBC, and INDB as presented/amended. The motion was seconded by Director Fisher and approved unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Approval of Financial Report**

CFO Essenberg provided an overview of the monthly financial report.

Chair Poehlitz entertained a motion to approve the financial report. Director Fisher moved to approve the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Green and approved unanimously.

### B. NW Promise Update

Superintendent Saxton shared his excitement about the NW Promise progress and partnership. He introduced Laura Kanter Fellows who joined NWRESD in January 2016. Superintendent Saxton told the Board how glad he is to have a talent like Ms. Kanter Fellows on the team. Ms. Kanter Fellows shared a teacher recruitment flyer with the Board and explained the purpose of NW Promise is to prepare kids for career and college pathways, especially by expanding meaningful offerings to students so they get credits that propel them toward a goal or career. She described the NW Promise Board membership and guidelines for the program so far. Superintendent Saxton said the NW Promise Board has been a good learning opportunity to hear from higher education institution, as well as Eastern Promise, Southern, IMESD, Mount Hood Community College and Willamette Promise. The NW Promise has been able to learn from the mistakes and successes. Director Green said the effort has come a long way, especially from where it was a year ago. She is happy to be a part of a “promise” that works and provides high quality opportunities for students. College and Career going culture conversations are as important as the courses themselves as they lead to something beyond high school.

### C. Policy 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

*None this month.*

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Assistant Superintendent Peterson shared the Early Learning Hub is now being run by Dorothy Spence as Paula Mills fully retires on March 9, 2016.

CFO Essenberg added a comment about roof at Washington Service Center and shared that replacing the roof could cost as much as \$1,000,000. CFO Essenberg will bring more information about options to the next meeting. Superintendent Saxton shared the ESD will consider a full faith/credit loan.

Chief Human Resources Officer Robyn Bean will be sending invites to board members who also serve on the bargaining board and also recommended an executive session at the next Board meeting.

Executive Director George Winterscheid shared about the NWRESD mental health summit last October and that ODE is now starting mental/behavioral health round tables and will be hosting in April. ODE was interested in what NWRESD did last year and is trying to connect schools with local resources. Also, Executive Director Winterscheid is now a member of Dyslexia Screening Committee which will provide guidance for a new law that will roll out this fall requiring all K1 students to be assessed. No extra money or time is allotted for this effort, so committee will try to utilize what already exists.

Director Kerri Smith called out an opportunity to support Cascade and Pacific through their dragon boat fundraiser. Also shared that ORVED will have completed testing of all charter students as of March 9, 2016. Lastly, Director Smith shared an upcoming opportunity in the Monday Memo to join the March Madness fundraiser. Chair Poehlitz asked for clarification around charter testing. Director Smith explained some students attend school full time and use ORVED to supplement, while other students attend ORVED as a full time charter school. These students are required to test, so NWRESD sends staff to remote locations to facilitate.

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Superintendent Saxton shared success for the goal of 20/20 NWRES D membership by March 1, 2016. He also shared excitement for 5.4 million dollars from the legislative session dedicated to Early Childhood, as well as additional preschool slots and funding for Preschool Promise. He also shared that the legislature lifted the sunset on a bill allowing Speech Language Pathologists to continue working past retirement. Superintendent Saxton commended ESD Lobbyist Ozzie Rose for his work toward these investments. Lastly, Superintendent Saxton shared for a moment on the Regional Achievement Collaborative (RAC) which will bring together the leaders throughout the NW region to help promote our goals for Early Learning, STEM/CTE, and college and career-going culture.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS / GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Next meeting will be April 19, 2016 at Clatsop Service Center.

Adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

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Lisa Poehlitz, Chair

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Rob Saxton, Superintendent