

SANTIAM CANYON SCHOOL DISTRICT 129J

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Santiam Canyon School District Office

January 13, 2021 5:30 pm

Santiam Elementary

The Board of Directors of the Santiam Canyon School District 129J, Linn and Marion counties, met with Todd Miller, in attendance was Jamey Fawcett, Alicia Boyd, Angie Fencl, Jeremy Tinney and Rich Moore attending via conference call.

1.0 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: Jamey Fawcett called the board meeting to order at 5:32 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 Approval and/or Changes to the Agenda: Move Action Item 7.2, Purchase Replacement Reader Board to Information Item

3.0 Public Comment/Audience Inquires: None

4.0 Santiam Spotlight: Teacher Presentation of In-Person / Distance Learning - Presented by Jill Saari.

5.0 Oral Reports:

5.1. Alison Galvin - Not in attendance, in addition to her written report, Todd shared that legislative session is starting and it will be a big year, it's across the board as to bills that are being introduced that may impact on-line charter schools.

5.2. Angela Rasmussen - In addition to her report, Angela shared that Friday was a big day. The Hub is back up and running, but the attendance was low last week, students are slowly coming back. So far we have 48 students enrolled in the Hub. Friday we met with a committee of staff regarding returning to "in person" instruction. Angela presented 3 different options and the committee hated all three. The 90-minute period is a tough sell. Together they came up with periods 1 through 4 in the morning, 55 minute classes, lunch break, at that point kids can choose to go home or they can stay at school, have lunch and have the bonus period, 12:30 to 2:00. The afternoon can be used for drop in, and extra help. We need to encourage kids that need extra help to stay for the afternoon. Athletics: Whatever your county's risk is, that is what will guide our athletic programs.

5.3. Margo Williams - in addition to her written report, Margo shared that they have 226 enrolled as of Monday. For all new enrollments we offer CDL or In-Person. There are currently six students that are on the list to come back to "in person" in February. So far we have not had to use the COVID quarantine room. Families are very open about exposures. Only one student pushed back on masks. We are rewarding kids for positive COVID protocol behaviors. We are very aware and strategic (due to the cohort levels) and all of these protocol measures are being logged. We are working through some staffing needs, and deciding how to handle requests. Cleaning protocols are great, each bathroom is being cleaned every hour. We have 144 students "in person" now. I'm glad we started this when we did, our planning has paid off, there have not been any negative comments from the CDL students as far as not feeling engaged. Jamey asked about how many kids are involved in the real time classroom, she shared that only a few have opted to do work outside the classroom time, most are tuning in during the scheduled class time.

5.4. Todd Miller - Project Manager, HMK, Steve Earle shared that Bldg. A, B, & C are being worked on getting thru the punch list and commissioning log for all the mechanical systems. Bldg. C was walked through today with the Architect, so we can get things done on Friday & Monday, over the holiday. Bldg. B is scheduled to receive furniture on January 25th. The Fire Marshall is giving us some challenges, so we're not clear on how were going to deal with it. The Servery will be punch listed next week. We have lost a couple weeks, due to the gym paving area, and some COVID concerns, but now we are back on track.

Todd shared that today's wind event was another tough call as to if we should have school or not. Luckily we had power in the buildings and we were hoping the Internet would be okay. Kudos to the Elementary staff, they are dragging after this first week of "in-person & CDL", but doing a great job. The students handled the COVID protocol better than we expected, probably because they are used to it outside of school. Big concerns are staffing and the COVID protocols for exposure. We recently put out job announcements for additional substitutes. We will be getting more federal stimulus funds and will be hiring full time substitutes in order to deal with the staffing concerns. We have a staff committee meeting and they have been discussing the COVID protocols. Many of the staff that were/are working at home have expressed that they are feeling better about what procedures have been implemented for in person school.

Todd shared that the Legislature met in December and passed a bill to offer coverage for liability for the schools impacted by the wildfires. Then the governor changed recommendations on metrics and that they are “advisory”, which gave the school districts the authority to make decisions on whether or not to offer “in-person” instruction. This negated the liability piece, but in our district’s situation, because we have the Wildfire Waiver, we have an exemption. Our insurance company PACE stated that we are covered for liability.

Santiam Hospital has offered the vaccine to all of our staff, starting on January 23rd. The schools are calling subs to ask them if they are interested in “in person instruction” and if they are interested in getting on the list for vaccinations.

Todd shared, just this week, we just received information from the insurance company that they will cover the cleaning of the new buildings.

5.5. Yvonne Hanna - Yvonne shared the December 2020 financial report.

6.0 Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Angie Fencl to accept the consent agenda including the minutes of the December 9, 2020 regular board meeting, the December 23, 2020 special board meeting as well as the December expenditures and second reading of policies; Alicia Boyd seconded, the motion passed 5-0.

7.0 Action Items:

7.1. Resolution 20.21.03 LBL Local Service Plan 2020-2021, Angie Fencl made a motion to approve the LBL Local Service Plan, Alicia Boyd seconded, the motion passed 5-0.

8.0 Information Items:

8.1. “In Person” Learning at Santiam Jr. Sr. High School - Todd shared that the 2nd semester starts on Feb 16th. Ideally that would be a great time to make a switch. He shared that there is a bit of a difference between elementary and grades 6-12, based on some science, there seems to be lower infection rates at the elementary level. In the Jr./Sr. High, the students move more. We know that COVID will inevitably get into the school, but we also know how to mitigate it. The big factor lies in if we make the deadline to get Bldg. B on line and construction workers out. Now that we know the first vaccine will be on Jan 23rd followed by the 2nd one on February 20th, there should be some comfort returning to “in person”. With the reopening of in person, we know that the first week of the semester is a busy, chaotic time. We are thinking it might be best to stay with CDL for the first week in order to get organized and prepped for the 2nd week of returning in person students. The board agreed that waiting would be the best scenario, that would give time for finishing up the buildings and figure out kids schedules, etc. Advantages including giving teachers time to be in their classrooms and dealing with tech. For the life skills kids, it might be nice to be able to bring them in on their own that first week. The board agreed that this would be a good approach.

8.2. Construction Update, most updates occurred in the Superintendent’s report.

8.3. Purchase of Replacement Reader Board, Sam Proctor is researching options.

9.0 Items for the Next Meeting/s:

9.1 Next Regular Meeting Date: February 10th at 5:30 p.m. at Santiam Elementary

10.0 Motion to Adjourn: Angie Fencl moved to adjourn, Alicia Boyd seconded the motion, the motion passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Board Chairman

Board Secretary