

# SANTIAM CANYON SCHOOL DISTRICT 129J

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Santiam Canyon School District Office

November 18 2020 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, Jeremy Tinney, Rich Moore, with Alicia Boyd attending via conference call November 18, 2020.

1.0 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: Jamey Fawcett called the board meeting to order at 5:34 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 Approval and/or Changes to the Agenda: None

3.0 Public Comment/Audience Inquires: None

4.0 Santiam Spotlight: None

5.0 Oral Reports

5.1. Alison Galvin – Report attached, enrollment is way up due to distance learning, at 4855, as of November 6<sup>th</sup>.

5.2. Angela Rasmussen – In addition to her report, enrollment is declining, some are moving out of state. Some students are really struggling with distance learning. We are trying to engage as much as possible. There are a lot of failing grades (Fs), as is similar with reports of other school districts around the state. Another disappointment came when we were supposed to start athletic conditioning but due to the Governor's Order, that has been changed. Jeremy commented that he'd like to see a comparison of ORCA Fs versus our Santiam schools. He stated, "Teachers should be in the buildings and held accountable for these failing students." Todd Miller said that the students that typically go to ORCA are selecting that option. This situation is not something that parents or kids are choosing, it's very difficult. Jamey asked about what the data would show compared to last year. He stated that some of the impact has to do with the wildfires and families choosing to deal with "life" right now, and school is not a priority.

Todd shared that buildings have been cleaned and teachers will be back into the Elementary school on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Next week we will be opening the Distance Learning Hubs at the two Mill City gyms and in Detroit, at the new leased modular. Margo shared that she has 8 teachers that are teaching in her building even with the buildings not cleaned. The new Jr./Sr. High School buildings are not ready to go yet, but should be by the end of December.

Abigail Darby, shared that she understands everything that has been said, she shared her personal experience as a teacher and as a parent. Jamey said that what he is hearing, is that kids need to be in the classroom, distance learning is not what these kids signed up for.

5.3. Margo Williams – in addition to her written report, Margo shared that their enrollment is approximately 220, and the attendance rate is about 82%. Our attendance team includes: myself, Michelle Sisk, Jason Henry, Ken Allison and Alisha Hansen. They pulled any student that was not engaging for 3 days, and then that child is assigned as a point person. They make contact any way they can, door knocking, Facebook, phone calls. They determine any barriers and try to rectify these barriers, like hotspots, etc. We do have families that only engage in the evenings. We have talked about incentivizing engagements, and are doing it and seeing results! The building is almost finished with regards to the cleaning. There are 14 kids that are signed up for the Distance Learning Hub so far and hoping for more. Margo has been contacting other schools that are doing both distance and in-person learning to see how we might do this. There is a lot of coordination involved and also following all of the COVID guidelines. We have had a pretty good turn-out for the Farm to Fork healthy eating program with OSU Extension office. We have had a lot of donations related to the wildfires coming in to assist students.

5.4. Todd Miller – Todd shared that we planned all summer for what we would be facing, and then the Wildfires hit. Just as we are adjusting to distance learning we are now planning for bringing staff and kids back into the buildings. We have implemented a health screening app that staff will complete every day. Though progress is being made, we are still waiting for HVAC cleaning to be done. We continue to wait on insurance, luckily we made the decision to just move forward to prepare to get kids back in school. The 0% interest loan we are getting from the State is being finalized with

the intention of FEMA reimbursing the loan. We are guaranteed that the cleaning work will be paid for, it's just a matter of which agency will pay for it. The learning hub in Detroit is on site, the solar panels have been installed, it has internet access, and outfitted by a local man from Stayton, Brian Barker, who has built 20 desks that will be delivered this week. We are excited about the donated technology that we are hoping will address the need for internet in the remote areas of Detroit & Idahna. It will benefit kids to see and learn from this unique technology.

Regarding the Governor's Order, it does not impact our in-person learning efforts, we have already established the health protocols. Unfortunately, it did shut down all indoor athletics. Next week we are hoping to get office staff into Bldg. A. We are looking at December 14<sup>th</sup> for Bldg. C, and hopefully January for Bldg. B. Once the preschool building is cleared out of current Jr./Sr. High staff, we will be moving to re-open the Preschool.

Todd shared the variety of donations that have been coming in and the projects that they are going to. He is working with a variety of donors and learning how they want to help.

Jeremy asked about Upward Bound, Todd has talked to a representative and they shared that their insurance funds do not cover the rebuilding. They have a 13 member board and they are working to see if they can just cut us a check to pay us off the \$108K that they still owe.

We had a meeting with the tax assessors from Marion & Linn Counties, as well as bond attorneys, Hawkins, Delafield and Wood and investment bankers from Piper Sandler. It was determined that it is too early to know how the fire losses will impact our revenue. The OSBA will be looking into a repayment of loans if we cannot make the bond payments. The Marion County Assessor brought up that when new buildings go in, the new assessed value level could be a lot more, there are a lot of different scenarios that could play out.

5.5. Yvonne shared the October 2020 financial report. Todd shared that the Legislature could approve an enrollment stability for 3 years, that would greatly benefit us.

#### 6.0 Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Jeremy Tinney to accept the consent agenda including the minutes of the October 14, 2020 regular meeting, as well as the October Expenditures; and the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Policies, Rich Moore seconded, the motion passed 4-0.

#### 7.0 Action Items:

7.1. Adopt Resolution 20.21.02, OSBA 2021-2022 Legislative Priorities and Principles, Jamey Fawcett made a motion to adopt Resolution 20.21.02, Jeremy Tinney seconded, the motion passed 4-0.

7.2. Accept the Oregon Charter Academy Annual Report, 2019-2020, Rich Moore made a motion to accept the Oregon Charter Academy Annual Report for 2019-2020, Jamey Fawcett seconded, the motion passed 4-0.

7.3. Approve the Opening of Distance Learning Hubs in Detroit, SJSHS Gym & SES Gym. Jeremy Tinney made a motion to approve the opening of the three distance learning hubs, the motion was seconded by Rich Moore, the motion passed 4-0.

#### 8.0 Information Items:

8.1. Construction Update: Steve Earle shared that the key to getting back on track, has been getting the buildings cleaned and duct work cleaned and completed, in order to get the construction teams back into the buildings to finish up. This week has been a flurry of activity in Building A. The crews are hitting a good momentum now that they are able to get back into the buildings. Todd shared that all of the furniture for Building A is coming in tomorrow, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. Todd shared that we are right at budget, but not much leeway and we haven't touched any contingencies. Perrydale & Alsea school district reps came out to tour the facilities and were impressed with what has been accomplished at the bond cost. We're getting to the point that it's starting to feel real!

8.2. Division 22 Compliance Update, in addition to keeping in compliance, we added distance learning last spring.

8.3. Rich Moore shared that he wanted to publicly acknowledge Jeremy Tinney and all the people that helped stop the fires. Jeremy shared there was a lot of loggers and community members who all stepped up to save our community from the fires.

#### 9.0 Items for the Next Meeting/s:

9.1 Next Regular Meeting Date: December 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at Santiam Elementary

10.0 Motion to Adjourn: Jeremy Tinney moved to adjourn, Jamey Fawcett seconded the motion, the motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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Board Chairman

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Board Secretary