

# SANTIAM CANYON SCHOOL DISTRICT 129J

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Santiam Canyon School District Office

November 8, 2023, 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 were, Angie Fencl, Elizabeth Reeser and Lynda Harrington.

- 1.0 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: Angie Fencl called the board meeting to order at 5:33 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2.0 Approval and/or Changes to the Agenda: Todd Miller added under Action Items: 6.3.11, JJ Jensen, Assistant Wrestling Coach and 6.3.12, Robert Young as Middle School Wrestling Coach.
- 3.0 Public Comment/Audience Inquires: None
- 4.0 Oral Reports:
  - 4.1 Allison Galvin, Oregon Charter Academy - Allison Galvin was not in attendance, but provided a written report.
  - 4.2 Blane Lazar, Jr./Sr. High School Principal - Blane shared that enrollment is currently holding steady at 310. Currently all seniors are on track to graduate. This past summer we discussed having a more open campus, adding clubs and other opportunities for non-athletes. Our goal was to get more students involved in extracurricular activities; we have added several new clubs including: Golf, Santiam Rocks, Future Leaders, Gaming, and Homework Help, in addition to already existing clubs like the International Club. Blane said that even though we have 60% of students participating in afterschool sports, we want to reach the other 40% to offer some type of engagement to keep kids interested in being at school. Recently they held the first ever autumn dance for Middle School. Organizers changed it up a bit and added a “non-dancing” activity every 15 minutes. The kids enjoyed the change and many felt more comfortable with other activity options. Blane shared that he and his team are working on the student’s heart (character) getting them to engage and respond in a positive manner. The School of Rock Camp was a great success and so much fun to watch a private concert, the kids loved it. From the athletic corner, our girls’ volleyball team went to state in Redmond for the first time since 2003, it was great to see the girls get that opportunity. The staff were very supportive and even had a “watch party” the morning of the first game where they gathered to watch the game. Middle School girls’ basketball has started. Lynda Harrington shared that she enjoys the administrative reports and asked if Blane would invite students to attend the board meetings, she would love to hear from their perspective.
  - 4.3 Corrine McGinnis, Santiam Elementary Principal - In addition to her written report Corrine shared that enrollment is currently at 256. Parent-Teacher conferences were a success with 85% participation. We have just completed dental screenings. Halloween was a blast, the staff embraced the Wizard of Oz costumes and there are some great pictures on their social media pages, if interested. SES has added additional reward trips to incentivize students who are being “Safe Respectful and Responsible”. She shared that her team is focusing on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders behavior, it’s evident that this age group needs to be redirected often. Jill Saari has introduced clear guidelines on what is appropriate behavior. We have added an opportunity to earn a trip to attend an OSU basketball game. The kids work in groups to earn basketballs to show that they can be successful learners. Corrine pointed out a large poster of a tree with autumn leaves in their commons. She said perspective is huge, so we are now making an effort to incentivize gratitude with “Santiam Tigers are Thankful”, kids are able to share what they are grateful for in the form of a leaf, which is added to the tree.
  - 4.4 Todd Miller, Superintendent - Todd shared that Title IA funding was increased this year due to our census data combined with ORCA’s reduced enrollment (which was cut in half since the pandemic). Because of the formula, the result appears as if our poverty rate has gone up which results in more funding. Todd stated after hearing the reports, he wants the board to realize that every adult in these buildings are educators to our kids. They genuinely care. He let the board know that this Saturday the Hall of Fame banquet is scheduled in the new gym and listed the inductees. Next month, we will hold a hearing for people to provide input regarding the renewal of our contract with ORCA. Anyone can come and listen or contribute their thoughts. We will have 90 days to vote to approve the final contract from the date of the hearing. We will be working with OSBA on final contract language. We now have preliminary state data from last year. The published grad rate is 92% with a regular diploma. Two completed with an alternative certificate, meaning 100% of our students graduated with some certificate. A lot of the supports are funded by the SIA grant including remediation. The district will do a press release on the graduation rate.

4.5 Yvonne Hanna, shared the October Financial Statements.

5.0 Consent Agenda:

- 5.1 Minutes of the October 11, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
- 5.2 Minutes of the October 27, 2023 Special Board Meeting
- 5.3 October Expenditures Report

Lynda Harrington made a motion to accept the consent agenda, Angie Fencil seconded; the motion passed 3-0.

6.0 Action Items:

- 6.1. Approve Easement to City of Mill City for Sidewalk Improvements, Todd Miller outlined the easement on the map and explained the necessity of the project. Lynda Harrington made a motion to give the Superintendent the authority to make decision on the final granting of the easement, Angie Fencil seconded; the motion passed 3-0.
- 6.2. Accept Resignation of Kimberly Hutchinson, SJSHS Head Secretary, Angie Fencil made a motion to accept the resignation, Lynda Harrington seconded; the motion passed 3-0.
- 6.3. Accept Recommendation to Hire Winter Coaches:
  - 6.3.1 Kerry Crowston, Head Varsity Wrestling Coach
  - 6.3.2 Hannah Thompson, Head Varsity Girls Basketball Coach
  - 6.3.3. Michelle Sisk, Head JV Girls Basketball Coach
  - 6.3.4 Greg Grenbemer, Asst. Girls Basketball Coach
  - 6.3.5 Jeremy Downey, Asst. Girls Basketball Coach
  - 6.3.6 James (JD) Hill, Head Varsity Boys Basketball Coach
  - 6.3.7 Julian Downey, Asst. Boys Basketball Coach
  - 6.3.8 Amber Jungwirth, MS Girls Basketball Coach
  - 6.3.9 Kelsey Clark, MS Basketball Coach
  - 6.3.10 Chase Howard, MS Wrestling Coach
  - 6.3.11 JJ Jensen, Asst Wrestling Coach
  - 6.3.12 Robert Young, MS Wrestling Coach

Angie Fencil made a motion to accept the recommendation to hire winter coaches listed from 6.3.1 through 6.3.12, Elizabeth Reeser seconded; the motion passed 3-0.

7.0 Information Item:

- 7.1. ORCA - Intent to Renew Charter Contract was mostly discussed during the superintendent report, but the timeline was reviewed along with the expectations for the process.
- 7.2 Oregon At-A-Glance Profiles were discussed and shared.
- 7.3 SIA Annual Report - Todd Miller shared that SIA provides significant funding for our programs. ODE has asked for a summary of the activities that SIA has funded, which Todd shared with the board. He also went over the year end reporting questions that ODE required by districts.
- 7.4 Lynda Harrington asked to discuss the auctioning of fire arms for fundraising purposes. Todd Miller explained that the district is not involved in the decisions made by independent fundraising groups, even if does benefit of our students. Lynda said the optics are not favorable with regard to the school shootings, etc. Angie Fencil shared that the reason these raffles are so popular, is that it only takes a couple of volunteers to make a significant amount of money. The group also discussed the lack of volunteers and how this impacts fundraising efforts for such events as the all night grad party and the scholarship auction.

8.0 Items for the Next Meeting/s:

- 8.1 Next Regular Meeting Date: December 13, 5:30 p.m. at Santiam Elementary

9.0 Motion to Adjourn:

Lynda Harrington moved to adjourn, Elizabeth Reeser seconded; the motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

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Board Chairman

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Board Secretary