

# SANTIAM CANYON SCHOOL DISTRICT 129J

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Santiam Canyon School District Office

December 11, 2024, 6:00 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 Mary Richards, Elizabeth Reeser, Josh Childress and Lynda Harrington.

- 1.0 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: Lynda Harrington called the board meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2.0 Approval and/or Changes to the Agenda: No Changes
- 3.0 Public Comment/Audience Inquires: Lynda shared that she served on the interview panel for the Quinn Scholarship and enjoyed learning about the applicants and their educational experience at Santiam.
- 4.0 Oral Reports:
  - 4.1 Allison Galvin, Oregon Charter Academy - Allison Galvin was unable to attend. Todd shared that ORCA's enrollment is close to 300 students more than last December.
  - 4.2 Blane Lazar, Jr./Sr. High School Principal - Blane shared that enrollment is down a bit, currently at 308. Abbie Drake-Spier is the employee of the month. She is engaged in the welfare of kids and is truly dedicated to the work she does at the school. He shared the "Mark your Calendar" section of his report to highlight important dates. The winter band concert was a huge success. 80 kids performed and it was a wonderful event. Jess shared that they took 7<sup>th</sup> graders to OSU, they did a small tour of the campus and watched a women's basketball team. For many of them, this was the first time being on a college campus, it serves as great exposure to the possibilities. Lynda asked for stats of students moving to college after high school. Blane shared that the thanksgiving food drive was awesome, they served 20 families and our students raised funds to purchase some of the items in the food boxes. He shared that the lock down drill was taken very seriously and that the Linn County officers involved were incredibly impressed with how our staff and students responded.
  - 4.3 Alisha Hansen, Santiam Elementary Principal – Alisha shared that the school has 8 new students. She highlighted and explained the "attendance award" recently implemented that is given to families. Alisha attended a law conference recently along with administrators from around the state. She said that several staff members will be attending a PLC conference. There is still a focus on writing, we're trying to make strides in that area. We've incorporated writing in most subject matters to help increase this skill. The kids are also learning to assess their own writing, which they are seeing improvement. The SES lock down went very well, the kids and staff did great. The Christmas program is scheduled for tomorrow, December 12th. The rest of the month will include, spirit day, classroom parties, as always, there is a lot going on for the holidays. The sunshine committee is hosting a cookie exchange for staff. We are looking forward to assessments coming up, we believe that the implementation of UFLI should help show improvement.
  - 4.4 Todd Miller, Superintendent - Todd shared that staffing is steady, but we are still lacking substitutes. There is not a day where we are not covering classes because there are not enough subs. Bargaining will start soon; Mary has agreed to serve on the committee. ODE has put out some information on stipends for special education staff, there is not currently an estimate of how much that might be per district. It's a one-time stipend at this point and will be given at the end of the year. With regard to the report card, our graduation rate is 92% and he will go more in depth in the report later during the information items section. The new property closed last Friday. We are hoping to have bids for you to review at the next board meeting. There is a lot to clean up, but Todd is getting a sense of the potential of good usable space. He would like to work with the city to survey community and obtain feedback of what the community wants. Based on those ideas he will plan to approach the Oregon Community Foundation and ask for grant dollars. We had a threat incident the other day. Linn County Sheriff's office was helpful, he shared that the incident had occurred the previous evening and luckily they had the information needed to determine that school would be open the next day. They helped Todd with the communication to parents, and parents were able to make a choice for their family. All absences were excused for that day. Santiam Hospital is looking for a board member, and looking for someone from the canyon. Todd also shared that he is asking for donations for the Osprey Cam. Pacific Power will need to have it up and installed by March, because the Ospreys typically come back by then.

4.5 Yvonne Hanna, Business Manager, shared that we have a draft of the audit report. Auditors should have it wrapped up in time and delivered to ODE by the deadline this year. She also shared the November 30, 2024 financials.

5.0 Consent Agenda:

5.1 Minutes of the November 13, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

5.2 November Expenditures Report

Mary Richards made a motion to accept the consent agenda, Josh Childress seconded; the motion passed 4-0.

6.0 Action Items: None

7.0 Information Items

7.1 ODE School Report Cards - Todd walked the board through the report. He explained that the first page that shows the whole district is mostly skewed towards ORCA. He went through and helped the board understand the layout and data of the report. He discussed one of the metrics that we are low in, is the state testing, he shared the reasons behind this, and opt outs are impacting this data. We need to do a better job getting kids to take the test. The board agreed to look over the data and come back to either discuss or ask questions at the January meeting.

8.0 Items for the Next Meeting/s:

8.1 Lynda Harrington asked if the admin team could be prepared to discuss weighted grading at the next meeting.

8.2 Next Regular Meeting Date: January 8, 2024 6:00 p.m. at Santiam Elementary

9.0 Motion to Adjourn: Mary Richards made a motion to adjourn, Elizabeth Reeser seconded, and the motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

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Board Chairman

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Board Secretary