

SSD books in good order per audit

By Charlie Kanzig
Correspondent

With Edie Jones seated as its newest member, the Sisters School Board found that the books are in good shape at their meeting on Wednesday, February 5 at the Sisters School District administrative building.

With no citizens present to contribute community comments, the meeting got underway with a video call to the company hired to do the annual audit for the District as a way to get live feedback of any issues needing immediate attention or action from the board and superintendent. The auditors answered a few questions and confirmed that the books looked to be in good order.

The board moved on to hearing from High Desert Education Service District Superintendent Paul Andrews and local ESD board member Carol Moorehead, a resident of Sisters, regarding what is known as the Local Service Plan. The High Desert ESD serves Deschutes and Crook counties, and in a smaller way most of the counties in the area east of the Cascades.

Sisters School District receives services and support through the ESD for services such as the substitute teacher scheduling service, specialists in occupational therapists and adaptive technology, career and technical education (CTE) and many others as part of a package to which all member school districts have access. In addition, Sisters School District can choose from a menu for which services they want

to contract with the ESD in other areas. Andrews' brief presentation served the purpose of informing the board as they make decisions for the next school year as to which services to purchase.

In other business, representatives from the high school, middle school and elementary school communicated updates on the work being done by staff on the mission/vision project (see related story, page 16). Data has been collected, including through a survey called Youth Truth, to help zero in on how the schools are doing on the themes of "Prepare, Belong, and Inspire."

Superintendent Scholl announced that the construction of the transportation facility that his being built behind SPRD is truly underway, but a completion date was not predicted. Scholl also noted that enrollment in the District remains up overall, but mid-year saw a bit more of kids moving in and out than normal. Sisters Middle School Principal Alison Haney chimed in that with Tumalo Community School

eliminating grades 6-8 for next school year, a number of Tumalo families have inquired about bringing students to Sisters for next year.

"We are arranging for a tour with interested families," she said.

He finished his report by referencing the Student Investment Account monies that are tied to the newly state-wide Student Success Act and reminded the board that an additional non-competitive grant focused on preschool to second grade will be completed before the April 15 deadline pending board approval prior to that date.

Board Chair Jay Wilkins mentioned that one position is still unfilled for the Sisters School District Budget Committee.

The meeting concluded following first and second readings for a total of nine policies that required minor changes to reflect changes in state law, all of which were approved unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is set for March 4, beginning at 5 p.m.

Get kids' immunizations up to date

Central Oregon public health departments remind parents that children will not be able to attend school or childcare starting February 19 if their school records show missing immunizations. State law requires that all children in public and private schools, preschools, Head Start and certified childcare facilities have up-to-date immunization records, or have a medical or non-medical exemption on file at their school.

"The goal of this law is to ensure that all children are protected against serious vaccine-preventable diseases," said Deschutes County Health Services Director Dr. George Conway. "Ensuring that our schools have high immunization coverage helps protect our whole community from infectious diseases, including measles and pertussis."

Letters have been sent to notify parents and guardians

if their child needs immunizations. Many parents get letters because their child's school or daycare records are not up to date. It is important for parents to update their child's immunization record after every shot. If school and childcare immunization records are not up-to-date, the child will be sent home on February 19.

Parents seeking immunizations for their children should contact their healthcare provider, county public health department, or a school-based health center (SBHC). To make an appointment at Sisters' SBHC call 541-526-6623.

Pharmacists can immunize children age 7 or older. Contact your local pharmacy for details.

For information about immunizations visit www.deschutes.org/immunizations or call 541-322-7499.



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The next generation of Outlaws faces an increasingly changing world where the work they do and the problems they solve will require the ability to see the big picture, relate well to others and think creatively. We are committed to educating students to have the confidence and capacity to change the world. We know our students, and help them find their strengths and passions. Individual relationships are foundational to everything we do, as is our belief in each student's ability to become a caring, contributing adult. This requires a focus on the whole individual, including their mental and emotional well-being, beginning with self-awareness and compassion. We believe diversity will make us stronger, and honor each student's background, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and religious affiliation. We believe every student has a unique future and can be successful. We believe kids learn best when education is hands-on, real and relevant to their lives or interests. We are fortunate to live in a unique and special community that makes us stronger, and vice versa. We believe TOGETHER we can do anything. After all, WE ARE THE OUTLAWS.

Notice of Non-Discrimination: Sisters School District is committed to equal opportunity and non-discrimination in all of its educational and employment activities. The District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, disability or age in its programs and activities and equal access to the designated youth organizations in the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. **The following individuals have been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination:** District 504, Martha Hinman, martha.hinman@sdsd6.org, 541.549.8521, Ext. 1160. District Title VI, Title IX, Age Discrimination & Americans with Disabilities Act Contact, Jayel Hayden, jayel.hayden@hdesd.org, 541-693-5685.