

Vernonia School Board Report

At the April 11, 2013 Vernonia School Board Meeting:

Board Accepts Resignation-The Board accepted the resignation of teacher Kari Hansen. Hansen had been an instructor for thirty years in the district. Superintendent Ken Cox, along with the entire Board, thanked Hansen for her many years of dedicated service to the district and the students.

Board Cuts Days for Calendar-Due to budget shortfalls, Superintendent Ken Cox requested, and the Board approved, a reduction of four days from the school calendar this year. (See full story on front page.)

SHaW to Hold Open House- Spencer Health and Wellness, School Based Health Center will hold an Open House on April 23, 2103 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. There will be refreshments, special guests and a ceremony at 1:00 PM. The public is invited.

Board Approves Calendar-The Board approved an instructional calendar for next school year which includes 165 days for students and 180 days for teachers.

Special Education Report-James

Brookins gave an annual Special Education report to the Board. Brookins discussed the specialized services the district receives from the NWRES. He also reported on the continuing increase in the district of Life Skills and Behavioral caseloads. Brookins reported that the district will have seven students from the Sped program graduating this year, but will have seven students incoming into kindergarten that have been identified for the program next year.

Brookins reported that the District did not meet Mathematics and Reading standards for students with disabilities in 2011-12, but that the Improvement Plan the district submitted was accepted without revision. Brookins also reported that the District was 100% compliant for System Performance Review and Improvement and all work has been completed through 2014.

Teacher Kathleen Jackson reported on the Learning Resource Service program at the high school level. Jackson reported that several students are studying for their GED and that one passed all requirements and received their diploma.

The district had ninety-nine students in the program this school year, or 17% of the student population. Superintendent Cox told the audience that the District receives \$11,000 (instead of the

usual \$6,000) for each student identified as special needs, but only up to 11% of the population.

School Board member Bill Langmaid noted that the Vernonia School District has families moving into the district to take advantage of the "...phenomenal program we present. So we are attracting a higher cost population as a result." Langmaid suggested lobbying the state legislature to remove the 11% cap on smaller districts. Brookins noted that students identified with special needs is increasing in general. School Board Chair Jim Krahn thanked Brookins and his program for all their work. "We appreciate what you do very much," said Krahn.

Girls Scouts Explain Projects-Girls Scouts Lauren Ely and Jessica Butcher told the School Board they were planning to initiate a project on April 13th to remove weeds along Missouri Avenue and the entrance to the new school campus. Girl Scouts Megan Ely and Mackenzie Willard told the School Board that Troop 40485 was initiating a recycling program in the School Commons and would use the money they collect to assist a fresh water project in a third world country.

Student Reports-Middle School leadership students Hope Cutright, Lauren Glass, and Megan Rice updated the School Board on activities from their school including what they are studying in certain classes, art projects, a 6th grade garden project and the VMS track team. They also informed the Board that students are preparing for their Washington D.C. Trip and that the Leadership class is involved in numerous activities.

Board Approves Student Survey-Board member Bill Langmaid made a presentation on behalf of the Vital Vernonia Indicator Project and presented a short student survey that students will be asked to complete this spring that will gather baseline data for the project. The five question survey asks students about volunteerism, school pride, plans beyond high school and current job opportunities. The Board approved the survey.

Board Approves Resolution-The Board approved Resolution 1213-06 to join and support a state-wide "Strong Schools, Strong State" campaign to prioritize education in state investments through adequate and stable funding, preventing further program cuts and staff reductions and starting on a path to achieve Oregon's 40-40-20 goal.



Run for the Arts

Students at the Vernonia Schools participated in "Run for the Arts" on April 11, 2013, running laps to raise money for arts programs in their school. The program provides funding for art focused assemblies and artist-in-residence programs, exposing Vernonia students to cultural diversity programming not found in the community. In the past the program had helped fund programs that included drum making, basket weaving and other music and craft programming.



Vernonia School District Volunteer of the Month March 2013

Nayan Fleenor

Nayan Fleenor was a teacher in the Vernonia School District for over thirty years. Now she is an incredible volunteer who commutes from Portland to help the children of Vernonia. She reads with students, helps them with other subjects, goes on field trips, helps with Run for the Arts, runs a station at Salmon Watch and so many



other things. She is also in charge of the District's donated supplies. Nayan is an incredible asset with all that she does for the youth and teachers in the district. She is a great example of what volunteerism is all about!

Spencer Health and Wellness School Based Health Center

is open to patients on
Tuesdays and Fridays from 7:30 AM - 1:30 PM

B Use this notice if public comment will be taken at a later meeting.

NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Vernonia School District 47J, Columbia, State of Oregon,
(District name) (County)

on the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 20 13 to June 30, 20 14, will be held at 1000 Missouri Avenue, Vernonia Oregon.
(Location)

The meeting will take place on May 9, 2013 at 6:00 ☐ a.m. ☒ p.m.
(Date)

The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place.

An additional, separate meeting of the Budget Committee will be held to take public comment. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. The meeting for public comment will be on

May 23, 2013 at 6:00 ☐ a.m. ☒ p.m., held at 1000 Missouri Avenue, Vernonia Oregon
(Date) (Location)

A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 9, 2013
(Date)
at 1201 Texas Avenue, Vernonia Oregon, between the hours of 10:00 ☒ a.m. ☐ p.m. and 4:00 ☐ a.m. ☒ p.m.
(Location)