

School Board Report

At the December 14, 2017 School Board Meeting:

Public Comment – Jennifer Rau and Darrold Mushatt told the Board they were disappointed in the way staff handled a situation at school, when both of their daughters were touched inappropriately by another student. Both parents said they were not notified of the incident by the school. Rau suggested the district needed to better educate students about inappropriate touching and Mushatt said the District needed to be better on communication with parents about all issues.

Student Reports – Kaylee Bartolomucci, an 8th grade leadership student provided the Board with a detailed update on Middle School activities. She told the Board about fall sports, a Blessing Bags project to provide supplies to homeless people, and discussed current curriculum being studied in classes.

Building Reports – Elementary School Principal Aaron Miller provided the Board with a written report. Miller reviewed work in the first year of the Response To Intervention and instruction (RTI) program, covered by a four year grant to improve Core reading; informed the Board that classroom awards are being well received by students in classrooms that respond to and meet expectations for clean classrooms and bathrooms, and hallway and cafeteria behavior, as part of the Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports (PBIS) program; and introduced 20% and 100% Meetings – 20% Meetings focus on lowest performing students to help develop intervention plans and 100% Meetings focus on all students in a particular grade level to look at trends to determine effective teaching methods.

High School/Middle School Principal Nate Underwood provided the Board with a written report. Underwood reported that the Vernonia High School 2016-17 graduation rate was 84.8%, up from 69.8% the previous year and significantly above Oregon's average of 74.8% and comparison schools of 80.7%.

Underwood told the Board research shows that data for Freshman On-Track-To-Graduate is the most telling indicator of high school graduation rates; the data tracks attendance, academic success and behavior. VHS reported

62.3% of freshman students on track in 2016-17, much lower than the Oregon average of 83.4% and comparison schools of 82.3%. Underwood later provided the Board with samples of student report cards for the ON-Track for Student Success program which allows 9th grade students and their parents to see whether a student is On Track, Nearly On Track, At Risk, or Not On Track to graduate.

Underwood told the Board Senior Speeches are scheduled for Wednesday, January 10.

Annual Audit Report – Nick Miller of Pauly, Rogers, and Co., P.C., provided the Board with the annual audit report for fiscal year 2016-17. Miller reported that the audit found no issues with the District's financial reporting

Fall Sports Report – Athletic Director Gordon Jarman provided the Board with a report on Fall Sports activities at both the Middle School and High School.

Jarman reported that the Middle School had seven students participate in club cross country, led by Sadie Gump, Delaney Draeger, Peter Hahn, and Max Anderson; the football team, led by Levi Richards on offense and Jeremiah Arroyo on defense, was 5-1 on the season; and the volleyball team, led by Emma Rylands, Kortnie Adams, and MVP Brooklyn Walters, only lost one match at the end-of-season Seaside Tournament.

Jarman reported that High School volleyball finished 2nd in the Northwest League and once again qualified for the State Playoffs, but lost in the first round. The cross country team

welcomed new coaches John Roady and George Spaulding and placed several runners on the All League First Team. The football team finished third in the Northwest League with a 4-5 record and placed numerous players on the All League Teams.

Jarman noted in his report that the lack of usable covered bleachers at the football stadium was detrimental and would like to see the District resolve this issue.

Board Approves OSBA Nomination and Bylaws – The Board nominated member Greg Kintz as Regional Oregon School Board Association (OSBA) Representative; Kintz has represented the region for numerous years and is up for re-election. The Board also approved new bylaws, as the OSBA is reorganizing as a Non-Profit Corporation.

Board Accepts Retirement of Sherman-Heath – The Board accepted the retirement of Instructional Assistant Roxanna Sherman-Heath, effective January 31, 2018.

Board Considers Agenda Re-order – Board Chair Brett Costley presented the Board with a proposed re-order of the meeting agenda for consideration. Changes included moving Public Comment towards the end of the meeting, and adding Monitoring Board Performance as a way to self-check their work. Costley asked the Board to review his proposed changes; the Board took no action.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Aaron Miller told the Board that the PCC Dual Credit program has been very beneficial for students and the District.

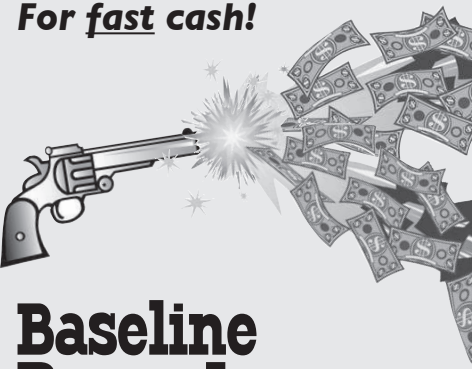
Miller updated the Board on the Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) program that all five Columbia County School Districts are working on. Miller informed the Board the the County has received a \$68,000 grant from CareOregon to implement the program during the 2018-19 school year, and said District representatives have been traveling around the state to see how other schools are implementing the program.

Miller provided an update on Bond projects. He said trophy cases have been purchased and the Mist School roof replacement project is going out to bid. He said the welding shop construction is being planned for the summer of 2018, and new classrooms and the football field/track construction is planned for the summer of 2019. He said he is reviewing new sound and video equipment for the gyms and Commons.

Miller provided new Procedural Handbook pages for Administrative Chain of Command and Student Behavior. This new project is ongoing and will provide staff with consistent expectations on how to handle interactions with students.

Miller said he is researching options to fence the grandstands at Greenman Field in order to protect the District against liability until the City decides whether to repair the roof or remove it.

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Vernonia Students of the Month

November 2017

Elementary School



Front row (left to right): Aubrie Morrison (1st), Aiden Achondo (K), Bella Leach (2nd), and Weston Dennis (K)
Back row: Malaki Erb (3rd), Silas Hunter (3rd), Momi Leininger (5th), Robyn Naron (4th), and Andre De Field (5th)

Jessika Marine Grade 7

Jessika is known as a motivated, dependable and trustworthy student who is also very friendly. She plays volleyball and is also on the cheer squad. She volunteers at the Fire Department and also participates in her church's youth group. In her spare time she likes to study, spend time with her family, help take care of her six younger siblings, read, and do art.



MacKenzie Fassold Grade 12



MacKenzie is the co-chair of the Project Based Learning class and also helps with art projects throughout the school. She is a member of the National Honor Society. She is involved with the youth group and helps with Vacation Bible School at Vernonia Christian Church. She competes on the track and field team. In her spare time she likes to read, draw, and do art, and also loves spending time in the outdoors. She has been accepted to both Portland State and University of Portland for next year to study Criminal Justice and plans to attend Law School.

Meyer's Auto Body

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