

ASTORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 1C
785 Alameda Avenue
Astoria, OR 97103

SPECIAL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

April 4, 2018

ANNOUNCEMENTS/AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

None.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jeanette Sampson, Chair
Grace Laman, Vice Chair
Jenna Rickenbach, Director
David Oser, Director

Excused: Matthew Lindstrom, Director

ALSO PRESENT: Craig Hoppes, Superintendent-Clerk; Mindy Landwehr, Business Manager; Marisa Flukinger, Recorder (Please see **Attachment A** for complete list of attendees.)

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sampson called a special meeting of the Board of Directors of Astoria School District No. 1C, Clatsop County, to order at 6:16 P.M. on Wednesday, April 4, 2018 in the Astoria School District Boardroom.

2.0 Industrial Arts/ Agriculture Program

Superintendent Hoppes referenced the study session packet regarding the Industrial Arts/Agriculture program. He explained that Administrator Jackson would be presenting on this item. Mr. Jackson discussed the retirement of Dan Foss, the current IA instructor. He went on to discuss the proposed restructure of the current program and briefly explained the program of study. Mr. Jackson discussed the funding kick back per student and the district's intent to use measure 98 funds to kick-start the program; he discussed local contractors providing surplus materials to the program. Mr. Jackson referenced the overhead and discussed the unique offerings of the IA/AG Natural Resource program. The group briefly discussed staffing for the unique program offerings. Mr. Hoppes added that the District is actively seeking an Industrial Arts/Agriculture instructor; the group discussed instructor endorsement requirements. Mr. Hoppes went on to discuss the strong parent and community support. He directed the group's attention to the public present. There was a brief discussion with the public regarding the FFA program and the advantages it brings to the students, as well as the multiple community partners and the addition of paid internships. The group, again, briefly touched on the hiring procedure for the IA/AG position. Mr. Jackson expressed his anticipation of the upcoming forecasting fair results. Chair Sampson thanked the district for their hard work. She thanked the public for their questions and comments regarding moving forward, out of district program availability, funding, and curriculum, and noted that the board does not normally take public comment during study session.

3.0 GRADUATION INFORMATION

Superintendent Hoppes explained that Mr. Jackson would be discussing the graduation information. Mr. Jackson transitioned into discussing graduation information. He referenced the overhead and discussed transfer and mobile students; there was a brief discussion regarding risk factors regarding graduation. Mr. Jackson referenced the overhead and discussed the numbers by group. Director Oser thanked Mr. Jackson for the information breakdown, and

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expressed concern regarding the non-transfer students that do not graduate. Mr. Jackson explained the characteristics for these students are the same as transfer students: family instability, mental health and substance abuse. There was a brief discussion. Mr. Hoppes discussed the addition of the AI/AG program, and the hope that it will peak interest with the students that may not have interest in the current curriculum. There was a brief discussion regarding a partnership with Tongue Point, and the paid internship opportunity for AHS students.

4.0 TEXTBOOK ADOPTION INFORMATION

Curriculum Director Melissa Linder discussed her thankfulness for the strategic plan. She explained the K-12 focus, initiatives, ways to maximize district resources, and whole core health for our student population. Ms. Linder referenced her report and discussed each line item regarding quality core instruction, Title IA funding and program choices and the evaluation of the Special Education services. Ms. Linder went on to explain the reading curriculum. She discussed that the reading core had not been evaluated since 2008. Ms. Linder discussed historical methods of reading instruction. Ms. Linder explained the phases of implementing the new reading curriculum. She discussed that she has been presenting to building educators, and has had a lot of positive feedback. Ms. Linder briefly discussed barriers to implementation. Director Oser asked about specializing and staffing. Ms. Linder discussed educator information and in-class support. There was a brief discussion regarding Title IA and the desire for a well-rounded program for all students. The group discussed intervention strategy and transitioned into Title/Special Education information.

5.0 TITLE/SPECIAL ED INFORMATION

Administrator Kelly Clay transitioned into the Title/Special Education information. She referenced the overhead and discussed special education factors. Special Programs Director Kelly Clay explained that Special Education performance has been less than successful. She discussed the intervention strategy for Special Education, and proposed methods for long-term success. There was a brief discussion regarding graduation numbers for Special Education students. Ms. Clay explained the research supporting push in methods to core classes, instead of pulling out. Ms. Clay went on to discuss the need for a shift in focus, increased collaboration and educator support. There was a brief discussion regarding continued support for cognitive and behavioral needs. Ms. Clay explained the supports are individual and intentional, and will not change with the shift in focus. Director Rickenbach expressed her excitement for the shift. Administrator Linder discussed professional development and educator focus. Superintendent Hoppes discussed the board's goal around special educations. He discussed the success surrounding the push in method, and the need to provide adequate training for staff. Ms. Clay discussed that the challenge became more manageable, once they looked at it collaboratively.

6.0 MUSIC PROGRAM INFORMATION


Superintendent Hoppes referenced the overhead and discussed the District Strategic plan and core beliefs. He explained that the current design of the music program is not equitable and student-centered. Mr. Hoppes discussed that the music program remained unmodified with the restructure from neighborhood schools. He explained that sharing staff created inequity, and expressed the need for a reevaluation of the program. Mr. Hoppes explained the goals and the

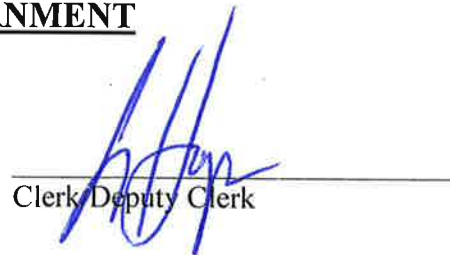
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process to the group. He explained the desire to decrease the amount of in-district travel for music teachers. He explained that music is valuable in student learning, and that strained schedules for administrators to schedule core curriculum around music. Mr. Hoppes expressed the need for music educators to be a part of school culture. Mr. Hoppes asked the administrators to comment regarding the current state of their individual music programs. Each administrator presented to the board a current account of their music programs. Mr. Hoppes explained that he had met with administrators in December and requested priorities in music; additionally, he met individually with admin and music teachers and gave them an opportunity to discuss what is working, and what needs adjustment. Mr. Hoppes explained that the District offers a great music program, and has a very dedicated staff. He went on to discuss the growth of the band program. There was a brief discussion with administrators regarding the pros and cons of the restructure. Mr. Hoppes referenced the proposal for the music program, discussed the addition of FTE to the program, and noted the need for orchestra to make a decision. He went on to state that he does not know how the music program got to this point; he discussed stipends and extra-duty contracts for music. Director Oser discussed that it appears to be about music, but it really may be organizing the structure. Mr. Hoppes discussed a group that is concerned regarding the restructure, and may be present at the next board meeting for comment. The group went on to discuss challenges to the program including the addition of a .48 FTE position, travel, prep time, lunch time, and educator specialization. Mr. Hoppes added that he would be taking a comprehensive look at the program and expressed the importance of this conversation. Chair Sampson expressed her relief that the district was not talking about removing the program. Mr. Hoppes concluded that he would like parents and community members to look at the big picture, and he is more than willing to meet individually to address concerns.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 P.M.


Board Chair


Clerk/Deputy Clerk