

OREGON-DAVIS SCHOOL CORPORATION

Wednesday, July 10, 2019
Special School Board Meeting, 6:00 PM

Jr/Sr High School Cafeteria , 5990 North 750 East, Hamlet, IN 46532

The Board of School Trustees of the Oregon-Davis School Corporation met in Special Session on Wednesday evening, July 10, 2019, at 6:00 PM in the Jr/Sr High School Cafeteria, pursuant to the rules of the Board.

1. Meeting Opening

1.01 Call to Order by Annette Ferch

1.02 Pledge of Allegiance - led by Annette Ferch

1.03 Roll Call - Annette Ferch, Kyle Hinds, Brandie Ecker

1.04 Work Session: Tour of Facilities, Presentation on Strategic Action Plan, Presentation on Finances

The work session started with a tour of the facilities led by Dr. Harman with assistance from Scott Taylor. Some highlights include:

- >Track needs resurfacing
- >Bleachers, rain pools under them, needs to be fixed
- >Water puddling situation outside of Elementary was address with a new drain a few years ago
- >Baseball facility - new press box needed
- >Playground-PTA wants to raise money to overhaul the playground/equipment
- >Modulars will be removed next week-ultimate goal is for area to become a safe playground
- >Pickup procedure changed last year at elementary to make it safer
- >Gate locked providing more security

Overall the elementary is in better shape than the Jr/Sr High School. Both buildings are on borrowed time on their chillers which would be approximately \$400,000-\$500,000 expense for each chiller.

- >Carpet needs to be addressed in some areas
- >Heating/Cooling controls in both buildings
- >Elementary secured entrance, looking into state matching grant
- >Pool-separate heater for better cost efficiency
- >Sidewalks and curbs-next week some of those will be replaced, sidewalk from Handicapped Parking will be adjusted.
- >Dead spot in elementary gym

Bus Barn has 2 bays for repair work to be done, Hummer and mowers and storage in other bays. The roof was replaced a few years ago.

Not on the facility plan is the parking lot that will need to be resealed soon. A question was asked about widening spots. Whoever does the painting after resurfacing would know the regulations regarding size and quantity of spots. More handicapped spots were added when Dr. Harman started.

Elementary Gym bleachers need to be addressed they are a safety issue and are not ADA compliant.

In the High School HVAC/Chillers-cooling/heating units in each room need to be addressed.
Carpet in Media Center
Gym is in pretty good shape but may only have one more saving of the floor available.

Existing lighting has been switched over to LED.

At the conclusion of the tour, Dr. Harman had a slide presentation on the Strategic Plan and a handout for all in attendance. The timeline for addressing facility needs was on one side with the Strategic Plan on the other side. He pointed out that in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 the Chillers are scheduled. This is to possibly use debt that is rolling off in those years to be able to replace those big ticket items by securing another bond.

The strategic action plan is a working document that needs to be revisited and updated each year.

There were no questions on the Strategic Action Plan.

Next was a Fiscal Presentation. Dr. Harman covered some of the same information that was presented before the last referendum with enrollment trends, tax rates, etc. Three big factors that influence OD's finances are decreased assessed valuation of farm land, student enrollment and state funding. Right now the tax rate is \$1.21 which is about average in the state.

Again it was pointed out that the Capital Projects, Bus Replacement and Transportation are now all together under the fund called Operations.

As of July 10, 76% of the student population lives in the corporation with 24% coming from out of district. Two big items that Oregon Davis faces, that have been emphasized from consultants, are housing and the time zone.

Oregon-Davis has over 100 students that attend John Glenn, 50 of which have never set foot in our schools. Some of the reasons are that they live closer or the parents work in the eastern time zone and it is more convenient for them to attend John Glenn Schools.

In 2009 the state opened up enrollment. No longer did a family have to pay tuition if they chose to take their students out of district. This is when Oregon-Davis enrollment started declining.

The main revenue for schools are taxes and enrollment. A school cannot operate under deficit spending.

At this point Dr. Harman shared the website for the Distressed Unit Appeal Board which is

www.in.gov/duab/2386.htm this is a public web site that includes a lot of information. He showed that from 2010-2016 the corporation was expending more than the revenue it had coming it but that has finally been turned around and expenditures are now below revenue. He then presented a slide showing cuts that helped to make that turn.

Also shared were positives:

Bobcat Blast
Facebook
More articles in the Leader and on WKVI
PreK
Safety
1:1 devices
TeleHealth
Community Service Day
Pool utilized in grades 3-12
Lifeguarding course offered
SCYC
Band
Pep Band
Drama Club
Free Breakfast
Curriculum Building
Professional Development for Teachers
After School Remediation and Enrichment
Jump Start
Bowen Center Partnership
SADD
Art Program
Digital Learning - APEX
Construction Courses
Fishing Club
Athletic Programs

After the presentations, time was opened to the public to share ideas to promote interest in the corporation, some of which are listed below.

Medical (EMT) course, perhaps through a Nipsco grant for safety
Summer Sports Camps
Summer Music Camps
Open Gym
Open Swim
Dual Credit Courses
Where are they now-alumni spotlights
More information from/about PTA
Career Day - invite local unions and trade organizations along with colleges

Mr. Bradley also went over the handout he supplied the Board Members at the July 8 meeting and had copies for those in attendance.

Better communication with local media was emphasized along with more updates/posting on social media sites.

Some other questions that were raised and may have to be answered are the possibility of before school care, and bringing back summer gym class.

Mr. Ohime said that there is a group of interested community members that have begun the process that want to help. He feels that it will be in the little things, that we serve one another well, that people have a good experience, serving well and loving will go farther than anything else. He said they will be seeking every resource they can and it will be a positive time. If interested contact Mr. Ohime.

The next Board Meeting will be July 22.

2. Adjournment

Mrs. Ferch asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting which was made by Ms. Ecker and second by Mr. Lawrence. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Kurt Hayes, Secretary

Minutes recorded by Julie McLiver