MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

January 7, 2009

The Board of Directors of School District No. 4J, Lane County, Eugene, Oregon, held a regular board meeting at 7 p.m. on January 7, 2009, at the Education Center, 200 North Monroe Street, Eugene, Oregon. Notice of the meeting was mailed to the media and posted in the Education Center on January 2, 2009, and published in The Register-Guard on January 5, 2009.

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS:
Charles Martinez, Jr., Chair
Yvette Webber-Davis, Vice Chair
Eric Forrest
Beth Gerot
Alicia Hays
Craig Smith
Jim Torrey

STAFF:
George Russell, Superintendent of Schools and District Clerk
Tom Henry, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer
Carl Hermanns, Assistant Superintendent/Chief Operating Officer
Barbara Bellamy, Chief of Staff and Communications Director
Susan Fahey, Chief Financial Officer
Caroline Passerotti, Financial Analysis Manager
Celia Feres-Johnson, Director of Human Resources
Jon Lauch, Director of Facilities Management
Laurie Moses, Director of High School Services
Yvonne Curtis, Director of Student Achievement
Laurie Henry, North Eugene High School Principal
Randy Bernstein, South Eugene High School Principal
Carmen Urbina, Parent, Family & Community Coordinator

STUDENTS:
Mallory Bray, Churchill High School
Lizzy Monroe, South Eugene High School
Joe Kammerer, North Eugene High School
Joel Iboa, Sheldon High School

MEDIA:
KRVM

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND FLAG SALUTE

Board Chair Charles Martinez called the meeting of the School District 4J Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
AGENDA REVIEW

There were no changes to the agenda.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent George Russell reported that he had just come from the State of the City message. The mayor’s concerns centered on the economic climate; she discussed working with a number of community partners to develop a progressive economic plan. The mayor indicated she was putting jobs as her top priority. The City of Eugene had $200 million in projects it submitted to the incoming Obama administration to consider as part of the economic stimulus package.

Superintendent Russell shared some ideas from the American Association of Administrators (AASA) for the economic stimulus package, which resulted from a survey of association members. The ideas included a three-pronged approach; the first prong was a focus on school construction and renovation, the second the creation of a block grant program to go to schools for one-time use to relieve pressure on their general funds, and the third was assistance to local districts by fully funding the School Disabilities and Education Act. He noted that the AASA had forwarded those ideas to the State and Congressional delegations.

Superintendent Russell spoke to the district’s budget, anticipating that the situation would grow worse when the next state budget forecast came out. Governor Kulongoski indicated that education was his top priority, but Superintendent Russell said that education was not immune to cuts, and he anticipated that all districts in Oregon would experience budget reductions. He said the district had reserves to assist it as well as the local option levy, and he expressed appreciation to the voters for passing that measure. However, he reiterated, he anticipated some reductions. The district would take immediate steps to reduce spending. Superintendent Russell said the Budget Committee had already discussed the budget reductions he proposed this year, which were in excess of $3 million. He said the district would continue to focus on the instructional core and try to avoid layoffs.

Superintendent Russell reviewed the numbers in the governor’s proposed budget, noting they were not sufficient to maintain current service levels.

Barb Bellamy, Chief of Staff and Communications Director, reported on the district’s meeting with the governor’s staff earlier that day, saying that governor perceived investment in education as critical to Oregon’s economy and to positioning the state for an economic recovery. The governor’s staff had emphasized the importance of availability to an educated work force to businesses considering locating in Oregon. She said the district was encouraged to develop a number of budget scenarios because the budget picture was not likely to become clear before June 2009. The district was also encouraged to lobby local legislators for the need to tap the Education Stability Fund for the next biennium. Ms. Bellamy said there was no solid information about the level of federal funding that might be anticipated, although the governor’s staff had indicated that an increase in IDA funding might occur; any additional commitment to special education would require an additional infusion of federal funds to continue in the long-term, or allowing the state to supplant some of what it was doing with general funds now. She emphasized the need for sustainable funding.
COMMENTS BY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Joel Ilboa, Sheldon High School, reported that the Mr. Irish Pageant, which benefited the Children’s Miracle Network, was underway. He noted the bomb scare that occurred at the school earlier that day.

Lizzy Monroe, South Eugene High School, noted the upcoming basketball game against Sheldon. She noted a recent fundraiser conducted by student leadership.

Mallory Bray, Churchill High School, said not much was occurring as the school was just getting underway after the recent holiday break.

Joe Kammerer, North Eugene High School, reported that the girls’ basketball team was very talented and had recently won a game against Churchill.

ITEMS RAISED BY THE AUDIENCE

Michael Sheehan, 31121 Fox Hollow Street, a 4J parent, believed his area should also be considered for a boundary change and indicated he had submitted information to staff, which had been extremely responsive. He thanked Superintendent Russell for attending public information sessions. He believed his area’s location justified its inclusion in the boundaries of South Eugene High School (SEHS). Historically, students in the area had attended SEHS. He hoped a decision could be made in February.

Zach Meyer, 605 Davis Street, a student at Family School at Spencer Butte, supported changing his school’s boundaries to the SEHS boundaries. He asked that the board help him stay with his friends, as they were all good students and had good grades. He thought his high school experience would be enhanced.

Janet Lambert, PO Box 8377, Coburg, supported the remarks of Mr. Meyer. She asked the district to look into on-line education. She said her children were TAG (Talented and Gifted) children and such children generally did not receive the same attention as other special children. Without school choice, her next child could not attend SEHS and would end up in the Cal Young area. She hoped the board would consider grandfathering those children and not discriminate against families because of a gap in their children’s ages.

Karmin Taylor, 710 West 25th Avenue, a student at Family School at Spencer Butte, said her older brother was in SEHS and she had assumed she would also attend SEHS, but because of changes made, was now to go to Churchill High School. It would be very difficult for her mother to drive her children to two schools and she would no longer be with her friends. She asked the board to consider her situation.

Eli Meyer, 605 Davis Street, a student at Family School at Spencer Butte, said he had been with his peer group for a long time and thought the transition to high school would be easier if he was making it with his friends. He thought maintaining his peer group was an important element for his high school success.

Beth Meyer, 605 Davis Street, supported the remarks of the students from Family School, noting the issue affected only 13 students in the current class. If the Friendly Street boundary change went into effect, three of the 13 would be affected, and if the sibling rule was invoked, that affected four more students, leaving only six or seven children for whom SEHS would not be their neighborhood school.
Nancy Willard, 474 West 29th Avenue, strongly encouraged the board to maintain its current approach to the transfers with the possible exception of siblings. She pointed out that most children changed social groups when they entered high school. Ms. Willard said there were 140 children living in the Churchill region who attended SEHS middle schools, and if they were allowed to continue that pattern the district would not be able to equalize the high schools. Ms. Willard provided the board with a packet of materials intended to help it in its decision making.

Debbie Boures, 2891 West 19th Avenue, Eugene, introduced herself as the mother of a Family School student and asked the board to give consideration to those with siblings at SEHS. She spoke in praise of the Family School family and agreed with what the students said about splitting up their peer group. She said her family did not have the information about the possible change when her child’s sibling went to SEHS. She suggested the current eighth grade class of Family School were caught in the middle of the transition. She proposed a phase-in of the transfer limits as she acknowledged the reasons for the transition but continued to be concerned her child was caught in the transition. She pointed out that only one cohort was involved.

Marijo Taylor, no address given, asked the board to make the decision about the boundaries soon so people would know how to move forward.

Kimberly Waldron, 1768 West 13th Alley, mother of a Family School eighth grader, spoke in support of giving the current eighth grade class at Family School an exception from the boundary changes to allow them to attend SEHS together.

Arum Toke, 973 Tiara Street, a parent of an eighth grader at Roosevelt High School, agreed with those who spoke before him. He said that given the high cost of travel, people needed choice to avoid having to drive long distances. He thought that should be possible for the district to accomplish. He said his family lived in the Churchill region but were much closer to SEHS than to Churchill and all his son’s friends were going on to SEHS. His son’s life would be disrupted because his afterschool activities were downtown. He asked that the boundary area be expanded so that people could have choice.

David Zupan, 870 West 23rd Avenue, reported on the recent informational meeting at Roosevelt Middle School and a parent’s suggestion that the boundaries be set flexibly so that a family within four or five blocks of the boundary could send their children to a school outside their region. Many parents asked that the issues of neighborhood and community unity be considered, as well as life-long friendships such as those formed at Family School. Some suggested that the west boundary be Polk Street rather than Friendly Street, and the south boundary be 30th Avenue to include the “greater Friendly Street community,” whose residents believed in alternative modes of travel. He called the boundary changes a major policy change not supported by the majority of the community and said they would not solve any budget problems.

Regina White, 2110 Madison Street, asserted she was told by a teacher at Spencer Butte Family School that the school’s curriculum was formatted to “set the kids up for South High School.” Children were smoothly transitioned to high school. Her family was drawn to the school by the music program and its continuity through high school.

COMMENTS BY EMPLOYEE GROUPS

Paul Duchin, Co-President of the Eugene Education Association (EEA), promised the board that the union would soon comment about the budget situation. He said there was a large response
to Superintendent Russell’s recent e-mail; many teachers were dismayed at the level of crisis while others interpreted the e-mail to mean that there was no crisis. He said that Superintendent Russell intended to meet with the Eugene Education Association’s 4J representatives soon to discuss the budget outlook.

Mr. Duchin announced the upcoming Martin Luther King, Jr., Day Celebration, which was to be held in conjunction with the City of Eugene event again this year.

Mr. Duchin announced an upcoming five-part seminar series covering two elements of the two diversity modules and three of the care training, which was an implementation model for diversity training. He expressed appreciation to the district for its support.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Receive a Report on the Chalkboard/OSBA Business Audit

On October 21 and 22, 2008, the Chalkboard Project, in association with the Oregon Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) and the Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA), visited 4J to conduct a two-day comprehensive business and operations review. The purpose of the review was to objectively examine the school district’s operations to identify best practices and make recommendations for improvements. The Chalkboard review team, led by Angie Peterman, executive director of OASBO, consisted of current and former school business officials, members of the OSBA staff, and various business partners with direct experience in the areas of school business and operations. The 14-member review team conducted over 90 interviews with district administrators, directors, teachers, staff, school board members, parents and community members, and included visits to central administration offices, operational departments, and schools. The executive summary of the report was included in the board packet.

Carl Hermanns, Assistant Superintendent/COO, introduced Ms. Peterman to the board. Ms. Peterman introduced Lisle Wendt of the Chalkboard Project. She provided some brief background on the Chalkboard Project to the board. Ms. Peterman commended the district as extremely innovative and very progressive. District staff at all levels was highly dedicated to student success. She then presented a brief overview of the review’s findings to the board, which included recommendations to consider opportunities for centralization in areas such as purchasing; to review existing district human resource systems for duplication and integration; and to consider adding staff to the areas of finance and human resources.

Noting the testimony the board heard earlier about boundary changes, Ms. Peterman said that with the decline in enrollment, the report also recommended that the district consider whether it was best served with a multitude of small schools or if those schools should be combined into larger schools. She acknowledged that the topic was a difficult one.

Ms. Wendt provided some additional background information about the Chalkboard Project. She agreed with Ms. Peterman’s summary of findings as they regarded the district’s focus on student achievement and innovation. Ms. Wendt applauded the board’s leadership in initiating the review, its work to reduce the drop-out rate, and its focus on student achievement. She thanked Superintendent Russell for his participation on the Chalkboard Advisory Group. Ms. Wendt anticipated that her organization would share its findings regarding best practices with the state legislature.
Ms. Wendt acknowledged the district’s leadership in partnering with the local transit agency to transport district’s students, saying it made a similar partnership in Portland possible.

Responding to a question from Board Member Jim Torrey about the district’s plans to follow-up to the review, Mr. Hermanns said the district staff had analyzed the report and the directors were meeting to discuss next steps. He pointed out the district had already started on many of the initiatives mentioned in the review. He believed he could report within a few weeks about the district’s next steps.

Ms. Peterman reported that the Chalkboard Project would request that the district evaluate the review and the appropriateness of the recommendations, and would also return in one year to determine progress and offer the district assistance if necessary.

Responding to a question from Superintendent Russell about relative priorities among the recommendations, Ms. Peterman identified the systematic review of the human resource program, which the district had already embarked upon, and the centralization of functions as the most significant priorities. Ms. Wendt said another recommendation was to reconsider the approach to free and reduced lunch at the high schools to increase participation and reduce stigmatization.

Board Member Alicia Hays appreciated the recommendation related to free and reduced lunches.

Ms. Peterman thanked the board, saying it was a pleasure to do the review and she hoped her organization could continue to support the district. Dr. Martinez thanked the representatives of the Chalkboard Project for providing critical feedback that could inform the district’s practices.

Ms. Wendt said the full district report was available on her organization’s Web site at http://www.chalkboardproject.org.

Receive an Update on the Status of Implementation Strategies for Transfer Limits at Middle and High Schools and the School Boundary Review

At the board’s November 19 meeting, staff reviewed and addressed some additional questions that were raised at the October 29th work session related to implementation strategies for the board approved transfer limits at middle and high schools. Questions were related to the impact on siblings of current transfer students and what a slower transition to the new policy would look like. Subsequently, additional questions were raised regarding students in the “pipeline” and allowing students to stay with their cohort group through high school.

Ms. Bellamy and Tom Henry, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer, were present for the item. Superintendent Russell determined that the board understood that the final implementation strategy was his decision.

Ms. Bellamy provided a status report on the communication plan as it regarded implementation strategies and thoughts on communication with parents and students, as well as an update regarding the public input process for the school boundary review, which was scheduled to conclude on January 6. There were no questions.
Receive a Report on the OSAA Redistricting Process

The Classification and Districting Committee of the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) was receiving feedback on a draft proposal for a new six-classification league alignment. This proposal aimed to increase league sizes using the current classification cut-off points. The Classification and Districting Committee requested written testimony about the proposal prior to its meeting on January 12, 2009.

Laurie Moses, Director of High School Services, introduced the item. Board members were provided with copies of the draft proposal. Tim Carmichael, District Athletic Director, was also present, and Ms. Moses noted Mr. Carmichael was a member of the OSAA Classification Committee. She invited board feedback, noting the committee was meeting the following Monday.

Mr. Carmichael provided background on the OSAA reclassification process. He then reviewed the OSAA draft proposal, noting the committee was charged to consider enrollment, geographic location, participant safety, school preference, creation of similarly sized leagues, and placement of schools within the same district in a similar league. He discussed the proposal's impact on the district's high schools, reporting that it added two schools from Central Oregon to the 6A Southwest Conference with Sheldon and South Eugene, and added three schools from Southern Oregon into the 5A Midwestern League with North Eugene and Churchill. Mr. Carmichael invited questions.

Board Member Craig Smith asked if the committee had prepared findings regarding the academic impact from the additional travel required by the proposal. Mr. Carmichael acknowledged he had seen no such findings.

Board Member Beth Gerot had the same question as Mr. Smith. She understood educational impact was to be the top criteria. Mr. Carmichael said the committee had not heard input on that topic, although it had heard input on a variety of topics. Ms. Gerot said she was opposed to the proposal because it would result in more travel and more lost academic time.

Mr. Torrey asked that the Oregon Board of Education (OBE) member on the committee be asked what the proposal would do to the graduation requirements the OBE had put in place. He thought the potential impact of additional travel on those new requirements should be discussed. He also wanted to know who was providing testimony to the committee. He thought academic activists were unaware of the impact of the proposal. He asked if the cost of transportation and the issue of safety were being looked at. Mr. Carmichael said that the committee looked forward to more feedback as there had been little conversation of those topics yet. He hoped the draft proposal, which added transportation costs to Eugene, Medford, and Bend schools, brought people out to testify.

Board Member Eric Forrest observed that the Eugene parent of a child playing freshman football at a 4 p.m. game in South Medford who wanted to attend the game would have to leave their work at noon. He thought the proposal's impact on students was "crazy." He noted his own family's experience as his daughter, who was playing volleyball, did not get home from South Medford until midnight and then had to get up early to go to school the next day. Mr. Carmichael observed there was one league outside of Salem and Portland at the 5A level west of the Cascades; people in Central Oregon did not want to drive over the pass, much less to Eastern Oregon. He acknowledged that the state had a geography issue it had to deal with.
Board Vice Chair Yvette Webber-Davis concurred with the remarks of other board members. She termed the proposal “truly bizarre” and thought it easy for people to forget that OSAA involved not only sports but other activities such as choir, speech, debate, and band. She questioned the impact on those activities. Mr. Carmichael suggested that primarily, the issue was related to sports, and the proposal was more relevant to football than to other sports.

Responding to a question from Superintendent Russell, Mr. Carmichael indicated that there was still an opportunity to request to “play up”; he said only four schools had indicated an interest in “playing up.” That meant that instead of having 45 schools in the 6A classification, there was only 39 now, and the OSAA could raise the cut-off point. “Playing down” would have to be based on geographic location, the desire to retain schools in the same district in the same league, and projected enrollment. Superintendent Russell asked if South Eugene and Sheldon could request to “play down” to join the Midwestern League. Mr. Carmichael said yes. Conversely, North Eugene and Churchill could request to “play up.”

Ms. Hays concurred with the remarks of Mr. Forrest and noted her own trips to Medford and Roseburg to see her son play football. She believed it had an impact on his education, and she emphasized the importance of the decision being contemplated to parents of student-athletes.

Dr. Martinez asked the students to comment. Mr. Kammerer shared one of his experiences, which had been adversely affected by the need for additional travel, and confirmed, in response to a question from Mr. Carmichael, that he believed his athletic director could create a competitive swim schedule that would provide him with the needed experience without traveling to southern Oregon.

Responding to a request to comment from Dr. Martinez, South Eugene High School Principal Randy Bernstein said he had heard many complaints about the reclassification proposal and no support for additional travel. He was concerned that the criteria intended to govern the process was being overlooked. He said in regard to the topic of whether South Eugene wanted to “play up” or “play down,” he preferred the league that minimized risk and travel time. He believed that the school could get a good game with local competition. Mr. Bernstein thought it would be useful to know what the Bethel and Springfield districts were thinking. He hoped to be able to stay in the OSAA, but suggested that if the local districts were unsatisfied with the OSAA plan, they consider a local league outside the state system. He acknowledged that he did not know students’ sentiment on the topic.

Mr. Bernstein suggested that large leagues were not necessarily desirable as they eliminated the potential of a preseason. He also suggested the possibility of not traveling freshman and junior varsity teams and finding them local competition to minimize travel impacts and costs.

Dr. Martinez said that he was hearing strong sentiment on the board, which he shared, that the district should craft a vigorous response opposing the proposal and support staff in its discussions later in the week regarding the proposal. There was general concurrence.

Dr. Webber-Davis suggested partnering with other districts that had the same concerns. Ms. Moses believed such collaboration was possible; she noted that Medford had forwarded its concerns to the OSAA, and that memorandum expressed many of the points mentioned by the board. Dr. Martinez suggested that the district could participate in a collaborative response as well as provide testimony. There was concurrence.
Mr. Torrey hoped that the district could find a local approach if the board was not satisfied with the state response. He preferred to involve more children playing closer to their schools than about worrying who won the state championship.

North Eugene High School Principal Laurie Henry concurred with Mr. Bernstein. She said that the issue became one of equity as well. Some of the students on the cusp of eligibility were unable to participate because of the potential of missed time further affecting their academic performance.

Pat Coleman, Secondary Education Director for Springfield SD19, anticipated his board would take up the subject later in the month. He criticized the proposal for its negative impact on local schools as well as districts such as Forest Grove, which would be at a competitive disadvantage with metropolitan schools. He believed Springfield School District 19 would be interested in joining with School District 4J to make a statement about the proposal.

Ms. Gerot determined from Mr. Carmichael that the time and date of committee meetings were publicized on the committee’s web site, but they had not been well-attended. Dr. Martinez suggested that more public input directed toward the committee from Eugene parents might be useful.

**Receive a Report on North Eugene High School Small Schools**

The administrative team from North Eugene High School (NEHS), which included Laurie Moses, Laurie Henry, Dak Kelly, Sally Huling, and Kate Brown, was present to provide the board with an update on the NEHS small schools design and the changes to instruction that resulted from the design. Ms. Henry invited questions and encouraged board members to visit the school.

Dr. Webber-Davis observed this was the third update she had heard and she applauded the progress that was being made.

**Receive a Report on Federal Funding for School Improvement Projects**

It was expected that shortly after taking office President-elect Obama would sign an economic recovery bill that would include significant grant funding for school modernization and renovation. Although the details of the bill are not yet clear, a number of organizations, including the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), are predicting that the funding will be available for “shovel ready” construction and renovation projects that would be ready to begin within 60 to 90 days. In anticipation of this potential funding, district staff prepared a list of projects that could qualify for funding, dependent upon the specifics of the funding bill. The project list was included in members’ red folders.

Superintendent Rusell noted that district staff developed the list of projects provided to members. He also noted that the Congressional delegation had also been provided with copies of the list.

Mr. Hermanns said the latest report was that the stimulus bill would be enacted in late January or early February. The package was expected to cost between $700 billion and $1 trillion, and about $10 billion of that was intended for schools. It was expected to take about 30 days of the date of enactment to get the money to the states, and 30 days to get it from the states to the local school districts. Projects funded must provide an immediate economic boost and have the...
potential for a return on investment. There might be an emphasis on projects that incorporated green energy. The bills did not appear to allow for new construction.

Mr. Hermanns briefly reviewed the district’s project list. Mr. Torrey commended staff’s work on the project list.

ITEMS FOR ACTION AT THIS MEETING

Approve Superintendent’s Recommendation on Proposal for Spanish Dual Immersion at River Road/Camino del Rio and Technology Immersion at Howard Elementary Schools

Yvonne Curtis, Director of Student Achievement, was present for the item. In response to questions asked by the board at a previous meeting regarding priority for students at Howard and River Road, Ms. Curtis reported that students within the River Road boundary who want to attend the dual immersion school would be admitted; students within the Howard boundary who want to attend River Road would apply as Spanish speakers or English speakers through the lottery, but the Spanish speakers would be given priority to the dual language program. River Road students who wanted to attend Howard would have priority through the lottery process. Students outside the Howard or River Road boundaries would go through the lottery school process. The goal was a 50-50 mix.

Mr. Henry observed that the district was giving priority to Spanish-speaking students as a program decision, which was in line with the practice of other districts.

Superintendent Russell offered as a caveat to his recommendation that the dual immersion schools could be adversely affected by district budget cuts in the same manner as other schools and services.

**MOTION:** Mr. Torrey, seconded by Ms. Gerot, moved for approval of the superintendent’s recommendation for a Spanish Dual Immersion at River Road/Camino del Rio and Technology Immersion at Howard Elementary Schools.

**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously; 7-0.

Adopt the 2008-09 and 2009-10 Superintendent’s Goal Statement and Establish the Criteria for the 2008-09 Annual Evaluation

The contract between the superintendent and the board states that the board will evaluate the superintendent at least once each year based on the goals and objectives agreed upon by the board and the superintendent, and the terms of their contract. ORS 192.660 (2) (i) requires and School Board Policy CBB states that the standard criteria and policy directives to be used in evaluating the superintendent shall have been adopted by the board in meetings open to the public no later than January each year.

Superintendent Russell offered to respond to any questions.

**MOTION:** Mr. Forrest, seconded by Mr. Torrey, moved to adopt the 2008-09 and 2009-10 Superintendents’s Goal Statement and Establish the Criteria for the 2008-09 Evaluation.

**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously; 7-0.
CONSENT GROUP – ITEMS FOR ACTION

Approve Ratification of CIP Contract Awards

On September 18, 2002, the Board of Directors affirmed the 1993 district policy for delegating Contract Award authority for Bond Funded CIP contracts of $500,000 or less to the superintendent, or designee, subject to subsequent ratification by the board. The designee was Jon Lauch, Director of Facilities and Transportation. Contracts in excess of $500,000 would continue to require board approval. The purpose of the board item is to summarize all CIP contract award activity requiring a formal bid or formal competitive selection and for the board to ratify those awards that have been made by authorized staff since the last ratification.

The summary sheet in the board packet identified all contracts that have been awarded as of the status date indicated in accordance with delegated authority. The summary also identified who awarded the project and will indicate board ratification data of said award as applicable.

The CIP management staff will continue to provide the board with Contract Award Status updates for ratification, pursuant to School Board Policy DI (Capital Improvement Contracts Financed by Bond Levy Funds—previously Policy 6610.5)

The superintendent recommended ratification of awards for CIP GO Bond funded projects as indicated on the summary sheet, which was included in the board packet.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes

The superintendent recommended approval of the minutes from the October 15, 2008 and November 5, 2008 regular board meetings and the October 29, 2008 board work session. Copies of the minutes were included in the board packet for the cancelled December 17 meeting.

Approve Personnel Item

The superintendent recommended approval of the personnel items included in the board packet. These cover employment, resignations, and other routine personnel matters. The board had the option of adjourning to executive session for matters dealing with employment if it desired.

MOTION: Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Hays, moved to adopt the consent items.
VOTE: The motion passed unanimously; 7-0.

ITEMS FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING

Approve Priorities for 2009 Legislative Session

Prior to each legislative session, the board has adopted a "legislative position paper" to communicate priorities to the legislature and the community. For the 2009 session, board members Beth Gerot and Craig Smith were working with staff to develop a short list of priorities that we intend to communicate to Lane County legislators as the board's top priorities for the upcoming session. The three proposed priorities are: school funding, graduation requirements
and virtual education. A draft copy of the board’s 2009 legislative priorities was included in the board packet.

Ms. Bellamy referred the board to the legislative priorities, included in the meeting packet. She reviewed the three proposed priority areas. She invited suggestions via e-mail.

Mr. Smith suggested that the section on school funding reference the QEM.

Speaking to the subject of graduation requirements, Ms. Gerot suggested that something regarding a phased implementation be added.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS BY INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Gerot said she would miss the upcoming conversation with the Equity Committee. She thanked Financial Services for its work in developing the district’s budget document and said she would share it with the OSBA as a model for other districts.

Dr. Martinez also thanked staff. He said the strength of the district had been the Office of Financial Services, which was a testament to the district and Superintendent Russell.

ADJOURN

Dr. Martinez adjourned the regular meeting at 10:10 p.m.

_____________________________   _____________________________
George Russell     Charles Martinez, Jr.
District Clerk      Board Chair

(Recorded by Kimberly Young)

Attachments to Official Minutes:
1. Executive Summary – Chalkboard Business and Operations Review
2. OSAA Redistricting Draft Proposal
3. List of Projects to Consider for Funding by Stimulus Plan
4. Superintendent’s Goals for 2008-09 and 2009-10
5. CIP Contract Award Status Summary
6. Personnel Action Items
7. Draft 2009 Legislative Priorities