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

April 21, 2010

The Board of Directors of School District No. 4J, Lane County, Eugene, Oregon, held executive
sessions at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., followed by a regular board meeting at 7 p.m. on
April 21, 2010, 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 April 16, 2010, and
published in The Register-Guard on April 19, 2010.

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS:
Craig Smith, Chair
Jennifer Geller
Beth Gerot
Anne Marie Levis
Jim Torrey
Mary Walston

STAFF:
George Russell, Superintendent of Schools and District Clerk
Barbara Bellamy, Chief of Staff and Communications Director
Susan Fahey, Chief Financial Officer
Carl Hermanns, Assistant Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer
Celia Feres-Johnson, Director of Human Resources
Christine Nesbit, Associate Director of Human Resources
Jeralynn Beghetto, Human Resources Administrator

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Under provisions of ORS 192.610 – 192.690, Open Meeting Laws, the
Board of Directors conducted an Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. to conduct deliberations with
persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations pursuant to ORS
192.660(2)(d).

The Board of Directors conducted a second Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. to consider
complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual
agent, pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(b). The above board members and staff were present
along with the following:

BOARD MEMBER:
Alicia Hays, Vice Chair

STAFF:
Doug Gallup, Hearings Officer

REGULAR BOARD MEETING: The Executive Session recessed and the regular meeting
convened with the above board members and staff present along with the following:
CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Board Chair Craig Smith called the regular meeting of the School District 4J Board of Directors to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW

Superintendent George Russell requested to pull the fourth item, regarding revocation of the resolution authorizing bus financing and an approval award, from the Consent Group. He also suggested that they move the item presented by city representatives regarding the Urban Renewal District to an earlier place on the agenda.

There were no objections to the changes.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Russell said they had special guests who would be presenting information regarding sustainable schools during Items for Information. He intended to introduce them at that time.

Superintendent Russell thought that board members who attended the National School Boards Association (NSBA) conference would likely report on their experience during Comments and Committee Reports, but he wanted to share information about a couple of the speakers. He related that the district had copies of the books that were referred to: *The Death and Life of the Great American School System: How Testing and Choice Are Undermining Education* by Diane Ravitch and *Class and Schools* by Richard Rothstein. He said board members were welcome to read the books. He noted that Ms. Ravitch had also spoken of Linda Darling-Hammond’s new book, *The Flat World: How America’s Commitment to Equity Will Determine Our Future*. He said there was also a copy of that book available. He thought the NSBA conference had featured excellent speakers and sessions. He observed that there was thinking and
conversation that sometimes seemed juxtapositional in terms of what reforms made sense and did not make sense. He had found the conversation on public education to be thought-provoking.

**COMMENTS BY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Linda Gai, International High Schools (IHS), stated that the International High Schools were celebrating their 25th anniversary with a social at 5:30 to be held at Lane Community College on April 23. She said if anyone wanted to attend, they should RSVP and that more information was on the IHS web site. She also stated that students were hunkering down for the International Baccalaureate (IB) tests in the next couple of weeks.

Hannah Rosenberg, Sheldon High School, reported that spring sports were underway. She noted that 60 percent of the students at Sheldon participated in sports. She stated that the fourth annual Irish Night of Giving auction had been held on April 17 and was deemed a great success. She explained that the auction raised money for young people in crisis, such as homeless and foster kids. She related that Sheldon was hosting the last blood drive of the year on April 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and that student body officer elections were scheduled for April 30.

Sarah Hankins, North Eugene High School, reported that *Romeo and Juliet* had played over the past weekend and had done well. They had tackled Shakespeare and liked it. She stated that all three small schools had made a presentation to the Rotary Club, attended by 180 local business people. She related that students had given their testimonials about the small school experience along with a PowerPoint presentation about it. She added that the three small school principals and teacher leaders would give their final report of progress presentations in Portland on April 26. She stated that the student advisory committee for the Positive Behavior System was ready to show its video to the school about how students could recognize good deeds done by other students. She said they would be issuing PRIDE books. PRIDE is an acronym for Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Discipline, and Excellence. She explained that if anyone displayed those traits, they would be given PRIDE books which were turned into the office and then they could get cool stuff.

**ITEMS RAISED BY THE AUDIENCE**

Mr. Smith opened the floor for public comment and outlined guidelines for testimony.

Lisa Stein, facilitator for Heart of Now, a non-profit organization that had been running programs for 14 years, said they had been designing and running pilot classes for youth for developing emotional IQ, creating community, and getting kids to understand what they want, how they feel and how to express it. She stated that they also invited teachers to participate when they ran the pilot classes. She had read about the harassment and bullying issues the district has been concerned with and she felt the program would help to reduce those behaviors. She proposed that they be allowed to conduct a five-week voluntary program at one high school and one middle school and invited them to give the program their most challenging class. She also invited everyone to a free introductory meeting on May 4 at the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB). She noted that the class was not related to any EWEB activities. She passed out fliers.

Quincy Summerlin, Spencer Butte Middle School student, stated that the school was a merit level green school, one of several in the State of Oregon. She said the school had switched to
mostly recycled paper and had spent time in the Umpqua Basin restoring trails. She also noted that they had helped expand a community garden in order to grow food for Food for Lane County. She related that they planned to participate in the EWEB Earth Day Celebration and to share images from their ecology class. She said the school was applying to be a Premier Green School and one of the components of this was to present information about the green endeavors to the school board. She related that they also had to maintain present activities and a higher level of environmental awareness and to mentor other schools, which they had done with the Arts and Technology Academy and Edgewood Elementary School.

COMMENTS BY EMPLOYEE GROUPS

There were no comments from employee groups.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Partners for Sustainable Schools/Green District

Mel Bankoff and others associated with Partners for Sustainable Schools provided a presentation on building for and instilling a culture and support for sustainable and “green” schools and moving toward becoming a “green” district. Partners for Sustainable Schools works to integrate sustainability in all aspects of K-12 education in Lane County, providing young people with opportunities to develop life skills that build wonder, hope, and vision. Additionally, two students from the Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council attended the meeting to share their work on developing a proposal for moving the district to becoming the first green district in the state.

Superintendent Russell thought the student input had been a good introduction for this topic. He had been invited by one of the teachers at River Road/Camino del Rio Elementary School some months earlier to look at some of the work she had been doing with Mr. Bankoff, Jason Schreiner and Joshua Frankel, of Partners for Sustainable Schools. Superintendent Russell had been impressed. He related that Sumin Dong and Allison O’Hanlon had given a presentation on green schools and their desire to promote a green school district at the last Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council meeting. Superintendent Russell had asked them to speak to the board as well.

Mr. Schreiner noted that Mr. Bankoff had not been able to attend the meeting but had sent comments to share with the board. He stated that Partners for Sustainable Schools was a non-profit with a mission to integrate sustainability into the schools with the goal of providing young people opportunities. Mr. Bankoff believed that the message of sustainability was urgent and vital to convey to young people. They work with a variety of public entities and want to work with school districts across the state.

Mr. Schreiner discussed some of their activities, which included the Hope and Action Youth Conference. He noted that Board Member Jim Torrey had attended a conference in the past and he invited the board members to the next conference, planned for May 13 at the Eugene Faith Center. He highlighted the elements of the conference, which included opportunities to learn things, an organic lunch, and an open mike at the end of the day. He stated that they also coordinated the Lane County Green School effort and collaborated with the University of Oregon Environmental Leadership Program (ELP), a service learning program that sent undergraduate students into the community to work with organizations on environmental and social issues. He said they were currently working with the ELP to help area middle schools expand
transportation options through the Safe Routes to School (SRS) program and they worked with EWEB to establish the Cool School Challenge program, which engaged students and teachers in practical strategies they could use to reduce carbon emissions in their schools. He related that the program had won the President’s Environmental Youth Award for 2008. He also stated that they had collaborated to create a sustainability leadership program for high school students, so that students could engage in design and implementation of service projects at their schools and fulfill the service credit requirement.

Mr. Frankel stated that he had worked since the beginning of the year as Green School Coordinator. He related that teachers did the bulk of the work; he helped them understand the application process to get into the Green Schools Program.

Mr. Schreiner related that at the last conference a group of students had circulated a petition requesting that sustainability become an integral part of all of their studies and passed the petition along to the board.

In response to a question from Board Member Mary Walston, Mr. Schreiner stated that information on the Hope and Action Conference was on the web site, www.iseesustains.org.

Mr. Smith asked what the funding source for the group was. Mr. Schreiner replied that they were funded from foundations, grants, the City of Eugene and solid waste management of Lane County. He said EWEB was a source for one of the grants, as was the Wayne Morse Center.

Superintendent Russell asked Ms. O’Hanlon and Ms. Dong to talk about the Green Schools program to the board.

Ms. Dong related that they were from the Sheldon High School Green Club, a club that had begun just this year. She said one of the teachers from the Life Skills program, who was in charge of recycling, had suggested to the club some things they could do to make Sheldon High School one of the green schools. She stated that they had discussed this and decided to propose to make the district a green school district.

Ms. O’Hanlon reported that each school could save approximately $100,000 per year by adopting green school practices as well as improving the health of students. She declared that being green or environmentally friendly was the future of the district.

Ms. Dong said it was important to make green schools and green school districts because the students were the future who would have to address the environmental problems ahead. She related that one proposal would be to adopt a unified approach to recycling across all of the schools. At present, each school had its own policies, which was confusing. She stated that having consistent recycling practices would make it more ingrained for students from elementary school forward and this would make a huge difference. She believed this would contribute to making Eugene a more green city.

Ms. O’Hanlon talked about some of the areas that wasted energy at their school, such as leaving computers on overnight. She said there were many little things that could be done to make the school more green.

Superintendent Russell asked the student board representatives to discuss some of the green activities at their schools.
Ms. Gai related that she went to Sheldon. She believed it was a good initiative that promoted good things that everyone could do to make a difference. She thought it was a positive movement.

ITEMS FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING

Approve the Superintendent's Recommendation to Support the City of Eugene Downtown Urban Renewal District Plan Amendment

The Eugene City Council is considering a proposal to amend the Central Eugene Project (Downtown) Urban Renewal Plan to increase the maximum spending limit and expand the boundary. The amendments would 1) increase the spending by $16.15 million to cover four projects for a total of $49.15 million, and 2) expand the district boundary by 7% (five acres). The City Council is scheduled to vote on May 24. The district has been invited to comment on the proposal. The City Council requested an analysis of the potential impact of continuing the downtown urban renewal district on other local taxing agencies, including the Eugene School District. Lane County Assessor Annette Spickard conducted the analysis, which was reviewed by 4J finance staff. The analysis showed that if the downtown urban renewal district was discontinued, the potential financial impact is as follows:

- **On an on-going basis, the school district would lose approximately $117,000 in annual revenue.** This reflects the net effects of an increase in the school district's operating levy, which is subject to the State School formula, and a decrease in the school district's local option levy. The district's operating levy is projected to increase by approximately $550,000; however, the district's portion would be less than $20,000 after applying the state funding formula. A $137,000 decrease in the local option levy is expected to result from an increasing number of properties moving into compression. The state funding formula does not apply to local option levies, so the full impact of this reduction would be felt. We understand that these estimates are based on 2009 tax roll information and would vary in future years with changes in market conditions.

- **On a one-time basis, the school district would receive an estimated $30,000 in revenue.** The school district's share of excess tax increment funds is estimated to be $1 million, which is also subject to the State School Fund formula.

The City Council also directed the City Manager to explore how the city might mitigate the impact on the school district. District and city leadership met prior to this board meeting to discuss options.

Eugene City Manager Jon Ruiz read a statement that highlighted the amendment to the Urban Renewal District proposed by the City Council. He stated that the council was scheduled to review comments from the public at a work session on May 10 and official action on the ordinance was scheduled for May 24. He stated that School District 4J would be better off financially if the downtown district continued to collect tax increment funds, according to analysis. He said they had provided a proposed motion for the school board.

Mr. Smith asked what the process they were being asked to engage in consisted of. Mr. Ruiz responded that the city had asked all of the taxing jurisdictions affected by the district to weigh in. He said their recommendation was that the district should concur with increasing the urban renewal district limit.
Mr. Smith ascertained that there was no legal requirement for the school district to provide its consent.

Mr. Torrey indicated that he was prepared to support the motion.

Ms. Walston had read in the board leadership notes that it was subject to legal interpretation with regard to the Tualatin Fire District and asked for clarification. Superintendent Russell responded that part of the debate at leadership was whether to do this as an information item and then have the board agree not to oppose it. He said part of the issue was that it was a new law and the exact intent of it was not clear.

Board Vice Chair Alicia Hays asked who opposed it and how it was moving forward. Sue Cutsogeorge, Finance Manager for the city, stated that it was an issue in another part of the state and Tualatin had an interest in what Eugene was doing. She said it was a new law and they were watching how Eugene planned to proceed with it.

Superintendent Russell asked if there were other voices in opposition to the amendment to the urban renewal district. Mr. Ruiz replied that the City Council had voted 6:2 to move it forward; councilors George Brown and Betty Taylor had voted in opposition to it. He said some in the community had concerns about the impacts of urban renewal districts; some were specifically concerned with the impacts to School District 4J.

Ms. Cutsogeorge stated that the council held a public hearing on April 19 and 25 people had spoken in favor of the amendment and 6 had spoken in opposition.

Board Member Anne Marie Levis disclosed that she owned two buildings with two businesses within the district and also did work for one of the entities that would be building under the auspices of the amended district.

Mr. Torrey ascertained that they were discussing this at the present meeting and taking action on May 5. He said members of the public could contact the board and share their opinions.

Ms. Hays asked what other entities were affected by the urban renewal district amendment. Mr. Ruiz replied that the county and Lane Community College would be affected. Ms. Cutsogeorge added that the Lane Educational Service District (ESD) would also be affected.

ITEMS FOR ACTION AT THIS MEETING

Approve Instructional Calendars for 2010-11 School Year

Action Proposed: Approval of proposed 2010-11 school year instructional calendar.

Background: Yearly, a school instructional calendar is developed and presented to the board for review, discussion and approval in accordance with Board Policy and the District/Eugene Education Association (EEA) Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Discussion: In accordance with board policy, each year the board adopts a calendar for the following school year showing all school days, teacher planning and grading days, holidays, and vacation days for the year.
The 2010-11 Instructional School Calendars, as presented, were being reviewed by the EEA as required by the District/EEA Collective Bargaining Agreement. Changes to the calendar were presented to the board and copies of the proposed calendars were included in the red folders.

**Recommendation:** The superintendent recommended approval of the 2010-11 Instructional School Calendars.

Celia Feres-Johnson, Director of Human Resources, stated that there were a couple of language changes in the calendar. She explained that winter and spring vacations would now be called winter and spring breaks. She stated that the first day for teachers to report was August 30, registration on the high school calendar was September 7 and the Freshmen Only Day was September 8. She wished to thank EEA representatives Paul Duchin, Merri Steele and Julie Wenzl for their work on a truly collaborative process.

**MOTION:** Ms. Hays, seconded by Ms. Levis, moved to approve the 2010-11 Instructional School Calendars as presented.

**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously and the Instructional School Calendars for 2010-11 were approved; 7:0.

**CONSENT GROUP – ITEMS FOR ACTION**

**Approve Memorandum of Agreement with the Eugene Education Association Modifying Contract Provision on Allocation of IEP Pool Funds**

Article 13.8.2 of the parties’ 2007-10 collective bargaining agreement established the IEP (Individualized Education Plan) Pool, and directed that a joint committee of district and Eugene Education Association (EEA) representatives make a recommendation for the annual allocation of the pool. Per Article 13, the pool is limited to $20,000 and may be used to support non-Educational Support Services bargaining unit members for participating in IEP meetings after 4 p.m. Following three years of convening a joint committee, the parties have tentatively agreed to modify Article 13.8.2 so that it described how the fund may be allocated.

Staff considered the alternative of maintaining current contract language and continuing the joint committee, and concluded that it would be more efficient to incorporate language into the contract that addressed how the pool would be allocated. Approving the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) would not create new costs for the district.

The superintendent recommended approval of the MOA.

**Approve Memorandum of Agreement with the Eugene Education Association Concerning Compensation for IB Assessment Responsibilities**

Since 2007-08, the district has provided compensation for teachers with responsibility for the internal assessment component of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. The compensation is allocated to schools based on the number of students registered for IB assessments, and the costs to the district are based on a formula of $22,000 in base costs, increased each fiscal year by the percentage of any licensed Cost Of Living Allowance (COLA) increase. The 2008 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which provided for IB assessment compensation was scheduled to expire on June 30, 2010.
If approved, the MOA would modify the collective bargaining agreement between EEA and the district by providing that the district would continue to allocate funds for IB Assessments.

Approval of the MOA would require the district to continue to allocate financial resources to support IB Assessments. In 2009-10, the district anticipated spending $30,678 for this program—which included stipend amounts plus roll up costs. But the terms of the MOA, the costs would increase each year by the amount of any cost of living adjustment to the salaries of licensed staff.

The superintendent recommended approval of the MOA.

**Approve Alternative Education Programs for 2009-10**

In accordance with ORS 336.631(3) and Board Policy IGBHA, the district must annually evaluate and approve each alternative education program it contracts with to provide services to students. During 2009-10, Eugene School District 4J contracted with board-approved contractors to provide educational services to district students.

The programs were evaluated on several criteria. The primary factors examined were the type of service provided, the age and number of students enrolled and maintained in the program, and the ability of each program to address the educational and other pre-identified needs of the students enrolled. A site visit component was included as part of the annual evaluation process.

Participation in the Oregon State Assessment is required of all alternative education providers under ORS 336.637, so continuation of contracts with programs is dependent upon compliance with the required assessment of students placed with outside alternative education contractors.

**Contracted Service Providers**

- Center for Appropriate Transport (ages 11-19) Grades 6-12
- Creative Minds School (ages 11-18) Grades 6-12
- Northwest Youth Corps OutDoor School (ages 14-21) Grades 9-12
- Looking Glass: Riverfront School & Career Center (ages 14-21) Grades 9-12
  - Lane Metro Youth Corps (ages 14-19) Grades 9-12
  - Teen Parent Program (ages 14-21) Grades 9-12
  - New Roads School (ages 14-21) Grades 9-12
- Lane ESD: MLK, Jr. Education Center (Court School) (ages 11-19) Grades 6-12
- Lane Community College (GED Prep only) (ages 16-18) Grades 10-12
- Wellsprings Friends School (ages 14-19) Grades 9-12

**Eugene School District 4J**

**Alternative Education Contracted Service Providers 2009-10**

**Center for Appropriate Transport**, 455 W. 1st Avenue, Eugene

Programs provided that offer hands-on opportunities for students ages 12-19. Classes include instruction in bike maintenance and repair, journalism, design, CAD/CAM and industrial sewing. CAT provides GED preparation for students 16 and above.

**Target Group:** Middle and High School students, who are referred by the school district, of all academic abilities, particularly those who are not experiencing success in a traditional school setting.
Creative Minds Alternative School, 1115 Pearl Street, Eugene
Program is designed for middle school/high school students who are not succeeding in the regular school setting. One-to-one and small group tutoring concept is used for teaching academic skills. Social skills and community service are also stressed in the program.

**Target Group:** Students in grade 6-12, who are referred by the school district, who are not functioning well in the middle school/high school setting.

Lane Community College, Main Campus 4000 East 30th Avenue, Eugene
GED Prep/Testing. Also a “testing only” option is available for students who feel they are prepared.

**Target Group:** 16-18 year-old students, who are referred by the school district, who would benefit from an off-campus program for GED prep.

Lane Metro Youth Corps (Riverfront School & Career Center), 1475 Franklin Boulevard, Eugene
Program provides a hands-on approach to learning and a small group setting. Students combine classroom academics with experience in a variety of service projects in the community. The program’s focus is natural resources.

**Target Group:** 14-19 year olds, who are referred by the school district, particularly those who are not currently attending school and would benefit from a hands-on program.

Looking Glass Teen Parent Program, 2885 Chad Drive, Eugene
Program provides specialized academic and parenting/life skill education. Referrals come from the school district and the State social worker. This program is primarily for GED preparation.

**Target Group:** 14-20 year old pregnant or parenting students.

MLK Jr. Education Center, 2727 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Eugene
Provides education services for middle and high school students referred by the courts. Both school credit or GED options are available.

**Target Group:** Middle and high school students with Department of Youth Services (DYS) involvement, who are referred by a probation officer or judge.

New Roads School, 941 W. 7th Avenue, Eugene
Through a partnership with the district, educational and support services are provided for students who are homeless or in transition.

**Target Group:** 14-21 year old homeless youth who are not currently enrolled in school.

Northwest Youth Corps OutDoor School, 2621 Augusta Street, Eugene (former Laurel Hill Elementary)
This program combines classroom work with field experience. Students spend approximately half of their time in the classroom on course work and half of their time in service projects such as trail and/or wetland restoration. Field projects are designed to provide service learning and an extension of their classroom experiences.

**Target Group:** 14-21 year olds, who are referred by the school district, particularly those who are not currently attending school.

Riverfront School & Career Center, 1475 Franklin Boulevard, Eugene
Program provides educational assessment, basic skills instruction, GED preparation and completion, completion of a high school diploma, vocational assessment, career exploration, pre-employment training (paid and non-paid), work experience, hands-on training in
manufacturing, culinary arts, health occupations, natural resources, teen parent program and special education program services. Full day and half-day options are available.

**Target Group:** 14-21 year olds, who are referred by the school district, particularly those who are not currently attending school and would have a difficult time completing their diploma on schedule.

**Wellsprings-Friends School**, 3590 W 18th Avenue, Eugene

Program provides students the opportunity to participate in a small group setting. Individualized programs developed cooperatively with teachers, parents and students.

**Target Group:** 14-19 year olds (grades 9-12), all academic abilities, who are referred by the school district, particularly those who are not experiencing success in a traditional school setting.

The superintendent recommended approval of the Alternative Education Programs for 2009-10.

**Award of Construction Contract for the Synthetic Turf Athletic Field Replacement**

The district received proposals on April 1, 2010 for replacing the synthetic turf surfacing on the athletic fields at North and South Eugene High Schools. The request for proposals (RFP) required fields similar to those installed at the four district high schools and four middle schools.

Seven proposals were received, three of which were submitted by McKenzie Commercial Construction. McKenzie Commercial submitted proposals for three different turf products. The proposals were scored by the evaluation committee on a ranking of the base bid price and three alternates as listed below.

Alternate A was to propose a price to recycle the existing synthetic surfacing and infill. Alternate B was to propose a price to incinerate the existing synthetic surfacing and infill, to provide fuel to generate electrical power. Alternate C was to propose a price to install school logos in the center of the fields. Proposers also provided a price, based on linear feet, to replace edge nailers as necessary.

The proposals were evaluated based upon cost (40 points), manufacturer’s experience and expertise (10 points), installer’s experience and expertise (15 points), product description and performance (20 points), recycling of the exiting turf (5 points), additional information (5 points), and insured warranty (5 points). The proposers are listed in order of ranking with the highest ranked firm listed first.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposer</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ProGrass</td>
<td>92.5 (out of 100 pts possible)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Astro Turf/McKenzie Commercial</td>
<td>88.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprinturf/McKenzie Commercial</td>
<td>80.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academy / Sports Turf</td>
<td>73.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sportexe/Rexius</td>
<td>70.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Turf/Bernhardt Golf</td>
<td>66.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LigaSport/McKenzie Commercial</td>
<td>42.3</td>
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ProGrass submitted a base price of $648,345 for the two fields, which is the lowest base price submitted. The evaluation committee’s analysis indicated that the ProGrass proposal was the best combination of quality and price among the products submitted. ProGrass was the only proposal that added an extra two years of warranty against defects in workmanship and
materials, which was in addition to the eight years of insured warranty required by the RFP. ProGrass has had multiple recent installations in the Northwest, including two fields in the Bethel School District, and received positive recommendations.

Funding would be provided from the Sale of Surplus Property Fund (F450). The cost of the field replacement project would be shared on a 50/50 basis with the City of Eugene.

The superintendent recommended award of the contract for the Synthetic Turf Package to ProGrass for the base bid price of $648,345 and Alternate B, for $70,862, for a total award of $719,207.

**Approve Grant Application: Beyond the Achievement Gap-Developing a College Ready Community of Students**

Staff from South Eugene High School submitted a grant application to the Wells Fargo Foundation for $16,233. This grant would allow South Eugene High School and the district to expand support for students from lower income backgrounds who are not performing up to their potential. The project utilizes the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) system. Funds from this grant would support the addition of a third AVID cohort and more fully integrate the program into the overall school curriculum. This grant would also support the implementation of AVID at Roosevelt and Spencer Butte, South Eugene’s two feeder middle schools.

The superintendent recommended approval of the grant application. A copy of the grant description form was included in the board packet.

**Approve Grant Application: Thinking with Depth and Complexity**

Staff from the Instruction Department submitted a grant application to the Chintimini Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation for $6,787.50. This project is designed to supply teachers in our district with the necessary resources to teach students to think in deep and complex ways. These materials are designed to be used by diverse learners and give students an opportunity to demonstrate their developing understanding of a topic through both words and pictures, thereby increasing possibilities of expression.

The superintendent recommended approval of the grant application. A copy of the grant description form was included in the board packet.

**Approve Expenditures for March 2010**

A summary of the district’s expenditures for March 2010, totaling $16,208,327.90 was included in the board packet.

The superintendent recommended approval of the March 2010 expenditures.

Mr. Smith asked why the agenda item, Revoke Resolution Authorizing Bus Financing and Approve Award, had been withdrawn from the consent items. Susan Fahey, Chief Financial Officer, explained that after the board approved the item, the company had put a moratorium on Oregon financing. She said it was her understanding that they would no longer do business with “ADCs” in Oregon.
Mr. Smith commented that this illustrated the financial instability of the times we are facing.

**MOTION:** Mr. Torrey, seconded by Ms. Hays, moved to approve the consent items with the exception of the fourth item, which sought to revoke the resolution authorizing bus financing and to approve the award to a different financial group.

**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously and the consent items were approved, as amended; 7:0.

**Revoke Resolution Authorizing Bus Financing and Approve Award**

On April 7, 2010, the board approved a resolution authorizing financing for five special needs buses through SunTrust Equipment Finance & Leasing Corp. SunTrust has withdrawn its offer based on a new moratorium on financing activities in the state of Oregon. A representative from SunTrust indicated that corporate concerns with the economic condition of the state were the basis of the moratorium. The board is now being asked to revoke the April 7 resolution and award financing to the second lowest responder, Traxis Financial Group.

On March 17, 2010, the district issued a solicitation for financing to purchase special needs buses. The price of the buses, after trade-ins, was $552,470. Respondents were requested to submit interest rates for five- and ten-year periods.

Traxis Financial Group submitted the next lowest response, with an interest rate of 3.38% for a five-year term. Interest costs total $42,290.25, an increase of $8,805.40 over the offer originally submitted by SunTrust. Traxis does not require a board resolution to complete the transaction.

The superintendent recommended revoking the resolution authorizing financing of buses with SunTrust Equipment Finance & Leasing Corp. and approving financing through Traxis Financial Group for five years.

**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve revoking the resolution authorizing bus financing and approving the award to a different financial group.

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

**ITEMS FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING**

**Adopt the Board Calendar for the 2010-11 School Year**

The Board of Directors traditionally meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month, with the agenda and materials related to the agenda items being provided to the board on the Friday preceding the Wednesday meeting. Special board meetings and board work sessions may also be scheduled during the year; board members typically set aside every Wednesday evening for that purpose.

A copy of the proposed calendar of the regular board meetings for the 2010-11 school year was included in the board packet. The superintendent has reviewed the proposed calendar and noted that it does not interfere with major holidays and the winter break schedule.

The superintendent will recommend approval of the proposed 2010-11 calendar of the regular board meetings.
Barbara Bellamy, Chief of Staff and Communications Director, said she believed they had kept to the traditional calendar.

Superintendent Russell related that he and Ms. Bellamy had discussed the potential of additional meetings in the coming year because of the efforts toward establishing a sustainable budget. He thought they could have to engage in the conversation about some of the potential actions they might have to take earlier. He felt that the calendar was good, but they should keep in mind that there could be extra meetings ahead.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS BY INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Torrey wanted to compliment the North Eugene High School representatives who spoke to the Rotary Club. He said they had done a great job. He wanted to meet with the young man who was a freshman who spoke because he wanted to find out how he had transitioned from being a student who really did not particularly care about school to one who did. He felt there was a message for the small schools of North Eugene High School and all of the high schools in Eugene. He related that he had three different people come up to him and express how impressed they had been with that young man.

Ms. Hays said she had spent a couple of hours that afternoon with legislative leaders. She related that it had been interesting.

Ms. Levis thanked the school district for making it a priority for board members to go to the NSBA conference. She felt that the conference had made her a better school board member. She explained that the conference had been a three-day event in Chicago, Illinois. She had attended the presentation made by Richard Rothstein regarding getting accountability right and testing. She had been impressed to learn that the primary determinant of test scores was the socio-economic characteristics of the school. She related that they could expect widening of the achievement gap because most of the contributing factors were outside of the school. Mr. Rothstein had also said they could not really identify a bad school by testing alone. She said he had presented a lot of data about schools that had improved over time, but were still listed as a bad school.

Ms. Levis related that they had been fortunate to go to lunch with Geoffrey Canada. She noted that he had been interviewed on the television show 60 Minutes and encouraged her colleagues to watch it. She said his expectation was that all of the kids he worked with would go to college; it was his belief that they should believe that of all of them. She reported that Mr. Canada was a proponent of having school open 11 months of the year and of firing adults if kids failed. She said he believed that innovation was key and competition was good for education. He supported getting adults involved and teaching kids a new sense of optimism. She stated that he had read a poem called Don’t Blame Me and suggested board members Google it.

Ms. Levis also stated that Wynton Marsalis had been a keynote speaker. She reported that he had been a “better teacher than any teacher” she had been taught by.

Additionally, Ms. Levis reported that there had been an Eugene Education Fund (EEF) meeting earlier in the day. They were redoing the web site so that they could take donations online and they were planning for their big celebration in the fall.

Ms. Walston had attended the Rotary Club lunch and wanted to echo Mr. Torrey’s observation on how outstanding the students were. She had visited the Network Charter School on the
previous day. She had also attended a meeting of the Graduation Requirement Committee. She commended staff for the great work they were doing. She also commended the great work that the WRESL group was doing. Someone interjected that this stood for Writing REading Speaking and Listening.

Ms. Walston thanked the school district for allowing her to attend the NSBA conference. She had attended a session on data-driven decisions. She thought the school district was already engaged in this. She said she and Ms. Geller had attended a session on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization, which had to do with what they were doing at the federal level with regard to the No Child Left Behind Act. She commented that there were some bright spots in it and some that were not so bright. She had also attended a session on a school district in Colorado that had an increase in minority population and had been put on notice because of academics in the district. She related that they had turned to a standards-based education and had gotten rid of grade levels and grouped kids based on individual abilities. She said they utilized the teachers as more of a resource than as instructors. She felt they had done a good job.

Ms. Walston had attended a session called Fostering Innovation in Teaching and Learning from the District Office, which was about implementing the use of technology throughout the district. She said a district from Virginia had done this utilizing iPhones for all of its educators.

Ms. Geller had also found Mr. Marsalis and Ms. Ravitch’s emphasis on not focusing only on reading and writing and not losing sight of foreign languages, music, and history, to be very thought-provoking. She said one thing she had taken from the sessions was the sense of urgency around children in poverty and how they needed to broaden support for families and to provide extended learning opportunities so all children could succeed. She had read most of Mr. Canada’s book in which he had talked about ways they could support parents and families so that kids were ready to learn. She had attended a session with Robert Barr. She said he had a tool for evaluation of the kinds of practices a district had for improving achievement. She related that he had spoken on 12 Secrets for Improving Achievements for Children Living in Poverty. She thought it could be a good conversation tool.

Continuing, Ms. Geller reported that she had attended a session on a district in Louisiana that had implemented a technology network. She said they had talked about standardization as a way to keep costs down. She felt it raised an issue that related to green schools. She stated that as they moved forward, there could be a lot of opportunities to use paperless means of communication. Additionally, she had attended sessions on special education and tax elections. She felt that as advocates for education and schools, when they were working with legislatures it was important to foster programs that would help them attain what they needed without standards that were not possible to meet.

Ms. Gerot stated that as an Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) representative, she had attended the delegate assembly just prior to the NSBA conference. She reported that they had proposed changes to the bylaws, one that would have added executive directors to the board as voting members which was voted down and the other, also voted down, that would have changed how voting on delegates would have been handled. She stated that they also voted on policies, beliefs, and legislative resolutions and elected officers.

Ms. Gerot said her colleagues had done a great job of reporting on the conference. She shared a couple of quotes. Ms. Ravitch stated that they were on the way to free-market schools that had no public and this had stood out for her. She said Mr. Canada had declared that they had
not prepared the next generation for success and there was no plan to do so. She had been disturbed to hear Mr. Rothstein say that the goal of the current administration to have 100% of students college-ready by 2020 was an impossible goal. She noted that the OSBA had paid for her way to the conference.

Ms. Gerot had also been impressed by the student presentation at the Rotary Club. She also related that the last ExEL Instate Institute had occurred in the previous week. She explained that Portland, Beaverton, Salem, Eugene, and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) had gotten together for a day and a half and talked about some of the kinds of activities that were happening in Oregon. She related that they had heard from Dr. Joy Degruy Leary, who had written *Post-Traumatic Slave Syndrome*. She said Dr. Degruy Leary had been a compelling speaker and had spoken about oppression and that there had been no empathy for African-American people throughout history as a nation. She also talked about the importance for minority students to develop relationships with teachers.

Ms. Gerot stated that there was also conversation on the Algebra project, with a focus on proficiency-based teaching and learning. It seemed to her that the partnership with ODE had previously not been very strong and that the ExEL Institute had improved it. She related that the district had created journey maps, on which the work that had been done was mapped. At the end of the process, we had discussed how the ExEL work had begun to move into our district. She shared some of the group’s thoughts and listed some of the changes that had occurred, which included the development of Carmen Urbina’s position, the Kindergarten through 12th grade learning communities, the establishment of the Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council, the Minority Student Achievement Network (MSAN), having a line item for equity in the budget, and more. She commented that it seemed the district is moving forward slowly and there is work to continue, but it is important to note that we have accomplished something over the past three years. She felt that the ExEL Institute had served as a vehicle to accomplish those things.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Smith adjourned the regular meeting of the school board at 8:32 p.m.

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George Russell     Craig Smith
Superintendent     Board Chair

*(Recorded by Ruth Atcherson)*

**Attachments to Official Minutes:**
1. Proposed 2010-11 Instructional School Calendars
2. Memorandum of Agreement with EEA Modifying Contract Provision on Allocation of IEP Pool Funds
3. Memorandum of Agreement with EEA Concerning Compensation for IB Assessment Responsibilities
4. Grant Application Form: Beyond the Achievement Gap-Developing a College Ready Community of Students
5. Grant Application Form: Thinking with Depth and Complexity
6. Summary of Expenditures from March 2010
7. Proposed Calendar for 2010-11 Board Meetings