

Redmond School Board: Recap of April 22 meeting

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Budget Update: District personnel, budget task force and association representatives continue to refine the cost-saving concepts for the 2009-10 budget shortfall, which is anticipated to be as large as \$7 million. All options such as staff, salaries, electives, programs, school calendar, extracurricular activities, etc., are under consideration; however, NO DECISIONS have been made.

It was noted that the district is building its budget on the worst case scenario (\$7 million deficit). The district will be creating add-back packages in the event the funding level improves.

A School Board Work Session has been scheduled for Friday, April 24, 8:00 a.m., at the District Office. Detailed recommendations will be presented to the School Board for deliberation.

More information regarding the budget can be accessed at www.redmond.k12.or.us/budgetupdates

Public Comment on 2009-10 Budget: Community members commented on the possible reduction/elimination of the International School of the Cascades. It was also asked that the district build a process after the reductions/eliminations have been determined to help the community adjust to the impact. The Board embraced this idea.

Edwin Brown Closure/Alternative Education Action Plan: The School Board moved to adopt the Alternative Education Action Plan as recommended and to proceed with the technical notification to the Oregon Department of Education of the pending closure of Edwin Brown Alternative High School. The Board agreed that student success was the main objective for approving the action plan/school closure.

District and school personnel will continue to execute the following changes:

Include Alternative Education programs in Redmond High forecasting and the school's course catalogue for the 2009-2010 school year (expected completion date of 05/09)

Implement the mentoring program that is currently being developed. Initial focus will be on next year's juniors and seniors coming from Brown. Leadership is currently working on identifying all mentoring and support programs grades 6-12 currently in place throughout the district and is investigating working with a non-profit organization (IGNITE) to align current programs (expected completion date: 06/09)

Complete the review and revision of current contracts with outside service providers (expected completion date: 06/09)

Staff the program following the Task Force recommendations (expected completion date of 07/09)

Complete the childcare certification process to place the program at the Hartman campus (expected completion date of 07/09)

Implement a standards-based system for all students, working to align current systems within the two Redmond High campuses (expected completion date of 08/09)

Provide a variety of educational opportunities for all students (expected completion date of 08/09)

Pilot an online learning program used for expulsion and credit recovery (expected completion date: 09/09)
Potential savings upon the closure of the Edwin Brown Facilities is \$327,500.

Superintendent Report:

Congratulation to Chair Cathy Miller and Blake Miller, as well as Chief Operations Officer Doug Snyder, for their recognition in the Redmond 2J Education Foundation's Stars in the Sagebrush event. Visit the foundation website for more information.

Redmond's Friday Night's Art Walk is April 24. Student artwork will be highlighted.

Vern Patrick Elementary was among the nineteen Oregon public schools selected for this year's Celebrating School Success Awards. Each school named for the award has made significant progress in closing the achievement gap by demonstrating significant improvement in student achievement for minority and/or low income students. As one of the selected Rising Stars, Vern Patrick will receive a trophy and recognition at the Celebrating Student Success Banquet on May 1 at the Oregon Convention Center. Vern Patrick staff and Superintendent Vickie Fleming will attend the banquet.

Key Communicators on Tuesday was not well attended; however, it was a good conversation with those who were present.

The district is applying for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Oregon Competitive Grant Program. The district is proposing the establishment of Community Learning Centers at four schools - Obsidian Middle School, Elton Gregory Middle School, Terrebonne Community School and Lynch Elementary. The goals of the project are to increase academic achievement for students not meeting state benchmarks, to increase student engagement in school activities, and student process and progress with the community.

Curriculum: The second round of OAKS assessment have been completed and we are seeing exciting gains in reading. Although we are proud that our efforts at K-3 literacy are working, our focus next year will be to apply these proven methods to math.

Operations: Six responses to our RFP (Request for Proposals) for architectural services were received for the \$10 million in repairs that was funded by the passage of the May 2008 bond levy. A screening committee will

be convened, director Jim Erickson will be the liaison for the school board. The two project manager positions to oversee the \$110 bond projects have been selected and we are awaiting their acceptance letters. Both positions will be funded through the bond proceeds.

Staff hires, changes, resignations:

Classified “ Reduction in Force (Technology Services will be transferred to the High Desert ESD)

Russ Fagan, Technology Consortium Windows Administrator
Leasa Winger, Information Technology Specialist II
Juli Hester, Information Technology Specialist II
Juan Olmeda-Chavez, Information Technology Specialist II

Licensed “ Resignations:

Elizabeth Oliver, Science Teacher, Redmond High School

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