

On September 23, 2019, members of the Central Linn School Board met to discuss facilities and the Student Success Act (SSA).

Members Present: Jennifer Duringer, David Karo, Rebekah Schneiter, Parker Leigh, Brian Tenbusch, Randy Smith

Others: Brian Gardner, Celeste Van Cleave, Dena Crowell, Robyn Bailey, Heidi Hermansen, Carie Simon

#### Student Success Act/Student Investment Fund

Superintendent Gardner explained to the Board that schools and districts in Oregon are called upon to engage in continuous improvement work to improve outcomes for students. A continuous improvement plan is to determine what is working and what needs to change in our schools and the use of data to monitor and adjust to improve student outcomes.

The student investment account is a grant that invests \$500 million to Oregon school districts. The purpose of the bill is to serve underserved students. Using a continuous improvement plan will help support the process that students, staff and underserved groups of children by using a needs assessment process and strategic planning efforts. Use of the grant can be used to increase funding for mental health, wellness coordinated, ELL program and a well-rounded education.

With the input of students, staff and parents, Mr. Gardner will write a continuous improvement plan. He asks of the Board to please come up with a district vision and mission statement and to seek input from the community to create a needs assessment.

#### Facilities

Celeste Van Cleave reported on the two TAP Grants and Seismic Assessment Grant that the district was awarded; the Long-Range Facilities Grant, the Seismic Assessment Grant and the Facilities Assessment Grant. The Long-Range Facilities Grant and the Facilities Assessment Grant can be used interchangeably. The Long-Range Facilities Grant will work with the community to determine what the projected long-range plan for the facilities will be. The Facilities Assessment Grant will be used to look at the state of our current buildings. The Seismic Assessment Grant will allow us to do a seismic evaluation on the remaining structure on the elementary and high school buildings.

Celeste Van Cleave also reported on Excise Tax which will require working with both local cities and the county. Last time the district pursued the Excise Tax, both the cities and county approved the tax but was stopped at the Board. The tax could be imposed on new construction and expansion remodel permits, residential and nonresidential and the tax rate is a per school district assessment. Construction permits would not be issued unless the tax is paid or unless exempt.

An excise tax revenue could be used for capital improvements such as acquisition of land, the construction, reconstruction or improvement of school facilities; acquisition or installation of equipment, furnishings, or other tangible property; related architectural, engineering expenses, legal expenses or similar costs related to capital improvements. The excise revenue allows the district to purchase and prepare sites for future school facilities and/or to help defray the cost of new school facilities. The topic of an excise tax may be a future Board agenda item.

Discussion on voter turnout of previous failed bonds

The majority of voter turnout was from the older population whom significantly turn down both bonds. Fixed income was an issue as well as negative past district experiences. We need to get younger voters to vote. During the past bond campaigns, the younger voters were difficult to reach.

It was mentioned, if we want to avoid a bond, piecing factory built constructed wings together at the high school may work to updating our facilities. Several Board members mentioned putting a Bond out in May which would require a resolution and filing required by January's Board meeting. Brought to the attention of the Board was that this year's workload at the district office is high due to the seismic grant, the new junior high building and the RFP bidding that is needed for the TAP and seismic assessment grants. What is needed is to get a coherent long-term plan and develop it within the community. A long-range plan and community engagement is an integral part of the facility improvement process. At this time, the Board is pushing off bond discussion for another year and will work with the community to see what they will support.

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Dena Crowell, Board Secretary

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Board Chairman, Parker Leigh

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Date Approved

Board meeting minutes approved on October 14, 2019.  
Original minutes with signatures on file at the District Office.