

Brookings-Harbor School District 17C

“All Students Can Succeed”

Special Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 30, 2013 – 4:00 pm

Brookings-Harbor District Office

Jamie Ryan, Sue Chambers, Bruce Raleigh, Alice Farmer, Baron Guido, Don Sweeney, Dede Corpening, Don Iler, Gordon Clay

Call to order: Jaime Ryan called the special meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Board Business:

HB 3401

Brian Hodge explained the need for the meeting and the HB 3401. This HB will give the district the opportunity to negotiate with our local ESD. Alice Farmer asked to be clear what it is we are negotiating. Brian Hodge explained it would be for services that we are currently paying ESD for. He gave an example of the district pulling out of life skills a couple years ago. Sue Chambers asked what services we purchase from ESD. Don Sweeney passed out a spread sheet that explained it clearer. There are two types of services we purchase items from the ESD. There are tier one services which are required and tier two, which are optional to buy services. We received \$466,000 last year from our ESD. We asked for pass through money in cash so that we were able to buy our own psychologist. Baron Guido added that we did hire the same psychologist that ESD was providing to us the previous year. By doing this we were able to provide additional services to our students. Sue Chambers asked what we currently are buying from our ESD. Baron Guido and Don Sweeney responded with the speech language pathologist and assistant and the OT/PT services. The ESD wants us to stay as a member and we want to be able to negotiate. We would like 65% of the dollars. We would still purchase the OT/PT but would have the ability to purchase speech path on our own. By voting to have the intent to pull out of ESD today it would give the district the opportunity to negotiate the services to purchase through them. We will then have until March to research and see what is best for the district and what ESD will allow us to do. Baron Guido and Don Sweeney both gave examples of how the district is ultimately responsible with decisions the ESD is making on our students. Sue Chambers responded that by pulling out completely we will no longer be a “member” and our prices may go up because we are not members on the items we have to purchase. Don Sweeney replied that we still have until March to make the decision. We talked to our attorney to make sure that we can still receive the services for the same price as the other “members”. Sue Chambers asked if we are not happy, can we go to another ESD? Jamie Ryan stated that it sounded like a two step process. Vote on the intent to pull out, then gather the information and discuss and make the final decision in March on what is best for the district. Alice Farmer liked the example of the pass through money and being able to buy other services. Bruce Raleigh said ultimately we want the pass through money for the psychologist and the speech services. Baron Guido responded yes. **Alice Farmer made a motion to allow the school district to offer the intent to withdraw from the education service district SB 250 by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of this board, seconded by Jamie Ryan.**

Discussion: Bruce Raleigh asked how the SB 250 differed from the HB 3401. Brian Hodge stated it is the same thing. Sue Chambers said she feels it doesn't hurt to try to get the best deal for the school district. She wanted to know who would track the services we intend to buy. Brian Hodge said that the district meets with ESD monthly so it will be an ongoing decision. In February it will be brought to the board to do comparison shopping.

Bruce: Aye Alice: Aye Sue: Aye Jamie: Aye

Motion Pass

Jamie Ryan showed the board a form that the district and the board are going to use when there are directives given so that there is a record of requests. The idea is so that the board is all on the same page when requesting information. Sue Chambers stated that way it is clear on what is asked of the superintendent. She also asked who would be responsible on following up that items are being completed. Bruce added that they can put another column on the sheet to fill in who would follow up. Primarily it would be the superintendent, but on some occasions it may be someone else.

Operating Agreement:

It is unclear as to what our districts operating agreement is, but Jamie Ryan would like to go over the areas of policy she found so that the board is clear on its expectations from the superintendent. Bruce would like the opportunity to discuss with the superintendent informally and give feedback on the direction the district is going as Sue Chambers had requested in an email. The superintendent evaluations are done in executive session. Brian would like it to be in an open executive session so that there is openness, clarity and transparency. Jamie Ryan would like to get some clarity today on what the board is looking for. The board has not agreed on what their expectations are. Sue Chambers stated we are already one third into the year, so we need to get started on the informal evaluations. Jamie Ryan stated that it is still unclear what the board wants. Sue Chambers stated that Katherine Johnson said that Brian Hodge told her he did not have a job description. He replied he knew the job description, he was unclear on what he is being evaluated on. Sue Chambers said the board has a policy that has an evaluation form in it. Brian Hodge said that OSBA had pulled that recently adopted evaluation because it was not intended for the superintendent. Bruce Raleigh said that it appeared that the next step is to work on the superintendent goals, not the operation agreement. He likes the idea of an open session as well. Jamie Ryan asked if the superintendent would like to ask the board questions on what it is they are looking for. Brian Hodge said in his past evaluations he has walked away without knowing what direction he was supposed to be heading. Brian Hodge handed out a packet of information that the board had requested. Included were class changes between 2008 and 2013 at the high school, goals for the district, graduation rates, and classes offered on E2020, historical test scores, and the virtual school progress. Sue Chambers had to leave for an appointment at approx. 4:45. The discussion continued on the superintendent crafting goals that lined up with the board goals. Alice Farmer gave an example on the broad communication goal, having the superintendent's goals fall under this category to be more specific. Jamie Ryan said having the evaluation meeting open to the public will help with the communication. She referenced to the line of authority being broken, and that having an open meeting staff members will better understand the communication piece. Bruce Raleigh agrees. The board is being questioned on details that it should not be involved with. Bruce Raleigh then stated that on the other hand, the investigation that was put into the paper should have been brought to the board. Jamie Ryan said

Brian Hodge did inform her. She said that she has been instructed that until it is at your front door, you need to leave it alone. Jamie Ryan said she had the same conversation with Sue Chambers. Jamie Ryan did not pass the information along because there was nothing else to pass on at that point. Alice Farmer said she does not feel she needs to know any details, if and when it comes to the school boards level. Brian Hodge added that it was late Friday afternoon when it happened, and there were some logistics involved with it as well. Brian Hodge said the message he is getting from the board is take care of business. It is not necessarily his job to do it, but make sure the district is getting it done. Bruce Raleigh envisioned it going from board goals, to superintendent goals, admin goals on down to the teachers. Brian Hodge shared the high school coming to him to show the freshman failing grades and what can the district do to help this. Jamie Ryan asked Brian Hodge to tell the board when it is venturing outside the policy making and into the decision making. Everyone wants what's best for the kids, and the superintendent should be spending his time doing that. Jamie Ryan said Sue Chambers asked if she could run a tighter meeting. There is too much discussion and interrupting. Bruce Raleigh added that he thought that would be good. He referenced some times that had been frustrating due to the dialogue. Alice Farmer said honesty and being blunt is good. Bruce Raleigh added the board should avoid interacting with the public during the meetings. Jamie Ryan said she would keep it clear during the public comment section that this is not a time for dialogue. Bruce Raleigh asked Brian Hodge if he could do a written report in the packet like the administration does. Bruce Raleigh said it was easier for him to process if he heard ahead of time in case he did have questions. He suggested maybe an email summary weekly instead. Brian Hodge said when something comes up he has been trying to get it to the board that day. Alice Farmer said she thought that Jamie Ryan should still go through the difference between board goals verses superintendents goals, possibly at the next board meeting. Bruce Raleigh asked if there was a way to get the survey printed out that OSBA sent a link too. Brian Hodge said he would look into it. Alice Farmer said she is uncomfortable with doing an evaluation at this time without knowing specifically what she is evaluating. Prior to the next regular board meeting there will be a special meeting to come up with specific goals, and what specifically is being evaluated then hopefully be able to have an informal evaluation prior to the formal evaluation in February.

Comments/Communication:

Brian Hodge asked the board if they got a chance to review the contract for the sale of Upper Chetco. Jamie Ryan said she would like to see the typos fixed and then have a meeting with it put on an agenda. There will be a special meeting on Wednesday the 6th at 3:00 pm at the district office.

Bruce Raleigh asked about the other OSBA workshop Steve Lamb had suggested that was free. Brian Hodge said he would like to address that after the OSBA conference.

Meeting adjourned at 5:36 pm.