

LANE ESD BOARD OF DIRECTORS' WORK SESSION
Tuesday – April 23, 2013

1. Call to Order

Chair Carol Dennis called the board work session to order at 5:07 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, 2013, in accordance with the agenda and public notice of the meeting.

Board Members present were **Chair Carol Dennis, Sherrie Deurst-Higgins, Chuck Forster, Don Kimball, Anselmo Villanueva, and Joel Robe.**

Others attending were Superintendent Larry Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Carol Knobbe, Michelle Mantel, Dave Standridge, Randy Trummer, Sue Mathisen, and Julie Simmonds was present as recording secretary.

2. Budget

Business Services Director Dave Standridge reviewed the handout "2013-14 Projected General Fund Budget Forecast". The document shows a projected budget deficit of \$1.4M. Mr. Standridge explained that while Lane ESD's costs to operate special education program have increased, the cost charged to districts has been frozen. Special Education Director Sue Mathisen is working to identify ways to decrease the cost of providing programs in line with the projected budget. The agency may approach the Board to request lowering the ending fund balance or tapping into reserve funds to reduce the projected budget deficit. Leadership will meet over the next couple of weeks to determine how to proceed.

The Board inquired about communication and if information programs shifting to districts has been shared with staff and parents of students enrolled in special education programs. Ms. Mathisen explained that communication has occurred through the districts and from Lane ESD. The Board also inquired about holding the districts harmless in terms of costs, and what the value is in doing so.

Districts that have elected to develop district-based Lifeskills programs are committed to staff continuity.

A budget update will be presented at the May Board meeting.

3. Superintendent Evaluation Strategy

Directors Kimball and Forster presented the draft superintendent evaluation strategy, including three surveys to collect feedback from agency Leadership, component district superintendents, and the Board.

The Board discussed the questions developed for the surveys. Comments included ensuring that the surveys align with the Superintendent goals.

Directors Kimball and Forster suggested that the Leadership be surveyed this year. The full staff will not be surveyed this year. The Board agreed to eliminate the first two questions on the leadership survey. Comment sections will be added to the Leadership survey. Timelines will be discussed in the regular session of the Board meeting.

4. Legislative Update

Board members reviewed handouts of the current version of HB3401, engrossed with amendments up to seven, an email written by Jim Mabbott regarding the status of current measures, and the letter of opposition to HB3401 sent to the legislative education committee by a subset of Lane County district superintendents. Jim Mabbott has indicated that he does not believe that the bill will go through with the funding "back-fill" language. HB3401 would shift dollars to the larger districts, reducing Lane ESD's capacity to provide services to the medium and smaller districts. Chair Dennis encouraged the Board to write local legislators. When writing, she asked that Board members be clear to announce board membership, but indicate that members are not speaking on behalf of the board. Chair Dennis commented that the Democratic leadership has been encouraging all democrats to support this measure.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.



Carol Dennis, Chairperson



Larry Sullivan, Superintendent

Minutes approved:


(Date) JRS