

POWELL BUTTE COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S WORK SESSION March 31, 2016

WORK SESSION 5:30 PM – Library

Board Members Present: Patty McLean, Steve Holliday, Francis DeRoest, Tom Burke, Samantha Smith, Chris Seber, Jeff Clay

Board Member Absent: None

PBCCS Administration/Staff Present: Jackie LaFrenz, Jenn Berry-O'Shea, Maggie Townsend

Crook County School Board Members Present: Walt Wagner, Scott Cooper

CCSD Administration/Staff Present: Anna Logan

I. Call to Order

Chair McLean called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

II. Flag Salute

Chair McLean led the Flag Salute.

III. Introductions

Introductions were made between the Crook County School District (CCSD) board members and staff and the PBCCS board members and staff.

IV. Review of PBCCS Funding & Future Challenges

Administrator LaFrenz presented information pertaining to funding challenges faced by PBCCS in future years as it pertains to the renewal of the PBCCS charter agreement with (CCSD).

Administrator LaFrenz explained the things that PBCCS needs for continued success: equity, fairness, teacher leaders, accountability, choice for all. Administrator LaFrenz then reviewed the current challenges PBCCS is faces: Lack of support staff, retaining high quality and innovative staff, PERS and benefit expense increases. A way for PBCCS to address this problem is to increase the State School Funding pass through from CCSD.

Administrator LaFrenz explained that the Special Education population has increased, and we do not have the support to meet all students' needs. Board member Cooper explained the Special Education challenge in CCSD, which are very similar to PBCCS. Administrator LaFrenz broke down the financials of the Special Education program at PBCCS. PBCCS would also benefit from additional space to house the Special Education program. PBCCS and CCSD has a diversity and intensity of student needs that must be addressed to maintain student success.

Administrator LaFrenz explained PBCCS's challenge in retaining experienced and high quality staff. Teachers at PBCCS make approximately 15% less than teachers in CCSD. In addition, PBCCS offers less benefits to their employees. She then explained the upcoming challenge of PERS and increase in benefits. This leaves PBCCS with a deficit of \$10,000-20,000 coming into the 2016-17 school year.

LaFrenz explained that PBCCS is asking for an increase in State School Funding from 80% to 95%. Things to consider, PBCCS has been a good partner to CCSD for the past 6 years. We need an honest investment to grow and expand our program and best serve students in Crook County.

Board member Wagner inquired about professional development at PBCCS. Board member Cooper explained his desire for PBCCS and CCSD to partner for professional development opportunities and more. Board member Cooper explained the need for sustainability when CCSD is looking at how to help PBCCS with the upcoming challenges. Board member Burke expressed that as a taxpayer he would like his money to go to PBCCS, he wants to keep good teachers at PBCCS and grow the educational program. Board member Wagner expressed his desire for PBCCS to be a part of CCSD and to work in partnership. Board member Cooper, asked the PBCCS board if they would be open to cap the reserve to ensure that increased funding would go to students.

Anna Logan explained her perspective as the Business Manager at CCSD. In Ms. Logan's perspective Crook County School District is losing money through the operation of PBCCS. Administrator LaFrenz inquired about a break down of expenses to help PBCCS better understand how CCSD is serving PBCCS and what money is being spent on PBCCS.

Board member Cooper asked hypothetically, does increasing the State School Funding, set a precedent for future charter schools in Crook County?

Board member Wagner explained his commitment to finding a solution to help address PBCCS's challenges. Administrator LaFrenz expressed that to continue to be successful PBCCS must address these challenges, and support students in Crook County.

Board member Cooper asked how many PBCCS students attend PBCCS. Mrs. Townsend explained that over 95% of PBCCS students are from Crook County.

Administrator Lafrenz expressed that PBCCS has made a good faith effort to comply with CCSD and ODE requirements and educate the students to the best of our ability. PBCCS would like to receive 95% of the State School Funding pass through as it would greatly increase PBCCS's ability to serve students in Crook County. Cooper wants to look at per pupil funding in other scenarios in Crook County, to ensure that there is equity throughout Crook County.

V. Review Proposed Charter Agreement 2016-17

No Child Left Behind language has been omitted from the charter because it no longer applies. State testing is only one measure of student success and has been omitted by PBCCS in the charter. Board member Cooper explained that he supports that changes made by PBCCS and discussed those changes in Stacy Smith. Ms. Logan explained several changes in dates. Those were made in the draft.

Administrator LaFrenz informed CCSD that PBCCS is seeking a change to enrollment through the State to allow PBCCS teachers to have priority in the enrollment process. Board member Cooper expressed that the CCSD board would support that change.

VI. Create timeline for Charter Renewal

Administrator Lafrenz asked CCSD for a timeline for renewal, since we are off of the current timeline. Ms. Logan explained that this can be accommodated by through communication between Administrator LaFrenz and the CCSD Superintendent. Ms. Logan explained that CCSD will have a public hearing at a board meeting. CCSD needs a work session in April on the final contract, a board meeting and a public hearing in May.

VII. Action Plan for Back Property

Burke has a rototiller that Mr. Palmer can use to assist with the maintenance on the back property.

We have need for some hand lines. Ms. Logan said she would inquire within the district

VIII. Adjourn

Chair McLean adjourned the meeting at 7:19 pm.

Jenn Berry-O'Shea, Board Executive Assistant

Patty McLean, Board Chair