

**FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #57  
BOARD WORKSHOP  
December 11, 2010**

**Board Members Present:**

Robert Young, Chair  
Larry Sickles, Director

Bruce McCallum, Vice Chair  
Raeann McDonald, Director

**Board Members Absent:**

John Davis, Director

**Staff Present:**

Peter Tarzian, Superintendent  
Lynn Love, Deputy Clerk

Aaron Hale, Deputy Superintendent  
John Gilbert, Facilities Manager

The flag salute was give at 9:03 AM.

Board Chair Young asked to add to the agenda children with problems seem to be distracting the normal education of regular students. Dr. Tarzian stated this would need to be discussed in executive session at the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting under exempt records and we cannot diminish their right to the least restricted instructional environment.

**Revenue & Expenditure Comparison**

Chair Young asked if the \$4,000 for certified staff development could be negotiated out in order to add back a day and that we need to look at all ways to reduce cut days. Dr. Tarzian replied we have looked very closely at the spreadsheets but will not know anything until perhaps July 2011.

Deputy Superintendent Hale said we could possibly look at middle school sports and the counselor position. Dr. Tarzian said the staff will argue for the counselor position.

Vice Chair McCallum asked if we needed the athletic director position. Chair Young said it is a possibility.

Director Sickles said if we move the 8<sup>th</sup> grade to the high school it could save 1 FTE. Director McDonald asked if there are expenses for a home-office in 11-12. Dr. Tarzian replied no.

Break from 10:25 to 10:30 AM.

**K-12 Structure**

Chair Young stated we need to keep the current class size at the elementary school. Deputy Superintendent Hale stated we will need to look at licensure if we move the 8<sup>th</sup> grade to the high school; saying the social study teacher is the only teacher without mid level licensure.

Dr. Tarzian state riffing by statute would riff Micke Kidd. Director Sickles suggested moving Bailey back to the high school. Deputy Superintendent Hale said we would than lose Spanish licensure.

Chair Young asked if anyone was thinking about retiring; we do not want to riff a good teacher. Chair Young asked what the teacher/student ratio is now. Deputy Superintendent Hale replied the high school is 4.5 teachers for 55 students or 1:12; the elementary school is 4.5 teachers for 103 students or 1:23.

Director Sickles stated the district needs to get to one building to be efficient; and said let's not cut five days now for 10-11 and wait until July to see what it looks like. Dr. Tarzian said be careful.

Chair Young and Director Sickles expressed it will be very important to keep parents and the community well informed. Director Sickles also said it will be important to negotiate out high school prep time and the \$4,000 staff development and to add back student contact days.

### **Local Option**

Dr. Tarzian said he had a discussion with Chair Young about increasing the Local Option rate from \$1.25 per thousand to \$1.50 per thousand which could produce an additional \$12,000 but would also increase compression thus reducing the percentage of return. Dr. Tarzian reminded the Board the local option levy also generates a 60% Local Option Equalization Grant payment each year; stating it might be more beneficial to retro-fit buildings using a local option levy rather than a long term debt bond.

### **Board Communication Plan**

Chair Young said the Board feels meeting every week is too much and suggests if Board members wish to attend they may as an available basis. Vice Chair McCallum asked if there was an agenda for each week. Dr. Tarzian replied the agenda is fluid; what is currently impacting the district or community.

Director McDonald suggested if there is a specific issue than contact the board. Director Sickles said to make it optional. The Board decided to make attendance optional and if more than two Board members show up one would leave.

### **Student Transfer**

Chair Young stated the Board needs to stay away from making emotional decisions, keep the public's emotional feelings out of the public Board meetings, and stand by our policies. Dr. Tarzian recommended limiting the public decisions to address the fair consideration of process and possible complaint which we have policies for.

Lunch was served at 12:30 PM and continued to with the agenda.

### **Policies & Procedures**

Deputy Superintendent Hale informed the Board he is working with Corvallis SD and the Hungerford law firm updating the district's employee conduct policies and handbooks. Dr. Tarzian said the staff needs to learn how to deal with each other on a professional level and realize they are on duty 24/7 in small communities.

Deputy Superintendent Hale informed the Board the monthly school food program meetings are working well and would do something similar with all staff.

Director McDonald asked how does administration and board members interact. Deputy Superintendent Hale replied talk to Superintendent than the Board. Dr. Tarzian replied this is in accordance to the current board working agreement.

Chair Young stated the Board needs to be able to communicate but also needs to do so within guidelines for:

- Board member to Board member
- Administration to Board
- Employee to Administration
- Employee to Board
- Community to Staff

Dr. Tarzian said it is important to support collective decisions. Director Sickles said we need to support decisions as a unified group and agree to disagree at times. Dr. Tarzian said it is important to set ground rules first so it does not become a bitch session and based on programs not personnel.

The Board, Superintendent Tarzian and Deputy Superintendent Hale decided to post for the superintendent position in February 2011 and have a person in place by mid April. Deputy Superintendent Hale agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.

  
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Presiding Chair

January 24, 2011  
Date