

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2/26/2015

1. *Called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Chairman Wilbur Nisly*

The School Board Trustees of Corvallis School District #1 met at a duly constituted and properly noticed meeting Thursday evening in the Handley House.

Trustees Present: Wilbur Nisly, Tonia Bloom, Jennifer Channer, Kathy Harder-Brouwer and Adam Sangster.

Absent: Dan Wolsky and Ginny Hoffman

The Superintendent (arrived at 5:10pm) and the District Clerk was present throughout the entire proceedings.

Others Present Middle School Principal, Mr. Rich Durgin, Middle School Counselor, Jo Johnson, and Kimber Smith was a community member

2. *Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items* None.3. *Discussion and Action for variance application for Middle School counselor accreditation standard*

Middle School Principal, Rich Durgin, stated that he is asking for the Boards approval for the Variances Standards Application as a safety net. The Middle School currently has 1.5 FTE for counselors, with part of the FTE (.1) being shared at the high school level. The .5 FTE counselor just gave verbal notice that she will be leaving the district at the end of school year. That may leave the middle school having a .9 FTE counselor, which does not meet accreditation standards of the 1.0 FTE.

In the past it has been challenging to fill a .5 FTE counselor position. This Variance Request if approved will allow the district options if that vacancy is not filled. The goal is to advertise for a .5 FTE counselor. If it is not filled, then to be able to advertise for Dean of Students with a Montana K-8 teaching endorsement. The Dean position would support the counselor position and be responsible for identifying at-risk students who are struggling academically, and working with them and the parents.

The Board asked Mr. Durgin if OPI may have any concerns in approving this type of variance. And, if he knew what the turn-around time was for OPI to approve such a variance.

Mr. Durgin stated that he did not know if OPI would approve the variance request. He hopes they would approve it in case he is not able to fill the vacated position. And he did not know what OPI's time limit was to approve a variance request.

Trustee Bloom moved to approve the Variance Standards Application for the Middle School counselor accreditation standard as recommended.

Trustee Channer seconded the motion.

There was no additional discussion.

All voted in favor of the motion.

Adjournment

Trustee Harder-Brouwer moved to adjourn.

Adjournment – 5:16 p.m.

District Clerk

Chairman