



# Butte Falls School District #91

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## OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING THURSDAY DECEMBER 16, 2021

- DATE/TIME/PLACE:** A meeting of the School Board of Butte Falls School District 91 was held on Thursday December 16, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. at the District Office 720 Laurel Ave., Butte Falls, Oregon. Virtual access to the public was provided, via Zoom and available for viewing on YouTube.
- ROLL CALL:** Present: Katie Misfeldt (via Zoom), Steve Nelson (via Zoom), Mark Carlton (via Zoom), Dan Murphy Aaron Worman (via Zoom) arrived at 5:22 p.m.
- ADMINISTRATION:** Dr. Phil Long  
Racheal Aiken (via Zoom)
- SECRETARY:** Julie Freeman (via Zoom)
- TECHNOLOGY:** Catherine Cogdill (absent)
- PUBLIC:** None
- CALL TO ORDER:** Board Vice Chair Katie Misfeldt called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mrs. Misfeldt led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- APPROVE AGENDA:** Mr. Carlton made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Nelson seconded. 4 aye votes, 0 opposed.
- CONSENT AGENDA/  
MINUTES:** Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of November 8, 2021. Mr. Nelson seconded. 4 aye votes, 0 opposed.
- AUDIT PRESENTATION:** Brandon Lee, CPA for Neuner Davidson & Co. introduced himself and referred board members and administration to the copy of the 2020-2021 audit report. Mr. Lee stated that the audit went well and encouraged board members to ask questions or contact him later if they had any questions.
- Mr. Lee pointed out the Independent Auditors Report on pages 1 & 2, stating it declared an unmodified opinion, which means there were no issues that were material. Mr. Lee did share that there was a minor finding related to following the proper protocol for budget hearing notices. Mr. Lee noted that the district did attempt to post the hearing notice in the newspaper of record, and was unable to do so.

Mrs. Aiken stated that the issue has been since reconciled, as the district changed the newspaper of record at the organizational meeting in July.

Mr. Lee lead the board through the audit report, highlighting specific pages that he thought may be of interest to the school board. He specifically recommended reading pages 3-7, the Management's Discussion & Analysis, which is an overview of the financial highlights of the district. He commended Mrs. Aiken for her excellent work.

Mr. Lee spoke about the transfer to the food service program and explained the PERS system financial impacts on school districts.

SUPERINTENDENT  
REPORT/UPDATES:

**Enrollment:** Dr. Long shared that enrollment was at 193 students at the end November. He stated that this was the season which districts may see some fluctuation in enrollment and he would be looking closely to see what type of planning will be needed for budgeting for next year. He shared that by utilizing ESSER III funds towards staffing, the district was able to avoid staff reductions at this time. Dr. Long stated that he was working on a marketing plan and Open House for the spring in hope of sharing the good things the district is doing and bringing the enrollment back up.

Mrs. Aiken stated that she had made an adjustment to avoid a negative adjustment in May and would continue to monitor it closely.

**Snow:** Dr. Long stated that the last week had been a very snowy, icy week and to keep everyone safe he had called a two-hour delay on Monday and Thursday, and closures on Tuesday & Wednesday. He stated that the students were able to attend on Thursday and participate in the traditional holiday gala.

**Radon Testing:** Dr. Long reported that the preliminary results of the Radon testing were in and show no significant issues.

**Seismic Assessments:** Dr. Long reported that ZCS would be conducting seismic assessments on the remaining structures in the district. He stated this this would be funded with grant money and should be completed by the end of February.

**Sports Update:** Dr. Long reported that there were no high school sports taking place this winter due to lack of interest. He shared that the middle school has a robust program and that Kyndi Sutfin and Billie Jean Myers would be coaching the middle school girls' basketball team and Jason Haskell and Ted Birdseye would be coaching middle school wrestling. Dr. Long also shared that the Burg's would be offering the Junior Loggers program for the younger students. Dr. Long stated that he appreciated the patrons for following the protocols around the masking rules and helping to keep our facilities open.

**NRC Update:** Dr. Long shared that Mr. Mathas was working hard to finalize projects at the NRC and would be presenting a report in February or March. He shared that Mr. Mathas was working on various projects that would include students. Dr. Long also shared that Mr. DeCarlow was working with educators in the region that are interested in utilizing the NRC for day trips, along with facilitating scheduling elementary students to the NRC on a regular basis.

REVIEW OF  
PAYMENTS:

Board members reviewed the expenditure report and asked for clarification on various expenditures. Mrs. Aiken provided answers.

FINANCIAL  
SUMMARY:

Mrs. Aiken provided the board with the current financial reports and was able to answer questions presented by the board. Mrs. Aiken stated would begin working with administration on the budget process. She reminded board members that the district is seeking members to be on the budget committee.

Members and administration discussed the cost of the food service program. Mrs. Aiken stated that she would provide the board with another financial analysis of the program. Mrs. Aiken also stated that its important to remind everyone that the board made a decision as a whole to be a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) district and to provide free meals for all students, knowing that the district would have to subsidize the program in order to maintain it.

CHARTER SCHOOL/  
STAFFING UPDATE:

Dr. Long reported that he had hired Justin Gunn, a less than half time temporary custodian for the elementary building. He reported that Shane Smith was helping to check campuses and heating systems each morning. He shared that Mr. Smith had completed the bus driver training, but was still working on getting driving hours in. Dr. Long stated that he was very appreciative of the bus drivers and their commitment to getting our students to and from school.

ESSA/SITE  
COUNCIL/PARENT  
INVOLVEMENT:

Mrs. Freeman reported that she had submitted the Title budget narratives and they had been approved and that she was working on the Title carryovers and Title I monitoring. She stated that she and Mrs. Misfeldt would be hosting a Site Council/Parent Involvement meeting in January.

Mrs. Misfeldt stated that she had spoken to a number of parents who would be more than happy to help volunteer at the schools. She stated that there are some parents willing to host a dance for the middle school students.

BUTTE FALLS  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL  
PARTNERSHIP:

Mr. Murphy stated that The Landing had received a grant to offer a free Covid vaccination clinic on December 10<sup>th</sup> and two other future dates to be announced. Dr. Long stated that the grant money would include the school and Community Church as partners to help assist with these events. He stated that Betsy Mathas would be the liaison for the district on this project.

PUBLIC  
COMMENT:

Dr. Long stated that he had received two letters from parents via [feedback@buttefalls.k12.or.us](mailto:feedback@buttefalls.k12.or.us) voicing their concerns on mandatory Covid vaccinations for students. Dr. Long stated that the school did not require Covid vaccinations for students at this time, Dr. Long reminded anyone that had questions or comment to call him at 541.865.3563 or contact the feedback link.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

**Memorandum of Agreement with OSEA Chapter 142 (Butte Falls):** Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the MOU with OSEA regarding mandatory vaccination policy and Covid staffing through June

30, 2022, contingent upon ratification membership of OSEA Chapter 142. Mr. Carlton seconded. 5 aye votes, 0 opposed.

**County Authority Regarding Covid Mandates in Schools:** Mr. Carlton stated that several schools in the valley were pursuing local control vs state control insofar as recommendations and guidelines concerning Covid protocols. Mr. Carlton stated that the idea was for each district to come up with a resolution to ask the state for local control, as local control would represent the needs of the local community rather than the state as a whole.

Mr. Carlton stated that there were a number of districts that have developed or were in the process of developing a local control resolution. He stated that if the Butte Falls School Board wanted to move toward creating a resolution, once complete, then all the districts with local control resolutions could band as a unit and send support for local control rather than state control to representatives.

Mr. Carlton opened up discussion to board members on the subject and gave the opportunity to give feedback on the subject.

The board agreed to have Dr. Long provide copies of the resolutions concerning local control from Medford and Eagle Point School District to the board at the January meeting and provide an opportunity for further discussion on the matter.

**In Person Public Meeting Forum:** Mr. Carlton proposed to move the board meetings back to in person meetings.

Mr. Carlton opened up discussion to board members on the subject and gave the opportunity to give feedback on the subject.

Some points of concern from some board members was the fact that the community does not have law enforcement available if there are members of the community that defy protocols for the meetings and the logistics of setting up a public meeting with limited facilities and personnel.

**PERSONNEL:**

Dr. Long restated the Charter School staffing update and noted that there have been many people in the community that have helped in many ways, which was highlighted in the December newsletter. He stated that he was looking forward to the day that parents can be back on campus and again be a part of the family engagement and learning process to help further support for the students.

**COMMENTS/  
FUTURE ITEMS:**

**Mr. Murphy:** Mr. Murphy asked which newspaper was going to be the newspaper of record. Dr. Long stated it would be the Mail Tribune.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m. 5 ayes, 0 opposed.