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Board of Directors Board Minutes January 18, 2022

- Board Members** Board Chair Peggy Kinkade, Vice-Chair Matt McGowan, Directors Gwen Carr, Betsy Julian, Bob Moore, Carol Moorehead (attended virtually), Carlos Perez and Elizabeth Sanchez
- HDESD Staff** Paul Andrews, Superintendent; George Cocores, EI/ECSE Evaluation Coordinator; Rochelle Friend, Chief Financial Officer; Jayel Hayden, Chief Human Resources Officer; Anna Higgins, Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer; Angella LaFontaine, Business Analyst; Amy McCormack, Executive Director of EIECSE; Shay Mikalson, Chief Student Success Officer, Rachel Went-Chaney, Chief Information Officer and Shelley Knutz, Executive Assistant
- Call to Order** Board Chair Peggy Kinkade called the January 18, 2022 meeting to order at 5:32 pm
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PRESENTATIONS

Board Appreciation

Superintendent Andrews expressed his appreciation to the board members on behalf of all the High Desert ESD staff. The time they devote and their dedication to the students is commendable and we are all very grateful. The Sagebrush program, The Nest students and the OT/PT Team sent slides from their programs to share their appreciation. The ESD presented each board member a plant and Starbucks gift card.

Early Intervention Evaluation Team

George Cocores has been with High Desert ESD for 25 years and serves as the EI/ECSE Evaluation Coordinator. The ESD is able to provide a seamless system to support the developmental and educational needs of children with disabilities ages birth to five and their families. They ensure that children who qualify for special education receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education as required. The team is able to provide free screenings and evaluations for children age birth to five. Evaluations help look at a child's development and whether they qualify for special education services. George noted that 30% of the children qualifying for early intervention services, will not qualify for special education after age 3.

- EI/ECSE Evaluation Team Program Goals
 - ✓ Sink our fingers even deeper into the Central Oregon community by increasing the number of preschool and daycare programs consistently making referrals for developmental screenings and evaluations.
 - ✓ Assist with coordination and completion of Autism Spectrum Disorder eligibility evaluations, including additional professional training for Evaluation Team staff.

On average, the evaluation team receives 799 referrals per year. They are projecting 836 evaluations in 2021-22. George shared the percentage of referrals by district and the source of those referrals.

Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE)

Amy reviewed the EI/ECSE program goals, intended impact goals and the trends they are seeing in EI/ECSE this year. She was happy to report they have added a Mental and Behavioral Health Consultant, an Early Intervention Autism Specialist and a Bilingual Speech Language Pathologist.

- EI/ECSE Program Goals
 - ✓ Continue the positive momentum on the foundational skill of improving positive social emotional skills, in order to increase the number of preschool children who were functioning within age expectations when exiting the program at transition to Kindergarten.
 - ✓ The ECSE program will increase the number of ECSE students enrolled in inclusive classrooms.
- Intended Impact Goals
 - ✓ Children and youth will grow and develop with confidence and authenticity.
 - ✓ Partners and programs join together in a coordinated effort for all children and youth to succeed.
- Current Trends
 - ✓ Increase number of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder
 - ✓ Increase in referral of children with behavioral issues
 - ✓ Number of kids moving out of the Bend-La Pine district into Redmond and Crook County districts.
 - ✓ Increase in infants with serious medical issues.

Amy and George answered questions from the board members and invited them to attend an evaluation appointment sometime if they are interested in seeing the process.

Financial Report

Rochelle reported that we have received almost all state payments and cash balances have been restored. We have received the updated unemployment rates which went from .6% to 5%. This was a large spike and our rate will reflect that. Thankfully, this is a tentative rate based on current numbers. Her team has started working on budget assumptions for the 2022-23 budget. She will be scheduling a time for the Finance Committee to review the budget assumptions before the end of February.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2022-2023 Local Service Plan Presentation

Superintendent Andrews introduced the 2022-23 Local Service Plan (LSP). The LSP makes up 28-30% of our total budget and 90% of those funds go to the districts in the form of services. The proposed plan has been developed in collaboration with component school districts and their superintendents. He referred to the document as our menu of service and districts are able to purchase which services they plan to utilize the most. The HDESD Local Service Plan includes the following Core Services: administrative services, children with special needs, school improvement services and technology services. Superintendent Andrews reviewed the services that are new this year, why those service options were added and emphasized we stand ready to provide services to all of our districts as needed.

Superintendent Report

- ✓ Omicron is definitely impacting us requiring many isolations and quarantines. We have had to shut down classes for a period of time but are doing our best to keep them open.
- ✓ Our districts are needing more substitutes than we are able to provide. Jayel reported we have approximately 700-800 active substitutes. Superintendent Andrews acknowledged Jayel's staff and the incredible job they are doing filling as many jobs as we can. They are also holding additional substitute sign up and orientation opportunities.
- ✓ The state has made a few changes to COVID protocol. The definition of fully vaccinated status includes boosters after 5 months. Five day isolation instead of 10 days and Test to Stay. Superintendent Andrews will be sharing this information with staff during the Fireside Chat on 1/19.

- ✓ Amber Eaton is the new Executive Director of OAESD. He has invited her to a future board meeting to speak with the board. Jessica Brenden is the new Program Administrator. The OAESD Spring Conference is scheduled for March 9-11 in Sunriver.
- ✓ After the CTE Center meeting on 12/20, they decided to move forward by looking at the regional needs. They will be discussing next steps when the superintendents meet on 1/20.
- ✓ He presented to the Redmond Kiwanis Club on the History of ESDs.
- ✓ He is scheduled out through February for program visits. Please let Shelley know if they would like to join him.
- ✓ Superintendent Andrews pointed out the dates at the bottom of the agenda.

Board Report

- ✓ Board Outreach Committee met and reviewed the board members' sphere of influence survey noting areas where they are missing representation.
- ✓ Superintendent Evaluation Committee distributed a draft of HDESD Superintendent Evaluation Criteria for 2022-23. The goal was to align the evaluation criteria with the board goals and metrics. The team is recommending this be the process used for this year's evaluation with the understanding it will continue to be a working document. Matt would like all sections of the evaluation to go to the board members and the administrative team. A section should be added for those wishing to add comments. The general consensus of the board members is to use this process for the current year.

First Reading Policy IGBI – Bilingual Education

Superintendent Andrews explained this is an existing policy and we recommend updating the language and legal references.

Policy BDDH - Public Comment at Board Meeting

Superintendent Andrews referenced the policy/AR documents in the packet. His recommendation is to keep the existing policy and he will use the BDDH-AR for the implementation of the policy.

ACTION ITEMS

Approve 2022-2023 Local Service Plan

- **Bob Moore made a motion to approve the 2022-23 Local Service Plan as presented. Gwen Carr seconded the motion. Motion was approved 8-0.**

Consent Agenda

- ✓ Personnel Report – January 2022
- ✓ GBA – Equal Employment Opportunity
- ✓ GBEA – Workplace Harassment
- ✓ Board Minutes – December 14, 2021
- **Matt McGowan made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Betsy Julian seconded the motion. Motion was approved 8-0.**

The January 18, 2022 Board of Director's meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Peggy Kinkade, Board Chair

Shelley Knutz, Executive Assistant