

MEETING NOTES

Corvallis 509J PTO and PTA

Location: District 509J Board Room

Notes by: Bill Patton

Date: February 26, 2004

Distribute To: Superintendent Jim Ford
All Corvallis 509J Parent group representatives

CONCLUSIONS

1. **Next meeting will be March 18.**
2. For consistency, the same individual will preside at all our meetings. Bill Patton volunteers and is accepted by the group.
3. Bill will:
 - Prepare and distribute agendas in advance of meetings;
 - Prepare notes from each meeting, summarizing information shared, requests, decisions and actions.
4. We are all grateful to Anne Schuster for developing, distributing and documenting a questionnaire that produced valuable ideas, opinions and plans that all yield improved effectiveness of, and satisfaction with, our meetings.
5. The group establishes these goals for the remainder of the year:
 - Start planning (*e.g.*, prepare calendars) for next year
 - Present Superintendent Ford with cohesive opinions from our group
 - Other goals will be identified, discussed and added as appropriate.
6. Another email orientation with Tim Pugh is desired.
7. Regarding District bargaining with teachers' union: it appeared all present agreed any modifications this year to teacher salaries should be consistent with other school districts and with other professions, reflecting the general state of the economy.

Concerns / Requests

8. Franklin and Inavale are not listed as middle schools on the District 509J webpage.
9. Parents desire more day-to-day District 509J functional information; *e.g.*, how was decision made regarding not making up snow days?

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From the Superintendent

10. Superintendent Ford appreciates information harvested from Anne Schuster's questionnaire to the group. It is very useful to him.
11. Superintendent Ford believes we should find a means for the voice of this group to be heard by the School Board.
12. **Superintendent Ford requests our assistance** in communicating this to the community:
 - Administrative costs are being reduced by reorganization:
 - District administrative staff will be reduced by one position
 - High School administrative staff will increase
 - This yields cost savings to District 509J
 - Administration is being shifted to where the students are found.
 - The programs available in District 509J, and what it takes to administer them
13. **Superintendent Ford requests information from us.** Responses can be communicated to him and to the School Board. To address entire School Board, send email to: schoolboard@corvallis.k12.or.us
 - What do parents feel and believe about District 509J efforts? What does this group hear from other parents?
 - What does community say about bargaining with teachers' union? What should be the position(s) of the School Board?
 - Should District 509J keep the Westland Middle School building, after the new Linus Pauling Middle School is completed and occupied by students?
14. District 509J now has 54 applications for the Principal position at Mountain View. A decision is anticipated by Spring Break.
15. Completed: Appeal process regarding reconstruction of Corvallis High School.
 - District 509J may proceed with construction.
 - Groundbreaking anticipated in April of this year.
16. Superintendent Ford indicates District 509J presently anticipates
 - a \$1.4 million cut in next year's budget,
 - if there is a 1% (approx.) increase in classified staff salaries,
 - and if there is no increase in teacher salaries,
 - and if there are no additional administrative cuts.

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17. District 509J Food Services have been successful in marketing their services to the community.

- They cater lunches to local businesses;
- They sell goods at Creekside Coffee Shop
- They provide service to the Philomath School District
- As a result they produce income for District 509J

From the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation

18. District 509J is planning a celebration of greatly-reduced high school dropout rates.

- District 509J presently has the lowest rate in Oregon (0.8%)
- Laverne Pitts (Laverne.Pitts@corvallis.k12.or.us) seeks ideas for the celebration

19. March 13 is the Woodstock's Spring for Kids run.

- This event funds a mini-grant program
- All Schools benefit
- \$6000 donated by sponsors
- 2000-meter run: \$10 entrance fee
- 5000-meter run: \$17 entrance fee
- A T-shirt for each entrant
- Information and registration forms: csd509J.net/foundation

20. The Foundation has received donations of \$560,000 thus far this year, with four months remaining in the school year. Compare this to last year's \$625,000 for the entire year: the community has been more generous this year.

TASKS

A. **Bill:** prepare and distribute notes from this meeting

B. **Bill:** Prepare and distribute in advance an agenda for next meeting

C. **Everybody:** Provide Superintendent Ford with requested information

- Community desires regarding bargaining with teachers' union
- Community desires regarding disposition of Westland Middle School building
- Community feeling about District 509J efforts and performance

D. **Everybody:** Help distribute information regarding reduction in administrative costs

E. **Everybody:** For next meeting (March 18)

- Bring ideas for additional goals for our group
- Provide Bill (bpstream@peak.org) with desired agenda items in advance