

Alsea School Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 30, 2023
Special School Board meeting 6:00 PM
Virtual Only



Alsea, OR 97324
Alsea School District 7J
301 South 3rd Street
Alsea, OR 97324
541.487.4305

1. Call to Order 1800
2. Flag Salute
3. Board Members present online -
Risteen Follett, Linda Montanez, Deb Lindberg, Roren Rounds, Ryan VanLeuven
4. Staff present online -
Lora Nickle, Lori Greenfield, Sean Gallagher
5. Patrons Online attendees -
Jamie Olsen
6. Approval of the Agenda -
Agenda approved as presented.
7. Discussion -
ELA curriculum adoption for K-12

Sean Gallagher updated the Board regarding the increase in costs due to workbooks being added to the order. He apologized for missing the previous meeting however, he said that both he and Lori Greenfield are present tonight to give updates and answer any questions the board or patrons have. He let the board know that although the overall cost increased the shipping did come down significantly and depending on availability we may be able to reduce it further by picking up the curriculum directly from Northwest Textbook Depository in Portland ourselves. He stated that we still have 100% buy in from the certified staff on this curriculum. The funds are available in the SIA grant to do this adoption and warned that if we do not use these funds we will lose them.

Lori Greenfield added to the documents presented tonight a memo that outlines the changes of the costs and why. The shipping costs if we choose to have the items shipped directly to Alsea School District came down from approximately \$10k to \$3K. The cost of the initial quote that was presented to the Board at the last meeting was in error as it did not include the cost of the six-year grammar workbook subscription for the secondary program *myPerspectives* by Savvas Learning Company. The formal quote presented to you tonight has the additional cost of \$10k. The cost also caused the review of the training plan to develop a sustainable and more cost-effective method to ensure that our students get the most out of this curriculum. We will work with LBLESD curriculum and instruction experts and the new teacher mentor to do the same services during shorter and more frequent sessions. This plan would reduce our training costs by \$6,800. Lori noted in her memo 'We can build a process of systematic support for our teachers that will really develop a strong English language arts program K-12 and significantly reduce potential learning loss should we have staff turnover in the future.'

Soren Rounds asked if additional training is needed in the future would that be covered by SIA grant funds? Sean Gallagher confirmed that yes that is exactly what we would use some of the SIA grant funds for. Lori Greenfield also mentioned that there are a lot of online training tools for them to access to help as well.

Risteen Follett asked what the ESD would charge us for training in comparison to Savvas staff development. Lori Greenfield said that for training through Savvas would be \$1400 for each implementation training with a total of \$4200 for the entire package. The ones that she originally was looking at would have been \$10,500. Risteen asked if the \$4200 was part of the quote or would it be an additional cost. Lori said that yes, it would be additional.

Sean Gallagher talked about the services contract that we are provided from ESD. There is a Tier I and a Tier II level of services. Tier II services we pay for, Tier I is provided to us. He has not had time to check with the ESD to find out which of these two levels the training would come out of. He suspects that it would be a combination of both areas which would result in a minimal cost to us. The advantage would be to have a local trainer who could come train whenever we needed them. He would prefer this over a 'canned training' who is not familiar with training small districts as opposed to larger districts. Soren Rounds asked if the ESD is familiar with this program or is this going to be new to them as well? Lori said that she did not want to speak for them directly as she did not know for sure the answer. However, she felt confident knowing the trainers from previous years that they will be able to supply competent training. Risteen Follett asked if we would still have a mentor program in our district? Sean Gallagher confirmed that Tim Pearson will still be here and available for teachers. Risteen asked if he would get additional training from Savvas? Sean said that no, he would receive his training right along with the teachers. Risteen was wondering if it would be an advantage to send Tim to deeper training to provide additional knowledge to our teachers. Lori said that Tim already has a working relationship with the people that she has spoken of through the ESD with the New Teacher Mentor Grant that he will have access to. Risteen's last question around the ESD is what the plan or partnership would look like. Lori Greenfield said that Tami Dufault-Toomb is reaching out to Nancy Griffith with the ESD. She is going to get clarification on what that looks like in terms of time provided to our teachers.

Deb Lindberg asked for a breakdown of the quote and what all of the costs include and what the SIA grant will be able to cover. Deb is looking more for what is going to come out of building funds and how much is the SIA grant going to cover. Sean Gallagher assured her that none of it will come out of the school's general fund. It will all be covered by the SIA grant. The only thing that may come out of district funds would be the professional development piece from the ESD. Will it come out of the Tier I or Tier II plan or a combination of both.

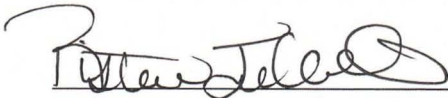
Risteen Follett wanted to follow up with the question around books that are suggested reading with this curriculum. Sean Gallagher answered that this will be covered by the AR that is being written around informing parents of what is going to be taught to their students and that if they choose to opt out their request will be honored by teachers. Lori Greenfield said that she hopes that in the future the parents will be able to see in advance what is going to be taught to their students via the online access as well.

8. Patron Comments - Jamie Olsen said that her only question is that sometimes there are other things that are 'snuck in' and she is curious about how detailed the syllabus is going to be and how complete the list of resources will be to be able to view the materials in a timely manner as well as be able to have time to give feedback. Sean Gallagher commented that the Board and the incoming Superintendent will need to be diligent on how complete those syllabus are. This is something that has not been enforced in the past but it is very important. The board will need to make sure that these ARs are put into place and followed by all teachers at all grade levels. He feels confident that Krista Nieraeth will be very adamant about it as well. We don't want parents to be in the dark. We want them to be a part of their students' education. Lori Greenfield said her vision would be that parents would be provided with a year long syllabus as well as quarterly updates to keep parents informed of any changes in the originally provided information.
9. Board Comments - None

10. Action Items -

- a. ELA Curriculum adoption - Deb Lindberg motioned to approve the ELA curriculum for adoption. Soren Rounds seconded. All in favor yea.
- b. ELA Price quote - Soren Rounds motioned to approve the price quote as presented with possible variations to the cost of shipping as well as training with ESD cost. Deb Lindberg seconded. All in favor yea.

11. Adjourn 1851



Risteen Follett, School Board Chair



Sean Gallagher, Superintendent

