

MINUTES OF JOINT WORK SESSION  
GLADSTONE SCHOOL BOARD & GLADSTONE CITY COUNCIL  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #115, CLACKAMAS COUNTY  
GLADSTONE, OREGON

April 25, 2018 Minutes

BOARD ATTENDANCE:

Sharon Soliday, Chair  
Kristin Eaton, Vice Chair  
Tracey Grant, Member  
Greg Lind, Member  
Jay Schmidt, Member  
Steve Stewart, Member  
Nicole Vera-Vera Couzens, Member

Bob Stewart, Superintendent  
Natalie Weninger, Board Secretary

**The joint work session of Gladstone School District Board of Directors and Gladstone City Council  
was held at Gladstone High School on Wednesday, April 25, 2018.**

The joint session convened at 5:30 pm.

**1. Introduction of City Council and School Board Members**

Jacque Betz, City Administrator; Tammy Stempel, Mayor; Michael Milch; Linda Neace; Matt Tracy; Neal Reisner; Patrick McManhon; and Thomas Mersereau Council Members were in attendance and introduced.

**2. Gladstone Food Pantry & Clothes Closet**

Superintendent Bob Stewart introduced Lennie Bjornsen, director of family and student supports at Gladstone School District. Superintendent Stewart gave a brief history of the community needs for food and clothing. Four or five years ago, Gladstone Schools partnered with our ministerial community partners to create a Backpack Buddies program. The backpack program expanded adding more food and a clothing closet. The district began thinking about a food pantry and eventually partnered with Oregon Food Bank. Mr. Bjornsen said Gladstone School District is one of two districts in the State that run an Oregon Food bank affiliated food pantry. Most are run by cities and communities. Mr. Bjornsen went over the number of families served, the ages of those served and the areas they come from. He also mentioned the number of volunteers and partners who help make the food pantry a success. In addition to food, families receive a shopping experience, learn about nutrition and see cooking demonstrations.

At this time the board and committee took a tour of the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet.

The School Board shared that many of the Gladstone community members that come to the food pantry are elders in the community. Council member Michael Milch suggested a senior center flyer be available at the food pantry for elders who shop at the pantry. The senior center provides low costs meals for elders. There was discussion regarding the benefits for students and community members. The school district's budget is too tight and may not be able to continue funding the program. The district may be in a situation where the pantry will need to close. The school board asked the city to consider helping to fund the pantry.

3. Threat Assessment – Gladstone School District

Board Chair Sharon Soliday introduced Jeremiah Patterson, assistant superintendent. Mr. Patterson shared with the council the school district's threat protocols and behavioral continuum. There was a training for school and community leaders on February 1, 2018. Superintendent Stewart said the Gladstone Police have provided an admirable response to the school district in this new process. Mr. Patterson said a range of responses are possible when a threat is made. The school district conducts its own assessment. If the police are involved civil consequences may result. The threat assessment manual is a confidential manual. Mr. Patterson went over the assessment level flow chart the school district uses when processing a threat. Since the training the district has done the assessment a dozen times. Only two have gone to county level. Mr. Patterson explained the county team and their experience working with the team. He said already school leaders have learned much through the process with the team. When a threat occurs there is a parallel plan for school safety during the assessment. Mr. Patterson and Superintendent Stewart gave kudos to the school staff led by Special Service Director Kelly Welch. The staff has been consistent in following the assessment protocol. The assistant principals do all of the support as well as the school resource officer.

4. The Community Library Ballot Measure

Jacque Betz, city administrator, provided the Measure 3-530 Gladstone Library fact sheet that was recently sent out in utility bills. Ms. Betz said the feedback has been positive. She asked about encouraging high school students to vote. Mayor Stempel introduced Councilor Reisner, who went over a few highlights of the measure. He said there will be no additional tax to patrons. The county will begin running the library and eventually turn it over to the city. The project is much like ones done in neighboring communities such as Happy Valley. Mr. Reisner said the big question is the size of the building. The city is looking for partnerships to occupy space in the building. The old building will be used for a Fire Department burn and learn. Ms. Betz went over the timeline of the robust process the Clackamas County Library has for the project.

5. Civic Center Project

Mayor Stempel said the new City Hall will be a progressive design. In May there will be a contract recommendation at the city council meeting. There will be no new taxes for patrons for any of the three city civil projects. The county has created 3D designs to help engage the community's interest. "Coming Soon" signs will soon be displayed. There was conversation about the new library being a great place for student connection through summer reading programs and a support place for youth outside of school. There was a brief conversation about the downtown revitalization project. Ms. Betz handed out information from the State of Oregon regarding employment and the labor force. The information is used for grants and developers. She will send the information to Superintendent Stewart electronically.

6. Youth in Government (Mayor/Board Chair)

Ms. Betz and Mayor Stempel would like to see youth participate in government. Ms. Betz met with Happy Valley City Council to see how they involve youth. A student application process is used for youth to participate in things like student council liaison and student youth council that meets annually at their town hall. In Happy Valley with help from students their council learned what a pharmacy party was and helped the city see a drop in drug use with teens. Volunteer jobs for students may include assisting the court administrator by scanning documents, or assisting on the communication team with city newsletters. The school board welcomed the idea and suggested the city reach out to the high school for students for interest in design help with current city projects. It was suggested that a city charter be made so that youth 16 years of age be able to vote on city measures. It was the consensus of the group that kids are advocates and their voices will help shape the future of the city. It was suggested that a scholarship program be available to students that volunteer in this work. It was also mentioned that parks and the Historical Society would benefit from student volunteers. Superintendent Stewart stated when the high school needed a landscape design many high school students were involved. He provided a history of the student liaison to the board over the years. Both Mr. Patterson and Superintendent Stewart meet monthly with high school students for lunch with seniors and juniors. They find out what they liked about their school experience and what they didn't like. He said it would be really easy to include a city council member at those lunches.

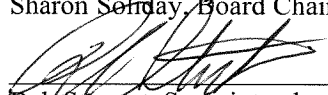
Superintendent Stewart asked the city to send information and he will arrange time to share with staff and students. He suggested asking kindergarteners what they would like to see in the new library.

Superintendent Stewart mentioned that the turf at Gladstone High School would be getting replaced this summer. It has been 11 years since it was last done. Regular maintenance based on yearly inspections has helped keep the field going passed its expectancy. Field rentals and the cell tower rental has been saved over the years to fund the turf replacement.

Board chair, Sharon Soliday expressed thank you to everyone for attending.  
She adjourned the work session at 7:30 pm

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Soliday, Board Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Stewart, Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date