

Three Rivers School Board of Directors met for a regular session, Monday, January 12, 2009 at the Three Rivers District Office, 8550 New Hope Road, Grants Pass, Oregon, Josephine County, Oregon at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Dave Strahan, Chairperson of the Board, Zone IV  
Leslie Meier, Vice-Chairperson of the Board, Zone III  
Robert Litak, Member of the Board, Zone I  
Jim Weaver, Member of the Board, Zone II  
Dan Huber-Kantola, Superintendent-Clerk  
Peter Maluk, Director of Elementary Education  
Debbie Breckner, Director of Human Resources  
Doug Ely, Director of Student Services  
John George, Director of Secondary Education

PRESENT

ABSENT: Phil Stephens, Member of the Board, Zone V

ABSENT

Also Present: Lloyd Russell/ Maintenance Director, Jessica Durrant/  
Manzanita Principal, Mary Rae Anderson, T. Mike Anderson,  
Lisa Cross/Accounting Manager, Elly Lengwin, Ron Lengwin,  
Barbara Biencourt, Tasha Kahl, Ryan Kahl, Margaret Quist,  
Marcy Quist, Mike McManus, Patti Richter/Grants Pass Daily  
Courier, Jim Stublefield, Lise VanBrunt/Madrona Principal,  
Dave Matheny, Sandra Brown, Wayne Brown, Stevens Family,  
Dave Fuller/Wolf Creek Principal and Dennis Misner/Hidden  
Valley Principal.

ALSO PRESENT

Chairperson Strahan called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Huber-Kantola reported that we have been working on Phase II of the energy project looking at Evergreen Elementary, Madrona Elementary, Illinois Valley High School and North Valley High School to see what types of energy savings measures may be able to take place. Board member Weaver has volunteered to serve on that committee.

SUPERINTENDENT  
REPORT

Superintendent Huber-Kantola then turned it over to John George, Director of Secondary Education, to speak about the OSAA reclassification proposals being discussed. Mr. George is serving as the 4A representative on the Reclassification Committee. Mr. George shared information on the three new proposals. The biggest concern facing us as a district would be the increase in travel time/costs if the schools are adjusted. The new system is to be selected by June. The committee will meet again in September to make adjustments, and the new system will go in to place the following year. The new plan will be in place for four years. Member Meier requested to look at this further in a Board work session. The rest of the Board agreed, but will hold off for a couple of months to see the direction the OSAA Reclassification Committee is going.

OSAA  
RECLASSIFICATION

MADRONA STUDENT  
RECOGNITION

Lise VanBrunt, Madrona Principal, recognized three of the four students that were nominated for Madrona Rotary Student of the Year. Ms. VanBrunt introduced each of the student's and their families. The students were: Owen Stevens, Shaela Lawson, Leah Ravencroft and Tanner Prince (not present). Tanner Price was selected by the Madrona staff as the Madrona Student of the Year.

## COMMUNITY INPUT

Board Chair Strahan opened up the meeting for community comments and there were none.

## POLICY GBDA

Debbie Breckner, Human Resources Director, presented policy GBDA, Mother Friendly Workplace for the second reading. She responded to a question from Member Litak that was posed during the first reading of the policy. The time allowed is not to exceed the current break and lunch time already given to the employee.

## APPROVED

Member Weaver moved to approve the policy. Member Meier seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

WOLF CREEK  
SCHOOL STUDY TEAM

Director Breckner introduced the members of the Wolf Creek Study Team. She then introduced three of the committee members that were present to address the Board:

Jim Stublefield— Mr. Stublefield expressed his concern that the closure of Wolf Creek Elementary school would have on the community. The school has always been the center of the community.

Marcy Quist—Ms. Quist and her family moved to Wolf Creek two years ago from California. She expressed her pleasure in the small community atmosphere and the ability to be actively involved in her child's school. Ms. Quist also expressed her concern with the student's ability to adjust to a new school, the longer bus ride, and the parent's ability to get to Manzanita.

Mike McManus—Mr. McManus read a prepared statement in which he recommended that Wolf Creek School not be closed. He asked the Board to seek alternative methods to address budgetary shortfalls. His statement also addressed the varied hardships the children and families would face which included: the bus route and increased bus time, the children's sense of being displaced, anxiety of the child and parent being separated, destroying the heart of the community and the loss of property values and services.

In closing, Mr. McManus requested that if the Board was to decide to close Wolf Creek school that enough time was allowed for the community to develop and write a planning grant for a Charter School.

Member Meier asked for clarification regarding the statement that Wolf Creek school must be open to pursue a Charter School. Mr. McManus clarified that it is not a requirement in seeking the grant, it is the fact that the school would be closed for a year, and the prospect of a Charter School may lose it's momentum.

Board Chair Strahan shared that this is the most gut-wrenching thing the he, as well as Superintendent Huber-Kantola has had to go through in this district. He stated that our state is not funding our education adequately.

WOLF CREEK  
COMMUNITY MEETING  
DATE SET

Board Chair Strahan announced that there will be a meeting held on Tuesday, February 3rd at Wolf Creek Elementary to give the community an opportunity to address the Board prior to a decision being made.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola thanked the community members and school personnel for their participation and time served on the committee. He also stated that this decision is not being taken lightly. Superintendent Huber-Kantola asked if work has started on the grant request for a Charter School. Ms. Quist stated that she has someone working on the grant, but it would be 2010 or 2011 before a charter school could be opened. A planning grant cannot be submitted until there is a written notification of school closure.

WOLF CREEK  
DISCUSSION

Member Meier asked if any cost saving or revenue building ideas have been explored? Director Breckner stated that various cost-saving ideas were explored (staff cuts, home-schooled students and bond/levy options) and they did not amount to much.

Member Meier asked what the projected enrollment looks like? Principal Fuller responded that it is 'relatively flat'. The committee will look at actual families in the area to get real numbers.

Director Breckner announced that the fiber is up and going at North Valley High School. The RAM was upgraded in the staff computers over winter break by the technology staff. The Illinois Valley is 'seconds away' from fiber being connected. They are waiting for power to be connected. The first new server is on it's way to being set up to replace the ones that are over ten years old. eSIS Teacher Assistant was upgraded last week. Reports from the users are that things are running faster.

ESIS UPDATE

Superintendent Huber-Kantola presented a high school grade comparison which included statistics for grades over the last ten semesters. The first trimester grades are slightly better.

TRIMESTER UPDATE

Member Litak asked if more electives being offered has an effect of better grades. Director George stated that he is breaking out the core classes from electives to see if the trend is the same.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola presented the results of the trimester survey presented for teacher input; 63% of teachers participated in the Trimester Survey. The biggest stand-outs were 'Disagree' (55%) response to the question "I have ample time to prepare for my classes" and "Somewhat Disagree" (71%) in response to "I have ample time to collaborate with my peers". The survey will be given again to the teachers at the end of the second and third trimesters.

TEACHER SURVEY

The students will be completing the trimester survey utilizing the computer labs at the high schools. Superintendent Huber-Kantola will be preparing a letter to the parents requesting their input to an online survey about the Trimester.

Member Meier expressed concern over the problem items identified in the survey, and asked what the next steps are. Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated that we will begin conversations with the staff and the Trimester Committee will be exploring options.

The meeting recessed at 8:30pm and resumed at 8:35

SHORT RECESS

Director George stated the Athletic Committee will be meeting on Thursday. Member Stephens will be serving on the committee. The rest of the committee consists of parents, a coach, Jeff Cox with the Boys and Girls Club and the high school Athletic Directors. There will be discussion on the re-alignment.

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

## AUDIT RESULTS

Lisa Cross, Accounting Manager, presented the 2007-08 audit results. She reported, as stated in the summary, that the long-term debt continues to decrease. There is a letter in the audit containing suggestions regarding our internal controls. It was suggested an independent person review the bank reconciliations. The person is Superintendent Huber-Kantola as he has nothing to do with transferring the money or the writing of the checks. For the first time, two schools were audited. They found some instances of missing receipts and a couple of cases where there were purchases without three quotes attached. After the audit we met with all of the bookkeepers and discussed the process and the problems that were found, so that they can do a better job. As part of the internal audit guidelines that were built on the auditors recommendations last year they would like us to continue to work on the segregation of duties to include the actual name and position of who is doing what.

## GASB 45

Ms. Cross then reported on GASB45, which is other and post-employment benefits. It is now required by law that we higher an actuarial to define what our liability is for this. Our liability for the district is 19.3 million dollars for post-retirement benefits. Ms. Cross reviewed the differences between the option of being fully funded or not.

## AUDIT APPROVED

Member Weaver moved to approve the audit results. Member Litak seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## BUDGER COMMITTEE

Superintendent Huber-Kantola presented the names to fill the open positions on the budget committee: Zone I—Graham Baker through 6/20/2011; Dave Matheny to fill a vacant position Zone IV through 6/30/2009 and Zone V—Bill Bonville through 6/30/2011.

## MEMBERS APPROVED

Member Meier made a motion to approve. Member Litak seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ATRA PAYROLL  
DEDUCTION REQUEST

Director Breckner presented a Payroll Deduction Request from ATRA for approval. All funds collected by ATRA go to scholarships and Academic Masters.

## APPROVED

Member Litak made a motion to approve the request. Member Meier seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## DIVISION 22 STANDARDS

Superintendent Huber-Kantola presented the annual Division 22 Standards. Overall we are doing fairly well. We will need to submit a plan to ODE for items not in compliance: *Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse* which now includes a revision to the Health curriculum and annual high school instruction to include anabolic steroids and performance enhancing drugs; *Anabolic Steroids* which requires the need to adopt athletic instruction regarding anabolic steroids and performance enhancing drugs. Also to provide an evidence based program to reduce steroids and performance enhancing drugs in athletics. The evidence-based programs that were used as examples by the ODE cost \$500 per sport, which is cost-prohibitive. Director George will be looking in to alternative ways to meet that requirement. The rest of the items reviewed were in full compliance.

## APPROVED

Member Meier made a motion to approve. Member Litak seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

John George, Director of Secondary Education, presented the following policies for the

first reading:

- IGBHA—Alternative Education Programs
- IKF—Graduation Requirements
- JB—Equal Education Opportunity

There was some discussion surrounding the increased math standards which go in to effect in the year 2014. The change in graduation requirements may be delayed based on the financial impact.

POLICIES—  
FIRST READING

- IGBHA
- IKF
- JB

Director George stated that in response to a change in policy JB, a Title IX coordinator needs to be appointed., which will be himself or Director Breckner.

Director Breckner presented policy JHFE—Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse for the first reading. The revision includes a requirement for District Staff to receive training each school year, as well as annual training for parents and legal guardians of students. Director Breckner stated that we are meeting the staff training requirement. The District meets the parent training requirement by providing a training video on our District web site.

- JHFE

Dennis Misner, Hidden Valley High School Principal, presented the proposal to name the District Office soccer field the “Eric Pipher Memorial Soccer Facility”. Mr. Misner turned it over to Dave Matheny to explain the history. Mr. Matheny shared that the Board had previously approved for a Hidden Valley Soccer field to be named after Eric (2002), but due to a water shortage issue, the field could not be built at the designated site at Hidden Valley. Now that the new soccer field is complete, they would like to move forward with the naming of the facility and will provide a memorial with funds that were donated for the project.

ERIC PIPHER  
MEMORIAL SOCCER  
FIELD

Member Weaver made a motion to approve the naming of the soccer facility. Member Litak seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED

Superintendent Huber-Kantola reported that the District’s current ending fund balance is projected to be \$2.23 million after the cuts the were done at the state. This is down a little from last month due to many factors such as insurance, interest and minor spending issues.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Member Meier stated that she wished to abstain from the vote as she did not have time to read the contents.

CONSENT AGENDA  
APPROVED  
UNANIMOUSLY

Member Weaver moved to approve the consent agenda and member Litak seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

ADJOURNED

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Dave Strahan  
Chairperson of the Board  
THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Huber-Kantola  
Superintendent-Clerk  
THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT