

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
October 18, 2016**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met for a regular session, Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at Fruitdale Elementary School, 1560 Bill Baker Way, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon. A full recording of the meeting is available on the District web page.

**PRESENT**

Danny York, Board Chair  
Kate Dwyer, Board Vice Chair  
Kara Olmo, Board Member  
Ron Lengwin, Board Member  
Dave Valenzuela, Superintendent

Casey Alderson, Director  
Stephanie Allen-Hart, Director  
Debbie Simons, Director  
Jessica Durrant, Director  
Shelly Quick, Recording Secretary

Administrators: Darrell Erb/Williams Elementary and Applegate School Principal, Miranda Carpenter/Madrona Elementary Principal, Mark Higgins/Lincoln Savage Middle School Principal, Kirk Baumann/Lincoln Savage Middle School Assistant Principal, Daye Stone/Hidden Valley High School Principal and Heather Yount/Fruitdale Elementary Principal.

**ABSENT:**

Paul Kelly, Board Member

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair York called the meeting to order at 6:05 and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Ms. Dwyer made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Lengwin seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

**SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE**

Mr. Lengwin remembered administrator Kelly Christensen. He thanked Heather for the great job she is doing – those were big shoes to fill. Ms. Dwyer commented on the buzz of excitement at Illinois Valley High School. They were building the Homecoming bon fire. She enjoyed the energy at the high school. Mr. York also shared that they were excited as a board to have Heather Yount at the helm of Fruitdale for her efforts and the award that she has received to be recognized nationally as a “*2016 National Distinguished Principal*.” Director Allen-Hart shared that she got to be acting Principal at Fruitdale and was super impressed with the staff. Director Alderson gave kudos to Mike Herzog and Leslie Henriques for identifying and meeting the needs of the MAC students. Director Simons thanked Mark Higgins, Ben Guyton and Cary Polka (Food Service Manager at Lincoln Savage) for stepping up until a second cook was hired. She also thanked Casey Alderson and Daye Stone for meeting the needs of a student that needed special accommodations to achieve getting her high school diploma. Director Durrant shared this week is Boss’s Day and expressed, on behalf of all of the Directors, how much they enjoy working with their boss, and also recognized the principals and how hard they work in their buildings. Superintendent Valenzuela congratulated Fruitdale Principal Heather Yount, and thanked her for representing Three Rivers School District, Fruitdale and the State of Oregon in her recent trip to Washington D.C. He also spent a day as principal at Fruitdale and the teachers and staff are just fantastic. It is a great environment. He also commented on the good vibe and positive community feel at Illinois Valley High School. They have their new scoreboard up and it looks great!

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

- The district is venturing into our Chalkboard collaboration grant. There was a POinT (peer observers in training) training last Friday. Our POinT teachers gave professional development back to their staffs on Friday. We are training teachers to be peer observers and give feedback using the evaluation system.
- Thanks to District Accountant Lisa Cross – we recently received some grants from ODE. A \$25,000 grant to conduct a thorough long range facility plan by a third party. Also a \$25,000 seismic assessment grant. We will be able to assess 4-5 of our buildings for potential seismic issues.
- Since the last board work session there have been discussions about the future growth of Woodland Charter School. There are land use and size issues that are being worked out. He met with administrator Chris Green and they met with Rob Brandes at Public Works to address short-term issues. Two things Woodland needs to accomplish are to do some work on the driveway to remove overgrown shrubbery and to utilize flaggers in the morning. The county will train the flaggers.
- Williams Elementary enrollment is at 62 and declining. Woodland Charter School is potentially interested in Williams Elementary. He asked for direction from the Board. Per board policy we would need to start the process this month.

There was discussion by the Board and they directed superintendent Valenzuela to begin the process and present back to the Board.

### **HIDDEN VALLEY AREA REPORTS**

- Hidden Valley Principal Daye Stone shared information on the implementation of the advisory program and how they are working to keep kids on track to graduate. He talked about “The Village” and how they are working to address the problems with cell phone use, drugs and graduation. He also reported on Homecoming week activities, a softball field update, keeping freshman on track with credits and updates to the Ag/CTE program, which will include upgrades to the two greenhouses and a fence enclosure.
- Lincoln Savage MS Principal Mark Higgins reported that they are off to a great start and gave credit to Assistant Principal Kirk Baumann. They are excited to have a full time counselor. He shared details about a three day Leadership hike and they are looking into another one for possibly the end of the year; the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class is very successful academically, athletically and socially. They are in the fourth year of a five year 21<sup>st</sup> Century grant and he is looking for ways to keep that sustainable. He also reported that their media class started as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century after school club and is now a class taught by Mr. Zurhellen and they are utilizing Synrevoice to send video messages home to parents.
- Fruitdale Principal Heather Yount thanked the Board for the recognition and shared that the Washington D.C. trip was an amazing opportunity. Her staff is absolutely amazing and you can’t have a great leader recognized without an amazing staff behind you. She pointed out that Three Rivers School District – what we do with the amount of resources we have, or lack of resources we have, is amazing. Fruitdale enrollment is up 44 kids from last year. Her staff appreciates and utilizes Friday late start time. They are looking forward to their Harvest Festival next week and the Portland Opera is also coming to Fruitdale.
- Madrona Elementary Principal Miranda Carpenter reported that Madrona is also growing with an additional 40 students. They have a lot of parents excited to come and help. They kicked off PBIS with a Spirit Week and an assembly, along with the lessons for their students. Home Depot donated a Buddy Bench for their students which have been fun to see. Parent workshops were offered after Open House was over. She reported that they are doing Dibel’s math this year and the Portland Opera is also coming to Madrona.
- Applegate/Williams Principal Darrell Erb shared the same concerns as Mr. Stone regarding the struggles with their child populations from poverty stricken homes. As principal of Williams he recognized the opportunity Woodland has provided to a certain set of our kids. He also stressed that our public school model is also a very viable good model. It’s not a one size fits all. He recognized the tough decisions ahead.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Items in the consent agenda will be approved by a single motion unless a member of the Board or the Superintendent requests that an item or items be removed and voted upon separately.

- Routine Personnel Items – October 2016
- Coaches – October 2016
- Out of State Travel Requests (3)
- Grant Requests (3)
- Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings:
  - Board Regular Session – September 20, 2016

Ms. Olmo made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ms. Dwyer seconded the motion. There was some discussion regarding background checks. Mr. York called for a vote on the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and the motion passed unanimously (4-0, Member Kelly absent).

## **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

- There were none.

## **REPORTS – NO ACTION**

- **Childcare Updates**
  - Imagine That... at Jerome Prairie Elementary – Michelle Gallas reported that the childcare center is now up and running and it feels really good. There is an Open House on October 19<sup>th</sup>. It is open to the public and she invited the board members to attend. She reported that currently, through the Preschool Promise grant, there are 20 slots earmarked for Jerome Prairie and there are 4 additional slots designated for Early Intervention. Currently there are 17 Preschool Promise kids and there is one spot left for early intervention. There are also spots for mixed delivery (community folks that are paying for preschool). So right now there are 25 children and there is some room for growth. She shared the difficulty in finding qualified people to hire.
  - Preschool Promise at Lorna Byrne Middle School – Gina Dusenbury, Education Director and Jacqueline Craig, Head Teacher shared that they appreciate being at Lorna Byrne the staff is amazing and so welcoming. They are looking at potential mentoring with middle school students. They currently have 17 children. There is a playground in the works. They expressed appreciation to the district for being so collaborative. The April Board meeting is being held at Lorna Byrne. We will provide the Board with a tour of the facility prior to the board meeting.
  - Oregon Child Development Coalition at Hidden Valley High School – Mr. Valenzuela reported that the space at Hidden Valley is still being developed. We believe there are three contractors interested in bidding. Construction will then begin as soon as possible.
- **Interdistrict Transfer Report**
  - Director Allen-Hart reported that the district opened up 90 slots for transfers coming in to our district. Currently there are 70 slots filled, the majority of those are from District 7. We still have 20 slots opened, but the high schools are full. She explained that next month she would like to come to the board to close the additional slots and explained the reasoning. It will be put on the November agenda.
- **Dental Screening – HB 2971**
  - Director Durrant reported that Oregon Legislature in 2015 passed House Bill 2972 which became effective in the 2016-17 school year. It states that we need, as a school, to provide information to ODE about any child, seven years of age or younger, information about their dental screening. This year all K-1 teachers, when it comes time for conferences in November, will meet with the parents to discuss the screening. It's not something that they need to take to their dental provider. ODE is simply looking for how many students have received oral care. We have also partnered with All Care and they are providing us a pamphlet to give to parents to emphasize the importance of oral care, along with resources.
- **TRSD Presentation to the House Committee on Education**
  - Superintendent Valenzuela reported that he and Mr. Alderson met with Carl Wilson and

Michelle Binker who expressed interest in the issues the district is facing. A lot of the discussion was around transportation, but there was talk about CTE and STEM as well, and the offerings we have in Three Rivers. If we had more programs that would inspire and hook our students at an early age and over time it would have a positive effect on graduation rates. He also expressed concern about what our students will be doing after they graduate. He and Mr. Alderson were invited to Salem to speak to the House Committee on Education. Mr. Alderson did an awesome job with his presentation.

Mr. Alderson shared his presentation with the Board. Students in our district are graduating at a higher rate when they are participating in one of our CTE programs. Right now we have five CTE programs of study – we used to have 16. CTE at the high school level is an area we need to focus on as a district.

- **Construction Excise Tax**

District Accountant Lisa Cross explained that the construction excise tax (CET) started in 2009. The state set the rates at \$1.00 per square foot for residential and \$.50 per square foot for nonresidential. The state raises the allowable amount every year, but the board has chosen not to increase the rates. The next rates for 2016-17 are at \$1.23 for residential or \$.61 for nonresidential. For 2017-18 it would go up to \$1.26 for residential. She shared some CET increase estimates and then asked the Board for direction. Whatever their decision, she will bring a resolution back to the board for approval at the next board meeting.

Ms. Cross shared that District 7 chose to go with recommended rates. This year the new rate will start in March. After that, the rates will change in January.

There was discussion by the Board and they recommended following suit with District 7. They also like consistency for ease in the county.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Ms. Dwyer would like to review who our community partners are.
- Mr. York would like an update on the funds for Food Service.
- Ms. Dwyer requested to stay updated on the steps we are taking towards a legislative fix for the transportation reimbursement in equity.

#### **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

- November 1, 2016 – 5:00 p.m. District Office – *Board Work Session*
- November 15, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. District Office – *Board Regular Session*.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Olmo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Ms. Dwyer seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

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Danny York  
Chairperson of the Board

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Dave Valenzuela  
Superintendent-Clerk