

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
February 21, 2024**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met for a regular session Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at Hidden Valley High School, 651 Murphy Creek Road, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon. The meeting was streamed online for the public and is currently available for viewing at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f3DvXy8a2E&t=3975s>

PRESENT:

Rich Halsted, Board Chair (*by phone*)
Jennifer Johnstun, Board Vice-Chair
Nancy Reese, Board Member
Pat Kelly, Board Member
Dave Valenzuela, Superintendent

Casey Alderson, Deputy Superintendent
Stephanie Allen-Hart, Director
Jessica Durrant, Director
Rob Saunders, Director
Shelly Quick, Recording Secretary

Administrators present: Mark Higgins, Steve Fuller, Kellie Lovell, Damian Crowson, Heather Yount, Mike Herzog, Jessica Falkenhagen and Shelli Campos.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Vice-Chair Johnstun called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Board Chair Johnstun requested to add item 9.C.5, Stronger Connection Grant, to the agenda. Member Kelly made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Member Reese seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously (4-0).

SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE

Board members, the District Leadership Team, and Superintendent shared an outstanding school or district highlight of an event, activity, and/or kudos to TRSD staff.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Valenzuela provided the Board with information on the following items:

- Academic Masters – explained that Academic Masters is a 41-year-old tradition that is unique to Josephine County. It started here in 1984 and it is an opportunity for students to show their academic prowess on the stage. High school students compete in the areas of music, science, English, social studies, and math. The high schools that compete are all three of our high schools and Grants Pass high school. There are cash prizes awarded to first through fourth place in each academic category. The event is put on through a partnership with Rogue Community College, who judges the event. This year the event is being held on March 8, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at Illinois Valley High School.
- Elementary Math Progress – Update on the academic progress and growth at various elementary

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schools in our district.

- Community Engagement – A staff engagement survey was provided to families, students and staff. He provided information on the participation, what the district is doing well and priorities by classification (students, parents, and staff).

COMMUNITY PARTNER OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION

Director Durrant recognized Erik and Cassie of Famous Footwear of Grants Pass and Tiffany Turner, Vice President of Outreach for Soles for Souls. Soles for Soles is a nationwide non-profit that provides name-brand shoes for students that are experiencing houselessness. Students also receive two new pairs of socks from Bombas. Our district does not turn anyone away, even if they are not from our district. In Three Rivers School District we have over 380 students that are houseless. Our local Famous Footwear helps fill in the gaps and provide shoes for students, when the size shoe that is needed is not available. Ms. Durrant expressed gratitude and thanks to these amazing community partners.

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 – February 2024
- Athletic Coaches – February 2024
- Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings:
 - January 17, 2024 – Board Special Session
 - January 17, 2024 – Board Regular Session
- Grant Requests (5)
- Out of State Travel Request (1)
- Member Kelly made a motion to approve the modified Consent Agenda. Member Reese seconded the motion; Board Vice-Chair Johnstun called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- Six community members addressed the board: Rick Nelson, Judy Ahrens, Oliva Herrera, Bill Ertel, Allison Roy (student) and Pat Kelly.

REPORTS – NO ACTION

- **School Based Health Center Report**
 - Superintendent Valenzuela provided a brief overview of the health centers in our schools and then introduced Rich Booth, Chief Executive Officer for Siskiyou Community Health. Rich Booth shared a slide deck presentation that provided the Board with an overview of the school-based health centers in Three Rivers School District, the history, what they do, and how they serve the students in our communities.
- **Long Range Facility Plan**
 - District Accountant Lisa Cross shared that the Long-Range Facility Plan was completed in December and approved by the state. Our district has 18 buildings and covers over 1200 square miles. The average age of our buildings is over 60 years old. The plan provides a thorough evaluation of our existing buildings and the site conditions, the repairs needed and an estimated cost by school/building. The number one item identified was the repair and/or replacement of roofs, second was the heating and cooling systems. The sources of funds to complete these projects, which totaled over \$100 million, are general obligation bonds, OSCIM grant funds (matching grant funds), seismic rehabilitation grants and the construction

excise tax. Funds can also be transferred out of the district's general fund or obtained by a loan. This plan is available on the district website.

- **Board Policies – First Reading**

- Superintendent Valenzuela brought forward the following policies for a first reading and explained that the revisions are advised by OSBA and most of these updates are due to legislative changes.
 - GCBF - *Counting Transcript Credits for Movement of the Salary Schedule*
 - JFCA - *Student Dress and Grooming*
 - JOA - *Directory Information*
 - BD/BDA - *Board Meetings*
 - BDC - *Executive Sessions*
 - BDDC - *Board Meeting Agenda*
 - BDDG - *Minutes of Board Meetings*
 - BFCA - *Administrative Regulations*
 - KBA - *Public Records Request*
 - KK - *Visitors to Schools*
 - KK-AR* - *Visitors to Schools - Implementation (DELETE)*

**Administrative Regulations (AR's) are included for information only as they do not require board approval.*

ACTION ITEMS

- **SOESD Local Service Plan**

- Superintendent Valenzuela explained what the Southern Oregon Education Service District (SOESD) does for the district and the services they provide. He recommended the Board approve the 2024-2025 SOESD Local Service Plan. SOESD Superintendent Scott Beveridge is always available for questions or to provide more information.
- Member Kelly made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 SOESD Local Service Plan. Member Reese seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously (4-0).

- **Classified Employee Appreciation Week – March 4-8, 2024**

- Board Vice-Chair Johnstun read the resolution recognizing classified staff and designating March 4-8, 2024, as Classified Employee Appreciation Week.
- Member Reese made a motion to approve the resolution as read. Member Kelly seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

- **Resolution (#03) Measure Election – General Obligation Bond**

- District Accountant Lisa Cross requested the Board approve resolution #03 which calls for a measure election for the May 21, 2024, election. This would be for issuing general obligation bonds not to exceed \$39 million for a period not to exceed 16 years.

The intention for the bond is to cover safety and security measures and re-roofing every school in the district, with the exception of Illinois Valley High School.

- Member Reese made a motion to approve resolution #03. Member Kelly seconded the motion. There was some discussion, which included information that the cost for homeowners is \$.55 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. For an average home in Josephine County, assessed at \$308,000 is about \$160/year.
- Board Vice-Chair Johnstun added that the previous bond proposal was for a 20-year bond that did not pass. Different than some other states, our budget does not include funds for capital improvements. The district must pay for repairs out of the general fund. This bond is

significantly less than the amount requested two years ago. This district also had to take out a \$1.8 million dollar loan to replace a failing roof at Illinois Valley High School. Our schools need to be protected. Our roofing is failing throughout the district. It is critically important that we maintain these buildings.

- Board Vice-Chair Johnstun called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Greenhouse Project Contract**
 - District Accountant Lisa Cross stated that ESSER funds have been approved by the state for the greenhouse project to install greenhouses at Illinois Valley and North Valley high schools. She recommended the Board award the installation contract to Vitus Construction for \$308,800.
 - Member Kelly made a motion to award the contract to Vitus Construction. Member Reese seconded the motion. There was some discussion. Board Vice-Chair Johnstun called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Suggested Future Agenda Items:

- Agenda items suggested by Member Kelly.

FUTURE MEETING/EVENT DATES.

- Academic Masters - Friday, March 8, 2024, at Illinois Valley High School, 6:30 p.m.
- Board Regular Session - Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at District Office, 6:00 p.m.
 - Executive Session at 4:30 p.m. (*Closed to the Public*)
- Board Work Session - Wednesday, April 3, 2024, (*Tentative*) at District Office, 5:00 p.m.
- Board Regular Session - Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at SOSA, 3:30 p.m.
 - Student Panel at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Vice-Chair Johnstun adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.