

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 21, 2021**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met virtually via Zoom for the regular board meeting on Wednesday, April 21, 2021.

**PRESENT**

Jennifer Johnstun, Board Chair  
Paul Kelly, Board Vice Chair  
Jenn Searle, Board Member  
Rich Halsted, Board Member  
Danny York, Board Member

Dave Valenzuela, Superintendent  
Casey Alderson, Director  
Stephanie Allen-Hart, Director  
Jessica Durrant, Director  
Shelly Quick, Recording Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER/EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board Chair Johnstun called the meeting to order in Executive Session at 4:35 p.m. under ORS 192.660(2)(i) – superintendent evaluation. All board members were present.

Board Chair Johnstun recessed Executive Session at 5:25 p.m.

**REGULAR SESSION**

Board Chair Johnstun reconvened the meeting in open session at 6:00 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Halsted seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

**SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE**

Mr. Kelly shared that he has kids in athletics and has really appreciated the way the school and district handled the situation when his daughter was part of a cohort that had to be quarantined. He appreciated the thoroughness and how they looked out for all of the kids possibly involved. Mr. Halsted recognized the outstanding efforts of our educators. We love them and appreciate them as a board and what they do for the children in the district. He also shared that the Applegate Lions Club came out to Applegate School and performed the maintenance on the track that they built about 40 years ago. It looks magnificent – like a brand-new track! Ms. Searle said HOORAY for being in person! She then thanked all of the teachers. Everything that the teachers have done this last year wasn't easy. They were still there for her children. Mr. York has received the new voter's pamphlet. The community will have an opportunity to vote and to help us improve the district. The district has been demonstrating it is the best. Ms. Johnstun also shared that in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week coming up she echoed the comments of gratitude towards teachers who have been extraordinarily flexible with us as we explored and moved forward with a four-day school week and then all of things that have come to us due to COVID. She is so grateful that the teachers are there for our kids and greet them with smiles when you see them in person or online. She also thanked the community members who have come forward to support the district in our effort to move forward with the bond on the May ballot. She thanked them for their commitment to our schools. Director Alderson commented that the staff this has been tested this year more than at any time in their career and excelled in ways they have never been prepared for either. This is a great time to recognize that. He also recognized our Athletic Directors who have put to the test this year with the guidance and seasons constantly changing.

A shout out for continuing to provide athletic opportunities for our students. Superintendent Valenzuela shared that today is administrative assistant day and recognized Shelly Quick and all of the administrative assistants across our district for the hard work they do behind the scenes to keep everything up and running. He then commented that thirteen months ago was the last time we were all together as a school board. In that time we have done a lot of things as a school district. As teacher appreciation week approaches us – there are so many things to reflect on. The innovation and hours people have spent to make the smallest connections with kids. It was no small task and TRSD teachers knocked it out of the park! He couldn't be more proud as a superintendent, as a member of Josephine county, and having kids in this district. The five-member school board has allowed us to remove barriers that allow teachers to serve students. These five individual people are extremely suited for this position and have the best interest of the district at heart.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- *Student Performance Update/data* – Still compiling the data and will deliver a more comprehensive report in the near future. This will include what we plan to do with the data and a plan to fill in the gaps (i.e., summer school).
- *2021-2022 SIA Report* – He shared the SIA survey recap that included responses from staff, parents/community and students, and what we have done to engage with the community. The survey included: demographics, feedback on how the funds should be spent, the top six areas for school years 2021-22 and 2022-23 and plan for school years 2021-2022 and 2022.
- *Bond Update* – The PAC has done a tremendous amount of work. We have some super dedicated community members that really believe in what this school district is trying to do and coming up with incredible ideas. He reiterated the fact that there are so many things in this district that need to be addressed with the bond such as old roofs and aged heating units. A common question is why haven't these things already been done? He reviewed the history of the previous bond and explained how the state of Oregon is one of the very few states in the country that does not give school districts money for capital improvements. Everything in Oregon is supported by bonds – and people don't realize that. He then explained the state school fund on the tax bill and referred people to the district website for a breakdown on what the bond will cost homeowners. The bond is about keeping what we have intact and to preserve these investments that we have to continue to serve our students in the future.

### **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 – April 2021
- Athletic Coaches – April 2021
- Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings
  - February 10, 2021 – Board Work Session
  - February 17, 2021 – Board Regular Session
- Out of State Travel Requests (2)
- Mr. York made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Searle seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

### **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

- Bill Ertel – addressed the board regarding a project he is working on to place flashing yellow lights in front of the Williams Elementary school. He explained the project resulted from public comments from periodic community meetings with the Williams Fire Department sponsors. The attendees are concerned about excessive speeding during school hours. Mr. Ertel is a board member of the fire district. The board thanked him and expressed their support for his project.
- Letter from Cross County Coaches – Board Chair Johnstun read a letter signed by 12 cross country coaches requesting that the district fund the position of head coach for high school cross country. The letter shared their concerns with the position not being funded and shared some history and facts regarding the sport of cross country at our three high schools.

Director Alderson responded that cross country used to be a fully funded sport and we feel that if the number of athletes continue to make up a sizeable team as in the last couple of years, we will work really hard to make sure that there will be a coaching stipend in the fall. It is important to retain those coaches that work really hard and to support those athletes who also feed into our other sport programs.

## **REPORTS – NO ACTION**

- **Sunny Wolf Charter School Annual Report**
  - Sunny Wolf Charter School Director Jody Hoffman remotely provided the charter school's annual report to the board in the form of a video presentation. Sunny Wolf Charter School currently has 113 students enrolled in their seven elementary classrooms and 17 in their preschool. They have 29 staff members and a schoolwide Title I program. Their special education services are provided through Three Rivers School District. A written report was also provided to board members which included information on testing results, financial reports and their independent auditor's report.
  - The board expressed their appreciation for the great job they are doing.
  
- **Aramark Update**
  - Superintendent Valenzuela introduced Aramark Maintenance Director Jim Bunge to provide a brief overview of the partnership with TRSD and the things that have been going on in the maintenance department since Aramark has been contracted with the oversight of the maintenance department. Mr. Valenzuela commented on how valuable the relationship has been to him and the district.
  - Mr. Bunge began by recognizing the performance of the custodial and maintenance staff since this pandemic has started. They have been here since day one with smiles on their faces and worked hard to keep our buildings safe. He then provided an overview on:
    - Custodial: staffing, completed projects, equipment, project enhancements and upcoming projects.
    - Maintenance: staffing, district compliance, team achievements, project management, new vehicles and group and individual trainings.
    - Next steps: confirmed strategic alignment and the TRSD bond
  - The board thanked Mr. Bunge and Aramark for the great job they are doing.
  
- **Award for Agent of Record - Benefits**
  - Director Alderson shared information of a partnership with a new district insurance broker. We issued an RFP for our insurance agent of record and the committee has chosen Mercer. They have a footprint in southern Oregon and work with other districts around the state, specializing with districts that are currently not in OEBB. He will keep the board informed as we move forward in the insurance process.
  
- **OSBA Virtual Summer Conference**
  - Superintendent Valenzuela announced that the OSBA virtual summer conferences are coming up in July 2022. If board members are interested in attending any of the session please let Shelly know and she will get you registered.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- **Sunny Wolf Charter School Charter Renewal**
  - Superintendent Valenzuela reported that the Sunny Wolf Charter School is up for a renewal. He pointed out the few minor amendments which included a month range for their annual report. The charter up for renewal is still a five-year agreement. He then recommended the board approve the charter.
  - Mr. York made a motion to approve the Sunny Wolf Charter School charter agreement for five years. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion.
  - Board questions and comments included what a great job they are doing and to keep up the great work!

- Board Chair Johnstun called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- **North Valley High School Health Center**
  - North Valley High School Principal Erik Lathen shared that the district has been working with Siskiyou Community Health Center for a little over a year and a half to provide high quality medical services to students through a health center to be located at North Valley High school. The district is in the process of receiving a grant through the Oregon Health Authority which will support approximately 70% of the project cost and Siskiyou Community Health Center is generously paying the balance. The health center would be constructed this summer and open for services in August.
  - Board questions and comments included: what part of the building the health center would be located in; this is something they think every school should have.
  - Mr. Kelly made a motion to finalize the plan for the North Valley High School Health Center; Mr. Halsted seconded the motion; Board Chair Johnstun called for a vote and the motion passed 4-0; Board Chair Johnstun abstained as Siskiyou Community Health Center is her employer.
- **Healthy and Safe Schools Plan (HASS)**
  - Superintendent Valenzuela brought forward an updated healthy and Safe School Plan for board approval. He explained many of the requirements in the plan and the updated report now has current links to data required by the state.
  - Mr. York made a to adopt the updated Healthy and Safe Schools Plan. Ms. Searle seconded the motion; there was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Response to Mountainside Transport Complaint**
  - Superintendent Valenzuela explained that Board Chair Johnstun recently received a complaint from Mountainside Transportation. He reviewed some of the items cited in the complaint, which included not following the correct RFP process when awarding the transportation contract to First Student. He explained that this process was reviewed by our local legal counsel and Mr. Ransom drafted a letter in response that he would like the board's approval to send to Mountainside Transport in response to her letter.
  - Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the letter from attorney Willard Ransom to Mountainside Transport. Ms. Searle seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Teacher Appreciation Week Resolution – May 3-7, 2021**
  - Superintendent Valenzuela read the resolution recognizing Teacher's Appreciation Week, May 3-7, 2021.
  - Mr. Kelly made a motion to adopt the Teacher Appreciation Week resolution. Mr. Halsted seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Suggested Future Agenda Items:

- Mr. York asked to have a discussion about the iResolve movement as a board.
- Mr. Halsted would like a deep dive into math and critical thinking – maybe this summer. He would like to talk about it and possibly set some goals around it and look like where we might go next.
- Mr. Kelly is interested in knowing more about what our graduations might look like this year.

**FUTURE MEETING DATES**

- Budget Committee meeting - Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.
- Board Regular Session - Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
- Budget Committee meeting (if needed) – Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Johnstun adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

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Jennifer Johnstun  
Chairperson of the Board

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Dave Valenzuela  
Superintendent-Clerk

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