



**FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J**  
School Board Meeting Minutes

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**REGULAR MEETING of the FERN RIDGE SCHOOL BOARD**

**March 17, 2025**

**Zoom Webinar & In-Person Meeting**  
88834 Territorial Rd.  
Elmira, Or 97437

**CALL TO ORDER (Agenda Item 1):** The regular meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm.

In attendance were Directors Barbara Graham, Kathleen Pizzola, Andrea Larson, Lisa McCann, Mark Boren and Superintendent Gary Carpenter.

We have a shared vision in the Fern Ridge School District: Provide excellence for every student so that each will reach their greatest potential.

Thank you to the members of the public who have joined us. As a reminder, School Board meetings and work sessions are meetings of the Board held in public, providing an opportunity to observe the Board's discussion and actions.

In an effort to conduct official Board business, we ask that the audience be respectful and refrain from questions, comments, and unnecessary noise while the Board conducts the meeting.

There is an opportunity for citizen comment tonight, and the Board looks forward to hearing from those who signed up. I will share some reminders when we get to that portion of the meeting.

Also, please note that all Board meetings are live streamed and posted on the School Board area of the website.

**CITIZENSHIP AWARD (Agenda Item 2):** The March Citizenship Award was presented to Fern Ridge Middle School student, Arabelle Kendrick.

**FLAG SALUTE (Agenda Item 3):** Fern Ridge Middle School student, Arabelle Kendrick led the flag salute.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Item 4):** None at this time

**WEST LANE CHARTER SCHOOL – Curriculum Change Request (Agenda Item 5):** The West Lane Charter School curriculum change was presented for approval.

Director Larson moved to approve the curriculum change request from West Lane Charter School.

seconded by Director Pizzola. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

#### **MONTHLY ITEMS (Agenda Item 6):**

**6. A. Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the work session and regular meeting on February 24, 2025, were presented for approval.

Director Boren moved to approve the February 24, 2025 work session and regular session minutes, seconded by Director Pizzola. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

#### **BUSINESS OFFICE (Agenda Item 7):**

**7. A. Enrollment Report:** Business Manager Quanah Bennett reviewed the enrollment report as of March 1, 2025. District Enrollment is 1,297, which is 13 over our budgeted enrollment, 8 more than last month. The elementary level is up by 6, the middle school is up by 27, and the high school is down by 20. There are seven more out of district placements than what was projected in the budget. Both elementary schools are sitting at an average class size of 23. Director McCann requested the average class sizes for the Middle and High School.

**7. B. General Fund Revenue and Expenditure Report:** Business Manager Quanah Bennett reviewed the general fund revenue and expenditure report as of February 28, 2025. The district has received 80% of our budgeted revenue. We were at 87% last year. The district's operating expenditures are at 52%, we were at 53% last year. Transfer of Special Fund into General Revenue took place. This is the triple pay month for licensed staff which means the expenses will go up for next months report.

**7. C. Resolution 24-25/10 Appropriation Transfer:** Business Manager Quanah Bennett explained and presented the transfer of funds in the budget. There was a time of clarification around what was budgeted and what was spent in ESSR funds. Quanah indicated which fund the transfer is coming from and which one it is going to on the resolution.

Director Larson moved to pass Resolution 24-25/10, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

**7. D. Second Reading of Proposed 25-26 Calendar:** Superintendent Carpenter presented the possibilities of changes in May and when bargaining is concluded.

Director Boren moved to adopt the proposed 25-26 calendar, seconded by Director Pizzola. There was a brief discussion on a state wide non contract day. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

#### **REPORTS (Agenda Item 8):**

**8. A. Elmira Elementary School Presentation:** Principal Billie Perrier presented slides to highlight Elmira Elementary School's programs and initiatives.

**8. B. Fern Ridge Education Association:** FREA Representative, Mari Jones presented slides of each building's recent activities and events. Mari gave an update on the Legislative sessions and their focus for Oregon schools.

**8. C. Student Representatives:** Student representatives Fern Valle-Arvizu and JT Meyers reported that girl's varsity basketball received OSAA Academic All State Award placing top 10 cumulative gpa. Wrestling concluded with one 4<sup>th</sup> place winner at State Championships. Rough and Tough Grad Night game was a success with the senior class beating the juniors and staff team raising \$3,270 for Senior Grad Night. The Annual Junior night was on March 6 to present to students and families all of the college, CTE and military options after graduation. OBOB Regionals were held at the high school on March 8, with the Elmira team placing 3<sup>rd</sup>. Outdoor School meetings are going well. There will be a career fair at Elmira High School on the 19<sup>th</sup> with 31 surrounding area business and college possibilities. Seniors will be completing their mock interviews which will fulfill the graduation requirement. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade track meet will occur on Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup>. The 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Elmira Relays on March 21<sup>st</sup> with 8 teams will be the first and last meet before the renovations.

**8. D. Director of K-12 Programs:**

**8. D.1: Health Curriculum Adoption:** Director Michelle Marshall presented the FRSD Health Curriculum Adoption for approval.

Director Boren moved to adopt the Health Curriculum as presented, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes 5-0.

**8. D.1: Integrated Guidance Application:** Director Michelle Marshall presented the FRSD Integrated Plan. There will be a more in depth presentation in April for approval.

**8. E. Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Carpenter gave a brief overview of the Bond projects that are on track. He gave an update on the bargaining meetings and progress. Superintendent Carpenter informed the board that the district will be transitioning to a new website over the summer, making Fern Ridge's website ADA compliant.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS (Agenda Item 9):**

**9. A. First Reading of Proposed Policy Updates:** A first reading was held on the following proposed administrative rule and policy updates: AC G1update, AC R D1update, GBN\_JBA G1update, JBA\_GBN G1update, JFE R D1 delete, JFE R G1-replace, JFE G1 update.

**9. C. Second Reading of Proposed Policy Updates:** A second reading was held on the following proposed administrative rule and policy updates for approval: GCBDA\_GDBDA G1 updated, and GCBDD\_GDBDD G1 updated.

There was a time of discussion on the meaning of the word *affinity* in relation to policy Sick Leave.

Director Boren moved to approve the policy proposal updates as presented, seconded by Director McCann. There was no more discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, and Pizzola, Director McCann voting yes. 5-0.

**PERSONNEL (Agenda Item 10):**

**10. A. Licensed Employees Resignations/New hires/Transfers/Other:**

**10. A.1:** Hiring of Conrad Davis, 1.0 FTE Temporary Math Teacher at Elmira High School, effective February 21, 2025. Resignation of Amy Hutton, 1.0 FTE Teacher at Elmira Elementary School, effective June 30, 2025. Resignation of Amara Houghtaling, 1.0 FTE Teacher at Elmira Elementary School, effective June 30, 2025. Resignation of River Hardy, 1.0 FTE Teacher at Fern Ridge Middle School, effective June 30, 2025. Resignation of Ralph Davis, 1.0 FTE Teacher at Fern Ridge Middle School, effective June 30, 2025. Resignation of Madison Cook, 1.0 FTE School Psychologist Intern, effective June 30, 2025.

Director Boren moved to accept the licensed resignations, new hires, transfers, other as proposed, seconded by Director Larson. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, and Pizzola, Director McCann voting yes. 5-0.

**10. B. Non-Licensed Personnel Report:** The non-licensed personnel report was presented for review:

Resignations/Retirements

1. None at this time.

New Hires/Transfers

1. None at this time.

Other

2. None at this time.

Coaches

1. Hiring of Jeannie Core, JV Softball Coach at Elmira High School, effective March 3, 2025.
2. Hiring of Aaron Franklin, JV Baseball Coach at Elmira High School, effective March 3, 2025.

**LATE ITEMS/CLOSING COMMENTS/BOARD COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (Agenda Item 11):**

**11. A.** Director Larson was the moderator of the OBOB Regionals competition.

**UPCOMING EVENTS (Agenda Item 12):**

**12. A. Upcoming Events:**

March 21: NO School

March 24-28 Spring Break

April 3: End of 3rd Quarter

April 4: NO School - Teacher Work Day

**Elmira Elementary**

April 15: PTA Meeting 6pm

April 17-18 Parent/Teacher Conferences

**Veneta Elementary**

April 5: 22nd Annual Auction 4pm

April 8: PALS Meeting 5:30pm

April 17-18 Parent/Teacher Conferences

**Fern Ridge Middle**

March 18: Emergency Preparedness Workshop for students 3:30-5:30

April 8: Staff vs Student Basketball Game fundraiser

**Elmira High**

March 18: V Baseball @ Central Linn

V Softball @ Marshfield

March 19: Job Fair

V Baseball vs Amity

V Softball vs Amity

JV Baseball vs Amity

March 20: Elementary School Track Meet

March 21: **Elmira Relays @ EHS 11am-3pm**

JV Baseball @ Umpqua Valley Christian

JV Softball @ Junction City

V Baseball vs Umpqua Valley Christian

V Softball @ Junction City

March 24: V Softball @ Medford vs Philomath

V Softball @ Medford vs Yreka

March 25: V Baseball @ Creswell HS vs Sutherlin

V Softball @ Medford vs Dayton

V Softball @ Medford vs Hoopa

March 26: V Baseball @ Creswell HS vs North Douglas

March 31: Field and Stadium work begins!

April 1: V Baseball @ Lowell

V Softball @ Marist

April 2: Track and Field @ Willamette HS

April 4: V Baseball @ Coquille-Doubleheader

April 5: Track and Field @ Douglas HS

April 7: JV Baseball @ North Douglas

April 8: JV Baseball @ Mollala

JV Softball vs Mollala

V Baseball @ Mollala

V Softball vs Mollala

April 9: JV Track and Field @ Siuslaw

April 11: V Baseball @ Siuslaw

V Softball @ Siuslaw

JV Baseball @ Siuslaw/Mapleton

JV Softball @ Siuslaw

April 12: Track and Field @ Roseburg HS

April 15: JV Softball vs Pleasant Hill

JV Baseball @ Pleasant Hill

V Baseball vs Pleasant Hill

V Softball vs Pleasant Hill

April 17: JV Softball @ Sutherlin-Doubleheader

Track and Field @ Harrisburg

April 18: V Baseball vs La Pine-Doubleheader

V Softball vs La Pine-Doubleheader

JV Baseball vs La Pine-Doubleheader

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (Agenda Item 13): Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2)(d):  
regarding Negotiations**

Chair Graham moved into executive session at 7:42 with a 5-minute recess prior to.

**ADJOURNMENT (Agenda Item 14):** Chair Graham adjourned the meeting at 8:38 pm.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
School Board Representative

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Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., Superintendent