

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WORK SESSION
January 13, 2021**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met virtually via Zoom for a school board work session on Wednesday, January 13, 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
Shelly Quick, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Johnstun called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and had Superintendent Valenzuela lead the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call vote was taken.

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

TRSD Facilities Update

Superintendent Valenzuela provided information regarding the TRSD facility needs which included the state of facilities and what that means to Three Rivers School District in terms of the cost. Mr. Valenzuela provided the Board with a review of past facilities investments dating back to 1994 to current time. In 2019 the district conducted a Facilities Master Planning Process to identify long-term facility needs important to the continued success of our district schools and to preserve our district assets. Phase I projects total \$106,248,554 and Phase II came in at \$51,948,022. The feedback we received from a community survey indicated that 79% identified renovating schools as top priority; 57% identified electronic locking doors as top safety/security issue and 49% prioritized STEAM program renovations.

Mr. Valenzuela explained that we have identified and prioritized the district-wide needs that have to be done for our buildings to stay healthy and safe, warm and dry for students. The immediate district wide needs include HVAC (heating ventilation air control), roofing, domestic water and paving (the “big four”). He included pictures in the presentation that reflected the dire needs in our facilities. He then reviewed the high priority needs identified by each individual school, which also included pictures. The “big four” along with the list of individual projects by school are estimated to have about an \$85 million price tag. The last bond we passed was \$24 million. We were able to build two schools and accomplish many other projects.

Mr. Valenzuela then provided an overview of funding options. The district currently receives construction excise tax which amounts to about \$200,000 annually. These dollars go right back into capital improvement and repairs. We could opt for full faith and credit obligations, which is essentially financing the costs of what needs to be done. Then there is the option of a general obligation bond which would put a measure on the ballot. The past bond has matured and was paid off December 2020. If we were to look at a flat rate increase and go back out for bond, that would get the district about \$4.12 million in funding. The district also “won the lottery” and is approved for \$4.975 million in OSCIM matching grant – contingent on being successful with a bond.

Mr. Valenzuela then reviewed some key bond numbers showing some different tax rates and the amount of money those rates would yield the district.

Board members questions, comments and topics of discussion included: The average property value in Josephine County (\$220,000); how we would prioritize projects; estimated costs for each of the “big four”; the timeline for a proposed bond; board next steps; the survey to be conducted by Nelson Reports and the timeline to receive and review the results; potential bond amounts to propose to the voters; compared bond rates in the Southern Oregon region; and if we fail in May, would we have the option of going again in November and still have access to the grant?

More detailed information will be provided to the board at the meeting next week. The ballot title and resolution will need to be decided at the February meeting.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Board Regular Session, Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. - VIRTUAL

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Johnstun adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Jennifer Johnstun
Chairperson of the Board

Dave Valenzuela
Superintendent-Clerk