

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
September 19, 2018**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met for a regular session, Wednesday, September 19, 2018 at the Three Rivers District Administration Office, 8550 New Hope Road, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon. A full recording of the meeting is available on the District web page.

PRESENT

Kate Dwyer, Board Chair	Casey Alderson, Director
Rich Halsted, Board Member	Stephanie Allen-Hart, Director
Danny York, Board Member	Jessica Durrant, Director
Jennifer Johnstun, Board Vice Chair	Shelly Quick, Recording Secretary
Dave Valenzuela, Superintendent	

ABSENT:

Paul Kelly, Board Member

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Dwyer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mr. York made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Halsted seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously (Mr. Kelly absent).

SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE

Mr. Halsted shared that he met with teachers at Williams and Applegate schools and they are off to a fantastic start. Enrollment numbers are up at both schools. Mr. York said after talking with a few instructors at Hidden Valley they have a big bump in numbers of their freshman class coming in. He's also excited about Mr. Haley's food class and the new equipment coming in. Ms. Johnstun recognized the grad coach at North Valley High School welcoming every student that came in. She also attended a meeting at Southern Oregon Early Learning Services and in listening to the different examples of how the hub was working with the community – there were three examples of where Three Rivers was involved with the Hub and taking advantages of early learning services to get our kids prepared for kindergarten. Superintendent Valenzuela recognized new Madrona principal Kellie Lovell. It's her first year and he's been blown away by her poise, her positivity and the feeling he gets when he walks into the school. He's received great feedback from staff and community members. Director Alderson gave a shout out to the Hidden Valley staff. They have all offered to step up and keep the train rolling and support the school. Also, a great rivalry football game last night with a packed house and great sportsmanship! He also shared that he received the press release from Sheriff Daniel. Yesterday all of the administrators got to meet two of the three new resident deputies. They have already made connections within the schools. This is the first phase of added security in our schools and we are still working on the SRO's, which are coming. Director Durrant shared that we have hit the ground running with our 21st Century programs at our four new sites (Evergreen, Lorna Byrne, North Valley High School and Hidden Valley High School). The coordinators have all been hired – each school has their own coordinator and will have training next week. Director Allen-Hart also recognized Kellie Lovell and her start at Madrona has truly been outstanding. She also acknowledged the Jerome Prairie Transition team who are present at the meeting and will be sharing more about the program later. Also a shout out to our two remaining speech pathologists in our district. We are staffed for five and currently have two full time. They are spread thin and working hard. She acknowledged Peggy Pearl and Cindy Gutierrez. Director Richards has had an opportunity to visit schools and met with most

administrators. He was very impressed the facilities and with what our custodial staff has done over the summer to get the buildings ready for school – especially with the firefighters being in some of our facilities. Ms. Dwyer is pleased with the current feeling at Illinois Valley High School and the work the Tanner Smith is doing in refreshing the look of the office, the walls and the pictures that reflect a really wide breadth of kid’s activities. It looks great! She shared that she recently went to a meeting with a partner agency and that partner agency’s board was aware of our school district board’s goals because we have chosen to stick to the same goals and just refine them and articulate them. Ms. Dwyer is also impressed with the quality of partnership that we are getting from the Sheriff’s office at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- *Continuous Goals* – We have set goals that are not changing every year. Last year we set a goal around graduation rates – over time *increasing graduation rates*. So, by the year 2023 our goal is to have graduation rates at 85%. This gives us time to effect things that happen at the elementary and middle school levels. Supporting those goals we have *High quality 3C’s* (communication, customer service and community engagement). The other pillar supporting those goals is *Developing a culture of care*. Our staff is very familiar with ACES and trauma informed care. He shared a visual of the board goals and then an artistic version done by Hidden Valley student Randi Beck.
- *Speaker Christian Moore* – In August the district brought in a guest speaker that supports our goal of culture of care. Christian Moore and Bjorn Trejo from the WhyTry organization spoke to our staff as well as a community engagement event at Grants Pass Performing Arts Center for parents to talk about resilience. He received nothing but really positive feedback from all the staff.
- *Critter Camps* – were in all of our schools in August. The feedback from kindergarten teachers that were much more prepared. We also got the grant again for next year.
- *Resident Sheriff’s officers* – The resident officers are in place and also the County Board of Commissioners approved funding for School Resource Officers (SRO’s). In addition to that Juvenile Justice has received funding for parole officers – folks that are trained in intervention, such as alcohol and drugs. They will also assist with chronic attendance issues and help students connect to resources.
- *North Valley aquatics facility* – A proposal was received from a North Valley parent for creating a North Valley aquatics facility. Preliminary checking with the City of Medford, and it’s between a \$5-15 million investment. He expressed concerns about the ongoing maintenance costs to the district.
- *Class size concerns* –
 - Kindergarten at Manzanita. Has been remedied with Gloria Steimer who bumped back to kindergarten from first grade.
 - Madrona – Kellie Lovell is working with teachers and staff to resolve issues. They are currently leveraging EA time to create small groups during core instruction.
 - Williams – Cassie Bingham’s 4/5 blend is busting at the seams. They are allocating additional support there as well.
- *Hidden Valley Principal* – Brian Miller is assuming the role of interim principal through the end of the year. An InTouch message went out to all Hidden Valley parents today. A student feedback panel is already planned for the February School Board meeting. This will provide an opportunity to get good solid feedbacks from students about what they see in terms of a permanent placement for Hidden Valley. We will also have time to get staff and community feedback. We will post the position the end of February and have a candidate in early April.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items in the *revised* 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 – September 2018 (*REVISED*)
- Athletic Coaches – September 2018
- Out of State Travel Requests (10) (*REVISED* – Additional request added)
- Grant Request (1)
- Approval of draft minutes of previous meetings
 - Board Special Session & Regular Session – July 19, 2018
- Ms. Johnstun made a motion to approve the revised Consent Agenda. Mr. York seconded the

motion. There was no discussion. Ms. Dwyer called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- John Chambers – Shared information regarding culture of care and the value and importance of nutrition.

REPORTS – NO ACTION

- **Jerome Prairie Youth Transition Center Presentation**
 - Special Education teacher Jason Mooney started off by thanking the board for approving the grant that funded the transition center. It is a highly successful program that is affecting our student's lives in great ways. It is also generating a lot of interest in job acquisition skills for students enabling them to go from high school to a point where they can be productive members of society. He shared that this program has recognition from the local, regional and state level as well as interest in how the program is run.
 - Youth Transition Specialist Penny Wellbaum shared that everything they do is set up to help the youth go out and become independent. They work directly with vocational rehabilitation. She shared information on the various community partnerships and the skills that they strive to accomplish with their youth to be successful in a working environment. There are currently 27 youth in the program.
 - Vickie Nigh supports the transition center both as the administrator and as a teacher. Inside the building there is the online program, the GED program as well as the transition center. The center supports students that are age 18 through 21. They work alongside the families to support the students. She highlighted many of their successful community partnerships such as the YMCA and Rogue Valley Humane Society along with other great things they are doing in the program and there look toward the future.
- **TRSD Internship Program**
 - Illinois Valley High School College and Career Coordinator Gene Merrill shared how the internship program began last October with a successful Ford Family Foundation grant. Five of seven students successfully completed the internship program last year. The program is being rolled out to North Valley and Hidden Valley high schools this year. They are looking at 50 students doing internships this school year.
 - Mr. Merrill explained the need for students to have positive role models in their lives to be successful in the work force. Students in the program participate in career highlights as well as paid work experiences. The ideal target is 1.0 to 2.4 GPA juniors.
 - He talked about some of the hurdles such as transportation and resolving classroom and internship conflicts as well as consistency.
 - Being a rural community people really have a heart for our students and want to do what they can. We have our schools in the district taking interns, as well as community groups across all different sectors from outdoors jobs to Siskiyou Community Health. There is substantial interest in various other areas, such as contractors, to hire these students after they graduate.
 - There has been a lot of regional and state recognition and interest in the program. He shared many other program successes.
- **Oregon Wellness Survey Results**
 - Director Alderson shared a summary of the Oregon Wellness survey results with the Board. He addressed the survey results for adverse childhood experiences. The survey data will now help us make informed decisions around our ACES trainings and give us a better idea of where our students are at. The results will be reviewed with each administrator and they will start developing plans around support for each of the areas.
 - The board was provided with the district and school passwords to access all of the data online. Our results can be compared to the state average to help provide context.
- **English Language Learners Legislative Report**
 - Director Durrant stated that as required by state ORS, once a year, she presented the

legislative report for the English Language Learners for the state of Oregon. It was released in the Spring and is available on the district website.

- In our ELL department we currently have three really strong individuals led by our new coordinator Regina Jordan and our two assistants Ana Ruiz Pulido and Claudia Cueva Ramos.
- Statistics for Three Rivers: last year we were at 58, we graduated 17 students out of the program. Those students will be monitored for three years. Our current caseload is at 28.
- They met with the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) last week and they had nothing but positive things to say about the program.

ACTION ITEMS

- **RFP#18-002 Vendor Approval (Facility Assessment and Long Range Facility Plan)**
 - Superintendent Valenzuela brought back the proposal from Cooperative Strategies for a long range facility assessment. There are all kinds of specialists that come in and take a look at our buildings and give us a detailed report about our district infrastructures.
 - One of the key factors is that you cannot go out for bond if you do not have a facility assessment performed by a company licensed in the state of Oregon to do that.
 - A grant pays for half of the cost and we are allowed to use CET dollars to pay for the other half. No general fund dollars are used to pay for this assessment.
 - Mr. York made a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Halsted seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.
 - Mr. Halsted commented as to how legislators do not understand that rural schools do not have the money for maintenance. We are not able to consolidate schools. We cannot make it without the local bond.
- **2018-19 Board Goals**
 - Superintendent Valenzuela stated that we previously discussed the board goals and received the picture. This is our opportunity to formally adopt the board goals as we developed over the summer time.
 - Mr. Halsted made a motion to approve the Board goals as discussed. Ms. Johnstun seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

OTHER

- Board Chair Dwyer announced that in collaboration with the Three Rivers School District unions the district has been able to leverage grant dollars to restore one of the two cut instructional days in the 2018-2019 adopted budget. The district recommendation is to reinstate December 21, 2018 for students and staff. We are working with our unions to solidify this agreement and will continue to look for ways to reinstate the remaining instructional day currently scheduled for May 24, 2019.

UPCOMING OSBA EVENTS

- If anybody is interested in attending the OSBA Fall Regional meeting in Medford on October 3rd or the OSBA Convention November 9-11, 2018 in Portland please let Shelly Quick know so she can make arrangements.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Mr. York asked where the district was with First Student and if we got all of our new busses? Mr. Valenzuela responded that we will have a report later this month. Mr. Alderson provided the board with a brief update regarding the new busses.
- Mr. York asked about the status of the OTE agreement? Mr. Valenzuela responded there is a meeting scheduled with those folks in mid-October. We went with the tentative agreement for one year.
- Mr. Valenzuela plans to work on scheduling a meeting with Dan DeYoung and Rob Brandes in the near future.
- Mr. Halsted asked for the enrollment numbers for Sunny Wolf Charter School and Woodland Charter School.

- Mr. Halsted shared his recent legislative advocacy efforts talking about the inadequacy of funding state-wise for our rural public schools. There is a huge issue with transportation funding, specifically for our rural district. They are proposing that the district form a formal legislative action committee.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- October 3, 2018 – 5:00 p.m. – District Office – *Board Work Session*
- October 17, 2018 – 4:00 p.m. – Illinois Valley High School – *Board Regular Session*
 - Student Panel at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Dwyer adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Kate Dwyer
Chairperson of the Board

Dave Valenzuela
Superintendent-Clerk