

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR SESSION
January 15, 2025**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met for a regular session Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at the District Office, 8550 New Hope Road, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon. The regular session was streamed online for the public and is currently available for viewing at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Omyvm_4ZQrM

PRESENT

Pat Kelly, Board Vice-Chair
Jennifer Johnstun, Board Member
Nancy Reese, Board Member
Cameron Camp, Board Member
Dave Valenzuela, Superintendent

Casey Alderson, Deputy Superintendent
Stephanie Allen-Hart, Director
Jessica Durrant, Director
Rob Saunders, Director

ABSENT

Rich Halsted, Board Chair

Administrators present: Damian Crowson, Sam Osofsky, Shelli Campos, Michael Herzog, Mark Higgins, Renee Hulst and Chris Carmiecke.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Vice-Chair Kelly called the meeting to order at: 5:05 PM and announced the Board would meet in executive session under ORS 192.660(2)(b) To hear a complaint brought against a staff member and ORS 192.660(2)(f) to consider records exempt by law from public inspection (confidential)

Board Vice-Chair Kelly recessed the executive session at 6:00 PM.

Board Vice-Chair Kelly reconvened in regular session at 6:10 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Member Camp made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Member Johnstun seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (4-0, Member Halsted absent).

DECISION ON THE MATTER DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION (ACTION)

Member Johnstun made a motion to delay a decision on the complaint and continue the hearing in executive session at the next scheduled board meeting on February 19, 2025. Member Camp seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

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 gave an overview of the budget process, upcoming budget season, Budget Committee overview and shared an appreciation of the attention and process.

COMMUNITY PARTNER OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION

- Lincoln Savage Middle School principal Mark Higgins recognized Adam and Gary Elledge from Murphy Outback and thanked them for all they do to support the students of the Hidden Valley Community.

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 – January 2025
- Athletic Coaches – January 2025
- Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - December 18, 2024 – Board Regular Session
- Out of State Travel Request (1)
- Board Policy – Second Reading
 - INDB - Flag Display and Salutes

Member Johnstun made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Reese seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (4-0).

REPORTS – NO ACTION

- **Chartwell's Quarterly Report**
 - Chartwell's Director Chris Gilliam appeared virtually to provide an update and overview on food safety, community partners, student voice and variety of food offerings. He shared information about the \$5,000 *Breakfast After the Bell* equipment assistance grant along with the meal counts for Fall 2024 and Fall 2025. They want to continue to increase participation and shared information of some of the programs to help accomplish this goal.
- **Student Health Survey - Opt-out Numbers**
 - Director Durrant explained that the Student Health Survey is administered to students in 6th, 8th and 11th grade and the district is required by the State of Oregon to offer it. Ms. Durrant shared opt-out data. The survey is optional and students are not required to take it. The parents were appreciative of the communication prior to the survey.
- **Pacific Aviation**
 - Deputy Superintendent Casey Alderson shared information on the new partnership with Pacific Aviation NW that provides an opportunity for students at the airport in Merlin. Jenny Jackson, the Outreach Career Coordinator and flight instructor Ethan D'Amato provided an overview on the aviation programs that focus on students. They are trying to make these programs cost effective for students through grants.
- **Budget Committee Zone I Position - Update**
 - Accounting Manager Megan Beck shared that no applications for the open zone I position have been received as of today. If there is a community member from any zone that is interested they can fill out an application. Applications will be accepted up until the Budget Committee meeting.
- **PERS Update**
 - Accounting Manager Megan Beck provided the Board with a PERS update. PERS rates are increasing throughout the state due to benefits being greater than the employee contributions; side account funds are being used faster than anticipated and payroll (salaries) growing faster than anticipated. TRSD is experiencing over 4% increase. There are three groups: Tier one, Tier two and OPSRP. Each group has its own rate. Ms. Beck then explained the side account from the 2004 bond and reviewed the TRSD PERS rates with side account credit and explained that the side account will have saved \$9.3 million over its life. The district is looking at a \$1.7 million increase in PERS next year. She answered questions from Board members. She ended by recommending a PERS reserve fund, creating a cash funded side account at PERS (which

requires a large chunk of change) or issuing pension bonds so we can get another side account if rates are good.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- Seven community members addressed the board: Becky Lemmler, Rick Nelson, Judy Ahrens, Steve Raycraft, Mariah Rossi, Oliva Herrera, David Lommell

ACTION ITEMS

- **Parents' Right in Education Resolution (#03)**
 - Member Johnstun made a motion to approve the resolution adding in the "Therefore" but to declare 'January' as Parents' Rights Month. Member Reese seconded the motion. Member Reese added that she would like to have all School Board members sign the resolution.
 - Board Vice-Chair Kelly called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Planned Course Statements**
 - Personal Finance
 - Civics and Government A
 - Civics and Government B
 - Deputy Superintendent Casey Alderson recommended the new course statements for Board approval.
 - Member Johnstun made a motion to approve the planned course statements. Member Camp seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.
- **TRSD FY 24 Audited Financial Statements**
 - Accounting Manager Megan Beck recommended the Board accept the financial audit report and financial statements. She explained the auditors expressed an unmodified opinion and the financial statements were prepared in accordance with *Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* (GAAP). There were no material findings along with no deficiencies or misstatements within the district's financial statements. The district is also considered a low-risk auditee.
 - Member Camp made a motion to accept the 2023-24 audited financial report and financial statements as presented. Member Johnstun seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Suggested Future Agenda Items:

- Member Reese requests to revisit the flag policy.
- Member Camp requests more information on the community exchange program through Project Youth+.
- Member Reese wants to discuss the book policy and having the books removed.

Future Meeting Dates & Events:

- Wednesday, February 19, 2025, Board Regular Session at SOSA/Merlin, 3:30 PM
 - Student Panel at 1:30 PM
 - Executive Session following regular session (Closed to the Public)
- Wednesday March 12, 2025, Board Regular Session at the District Office, 6:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT

Board Vice-Chair Kelly adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.