

THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT
8550 NEW HOPE ROAD
GRANTS PASS, OR 97527

BOARD MEETING

REGULAR SESSION

April 19, 2010

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Three Rivers School Board of Directors met for a regular session, Monday, April 19, 2010 at Lorna Byrne Middle School, 101 S. Junction Avenue, Cave Junction, Josephine County, Oregon at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Jim Weaver, Chairperson of the Board, Zone II
Leslie Meier, Vice-Chairperson of the Board, Zone III
Dave Strahan, Member of the Board, Zone IV
Ron Lengwin, Member of the Board, Zone V
Robert Litak, Member of the Board, Zone I
Dan Huber-Kantola, Superintendent-Clerk
Peter Maluk, Director of Elementary Education
Debbie Breckner, Director of Human Resources
Doug Ely, Director of Student Services
John George, Director of Secondary Education

PRESENT

Also Present: Jannie Heller, Judi Hill, Jim, Ginger and Lander Nordal, Tom Drummond, Dave Bracken/Aramark, Patti Richter/Daily Courier, Kaci Holland, Heather Bemis, Brian Bemis, Jim Stublefield, Lynsta Bemis, Michael Morris/Sodexo, John Jensen, Kathleen Baker, Darrell Erb, Damian Crowson/Lorna Byrne Principal, Patty Dickens-Turk/Illinois Valley H.S. Vice-Principal, Steve Jones, Kimberly Watson, Mike McManus, Camille McManus, Nancy Johnston, Dan Schilberg, David Prall, Susan Schuefele, Marcy Quist, Margaret Quist, Jennifer Hurley, Richard Hurley, Peter Kleine, Elly Lengwin, Lacey Lafayette Fox, Judith Franklin and Shelly Berry/Recording Secretary.

ALSO PRESENT

Chairperson Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. The Lorna Byrne Choir sang the National Anthem.

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Huber-Kantola presented an update on the construction/energy projects. Last year the board approved the QZAB (Quality Zone Academy Bond) to continue our work with the electrical upgrades that we have been doing in the district. Phase I projects that are complete: Illinois Valley High School lighting upgrade, Evergreen lighting upgrade, North Valley High School lighting upgrade and Madrona lighting upgrade. Also part of phase I that have been completed include updated Co2 sensors at Illinois Valley High School, North Valley High School, Madrona Elementary and Evergreen Elementary. Phase II called for a domestic hot water heater system at North Valley High School and is nearly complete. Also at North Valley and Illinois Valley High Schools the HVAC systems have been redone in the computer labs and are completed. At Illinois Valley High School they also did a duct work investigation which is complete. What they found was that to make the repairs would be much more money than they could ever recoup in energy savings, so they elected not to finish the repairs. North Valley High School in Phase II is supposed to have a condensing boiler. Part of what is being presented tonight is that we're asking the construction be done in a model called 'Design/Build' as opposed to bid out for design then bid out for build. Phase III include: domestic hot water heaters for Madrona, Evergreen and Illinois Valley High School, which are in the beginning stages at this time. Illinois Valley High School and Evergreen Elementary are the two schools that

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT (CON'T)

are slated for Biomass. They are at 80% design completion, Photovoltaic (solar) that had been planned to North Valley, Illinois Valley, Hidden Valley, Lorna Byrne, Lincoln Savage and Fleming have fallen through at this time due to no interested buyers. Fleming has had issues with their boiler, so that project is in the beginning stages.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola also reported that the Board passed an excise tax that began in July of 2009. So far to date, in Josephine County, we have collected for Three Rivers School District, over \$80,000. Jackson County is now in the approval process and we are hopeful that in May we will bring an Intergovernmental Agreement between Three Rivers School District and Jackson County to begin the process.

RECOGNITION OF
EXCELLENCE

Lorna Byrne Principal Damian Crowson recognized their Rotary Student of the Year, Lander Nordal.

Jannie Heller, Title I coordinator at Evergreen Elementary, recognized Heather Bemis as their Rotary Student of the Year.

Both students were presented certificates from the Board.

COMMUNITY
COMMENTS

Board Chair Weaver opened up the meeting for community comments, and there were none.

SUNNY WOLF
CHARTER SCHOOL
PROPOSAL

Federal Programs Director Peter Maluk stated a public hearing was held on April 6, 2010 regarding the Sunny Wolf Charter School. We heard a lot of testimony and support from the communities of Wolf Creek and Sunny Valley. Since then Director Maluk and Superintendent Huber-Kantola have met with the committee to go over some of the issues that were concerns of the district, primarily the financial end of it. They talked about transportation, building use, and at the meeting came to an agreement about the issues.

Regarding transportation, the charter school will take care of transportation, make the arrangements and contract with First Student. It will not have any effect on Three Rivers. In regards to use of the facility, tentatively came to an agreement that we would provide a lease for \$10 a year with a stipulation that all expenses incurred with the infrastructure repairs or replacement would be the charter school's responsibility. A cap of 35 Three Rivers students was also agreed upon (not including incoming kindergarteners). If the board agrees with the proposal, we will then sit down and negotiate the contract. The contract will state all of these things it will also have some commitments that they will be able to get the number that they say they will. It would also include comments about expectations regarding student achievement and performance based on state tests that they will be participating in, as well as our students. We will have a whole list of things we both agree to that will be part of our ability to evaluate progress and achievement as the school goes on. The quality of the program is impossible to evaluate. The theme of their school and their curriculum is a successful one in some schools. There are similar types of schools that have failed. It will depend on the quality of the committee and the staff that they choose.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated that if the board decided to approve the charter school the legal advice from Nancy Hungerford was that the motion would be something along the lines of 'the Board would approve the charter school contingent upon reaching a contractual agreement between Three Rivers School District (TRSD) and Sunny Wolf Charter School (SWCS)'.

Board Chair Weaver asked the Superintendent for some financial scenarios involving

different enrollments in terms of the impact on our district. Superintendent Huber-Kantola responded that he had a couple of scenarios. The first one based on the pre-enrollment. Using strictly the pre-enrollment numbers the impact on the district is anywhere between \$44,000 and \$106,000 depending on where the students end up enrolling from. Grade-level enrollment would determine whether or not we would reduce a teaching position at Manzanita. If we reduce that position, then it is estimated the impact would be about \$44,000. Without being able to reduce a teacher, the impact would be about \$106,000. That includes 31 student leaving Three Rivers School District. If four additional students left TRSD you could anticipate approximately \$27,000 more dollars would be lost.

Member Meier directed her first question towards the staff. She asked if there was a recommendation or any major concerns before the board makes a decision? Director Maluk stated he had no concerns. It will come down to the quality of the program. What they have in their program can be successful.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated he feels more comfortable given the meeting that was held. They were willing to work with the district in terms of a cap, etc. He recommended that we give it a try. There are some more contractual things that will have to be worked out, such as technology and the role the district will play. There were three concerns when we ultimately closed Wolf Creek: first was the financial. The second one was the long term financial in terms of the facility itself. That comes off of our plate and becomes the responsibility of the charter school. The third one was there wasn't as much community involvement at Wolf Creek, like we saw at some of our other schools such as Williams and Applegate. That has turned around as well. The quality of the program cannot be judged until you allow it to run.

Member Meier commented that the district will evaluate the program yearly and asked what happens if the standards are not met? Director Maluk responded that will be part of the agreement. He assured they would be visiting the school on a frequent and regular basis to monitor quality. As a result of our agreement, it will be clearly stated that that we can withdraw our support. The district has control over continuous support.

Member Litak asked how the program would be monitored and evaluated. Director Maluk responded that it would be primarily by student performance on state tests. There is also going to be local assessments that the school will be doing. Some of it will be just observation.

Member Meier asked how long 'Charter Starters' consultants would be involved? Ms. Scheufele responded Charter Starters will be working with them not just through the opening of the school. If the consulting relationship ends, they will still have a collegiate relationship with them.

Member Litak asked at what point does the grade level issue become resolved? Superintendent Huber-Kantola responded that we would ask that the pre-enrollment be done by a date certain before the school year is out so that we would know whether or not we could eliminate one teaching position at Manzanita. The numbers in grades 6-8 are projected to be 15.

Member Meier asked if the approved tonight is the kindergarten through eight grade still open for negotiation? Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated that as presented it is a K-8. Board Chair Weaver commented that he thinks that this is a condition we could impose.

Member Litak commented that from a financial point of view we are looking at the rest of the district, the other 5000 students in our district would be losing funds and those students

SUNNY WOLF
CHARTER SCHOOL
PROPOSAL (CONTINUED)

would be impacted by that loss. If the board approves this, it seems that we are stating we believe that the kids in Wolf Creek will receive a better education under this program to an amount sufficient to make up for the deficit to the rest of our students because that is what we are here for, is what is best for the kids in this endeavor.

Board Chair Weaver asked in the pre-enrollment, how many of the kids that pre-enrolled are currently students in TRSD schools? There are 31.

Member Litak asked about the maximum. What happens if there are more students than slots? Director Maluk responded that up to 35 district students would be the maximum.

Member Meier asked what the district recommendation was in terms of k-5, K-6 or K-8. Is there a recommendation? Superintendent Huber-Kantola recommended a K-5 model because it is very difficult to say that they could get a better secondary sixth through eighth grade experience in any school other than Fleming Middle School given that Fleming Middle School is one of the top three performing schools in the state of Oregon. Director Maluk agreed and believes there are more possibilities for success in the K-5 model.

Member Meier stated that beginning with a K-8 would be quite a challenge and she has two issues. The first is seeing success in starting off smaller then expanding and also we need to balance the impact on district-wide and Wolf Creek. A K-5 would temper the impact on the rest of the district.

CHARTER SCHOOL
APPROVED

Member Meier moved to approve the Sunny Wolf Creek Charter School with a kindergarten through fifth grade enrollment, with the agreed upon cap of 35 in-district students contingent on reaching a contractual agreement. Member Litak seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

INVESTING IN
INNOVATION GRANT

Secondary Education Director brought forward a grant opportunity in conjunction with District 7 and College Dreams. It would expand the current program in our district. It is a federal stimulus ARRA package grant, through a competitive process. A possibility of up to \$3 million over a three to five year period. Director George then introduced College Dreams director Tom Drummond to speak to the program. These students in the College Dreams program significantly have: lower dropout rates, better academic grades, higher rates of school attendance, academic readiness and college readiness. Mr. Drummond stated that even though the funding is only good for five years, the program will always continue to raise the funds to continue to keep the program running.

Member Litak stated that the program has been active in the Illinois Valley for a number of years and has had heard nothing but great things about it. There are no negatives listed in the proposal but how much of a commitment of district resources are we making? Director George responded that the majority of the work is handled through Tom Drummond and College Dreams. He sees no increase in workload on him or the district.

APPROVED

Member Strahan motioned to approve pursuing the grant. Member Meier seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2010-2011 CALENDAR

Human Resources Director Debbie Breckner presented draft calendars for the elementary and secondary schools. The calendars have been separated to ease some confusion for families. The calendar presented tonight is a place to start. It is dependent on funding, and shows a full year with no cut days.

Member Litak asked about the alternative calendar that would start after Labor Day, and why it was chosen to do it his way. Director Breckner responded that based on the feedback Superintendent Huber-Kantola received from Site Council meetings earlier in the year where folks indicated they liked having the Thursday before Thanksgiving off. There is a lot more cut up time during the trimesters by going the other route.

2010-2011 CALENDAR
(CONTINUED)

Member Strahan moved to approve the 2010-2011 presented calendars. Member Lengwin seconded.

Member Litak stated that it is highly optimistic that we are going to be able to honor this calendar, particularly if we are unable to cut any school days this year due to contractual obligations.

APPROVED

The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola presented a Design/Build proposal for the boilers and domestic hot water heaters. He explained there are two processes you can use any time you go to do construction. One is that you go out and get bids for design, which we did with the biomass. Then when the design is completed you go out for bids for people to build what's been designed. There is a process to change from bid/bid to the design/build process. It is an open bidding process for someone to come in and do both the design and then the building of the domestic hot water systems and the boiler systems at North alley High School and Fleming. Based on previous experience, this process saves both time and money.

DESIGN/BUILD
BOILERS & DOMESTIC
HOT WATER HEATERS

Board Chair Weaver asked Dave Bracken if he likes this approach? Mr. Bracken responded that he likes this method and believes it is the most efficient use the dollars we will have to spend.

APPROVED

Member Meier moved to approve the design/build process. Member Litak seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Illinois Valley Vice-Principal Patty Dickens-Turk gave a PowerPoint presentation on the district-wide Positive Behavior Supports (PBS) Incentives and Interventions overview.

PBS PRESENTATION

Superintendent Huber-Kantola reported that the district is on target for the ending fund balance projection of \$2.23 million before we reinstate any days this year. Any days that we reinstate brings that total down \$150,000. We have begun to put the contingencies in to the ending fund balance. The only two we have left are potential food service loss and National Competitions. Next year funding is \$1.2 million less than this year. Even with reductions, we are still \$400,000 short of being able to balance next year's budget.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Director Breckner stated she has submitted her first technology report as the board requested. She asked for feedback as to whether or not it was the kind of information they were looking for? The board thanked Director Breckner for her report.

TECHNOLOGY REPORT

Dave Bracken stated he had nothing new to add to his written report except for the fact that he was on vacation and thanked the maintenance leaders and Dodie Bullard for their work during his absence.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Michael Morris had nothing to add unless there were questions or comments. Member Litak asked how the after-school programs were going. Mr. Morris responded that it goes over very well at schools where they can actually do a hot program. He is working to change the snack programs to dinner programs.

FOOD SERVICE
REPORT

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Chair Weaver stated that there has been a request to pull the out-of-state travel request for Hidden Valley High School, Dale Fisher and his group.

APPROVED

Member Strahan moved to approve the consent agenda with that exception. Member Meier seconded. The motion passed 3-1, with Member Lengwin voting nay and Member Litak abstaining.

Member Meier asked for clarification as to whether or not Dale Fisher received the requested Perkins funding for his travel. Member Meier moved to approve his travel request contingent on it being no cost to the district. Member Strahan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Jim Weaver
Chairperson of the Board
THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dan Huber-Kantola
Superintendent-Clerk
THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT