

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
October 13, 2021**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met for a regular session Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at the District Office Administration Office, 8550 New Hope Road, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon. Due to the Coronavirus state-wide restrictions, county case rate, hospitalization rates, and in keeping with the efforts of social distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the meeting was streamed online for the public.

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
Casey Alderson, Deputy Superintendent
Stephanie Allen-Hart, Director
Jessica Durrant, Director
Rob Saunders, Director
Shelly Quick, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER / WORK SESSION

Board Chair Johnstun called the work session to order at 5:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Valenzuela and members of the Board discussed the 2021-22 Board goals in a workshop setting. The formalized Board goals will be brought forward for action at the November Board meeting.

Board Chair Johnstun recessed the work session at 6:00 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

Board Chair Johnstun reconvened the meeting in regular session at 6:00 and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Member Kelly made a motion to approve the October 13, 2021 agenda as presented. Member York seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE

Board Chair Johnstun commented on the North Valley homecoming. It looked a bit different this year, but they still did a lot of activities and made great efforts to have a lot of fun while keeping protocols in place. She thanked everyone at North Valley for making it a really successful homecoming. Member York stated that at Lincoln Savage we now have a functioning sewer treatment plant. It has been a very extensive project and it should be the end of that saga for a very long time. Member Kelly gave praise to the Hidden Valley girls soccer team. They have a pretty good chance to go a long way. He also visited a couple of schools and regardless of the politics of what we're dealing with, everybody that he talked to – their goal is to keep the building open and teach kids. Thanks to everyone who is sacrificing something in order to have that happen. Member Searle shared that there was recently a fundraiser at Illinois Valley to benefit Evergreen Elementary and buy class snacks for the school. The community really came together and donated many different auction items and the fundraiser was a huge success and they were able to buy carts and carts full of snacks for Evergreen. It was great to see the community come out and support something that might seem fairly minor, but really make a huge difference. Member Halsted has spent a lot of time in the schools lately and one of the things that struck him was how much the staff is really, really

working their tails off to make things happen. Everybody, from the custodians to the aides to the librarians to the teachers are doing their best to reach these kids, and they're doing a good job of it. He then commented that the district has added music and PE to the elementary curriculum and shared what a difference it makes in the day in the life of both the students and teachers. It is such a refreshing time for the students, and it is giving the teacher a bit of time to reflect on what is coming up next. He recognized Ms. Daw who has been teaching music at Williams and Applegate. Director Allen-Hart acknowledged our district nurses Kathy Mahannah and Amy Chamberlain, they were hired before COVID and have been doing yeoman's work helping in all facets of the district supporting our staff and doing amazing work. She also acknowledged the district special education staff. Since COVID hit we have been really struggling to fill our open positions. We have more than 60 additional SPED students that have enrolled in our district this year. There are 26 open positions in SPED at this time. Director Saunders shared that the district takes part in an e-rate program, which is a funding source through the federal government that allows us to continually update our internal communication system and our internet connections. Fairly recently our last e-rate proposal was approved, and we are excited about what it brings to teaching and learning in our district. It will provide a next generation level of wireless infrastructure for our district. It's blazing fast and reliable and will really improve the service and access that our students have. Director Durrant gave a shout out to Daniel Reeser, he used to work at Options and was a therapist at Madrona. He had a great connection with the principal and the staff and ended up leaving Options and we reached out and hired him to work at Three Rivers. He is currently helping us develop a model of services, currently in the Hidden Valley area, and it is highly successful. We are hoping to develop the same type of program for the other valleys this school year because our students need it, and it is working, and we are seeing results. Director Alderson shared that in the life of COVID it has given us opportunities to work really close with both of our unions. He gave a shout out to them and their collaborative approach. They have been great to work with and we have been able to come together on some difficult topics, difficult subjects, and some real challenging things for us as a district. We have been able to work together to provide a safe workplace, and for the most part, keep our staff intact. We have retained almost 98% of our staff due to the collaborative effort between both union groups and the district, coming to an agreement that works. Superintendent Valenzuela recognized our school board – five volunteer members of our community that have dedicated their time and energy into this position. The Board has been dealing with crisis after crisis. The Board is comprised of a diverse group of people that have their own values, beliefs and they represent the constituents in their zones and their communities, which is valuable and has served our district well and has continued to do that even during these trying times. They are now fighting to keep the doors open, and fighting for an opportunity to keep students at their desks. There is so much more to the position than what happens at these meetings. This Board has been courageous, they've represented their beliefs and their community well and strongly, and have been open to a conversation that has let us go forward. Hats off to our five creative board members for putting themselves in the line of fire and making sure that we can keep our school doors open.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- *District Update* – We have been doing strategic quarantines throughout the district. We have not had to close down a complete grade level, a wing, or a school. We are able to really dig down and determine who needs to be quarantined, and who needs to stay in school. There has been no CDL this year. School is richer than it's ever been. We now have music programs in our elementary that are incredible. Our middle school electives are going crazy with art and CTE programs. The number of students in our CTE programs in 2019 was 509; September 2021 we have 943. CTE program students graduated at a much higher rate than our regular ed students. The board saw that and put the money out to increase those programs so we can increase our graduation rates even further. Daniel Reeser has increased the mental health supports for elementary students and we hope to add more this year. The Lincoln Savage wastewater 18-month endeavor is now complete!
- *Property Updates:*
 - *Selma* – Selma has been declared as surplus and it has been listed for a couple of days and there has been some interest. It is listed at \$450,000. Brandy Chandler is our listing agent.
 - *Illinois Valley Pool Property* – Is a step behind Selma - plans are pending.
 - *Airport* – We have submitted our terms, they said they agreed, and we are waiting on the lease agreement which will be presented to the Board.

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 – October 2021
- Athletic Coaches – October 2021
- Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - July 28, 2021 – Special and Regular Session
 - September 15, 2021 – Regular Session
- Out of State Travel reports (2)
- Resolution #07 revision – 2020-2021
- Member York made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Searle seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Written comments from the following people were read aloud by Board Chair Johnstun during this portion of the meeting:

- Krista Schmidt
- Carla Watson

REPORTS – NO ACTION

- **Domestic Violence Hotline Sticker Project**
 - Director Durrant provided a summary of the project where there are stickers with a QR code that students can scan to help them navigate through challenging and scary circumstances due to domestic violence issues. The stickers will be put in each of the high schools and counselors will also get the stickers to give to kids. It's a great partnership with AllCare.
- **Division 22 Standards for Public Elementary and Secondary Schools – 2020-2021 Assurances Report to the Community**
 - Superintendent Valenzuela reported this year there are two areas of non-compliance:
 - Human sexuality education – The human sexuality standards were put in place in 2016 and the district has not adopted curriculum that supports those standards. We are forming a committee that will be looking at different curriculum options to cover those standards and bringing recommendations forward to the Board for a decision on what to adopt.
 - Minimum requirements for PE time – At this time we are not able to offer PE at every elementary site due to staffing shortages. We have created a hybrid situation where students get it for half a year but that doesn't meet the minimum requirement for PE.
- **TRSD Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP)**
 - Director Durrant provided the Board with the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) and provided a brief overview. She explained that it is a work in progress that can be changed and modified. The district will be using this year as a baseline and adjusting the goals as needed.
- **Restraint and Seclusion Report**
 - Director Allen-Hart explained that this report is now required to be provided to the Board annually. There is a graph that shows the number of restraints and/or seclusions that have happened in our district and she then explained the reporting process and training.
- **COVID Report**
 - Director Allen-Hart handed out a packet to the Board and then explained that the spreadsheet is a snapshot of the year thus far, in terms of how COVID is impacting our schools. She introduced the district nurses Kathy Mahannah and Amy Chamberlain, who joined the meeting

virtually. She also explained the process used when an exposure or COVID case is brought to their attention. This week has truly been different in a good way with declining numbers. The district nurses addressed some questions from the Board and Kathy Mahannah commented that it would not be possible for them to do all that they are doing if they didn't have such a collaborative team which included administrators, office managers, and everyone working together. The Board expressed their appreciation for the hard work they all do to keep as many kids as possible in school.

- **Board Policies – First Reading**

- GCBDA/GDBDA – *Family Medical Leave*
- GCBDA/GDBDA-AR – *Federal Family and Medical Leave/State Family Medical Leave* (delete current and adopt new version)
- GCBDA/GDBDA-AR(2) – *Request for Family and Medical Leave*
- GCBDA/GDBDA-AR(3A) – *Certification of Health Care Provider-Employee's Serious Health Condition*
- GCBDA/GDBDA-AR(3B) – *Certification of Health Care Provider-Family Member*
- GCBDA/GDBDA-AR(3C) – *Military Family Leave – Qualifying Exigency*
- GCBDA/GDBDA-AR(3D) – *Military Family Leave-Covered Servicemember Leave*

- Director Alderson explained that this is just one policy that needs an update for our family medical leave due to changes in the law, and the rest are AR's.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Interdistrict Transfer Slots**

- Director Allen-Hart recommended closing the 9 slots that are still open from the 53 that were approved last spring. The 9 slots are at Williams and Applegate and they feel it is a good idea to close those slots due to staffing. We will continue to remain open to any hardships.
- Member Kelly made a motion to close the 9 interdistrict transfer slots as recommended. Member Searle seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

- **Resolution (#02) to Transfer Appropriations from Contingency and Authorize Purchase of Fruitdale Property**

- District Accountant Lisa Cross explained the resolution will authorize Superintendent Valenzuela to move forward with the purchase of Fruitdale property and would also transfer the difference in the previously appropriated amount of \$125,000, and the current offered price of \$205,000.
- Member York made a motion to approve the resolution (#02). Member Kelly seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

- **Budget Calendar**

- District Accountant Lisa Cross shared the budget calendar for the budgeting of the 2022-2023 school year. She brought it to the Board's attention that we have four Budget Committee positions open. The proposed budget calendar follows the same format that was utilized in recent years, making the first Budget Committee meeting the same date as the May board meeting, with an additional day set aside the week after.
- Member Kelly made a motion to approve the proposed budget calendar. Member York seconded the motion. The open Budget Committee positions will be posted in the newspaper and on our district website. We will request the applications be submitted by the first week of January. Board Chair Johnstun called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

- **OSEA (Classified) Memorandum of Understanding – 2021-2022 Food Service Hours**

- Director Alderson explained one of the challenges of moving to a four-day school week was food service and the hours that our staff were working. One of the charges by the Board with this change was to have the least amount of impact on our staff. Maintaining food service hours has been difficult. We worked with the classified to reduce some of the food service hours but increase their hourly rate by .25c/hour to reduce the financial impact to them.

- Member York made a motion to approve the OSEA/classified memorandum of understanding; Member Kelly seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Suggested Future Agenda Items:

- Member York asked that we explore the option of outdoor board meetings or a location to accommodate the public that wish to attend our board meetings.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Board Regular Session – Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
- Board Regular Session – Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Johnstun adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.