

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
Feb 20, 2019**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met for a regular session, Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at Hidden Valley High School, 651 Murphy Creek Road, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon. A full recording of the meeting is available on the District web page.

PRESENT

Kate Dwyer, Board Chair
Rich Halsted, Board Member
Paul Kelly, Board Member
Jennifer Johnstun, Board Vice Chair
Danny York, Board Member

Dave Valenzuela, Superintendent
Casey Alderson, Director
Stephanie Allen-Hart, Director
Jessica Durrant, Director
JP Richards, Director
Shelly Quick, Recording Secretary

Administrators: Heather Yount/Fruitdale Elementary Principal, Penelope DiGennaro/Sunny Wolf Charter School Principal, Lori Higgins/Fleming Middle School Principal, Rachel Damiano/Hidden Valley High School Assistant Principal and Brian Miller/Hidden Valley High School Principal.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Dwyer called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE

Ms. Dwyer recognized Sodexo Food Service Director Marina Mudryy for her engagement process with the high school students about the food they are serving. The students feel valued and listened to. Mr. Halsted attended the Rotary luncheon that recognized two Applegate students. It continues to remind him how much all the organizations in this county provide to our students. It was a great opportunity to see the students take home some pretty cool gifts. Mr. Kelly congratulated the Hidden Valley girls' basketball team. He also had the pleasure of talking with Mr. Klumpp at North Valley about his metal shop. The work they do is phenomenal. It was cool, as a coach, to use the facilities that we have in our district to provide awards to his soccer athletes who, on the field, are very successful and provide an opportunity for the students in another part of the school to celebrate that. Mr. York gave a shout out to Principal Brian Miller and the Hidden Valley staff for the student panel. It was very well orchestrated, and the students did a great job. Ms. Johnstun congratulated Three Rivers School District for becoming a Blue Zones approved work site. It speaks to the commitment of the health of employees. Director Durrant gave a shout out to all of our hardworking Battle of the Books coaches. We have the district competition coming up on March 2nd at North Valley for high school and the middle school and elementary is being hosted by Lorna Byrne. Director Alderson also congratulated the Hidden Valley girls' basketball team which were undefeated in league play for two years in a row. He also recognized all of the other athletes that we are sending to the state tournaments. All of our high schools are represented well in winter sports. Director Allen-Hart shared that last Thursday she had an opportunity to spend some time at Evergreen and Manzanita with our Title I special education team under the guide of Sylvia Saporta. She saw great teaching and instruction! Director Richards gave a shout out to New Bridge. It is a truly amazing program they have there and what they are doing with the youth. By the time the kids leave they have a future and a plan to become productive citizens.

Superintendent Valenzuela thanked Brian Miller, Rachel Damiano and the Hidden Valley staff. It has been an interesting year with challenges and no perfect solutions. The staff has really risen up and supported the school and the students in an amazing way! He then recognized Sunny Wolf Charter School administrator Penelope DiGennaro who will be retiring at the end of this school year. He thanked her for her the collaboration, cooperation and side-by-side work with her through the years. He presented her with flowers and an engraved TRSD pen set.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- *Madrona Elementary* – Facing some space issues. We will be moving forward with an additional portable. It will be placed in the same space as a previous portable, so it already has the pad, power and septic. We will also be addressing parking and drop off/pick up issues.
- *Selma Center* – He talked about his visit there last month with two board members and maintenance, along with board members from the Selma Community Education Center. They are evaluating the larger long-term maintenance issues and costs. The lease will come up for renewal this June. In the interim, we are moving forward and fixing the well.
- *Woodland Charter School* – They are interested in entering into a conversation with the board about the purchase of the Hidden Valley land they currently occupy. We have to determine the actual value of that land, without the building and improvements. We will share the cost with Woodland to get the property evaluated. We may have Selma evaluated at the same time to know what it is worth.
- *Hidden Valley Principal Timeline* – The position will be posted on Friday, February 22nd and will run for two weeks. Screening of applicants will take place on March 8th. Then there will be a school/community interview process that will happen at Hidden Valley on Thursday March 14th. That committee will generate three recommendations to him. He will interview those people on the 15th and will move forward with a final recommendation 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 – February 2019
- Athletic Coaches – February 2019
- Out of State Travel Requests (3)
- Grant Request (1)
- Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - January 16, 2019 – Regular Session
- Mr. York made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Ms. Dwyer called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- There were none.

REPORTS – NO ACTION

- **Josephine County Youth Foundation (JCYF) Update**
 - JCF students introduced themselves and talked about what they do as an organization. They also shared highlights of their recent community service activities which included the Vision Clinic and providing clothing and meals to those in need. They also sponsor the Student Enrichment Program which provides teachers the opportunity to apply for grants to enrich their work with students. Every year they award around \$20,000. They also spoke about their student fundraising efforts. This year they have raised over \$53,000.
- **Project GAP**
 - Josephine County Foundation Board member Joan Jones introduced foundation chair and co-founder Frank Ault. She then spoke about the Graduation Assistance Program (GAP). It was recognized years ago that there was a need to connect community members with our students. JCF took that and created Project GAP. They have received substantial

funding from the Meyer Memorial Trust. The program matches a community mentor with a high school student. The mentors are trained on how to interact with high school students. The volunteer coordinator is Cece Hansen. There are currently about 15 mentors and about 10 students engaged in the pilot program at Hidden Valley. The mentors act as a coach and advocate for the student. JCF is all about increasing our graduation rates and collaborate with other projects and programs such as Gene Merrill's youth pathways internship program, Aspire and College Dreams.

- **Blue Zones Update**

- Program Manager Diane Hoover shared that Superintendent Valenzuela and his staff have been working really hard to get Three Rivers School District to become a Blue Zones approved worksite. She also recognized Jen Johnstun, Lisa Cross, Justin Tocher, Travis Osborne and Diana Miller that really contributed to the work. They are working on a similar process at the high schools. She provided information on what was involved to become work site approved. Their next step is a Safe Routes to Schools master plan which they hope will include Fruitdale.

- **Sunny Wolf Charter School Annual Report**

- Administrator Penelope DiGennaro shared that there are currently 106 students enrolled in five classrooms K-5 with a classroom teacher and an assistant at every grade level. Sunny Wolf is a School Wide Title I school. She also provided information on the following:
 - Smarter Balance/Oaks testing results
 - Curriculum
 - ODE state report cards by class
 - Financial reports
- As for the arts, she has successfully applied and received grant money for an art program where professional artists come to school and teach art lessons to students. They are also partnering with the Britt Festival on a five-week project for 4th graders that includes music, art, writing, journal entries, science and history. Other activities include Outdoor School for 5th graders, a partnership with the Rogue Valley Symphony, a partnership with the Wolf Creek Library and a beautiful garden where classes plant vegetables and flowers every year.
- In closing they shared a video presentation prepared by teachers Kari and Tim O'Brien, highlighting the children, but also recognizing the hard work done by Penelope, which began about nine years ago, to transform the old school in to what it is today.

- **Hidden Valley Area Administrator Reports**

The following principals provided their report via video from a tech conference they are attending:

- Rob Saunders for Applegate (for Steve Fuller was en route) – Feb. 27 they are hosting the annual Celebration of Learning night which will include student work, art and science projects will be displayed. Teachers will be demonstrating learning activities for parents that can easily be done at home. Middle school purchased a silk-screening printing T-shirt kit and will be making shirts with different designs. Students will market their shirts and make a sales brochure and will make a sales presentation to community businesses.
- Rob Saunders for Williams Elementary – They have a new logo and signage at the school which looks really nice! They have started the second round of after school programs on Feb 11th, four days a week from 2:00 to 3:30. The programs include: music, guitar and fiddle, art, kite-making and story hour. On Feb 28th Williams will be hosting their Family Showcase of Learning night and student work will be displayed. Teachers here will also be demonstrating learning activities for parents that can be done at home. All students will receive a free Dr. Seuss book.
- Kelli Lovell/Madrona – they are really focused on school pride. They started this year with a new logo “Be the change you wish to see in the world.” To also highlight the spirit they have pride days on the first Friday of every month. Next monthly PBIS Pride event is going to be focused on STEM. They are partnering with Rebel Bricks which will be focusing on LEGO robotics. Family Science Night on February 28th. Again, they will be partnering with Rebel Bricks for parents to experience with their kids.
- Mark Higgins/Lincoln Savage Middle School – They are moving forward with their student

led conferences which they are referring to as “Tiger Pride Time.” The kids are building an electronic portfolio for the conferences in the spring to share not only with whoever is physically attending the conference, but if they want to share electronically with other friends or family. Partnering with the Josephine County Sheriff’s office we brought the entire staff in and went through the lock-down, lock-out drills and then conducted a drill with the students following that. It went fantastic! Currently have the EPIC program in the building, which is a 7th and 8th grade program about making good decisions. In the process of bringing back an after-school program on a limited basis. Sixth grade outdoor school is coming up in May. PBIS reward activity was last week and they sent 268 students to the Lego movie and then to the YMCA. Leadership students are going to Madrona and working with their fourth-grade class on spheros. It has been a huge hit with the Leadership kids. Today they had their ‘No One Eats Alone’ day. Stephanie Dumesnil gets the kids together and makes it a real fun event and a real easy way for kids to reach out and make some new acquaintances.

- Heather Yount/Fruitdale – Fruitdale is growing! There are currently 391 students. In February of 2014 there were 358 kids. Last year there were 369 enrolled the end of February. She provided some benchmark data. A lot of her days lately are spent with teachers looking at student growth goals. They want to make sure all of their students are growing at every level. This year in their professional development at Fruitdale one of their main focuses is on Language Arts.
- Brian Miller/Hidden Valley High School – Mr. Miller thanked Rachel Damiano, the new Hidden Valley assistant principal, along with Dale Fisher and Chris Pendleton, who have taken on the duties of athletic director. They have all done a great job this year. They started the year with a projection of about 530 students and there are currently 573 in the building. At the beginning of the year some staff members attended a Freshman Success conference and brought that back which started a Freshman Success Team and has moved on to have success teams at all four levels. It’s unbelievable what’s going to happen with graduation rates and on-track to graduate and attendance. They have all of their staff involved and working with all 600 kids. 21st Century is going well in the first year at Hidden Valley and being led by Terry Procknow. There are a variety of activities going on each night. After school tutoring is being offered and being highly utilized. Another new thing this year is “RISE” which stands for Respect, Integrity, Service and Engagement. The staff is very passionate about it – they had shirts made, signs made and will be rolling it out to all of the students. The second semester they started ‘Visible Fridays’ which is another way to build relationships with students. The staff are outside of their classroom in the hallways greeting kids. They are working on a plan to use the advisory time more efficiently. They are using a five-star app, which they were able to get with a grant. They are rolling it out and it will be a part of their RISE next year. The app is an incentive program. Kids get points for going to different activities and being part of different things. Hidden Valley is also actively participating in Blue Zones activities. Winter sports recap: 11 wrestlers qualified for state and Edgar Houghtby was named Coach of the Year. Dustin Brown was also named Wrestler of the Year. Girls basketball went undefeated for the second year in a row and will host a play-off game at home.
- **PERS Update**
 - District Accountant Lisa Cross provided an update about the district’s PERS rates and PERS funding statewide. In 2004 the district bonded for \$24 million in bonds to pay down the district’s unfunded liability. Over the last 14 years, on an average, our district has paid over 1.5% less than districts that didn’t bond. The rates next year are going up 4.43%. We are going to be paying \$1.26 million more next year for PERS than we did this year. This makes our roll up costs pretty significant. The recommended governor’s budget, for the first time ever, has included \$100 million to pay down the unfunded liability, which is a drop in the bucket to what is unfunded. There are currently 36 legislative bills that are being worked on right now and only five have language that affect rates.
- **Food Service Capture(d) Project**
 - Sodexo Food Service Director Marina Mudryy shared details of her project to improve student’s cafeteria experience. They conducted a digital survey in each high school. Five students were chosen at each high school and the first day they were given cameras and

asked to take one picture of something they were doing great and four pictures of something they think needs improvement on. The second day their executive chef made a special meal for the kids and they talked as a group about their pictures. Marina shared pictures and results. She will also be sharing the results back with Sodexo. She received feedback from two board members about the popularity of the new ramen bar.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Classified Employee Appreciation Week ~ March 4-8, 2019 Resolution

- Superintendent Valenzuela read the resolution declaring March 4-8, 2019 as Classified Employee Appreciation Week.
- Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Johnstun seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

2. Southern Oregon ESD Local Service Plan

- Superintendent Valenzuela reported that in recent years there has been a lot of conversations in the region about the ESD and the plan they provide to member districts. There are some districts who feel like they are able to handle some of the services themselves. The ESD has responded very well in terms of adjusting to client demands. They have gone to an expanded menu option structure so that districts are able to pick and choose the services they need. We utilize the ESD heavily with special ed and their electronic service department. He feels the ESD provides us with a valuable service and recommended that the board approve the Local Service Plan.
- Mr. Halsted made a motion to approve the Southern Oregon ESD Local Service Plan. Mr. York seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

3. Board Policies – Second Reading

- EFA & EFA-AR *Local Wellness Program*
- GCDA/GDDA & GCDA/GDDA-AR *Criminal Records Checks and Fingerprinting*
- Director Richards explained that the wellness policy, as discussed last time, is just updating our policy to match the updated procedures and recommendations. The fingerprinting policy requires a minor change since the first reading. He explained a small unintended consequence of the first draft that was caught that would have required fingerprinting for coaches and advisors, that would prove quite cumbersome and costly. They will continue to be required to have background checks. It was recommended to remove “Extracurricular coaches and advisors” from the fingerprinting section and move it back to the location in the original policy under *criminal records check and/or fingerprinting*.
- Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the policies with the recommended change. Mr. York seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

4. PACE Trust Agreement

- Superintendent Valenzuela explained that about every three to four years Pace updates their by-laws. The revised Trust Agreement reflects those changes. It does not change our coverage and has no financial implications. It just states that as a school board we acknowledge that their by-laws have changed and we accept their trust agreement as written.
- Ms. Johnstun made a motion to approve the revised PACE Trust Agreement. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

SUGGESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Mr. York had a question about the Food Service account. There will be a full report to the board on the Food Service account status at the next board meeting.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- March 13, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. – Evergreen Elementary, *Board Regular Session*
 - Executive Session at 5:00 p.m.

- April 3, 2019 – 5:00 p.m. – District Office – *Board Work Session* (If Needed)

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Dwyer adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Kate Dwyer
Chairperson of the Board

Dave Valenzuela
Superintendent-Clerk

DRAFT