

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WORK SESSION  
January 5, 2026**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met for a work session Monday, January 5, 2026, 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: [HERE](#)

**PRESENT**

Pat Kelly, Board Chair  
Mariah Rossi, Board Vice-Chair  
Nancy Reese, Board Member *arrived at 4:34pm*  
Rick Nelson, Board Member

Dave Valenzuela, Superintendent  
Casey Alderson, Deputy Superintendent  
Stephanie Allen-Hart, Director  
Jessica Durrant, Director  
Jessica Knable, Recording Secretary

**ABSENT**

Cameron Camp, Board Member  
Rob Saunders, Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Kelly called the meeting to order at 4:04PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Vice-Chair Rossi made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Member Nelson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (3-0). Votes by Board Members as follows; Chair Kelly yes, Vice-Chair Rossi yes, Member Nelson yes. Member Camp and Member Reese were absent.

**BOARD OPERATING AGREEMENT**

Superintendent Valenzuela presented a draft copy of a board operating agreement as a starting point for discussion. He provided an overview of the agreement and the process for adopting or resolving the resolution if the board desires. He suggested that the section titled Superintendent's Expectations of the board be stricken from the agreement. Vice-Chair Rossi presented the board and Superintendent with another draft of a different operating agreement. Board Members and the Superintendent took time to review Vice-Chair Rossi's draft. Vice-Chair Rossi pointed out that many of the items on both agreements match, but that the draft she presented provides more clarifications on Board roles. Member Nelson inquired about the reasoning behind the need for the agreement. This was brought to the work session at the request of Board members. There was a discussion among the members about how this agreement will help guide and inform new oncoming board members in the future. It will help clear up board roles and expectations too. There was discussion about employment contracts, and reviewing those contracts before a vote. Member Nelson requested the Board be provided a contract summary in the future. Deputy Superintendent Alderson responded he will provide the Board with contract change summaries moving forward. All members agreed language about following the chain of command should be added to the

agreement. Superintendent Valenzuela inquired if the board wanted to move forward with the agreement and if so, what the next action should be. The board agreed that Vice-Chair Rossi and Board Secretary Knable will work together to create an updated agreement using language from both drafts. Board Chair Kelly suggested the agreement use easy to understand language and words. Once another draft is ready, Superintendent Valenzuela will send each member of the Board the agreement individually so they can review or provide feedback without violating public meeting laws.

### **POLICY IIA - INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

The Board reviewed and discussed the most recent draft of Policy IIA - Instructional Materials. After review, the board requested some additions and changes. Vice-Chair Rossi wants the bracket language listing the protected groups added back to paragraph 3. The word librarian should be replaced with District Librarian or Library Manager for clarification. The words “using the established selection criteria” needs to be added to the end of the first sentence under library materials. The board requested that a heading be added titled Selection Criteria and language added to core materials. The Board discussed the previous changes and additions to the policy. They are happy with the changes already made. There were certain sections of the policy discussed for clarification, but no changes requested. A first read of this policy should be available for the next scheduled board meeting.

Member Reese talked about a speaker coming at the end of February. If not for public comment, then the board would want more information about this speaker before moving forward. There was discussion from the board about the need or topic of this speaker. Member Reese will bring that information to the next board meeting.

### **ELA CURRICULUM UPDATE**

Director Durrant gave each board member a handout with facts and information on the 2 curriculum finalists for the upcoming 6-12 grade ELA adoption, HMH and Savaas. She provided the board with an update on where the district currently is in the curriculum review process and what is to come next. Teachers that are piloting the curriculum just received their first samples today for review. They will review one curriculum at a time. The one page sheet provided to the Board included other states and districts that have adopted each curriculum. Vice-Chair Rossi inquired if those other districts had reported and improved test scores. Director Durrant will review this, but likely the other districts are new to the curriculum too and that data is typically 3 years behind. The board discusses state testing scores and how hopefully the new curriculum can impact those scores. Vice-Chair Rossi inquires about the workbooks with one of the publishers and the potential added costs associated with selecting that curriculum. The board was invited to stay after the meeting to individually review the curriculum samples.

Member Nelson discussed wanting to review the supplemental books from the Elementary health curriculum. Those books will be made available to Member Nelson for review by Secretary Knable and/or Superintendent Valenzuela at a future date.

### **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

- Wednesday, January 21, 2026 5:00pm Board Regular Session, District Office
- Wednesday, February 18, 2026 4:00pm Board Regular Session, Hidden Valley High School

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Kelly adjourned the meeting at 5:12 PM.

DRAFT