

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
February 19, 2020**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met for a regular session, Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at Illinois Valley High School, 625 E. River St., Cave Junction, Josephine County, Oregon. A full recording of the meeting is available on the District web page.

PRESENT

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

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

ABSENT:

Danny York, Board Member

Administrators: Steve Fuller/Applegate & Williams Elementary Principal, Kellie Lovell/Madrona Elementary Principal, Alicia Timbs/Ft. Vannoy Elementary Principal, Lori Higgins/Fleming Middle School Principal, Mark Higgins/Lincoln Savage Middle School Principal, Danny Pratt/Lorna Byrne Middle School Assistant Principal, Heather Yount/Fruitdale Elementary Principal and Renee Hults/Manzanita Elementary Principal.

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

Board Chair Halsted asked that a second Community Comment period be added to the agenda before the 'Action Items' around 5:00 to allow people that show up to the meeting after work an opportunity to make public comment. Ms. Dwyer made a motion to approve the revised agenda. Ms. Johnstun seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously (4-0, Member York absent).

SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE

Ms. Johnstun shared that they just had a great student panel with the Illinois Valley High School students. It did her heart good to see their faces and see all that's going on at Illinois Valley High School. Mr. Kelly appreciated the school tour by the Illinois Valley HS kids and being introduced to "their house". It was great to see what they are doing. Ms. Dwyer was absolutely thrilled to see how engaged the students were. She also welcomed the newest member of the administration team, Danny Pratt, new principal of Lorna Byrne Middle School. Mr. Halsted echoed the comments made by fellow board members about the Illinois Valley HS students. Principal Tanner Smith and his team have taken it to the next level. He also shared that all around the district the various Lions Clubs have been doing eyesight and hearing checks. Hats off to them for helping our students and knocking those out. Superintendent Valenzuela also commented on the epic student panel and thanked Tanner Smith for having the students provide the tour. He then recognized the great vibe and positive culture at Lorna Byrne Middle School. He also welcomed Danny Pratt to the administrative team. Director Durrant recognized Officer Konieczny. We appreciate his ability to be available and respond for us. He has a great connection with the kids at all of our schools. Director Allen-Hart recognized Reyes Aguilera. He joined Illinois Valley HS as a half-time special education teacher and has knocked it out of the park! He has become an integral part of Illinois Valley High School and has made a real connection with the students. Director Alderson recognized the students that participated and staff that helped lead the first round of Academic Masters. The annual event is a great opportunity for our

students to really shine in the academic arena.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- *Seismic Upgrades* - The district received two seismic upgrade grants to address our gymnasiums at Illinois Valley HS and Hidden Valley HS. They will be separating the gym from the main part of the building. New roofing and bleachers are included. They are scheduled to start March 16th and finish by the August 16th sports season. We will be applying for North Valley HS next year.
- *Four Day School Week* – The four-day FAQ is up and on the front page of the district website. The town halls are done, and we have received a lot of great feedback from our staff and parents. He plans to take the survey information, Town Hall feedback and develop a picture of readiness for the board. We are currently working with both union groups to try to figure out what this means to our employees, how it will impact them, and how to make it all work. There is interest, but there is also strong feeling that if the district does go to a four-day week they want it to happen across the board. They don't want to have some schools do it and some schools not. On March 11th he will report where the unions fall on this issue. He urged the board members to let him know if they have specific questions so he can be prepared prior to his report on March 11th so they can make the right decisions.

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 2020
- Athletic Coaches – February 2020
- Out of State Travel Requests (2)
- Grant Requests (4)
- Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting
 - Board Regular Session – January 15, 2020
- Ms. Dwyer made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- Illinois Valley High School students Annie Hertler and Meaghan Vallot shared some concerns with the board regarding racism in the school.
- Lindsey Jones shared that she supports Annie and Meaghan's statement about stomping out racism. She feels it is becoming a bigger problem and asked how they as a community can address the issue?

REPORTS – NO ACTION

- **Illinois Valley Area Administrator Reports**
 - Lorna Byrne MS Assistant Principal Danny Pratt shared they are working on hard on the culture at Lorna Byrne and feels they are going the right way. As an example, when he used to walk the halls at the school there would be trash all over. They started a leadership program and offered rewards to the students for their action. Staff are now noticing there is no longer trash in the hallways. They have also been having the best school assemblies with great staff participation. He shared a story where a parent approached him and said that their student has never been happier to come to school, which means to him that they are heading the right way!
 - Illinois Valley HS Principal Tanner Smith shared that the school has set a record for credits in the first semester with their alternative center. The kids are doing a great job out there! He also shared that Shelbie Mason, a Illinois Valley HS graduate, graduated from Oregon State and is now teaching at Illinois Valley HS and opened up her first section of Ag Sciences and there are 30 kids in that class.

- **Youth Internship Program**
 - Illinois Valley High School College and Career Coordinator Gene Merrill provided the board with an update of things happening with the youth internship program. The program caught a lot of interest with businesses and local municipal bodies and spurred interest to create an even bigger program that could involve students from all of our schools. The addition of outside funding created an opportunity for a 501(c)3 organization called *Youth Pathways Partnership*. They were also able to hire a full-time employee to run the program and network with the business folks in the community and create opportunities for the youth. The web address for the program is: www.path4youth.com. They have been working with Rogue Community College and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and created six broad categories of career areas for students to focus their interest. He shared the names of some of the companies the students are interning at, as well as the types of jobs they are doing. They also now have the opportunity to support all high schools, including New Bridge High School.
 - Ms. Johnstun asked how many students have been through internships. Mr. Merrill said the last cohort of the 2018-19 school year was 35. Their goal for this year was 200 but feel they will probably hit about 75 students in the county. Ms. Johnstun also shared that Mr. Merrill was given a special award and asked him to talk about it. Mr. Merrill said that he was nominated, and the runner up for the Grants Pass Rotary Club's *Volunteer of the Year* and also the Josephine County Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce gave him the *Building a Legacy for the Future* award.

- **Student Investment Account (SIA) Update**
 - Superintendent Valenzuela stated that the window to submit SIA applications is March 2nd through April 15th. We plan to submit our application to the board for approval on March 11th. On March 4th from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the District Office we are going to have a public input session on the draft plan. We will ask for feedback from the community. The meeting is intended to impact our application. We plan to submit the plan to ODE on March 12th in hopes of getting our application in the front end of the application process. There is about \$3.5 million for these priorities and to execute this plan. Some of the bigger topics identified include: well-rounded education, specialists at the elementary grade levels, elective offerings at middle and high schools, behavioral health support and mental health support. Due to the large amount of follow-up reporting required we are also looking at an administrator for SIA compliance and continuation of that grant.

- **Board Policies – First Reading (SB 479 & SB 155)**
 - GBEA – Workplace Harassment
 - GBEA-AR – Workplace Harassment Reporting and Procedure
 - GCA – License Requirements
 - IICC – Volunteers
 - IICC-AR – Volunteers (*Delete*)
 - JHFE – Reporting of Suspected Abuse of a Child (*Delete current and adopt new version*)
 - JHFE-AR(1) – Reporting of Suspected Abuse of a Child (*Delete current and adopt new version*)
 - JHFF/GBNAA – Reporting Requirements Regarding Sexual Contact with Students (*Delete current and adopt new version*)
 - JHFF/GBNAA-AR – Sexual Conduct Complaint Form
 - GBA – Equal Employment Opportunity

 - Director Alderson explained that the policies are in response to two bills that were passed the last legislative session relating to Senate Bill 479, workplace harassment, and Senate Bill 155 requires investigation of all reports involving suspected abuse and suspected sexual conduct. The policy revisions are to keep us in compliance with the law.

- **Board Policies – First Reading (SB 415)**
 - BBF – Board Member Standards of Conduct
 - BBFC – Reporting of Suspected Abuse of a Child

- Superintendent Valenzuela explained that board policies BBF and BBFC are for the board as they have now been included on the list of mandatory reporters.

Board Chair Halsted called for a seven-minute recess at 4:53 p.m.

Board Chair Halsted reconvened the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Budget Committee Position (Zone V)**
 - District Accountant Lisa Cross reported that there was one application for the position from Brian Mockridge, who seems very qualified and comes highly recommended. She asked the board to approve his application.
 - Mr. Kelly made a motion to appoint Brian Mockridge to the zone five Budget Committee position. Ms. Johnstun seconded the motion. There was some discussion. Board Chair Halsted called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Sunny Wolf Charter School Request to Add 6th Grade**
 - Superintendent Valenzuela stated that Jody Hoffman, the administrator of Sunny Wolf Charter School, approached the district to add a sixth grade, along with a preschool. They have received a number of donations, in the form of properties and buildings, that would accommodate the expansion. The majority of the students they attract are from the Glendale area. He supported the addition of the sixth grade. Their charter does not require board approval but felt the board would want to be aware to have a conversation about it and endorse it.
 - Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve adding a sixth grade at Sunny Wolf Charter School. Ms. Dwyer seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.
- **Resolution to Transfer Appropriations from Contingency**
 - District Accountant Lisa Cross stated that the district would like to hire a Confidential Communications Specialist. This would be money from the contingency to pay from now until June.
 - Superintendent Valenzuela added that when going out for a bond there are a number of regulations and requirements when the district is communicating about a local options tax from a school district perspective. The communications role is crucial for Three Rivers at this time.
 - Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the resolution to transfer appropriations from contingency. Ms. Dwyer seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.
- **Classified Employee Appreciation Week**
 - Superintendent Valenzuela read the resolution honoring our classified staff and proclaiming March 2-6, 2020 as Classified Employee Appreciation Week.
 - Ms. Johnstun made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. There were numerous comments from board members acknowledging the great job they do for our district. Board Chair Halsted called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- **SOESD Local Service Plan**
 - Superintendent Valenzuela reported that the Southern Oregon ESD puts forth a Local Service Plan every year for the board to approve. In the last couple of years there has been a lot more engagement from school districts with the ESD's to become more agile in education and provide actual services that school districts need. SOESD has done a very good job of listening to school districts and modifying their service plan to meet our needs. We access the ESD in a number of ways, but mostly with special education services support, technology services and school improvement services. Mr. Valenzuela is confident in the Local Service Plan and recommends approval.
 - Ms. Dwyer made a motion to approve the Southern Oregon ESD Local Service Plan. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Wednesday, March 11, 2020 – 6:00 p.m., Fleming Middle School – Board Regular Session
 - Executive Session at 5:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 1, 2020 – 5:00 p.m. – District Office – *School Board Work Session*
- Wednesday, April 15, 2020 – 4:00 p.m. – Hidden Valley High School – *School Board Regular Session*
 - Student Panel at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Halsted adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Rich Halsted
Chairperson of the Board

Dave Valenzuela
Superintendent-Clerk