

**THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
March 10, 2021**

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met virtually via Zoom for the regular board meeting on Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

PRESENT

Jennifer Johnstun, Board Chair
Paul Kelly, Board Vice Chair
Jenn Searle, Board Member
Rich Halsted, Board Member
Danny York, Board Member (arrived late)

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

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Johnstun called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. and asked Superintendent Valenzuela to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. All board members were present with the exception of Member York who will be a bit late.

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET HEARING

District Accountant Lisa Cross explained that a supplemental budget is required when the district receives revenue that we didn't plan on with the original budget. If that supplemental budget changes fund expenditures by more than ten percent, then a public hearing is required. This second round of elementary and secondary school emergency relief funds (ESSER II) were awarded through the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) by the federal government. The funds are available to be spent through November 2023 however this budget brought forward to be approved is only authorized through June 30th. We don't anticipate a large amount of this money will be expended by June 30, so ultimately the district will be reevaluating and proposing budgets for the 2022 school year, as well as the 2023 school year. This budget was based on the immediate needs of the students, using resources to assist academically and support social and emotional learning as well as looking at the districtwide needs to comply with Ready Schools Safe Learners (RSSL) for return to in person instruction in the fall. These funds are restricted to eleven different identified in the packet which total \$7,838,507.

Board members questions and comments included: appreciated learning how much the COVID supplies have cost the district so far; can any of these funds be used towards items identified in our bond; COVID supplies are a significant expense; excited about a chance for summer school opportunities to get kids up to grade level; glad to see the mental health piece; concerned about the long-term mental impact on our youth.

There were no community comments in regard to the supplemental budget.

Board Chair Johnstun adjourned the supplemental budget hearing.

Board Chair Johnstun convened the regular session of the Three Rivers School District Board of Directors at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mr. Halsted made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously (4-0, Member York absent).

SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE

Mr. Kelly shared he had the pleasure of watching the North Valley HS and Hidden Valley HS girls' soccer game. It was so cool to watch them get out there and have fun! It was a really good game and they all had fun. Thank you to all of the parents that have persevered through all of the changes in the sports season as well as athletes and coaches. Mr. Halsted shared that this month was classified appreciation. He appreciates our classified employees, what they do every day, and how they connect with the students. They add so much value to the children's lives. Ms. Searle also recognized our classified employees. They take on a HUGE variety of tasks within our schools. Without their very hard work and often unseen work, our schools would not be able to provide the type of education that we do. Ms. Johnstun recognized Board Secretary Shelly Quick. She is continually impressed by her level of organization, professionalism and detail, and how well she does her job. Director Durrant shared the fantastic news that Three Rivers School District will receive the Carmen West Memorial Award on Friday. This is a really big deal! We are the number one district in the state of Oregon for outstanding excellence for secondary students for our English language learners (ELL). She recognized our four ELL staff for their hard work: Regina Jordan, Ana Ruiz-Pulido, Claudia Cueva Ramos and Juan Guerrero. We are one of three districts recognized in the state, and the only one for secondary. Superintendent Valenzuela recognized District Accountant Lisa Cross for her all of her hard work with detail and meeting prep. She is amazing at giving information that they might not otherwise understand if she didn't make it consumable for individuals.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- *Classified Employee Recognition* - He shared his experiences out in the schools and recognized "the smiles behind the masks" and then shared some photos showing ways they were celebrated around the district. As we started to bring students back the way that our classified employees have responded has been amazing!
- *Response to Senate Bill 238*– He included the letter to Senator Art Robinson in opposition of SB 238 in the board packet. He is on the Committee for Education and this bill was in that committee when it was last talked about by the board. It was very timely - we finished up the letter and his office reached out to southern Oregon superintendents and asked what their opinion was, so he was able to respond immediately. We received really good feedback from his office, and they are also fighting this bill. It was a great move from the board, and he expressed appreciation for their support and understanding that our law enforcement partners are a vital and essential part of what we are doing in Three Rivers School District.
- *COVID Update* – The district continues to be live and in-person providing instruction to our students. He reviewed the current case counts and metrics. Kids are loving being back at school. Teachers are also really excited to be back in front of kids! There is a significant update to RSSL coming from the state on March 19th. We don't believe it will be a negative update, or more restrictive.

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 – March 2021
- Athletic Coaches – March 2021
- Annual renewal, non-renewal, contract extension and non-extension of teacher and administrators as required by law.
- Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - January 13, 2021 – Board Work Session
 - January 20, 2021 – Board Regular Session
- Board Policies

- IGBBA – Identification – Talented and Gifted Students
- IGBBC – Programs and Services – Talented and Gifted
- IGBC – Title 1A/Parental and Family Involvement
- BCB – Officers of the Board
- BBAA – Individual Board Member’s Authority and Responsibility
- BD/BDA – Board Meetings
- BDC – Executive Sessions
- BFC – Adoption and Revision of Policies
- BBC – Board Member Resignation
- Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Halsted seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously (4-0, Member York absent)

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- There were none.

REPORTS – NO ACTION

● **Eagle Scout Project**

- North Valley High School student Austin Champion shared information on his Eagle Scout project with the Board. He built and placed little free library boxes at the SOSA Merlin and North Valley High School locations. He had seen some in Grants Pass and being an avid reader himself, thought that it would be great to have some in the Merlin area. The community is excited, and they are already in use. He built them to last and really hopes that they have an impact.
- Board members expressed their thanks and congratulated him on his hard work to accomplish this Eagle Scout project.

● **Woodland Charter School Annual Report**

- Wensdae Davis and Teri Rothenbach presented the Woodland Charter School annual report for 2020-2021. Topics covered included:
 - 2020-2021 Accomplishments
 - Social emotional achievements
 - Woodland @ Home – distance learning
 - Woodland’s hybrid program
 - Distance learning – social/emotional
 - Continued plans for improvement – SSA/SIA
 - High school choice and graduation rates
 - Dibels scores and financials are in the board packet
- Board members questions and comments included: appreciates the graduation rates – shows that different students learn different stuff at different times, but the students are achieving; asked that graduation information continue to be provided each year; thanked them for a great presentation and a lot of good information.

● **Selma Property**

- Superintendent Valenzuela recapped that there have been a number of conversations about the Selma property as a school board. The district has made some efforts to revive the property. We host the Food Bank distribution there still. The property is not improving with its continued neglect. We have had interest from a couple of people in the Illinois Valley about purchasing the property. We are currently working with the real estate agent representing an individual and we have also put out an RFP for real estate brokerage services. We will get someone to represent the district’s interest and enable us to inform the board more about the value of that property versus the liability of the buildings and structures that are existing there so we can make an informed decision and move forward. The general board consensus is that the condition of the building is far too much for us to undertake so to proceed with selling it. The capital improvement needed there is too great. The property will have to be deemed surplus in order to sell it.

ACTION ITEMS

- **2021-2022 Student Calendar**

- Director Alderson explained that the proposed 2021-2022 student calendar has been reviewed by the leadership. A lot of thought has been put into the start date of August 30th – the week before Labor Day. The first weekend becomes a four-day weekend for students. The ending date is June 9th.
- Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 student calendar as presented. Ms. Searle seconded the motion.
- Board questions and comments included: as we continue to progress look into input from parents, teachers and classified staff as to what could be done with the calendar to prevent the summer slide; moving into August make a lot of sense – something to works towards in the next couple of years; looking forward try to capture how well we did with preserving the continuous instructional time with limited interruptions; plan to survey staff to obtain feedback on how the four-day week is working for them; likes the early conferences – gives everyone a chance to get a handle on problems that might be arising early in the school year
- Board Chair Johnstun conducted a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously (5-0, Member York now present).

- **2020 Student Health Survey (SHS)**

- Superintendent Valenzuela explained he had to really consider this because of the fact that we are now back in class and instruction time is very valuable. We feel like this survey is really important, especially right now. The results could help to understand as we move forward how to best partner with different agencies that provide services to our students specifically around mental health and behavioral health. We do feel like it's an extremely valuable and valid use of time. He asked that the board approve the implementation of the Student Health Survey which has been done every year and believes this year will give us quite a bit of valuable information.
- Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the implementation of the Student Health Survey. Ms. Searle seconded the motion.
- Board questions and comments included: a big proponent of the survey – this year it will be very important to see where we are with the mental health piece; agreed – the Student Health Survey provides a lot of information they only way we can get it;
- Board Chair Johnstun conducted a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

- **Resolution (#04) to Recognize and Appropriate Additional Funds**

- Ms. Cross asked the board to approve resolution #04 for the supplemental budget that was presented at the hearing.
- Mr. York made a motion to approve resolution #04 – supplemental budget. Ms. Searle seconded the motion.
- Board Chair Johnstun conducted a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

- **Josephine County Foundation Payroll Deduction**

- District Accountant Lisa Cross explained that board policy allows for the district to add payroll deductions if there are at least ten participants, and the board approves it. Hidden Valley High School has brought together at least ten people who have submitted their applications to have an automatic payroll deduction to support the Josephine County Foundation.
- Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the Josephine County Foundation payroll deduction. There was no discussion.
- Board Chair Johnstun called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Suggested Future Agenda Items:

- Superintendent Valenzuela introduced the district's Communications Coordinator, Addison Pate, to provide the board with an overview of the bond website.
- Mr. Kelly asked if we should look at A/B schedules at the high school or perhaps even middle

school levels. Would it benefit our students to have less classes per day and longer amounts of time in the period?

- Mr. Halsted would like to talk about the fifth day and what we are talking about for the summer to bring kids up to grade level. Utilize Fridays? Leverage additional learning time for students to have the opportunity to get caught up.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Board Work Session, Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.
 - The work session is not needed at this time so is will be *cancelled*.
- Board Regular Session, Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
 - Executive session for superintendent evaluation prior to regular session, beginning at 4:30.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Johnstun adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Jennifer Johnstun
Chairperson of the Board

Dave Valenzuela
Superintendent-Clerk