

Three Rivers School District
8550 New Hope Road
Grants Pass, Oregon 97527

5/29/19

Budget Committee Meeting #2 – 5/29/19

The Three Rivers School District Budget Committee met for their second 2018-2019 budget meeting in the school district Illinois Room at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 29, 2019, 8550 New Hope Road, Grants Pass, Oregon 97527.

**Budget
Committee
Met**

Members Present:

Kate Dwyer, Board Chairperson
Paul Kelly, Board Member
Danny York, Board Member
Rich Halsted, Board Member
Jack Dwyer, Budget Committee Chair
Kevin Marr, Budget Committee Vice-Chair
Jennifer Vetter, Budget Committee Member
Thomas Davis, Budget Committee Member

Present

Members Absent:

Andreas Goldner, Budget Committee Member
Jennifer Johnstun, Board Vice-Chair

Absent

Also Present: Dave Valenzuela, Superintendent; Jessica Durrant, Director of Teaching & Learning; Stephanie Allen, Director of Special Education; Casey Alderson, Director of Secondary Education; Alicia Timbs, Principal; Lori Higgins, Principal; Rachel Damiano, Assistant Principal; Renee Hults, Principal; Mark Higgins, Principal; Kellie Lovell, Principal; Steve Fuller, Principal; Jo Gill, teacher; Bill Gill, guest; Kim DeForest, teacher; Tim Mohr, teacher; April Love, parent.

Also Present

Budget Chair Jack Dwyer called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order

Budget Chair Jack Dwyer called for a motion to approve the May 15, 2019 minutes; Moved by Budget Member Kevin Marr, second by Board Member Paul Kelly. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of
Minutes**

Lisa Cross, Accounting Manager provided responses to questions submitted concerning the Proposed Budget. She noted all answers and graphs would be posted on the TRSD website.

FAQ's

Budget Member Marr asked clarifying questions concerning the charter schools. Budget Member Vetter asked if the district was interested in putting a local option tax before the voters. Superintendent Valenzuela stated that, yes, the district is interested but it would be in the form of a general obligation bond for capital improvements. The state does not provide funding for upkeep of facilities and our district has many older buildings that need substantial upgrades and repairs.

Questions

Superintendent, Dave Valenzuela provided additional information concerning changes since the last meeting on May 15, 2019. In light of several recent factors the district is able to restore 2 of the 5 days slated for reduction in the Proposed Budget. This is due to a revised estimate from the State School Fund, moving some staff to grant funds, and a small amount of transportation savings in the alternative education program.

**Additional
Information**

Mr. Valenzuela noted in the projections for 2023, there is at least one scenario where the district could realize cuts again. He stated the district does not want to be reducing staff or days again, so we are still looking at ways to live within our means and serve the students to the best of our ability. There is a committee looking at a 4-day week; we will continue to look at staffing levels and every position that is vacated will be evaluated to make certain whether or not it needs to be filled. He added, it is his commitment the school board and this committee to continue looking for ways to live within our means so in 2023 we are in a position to weather a PERS storm if that should happen.

**Additional
Information
(continued)**

Budget Chair Jack Dwyer asked for clarification of the Measure 98 grant and the revised State School Fund estimate. Superintendent Valenzuela provided a history of the inception of the fund and its intended uses. Board Chair Kate Dwyer asked what would we do if there is an emergency and Accounting Manager Cross noted the different options the district has in that case. Budget Vice-Chair Marr asked about home school students and how the district is including them in programs. Secondary Director, Casey Alderson identified all the ways the district brings those students into the TRSD fold. Budget Chair Jack Dwyer asked if the reduced days could be paid for out of contingency; Superintendent Valenzuela stated that legally yes, that is possible. Many factors would need to be taken into consideration, but the Board of Directors could approve a resolution to use those dollars to restore days.

Questions

Budget Chair Jack Dwyer asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

**Public
Comment**

Board Chair Kate Dwyer noted she felt much better about the proposed budget with only 3 cut days. While she didn't like to cut days, she felt it was a better alternative to reducing teachers. Board Member Rich Halsted noted he felt the next 3 years would be the best of times and that is disheartening. He stated that we need to continue looking at the 4-day week and other cost saving measures.

**Further
Discussion**

Budget Chair Jack Dwyer asked if there was a motion to approve the budget. Board Member Rich Halsted moved to approve the Proposed Budget as presented with Attachment A and approve taxes for the 2019-20 fiscal year at the rate of \$3.7262 per \$1,000 of assessed value for operating purposes, and in the amount of \$1,822,256 for payment of bond principal and interest; second by Board Chair Kate Dwyer. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion

Meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Cross
Recording Secretary