



FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J
School Board Meeting Minutes

REGULAR MEETING of the FERN RIDGE SCHOOL BOARD

January 27, 2025

Zoom Webinar & In-Person Meeting
88834 Territorial Rd.
Elmira, Or 97437

CALL TO ORDER (Agenda Item 1): The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

In attendance were Directors Barbara Graham, Kathleen Pizzola, Andrea Larson, Lisa McCann, and Superintendent Gary Carpenter. Mark Boren joined via Zoom.

We have a shared vision in the Fern Ridge School District: Provide excellence for every student so that each will reach their greatest potential.

Thank you to the members of the public who have joined us. As a reminder, School Board meetings and work sessions are meetings of the Board held in public, providing an opportunity to observe the Board's discussion and actions.

In an effort to conduct official Board business, we ask that the audience be respectful and refrain from questions, comments, and unnecessary noise while the Board conducts the meeting.

There is an opportunity for citizen comment tonight, and the Board looks forward to hearing from those who signed up. I will share some reminders when we get to that portion of the meeting.

Also, please note that all Board meetings are live streamed and posted on the School Board area of the website.

CITIZENSHIP AWARD (Agenda Item 2): The December Citizenship Award was presented to Elmira Elementary School student, Mason Bliss.

FLAG SALUTE (Agenda Item 3): Elmira Elementary School student, Mason Bliss led the flag salute.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Item 4): None at this time

MONTHLY ITEMS (Agenda Item 5):

5. A. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the regular meeting and work session on December 16, 2024, were presented for approval.

Director Pizzola moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on December 16, 2024, seconded by Director Larson.

Director McCann asked for it to be noted on agenda item 7.B. of the Regular Meeting, that Forrest Cooper shared OEA/NEA matters in his Fern Ridge Education Association presentation. With that add they were approved

The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

Director Pizzola moved to approve the minutes from the work session on December 16, 2024, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

BUSINESS OFFICE (Agenda Item 6):

6. A. Enrollment Report: Business Manager Quanah Bennett reviewed the enrollment report as of January 1, 2025. District Enrollment is 1295, which is 11 over our budgeted enrollment, 1 more than last month. Elementary is level with what we budgeted, the middle school is up by 28, and the high school is down by 17, both the same as last month. There are seven more out of district placements than what was projected in the budget, also same as last month.

6. B. General Fund Revenue and Expenditure Report: Business Manager Quanah Bennett reviewed the general fund revenue and expenditure report as of December 31, 2024 with the amended details of revenues. The district has received 68% of our budgeted revenue. We were at 74% last year. We have received most of our property taxes and have approximately \$300,000 left to receive for the remainder of the year. The district's operating expenditures are at 36%, we were at 35% last year.

Director Larson moved to accept the financial report for December 31, 2024, seconded by Director Pizzola. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

6. C. Resolution 24-25/03 – Approve 2023-2024 Audit Report & GASB54: Business Manager Quanah Bennett presented Resolution 24-25/03 for approval.

Director Larson moved to accept the Resolution 24-25/03, seconded by Director Pizzola. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

6. C. 1. Fidelity Insurance Coverage: Business Manager Quanah Bennett explained the district's insurance coverage of \$500,000 that is included in our policy. The cost to optionally increase the coverage to \$750,000 is \$3,570. The cost to increase the coverage to \$1 million would be \$4,546. Director McCann asked what the cost is now as is. It was explained that it was not broken out in our policy for the entire coverage from PACE. McCann requested to have the number we currently pay. Director Larson requested to get a recommendation to increase or not from Superintendent Carpenter and Business Manager Quanah Bennett at our next meeting.

REPORTS (Agenda Item 7):

7. A. Elmira High School Presentation: Principal Cydney Vandercar presented slides to highlight Elmira High School's programs and initiatives.

7. B. Fern Ridge Education Association: FREA Representative, DesiRae Wright-Rendon presented slides of each building's recent activities and events. DesiRae also presented the Oregon Education Association (OEA RA) and the National Education Association (NEA RA) Representative Assemblies schedule and purpose. She also reported that the NEA RA will be in Portland, Oregon for the first time this year.

7. C. Student Representatives: Student representatives Fern Valle-Arvizu and JT Meyers reported that finals were concluded last week. Drama Club will have another production in May. Leadership has proposed projects for planning like art displays in the hallways, gardening and flowers in the areas outside, community focused events, and expansions to the CTE programs. Basketball has the best record this year in the last 5 seasons. Outdoor School signups have started for juniors and seniors, with interviews on February 11.

7. D. Director of K-12 Programs: Director Michelle Marshall introduced middle school social studies teacher, Mr. Josh Metzger to present the Beginning Theater Elective for approval. Director Michelle Marshall presented the plan for Human Growth and Development this spring for approval.

7. D. 1. Fern Ridge Middle School Curriculum Adoption – Beginning Theater Elective: Mr. Metzger presented the theater elective for a middle school elective.

Director Pizzola moved to accept the theater class at Fern Ridge Middle School, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

7. D. 2. Human Growth and Development: Director Michelle Marshall presented the plan to stay with Planned Parenthood for this spring, with the intention for this to be the last year since the district will be adopting a health curriculum in the following year.

Director Larson asked Superintendent Carpenter to clarify the arrangement to use the same Planned Parenthood presentation as the district used last year. Mr. Carpenter confirmed that this information was true and that it will be presented again to parents as well in the same way as last year.

Director Boren moved to accept Planned Parenthood for the Human Growth and Development course, seconded by Director Larson. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, and McCann voting yes. Director Pizzola voted no. 4-1.

7. E. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Carpenter gave recognition to the School Board for School Board Appreciation Month. Superintendent Carpenter attended the High School theater production along with Director Marshall and both gave their praises. Superintendent Carpenter announced that Bond, FREA negotiations, and building budget organization are all on track and underway.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (Agenda Item 8):

8. A. Bond Update: Mr. Scott Rose and Superintendent Carpenter presented construction budgets and requested contingency funds to compensate for the EHS Science and EHS Athletics budgets.

8. A. 1. All Projects Update from Mr. Rose: Mr. Rose presented all upcoming Bond projects, budget, and schedules.

8. A. 2. Program Contingency Request: Mr. Rose explained how the contingency funds were set aside for the budgets that needed them through this process. Director McCann asked what the beginning total of the bond project contingency is before the transfer. Director Larson asked for verification that any leftover funds go back into the contingency funds and are then discussed by the board and Bond Oversight Committee to allocate to any other improvement needs that were identified.

8. A. 2. a. EHS Science Project Move:100K: The request for \$100,000 to be transferred from the bond program contingency to the Elmira High School Science project was presented for approval.

8. A. 2. b. EHS Athletics Project: Request coming in February: An amount for request was decided prior to this January board meeting and presented to the board today. The request for \$1.4 million to be transferred from the bond program contingency to the Elmira High School Athletics project was presented for approval.

Director Pizzola moved to accept the transfer of \$1.5 million from the bond program contingency to the Elmira High School Science project and to the Elmira High School Athletics project, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, and Pizzola, Director McCann voting yes. 5-0.

8. B. Lane Education Service District 2025-27 Local Service Plan Year One: Superintendent Carpenter presented the Lane Education Service District Service Plan for the next two years.

Director Pizzola moved to accept the Lane Education Service District 2025-27 Local Service Plan, seconded by Director Larson. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, and Pizzola, Director McCann voting yes. 5-0.

8. C. First Reading of Proposed Policy Updates: A first reading was held on the following proposed administrative rule and policy updates: KLD R G2-(delete), KLD D1-(delete), JHCD_JHCDA D1 (delete), JHCD_JHCDA R D1 (delete), JHCD R G1 (new), JHCD G1 (new).

PERSONNEL (Agenda Item 9):

9. A. Licensed Employees Resignations/New hires/Transfers/Other:

9. A.1

- Resignation of Madison Hahn, 1.0 FTE Teacher at Elmira High School, effective January 23,

2025.

Director Pizzola moved to accept the resignation of the teacher, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, and Pizzola, Director McCann voting yes. 5-0.

9. B. Non-Licensed Personnel Report: The non-licensed personnel report was presented for review:

Resignations/Retirements

1. Resignation of Sadie Harmon, 3.5 Instructional Assistant at Veneta Elementary School, effective January 2, 2025.

New Hires/Transfers

1. Transfer of Joe Anderson, from 1.0 FTE Custodian to 1.0 FTE Grounds/Maintenance, effective January 7, 2025.
2. Hiring of Brody Erb, 1.0 FTE Custodian, effective January 6, 2025.
3. Hiring of Shaina Brown, 3.5 Instructional Assistant at Veneta Elementary School, effective January 13, 2025.

Other

1. None at this time.

Coaches

1. Hiring of John Rhodes, Varsity Boys Baseball Coach 24-25 at Elmira High School, effective March 3, 2025.

LATE ITEMS/CLOSING COMMENTS/BOARD COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (Agenda Item 10):

10. A. None at this time.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Agenda Item 11):

11. A. Upcoming Events:

February 3-7: National School Counselor Appreciation Week

February 13: Heart of the Community 6-7:30pm @ VES

February 17: **NO SCHOOL District wide**

Elmira Elementary:

February 11: PTA Family Bingo

February 12: Bottle Drop Donation

February 18: PTA 6pm

February 21: Fun Friday from PTA

Veneta Elementary:

February 11: PALS 5:30

Fern Ridge Middle:

January 29:

4:30 8th Grade Boys Basketball-Home

4:30 7th Grade Boys Basketball-Junction City

February 3:

4:30 8th Grade Boys Basketball-St. Paul

4:30 7th Grade Boys Basketball-Home

February 5:

4:30 8th Grade Boys Basketball-Home

4:30 7th Grade Boys Basketball-O'Hara

February 10:

4:30 8th Grade Boys Basketball-Cottage Grove

4:30 7th Grade Boys Basketball-Home

February 12:

4:30 8th Grade Boys Basketball-Home

4:30 7th Grade Boys Basketball-Monroe

February 19:

4:30 8th Grade Boys Basketball-Junction City

4:30 7th Grade Boys Basketball-Home

February 20:

4:30 8th Grade Boys Basketball-Linus Pauling

4:30 7th Grade Boys Basketball-Linus Pauling

Elmira High:

January 28:

5 pm Boys & Girls Wrestling-Elmira 4-Way @ EHS "Senior Night"

4:30pm Boys JV Basketball @ Harrisburg

4:30pm Girls JV Basketball @ Harrisburg

6pm Boys JV2 Basketball @ Harrisburg Middle School

6pm Boys V Basketball @ Harrisburg

7:30pm Girls V Basketball @ Harrisburg

January 31:

4:30pm Boys JV Basketball @ Pleasant Hill

4:30pm Girls JV Basketball @ Pleasant Hill

6pm Boys JV2 Basketball @ Pleasant Hill

6pm Boys V Basketball @ Pleasant Hill

7:30pm Girls V Basketball @ Pleasant Hill

February 1:

TBD Boys Wrestling - Junction City HS

10am Girls Wrestling - Harrisburg-All Girls Tourney

February 4:

3 pm Boys Wrestling Special District 2 Duals-Harrisburg HS

4:30pm Boys JV Basketball vs La Pine

4:30pm Girls JV Basketball vs La Pine

6pm Boys JV2 Basketball vs La Pine

6pm Girls V Basketball vs La Pine

7:30pm Boys V Basketball vs La Pine

February 5:
TBD Boys Wrestling Special District 2 Duals-Siuslaw HS

February 7:
TBD Boys Wrestling-Cottage Grove HS Feb.7-8

4:30pm Boys JV Basketball vs Sisters

4:30pm Girls JV Basketball vs Sisters

6pm Boys JV2 Basketball vs Sisters

6pm Girls V Basketball vs Sisters

7:30pm Boys V Basketball vs Sisters

February 8:

TBD Girls Wrestling Invitational-Cottage Grove

February 11:

4:30pm Boys JV Basketball @ Creswell

5:30pm Girls V Basketball @ Creswell

6pm Girls JV Basketball @ Creswell

7:30pm Boys V Basketball @ Creswell

February 14:

TBD Girls Wrestling Spcl Dist Championship-Cottage Grove Feb.14-15

4:30pm Boys JV Basketball vs Harrisburg

4:30pm Girls JV Basketball vs Harrisburg

6pm Boys JV2 Basketball vs Harrisburg

6pm Girls V Basketball vs Harrisburg

7:00 Hall of Fame Induction in Main Gym

7:30pm Boys V Basketball vs Harrisburg

February 18:

4pm Boys JV2 Basketball @Junction City

February 22:

TBD Boys Wrestling Spcl Dist 2 Championship-EHS

March 8:

SAVE THE DATE Booster Club Dinner and Auction 5:30pm

ADJOURNMENT (Agenda Item 12): Chair Graham adjourned the meeting at 8:02 pm.

Attest: _____
School Board Representative

Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., Superintendent