

Three Rivers School Board of Directors met for a regular session, Monday, October 19, 2009 at Lincoln Savage Middle School, 8551 New Hope Road, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Jim Weaver, Chairperson of the Board, Zone II  
Leslie Meier, Vice-Chairperson of the Board, Zone III  
Ron Lengwin, Member of the Board, Zone V  
Robert Litak, Member of the Board, Zone I  
Dan Huber-Kantola, Superintendent-Clerk  
Peter Maluk, Director of Elementary Education  
Debbie Breckner, Director of Human Resources  
Doug Ely, Director of Student Services  
John George, Director of Secondary Education

PRESENT

ABSENT: Dave Strahan, Member of the Board, Zone IV

Also Present: Tony Guillory/Young Marines, Celeste Guillory/Young Marines,  
Patty Dickens-Turk/Illinois Valley High School, Dave Bracken/  
Maintenance Director, Paul Overly/Aramark, , Michael Morris/  
Food Service Director, Tracie White, Steve Baksay, Greg  
Redfern, Kristen Monette, JoAnn Bethany/Illinois Valley High  
School, Brent Workley/Lincoln Savage Middle School, Linda  
Hugle/North Valley High School, and Shelly Berry/Recording  
Secretary.

ALSO PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secondary Education Director John George recognized Steve Baksay, Greg Redfern and Kristen Monette with Impact Physical Therapy. Impact Physical Therapy has donated their time to our high schools for the last eight years. They provide athletic training and physical therapy services for us at our athletic contests. They do it free of charge and do an outstanding job. If students are injured during contests, they are right there for them and continue to follow up with them, and guide them through the healing process. Superintendent Huber-Kantola presented them with certificates of appreciation.

RECOGNITION OF  
EXCELLENCE

Superintendent Huber-Kantola recognized North Valley High School Principal Linda Hugle for being recognized as the recipient of the annual SPEAR award, which recognizes four people a year for giving back to the community. Ms. Hugle was recognized in the category of education. Some of her contributions include her work with the Women's Crisis Center and the accomplishments at North Valley such as the all-weather track, the new castle entrance in to the football stadium with restrooms and the baseball field. Ms. Hugle is also responsible for taking over and raising funds to support the Academic Masters competition. Superintendent Huber-Kantola presented her with a certificate in recognition of her efforts at giving back to the community.

SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT

Superintendent Huber Kantola gave a presentation (attached) outlining the statewide reductions. The presentation included:

- Percentage of districts reducing or eliminating programs
- Positions reduced statewide
- Class size increase
- Reduced days

He then outlined the reductions made in Three Rivers School District which included:

- Courses and programs reduced, but not eliminated.
- Percentage of reductions (positions) from the General Fund
- Elementary class size
- Middle school class size
- High school class size
- Reduced days

Every reduction that we have had to make has come with a request this year to be reinstated. With the district still looking at a potential two or three day reduction in the school year, it makes it difficult to recommend reinstating things at this point, until we see how budget things will wash out.

Member Meier commented that in regards to the request from Hidden Valley coach Jim Figoni at the last Board meeting to reinstate one coaching position, that she agreed with coach Figoni philosophically because his program is so much bigger and yet he has the same number of paid coaching staff as the rest of the schools. She also appreciated what Superintendent Huber-Kantola had to say about why those decisions were made. In a perfect world Hidden Valley should have more paid positions than other schools because of the size of the programs and number of students. In reality, with our budgetary constraints, there is no way around the current outcome.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated that we did not have to eliminate elective programs although we did have to reduce some of the offerings. Next month he will report on what may happen with the passage or non-passage of bills 66 and 67, and what impact that may have on our school district financially.

COMMUNITY  
COMMENTS

Craig Reius, North Valley supporter, thanked the Board for doing the job that they are doing. After viewing the state of the finances for our school district he stated that he will adjust his tone in what he has to say. He ran into a shop teacher early this fall and was informed the programs were being cut back. Having been a shop teacher, and knowing the value those skills give to our students and it gives the students that don't perform well in the regular academic setting an opportunity to excel. In the future, when thinking about where you are going to cut money, remember the value the VOTECH programs give to our children. Mr. Reius stated that if there was anything that he could do to help, he was willing to step up and lend a helping hand.

Board Chair Weaver thanked Mr. Reius for his willingness to speak up for what he thinks is right, and his willingness to get involved.

Member Litak asked what the status was of the Home Builders program that was presented to the Board last spring which involved RCC and our Vocational Tech programs. Secondary Education Director John George stated that there are five students from the Illinois Valley currently participating in the program, which is working in conjunction with RCC, it's a construction trade program. North Valley has one student participating. There have been some bumps in the road due to staff turnover and grants. JoAnn Bethany, Illinois Valley High School Principal, stated that the students that are participating are really excited about it, and loving it. The problem is that it happens twice a week, and setting up their schedules to deal with classes that

they are missing twice a week and because they are so far out, they miss additional classes due to the drive and lunch. There is one student failing the classes at the high school that she is in, so they are analyzing whether or not she should continue in the program. It would be easy if the program was every day, because that could be their classes, but they have to be in other classes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, so they are missing two days of classes every week, which is difficult. Mr. George stated that originally it was going to be set up as a Monday, Wednesday, Friday course at RCC, and then they switched and made it Tuesday, Thursday. The program is a valuable thing, there are just some kinks that need to be worked out and we could increase participation.

COMMUNITY  
COMMENTS (CON'T)

Member Litak stated that he appreciates the importance of the vocational programs. All of these programs are good, and pretty much they are all being cut. We are trying to do things that are a little bit creative, like this program, to see if we can get more participation without the expense.

Illinois Valley High School Principal presented Fulbright-Hays Federal Department of Education grant for approval. This grant would allow Ryan Lathen to go to Brazil for one month during the summer working with educators and indigenous populations of Afro-Brazilian kids. This will offer him an opportunity to grow as a teacher and be able to bring some stuff back to the students at the high school. Member Meier moved to approve the grant application. Member Litak seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

FULBRIGHT-HAYS  
GRANT REQUEST

APPROVED

Federal Programs Director presented a grant application for Madrona Elementary Principal Lise VanBrunt. The grant application is for a Josephine County Cultural Grant, submitted by Multi-Handicapped teacher Steve Jones. The grant would bring an Artist-in-Residence in to the school to provide an integrative experience for the multi-handicapped students. Member Litak moved to approve the grant application. Member Meier seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

JOSEPHINE CO. CUL-  
TURAL GRANT RE-  
QUEST

APPROVED

Food Service Director Michael Morris requested approval to apply for an equipment grant from the School Nutrition Foundation and Winston Industries. It provides ten pieces of equipment to one school district in the United States; you have to be a member of the School Nutrition Foundation, which he is. It is no cost to the district; just an opportunity to look for more equipment for a much-needed facility. Member Meier moved to approve the grant application. Member Lengwin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

SCHOOL NUTRITION  
FOUNDATION EQUIP-  
MENT GRANT REQUEST

APPROVED

Member Meier stated that she appreciates Mr. Morris looking for those opportunities.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated that the Young Marines have been incredibly gracious to us this school year. We have a current lease which states we would have to give them sixty days notice in order to use Merlin as an educational facility. When we got in a situation at the beginning of the school year when the downtown facility for the alternative center fell through at the last minute, the Young Marines allowed us to immediately share the facility with them. Celeste Guillory approached Superintendent Huber-Kantola and stated that they have a great program, kids come from all over the place in the summer time and they do camps on site, they do some weekend things; and just incredible leadership training going on there. We have received six to seven letters of support from all kinds of different members of the community including Sheriff Gilbertson, the Chamber of Commerce and the Fleming Middle School Principal asking that if there is any way to maintain the program in Merlin, that we would do that. Superintendent Huber-Kantola then made a recommendation that we continue to work with the Young Marines and share the facilities at Merlin, and extending the lease for five years if the Board chooses to do so. He then asked for permission to negotiate the lease with the Young Marines. The areas that they would occupy include the galley (kitchen area), small supply

YOUNG MARINES  
BUILDING LEASE  
AGREEMENT

YOUNG MARINES  
BUILDING LEASE

room, staff training room, the pantry and two storage rooms in the west wing (old cafeteria/gym area). We would share the cafeteria, the west wing area, and the outside grounds. The part of the lease that we are struggling with is figuring out the reasonable amount of cost to charge for utilities, based on the space and type of usage that they have. Director George commented on how great they have been to work with and great stewards of the property under some difficult conditions with the facility. They have done a lot of work independently to help us maintain that over a period of time. The alternative program is almost up to fifty students on a full-time enrollment basis. The Young Marines have been more than willing to accommodate us. Both Tony and Celeste Guillory have volunteered to work with our students that we have at Merlin in terms of seminars or working as a mentor capacity with individuals.

Board Chair Weaver asked Mrs. Guillory how long they have been paying utility bills at the facility. Mrs. Guillory responded that they have been there since October of 2004 and she has provided Mr. Huber-Kantola an audit of what they have paid there for utilities on a monthly basis. She stated they have been very careful with the usage and have never had a bill that went over \$500/month. She stated that they have done a great deal of work to winterize the facility, repaired the septic system, put in a new water pump and some other smaller plumbing issues.

## APPROVED

Member Litak moved to approve the extension of the lease with a few details to be worked out between Dan and the Young Marines, notably the term and the pro-ration of the utility bills. Member Meier seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICY BBFA  
FIRST READING

Superintendent Huber-Kantola presented policy BBFA, Conflict of Interest, for the first reading. Board Chair Weaver thought that a sentence should be added to the policy that "No Board member may apply for a paid position with the Three Rivers School District".

Member Meier asked if the rest of the policy was the existing policy other than the one line? Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated that it was. Member Meier then stated that she had no problem with the new wording, but questioned the fourth paragraph which states that "No Board member or relative will solicit or receive directly or indirectly during any calendar year any gift or gifts with an aggregate value of \$100 from any single source . . . ." Member Meier asked how that impacts scholarships that some of the Board's children may apply for and be awarded from different organizations that do business with our district. Would that be an issue on any of our scholarships if a Board member's child were to be awarded that? As an example Food Service, Sodexo, sponsors a scholarship; so what if a Board member's child received that scholarship? It was agreed that it could fall into the "legislative, administrative, regulatory, contractual", etc. portion of the policy statement.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola agreed that the way it's written it would say that they couldn't receive a scholarship from Sodexo or Aramark or First Student and if there was a classified person who gave a scholarship they wouldn't be able to receive that either.

Human Resources Director stated that the policy specifically states a 'gift'. Most scholarships are a competitive process that students go through. They are done by committee people and there are standards you have to meet. It's not just one person handing out money to a student.

Member Meier stated that we need to be clear that either children of Board members can apply for those scholarships or make an exception for the case of competitive scholarships, but still worried about a potential conflict.

Some discussion was held regarding potential wording changes to the policy. But it was decided that Superintendent Huber-Kantola would do some research with OSBA and look at some language in other districts and see how they have approached it. It will be discussed further in the second reading.

POLICY BBFA  
(CONT)

Secondary Education Director John George reported on the status of the OSAA reorganization. Mr. George stated that proposal number nine, which was reported to the Board at the September meeting, has gone to the OSAA Executive Board. There will be a hearing on October 26th to receive public comment. The alignment for our district remains the same; Illinois Valley High School will move down to the 3A classification and participate in the local 2A/3A hybrid league which will include Rogue River, Cascade Christian, St. Mary's, Lakeview, and a couple of the other small schools. Illinois Valley will experience an increase of travel expenses. The 4A Skyline conference will add Mazama and Klamath Union back to our league. This will also have increased travel expenses for both Hidden Valley and North Valley. It will also mean more time out of the classroom for our students. They will be working on some creative scheduling in an attempt to lower some of the travel costs. Mr. George estimates that the travel budget for athletics will increase by about \$20-25,000 next year.

OSAA REORGANIZA-  
TION UPDATE

Member Litak asked if there was any way of scheduling more contests on weekends? Director George responded that there is that possibility – but currently contests are not scheduled on Sundays, per policy. They are also looking at Friday/Saturday basketball contests instead of Tuesday/Friday's, which is what we currently play.

Student Services Director Doug Ely presented a spreadsheet which contained four weeks of data from each of our schools on the number of students that are out with flu-like symptoms. We saw the flu hit our high schools first, then the middle schools and now it has dropped to the elementary. Director Ely recognized the principals, administrators, staff, Dave Bracken and others for their efforts in assisting students in dealing with this flu. Brent Workley, Lincoln Savage Principal, was one of the first people that had to take some measures because they got hit hard and fast. Mr. Workley stated that when the flu started to significantly hit his school he worked with the custodians, and they began to use Sanimaster extensively. He had the custodians hit every desk during lunch time and both sets of lockers while the students were outside having lunch. All surfaces were cleaned with Sanimaster during the school day and then again at night. Teachers embedded hand washing into lesson plans. Hand sanitizer was provided in the cafeteria. Director Ely stated that Food Service curtailed the self-service part of the salad bar for a period of time to eliminate the multitude of students touching the same serving utensils. Teachers have been flexible in providing homework and working with students.

H1N1 UPDATE

Member Meier asked how much of our staff has been out. Human Resources Director Debbie Breckner stated that it depends where you are at and what department. The staff that work with our Multi-Handicapped programs were hit along with the student and we actually ended up shutting down the Hidden Valley Multi-Handicapped program for a couple of days. The Tech department has been hit hard as well. She believes we have not seen the staff hit as much yet—but we will.

Director George stated that the curriculum office ran attendance percentages for the month for all the schools and saw an average of about 4% decline over the previous year. Most of the schools are still above 94%.

Member Litak asked if this could have an impact on things like AYP or ADMw if we have all of these absences? Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated that it will not effect ADMw, because that's enrollment. It could potentially have some impact on AYP, especially at

the elementary grades where one of the adequate yearly progress requirements is to maintain that 92% attendance rate. Director Maluk stated that this is something affecting schools nationwide so he would hope that there would be some type of consideration made towards AYP.

KELLOGG'S FIELD  
MAKEOVER

Superintendent Huber-Kantola shared that Illinois Valley High School was one of the thirty sites chosen for a \$15,000 field makeover. The project is being spear-headed by the Illinois Valley booster club, which initiated participated in the contest, so the district is supporting them in the choices they would like to make as to where the money would go. A couple of the options are: upgrading the track facilities, resurfacing the runways for the long jump and high jump and possibly even putting in a pole vault pit. We meet with the Kellogg's people tomorrow to see if the track is a viable option, if not the baseball/softball field area, the fencing, the dugouts and those types of things are in need of repair. It is a \$15,000 limit, and they will do as much as they can with \$15,000; the good news is that the Rotary Club here in Grants Pass raised eight-plus thousand dollars with their Duck Derby and more than \$60,000 of the \$80,000 will go to Three Rivers School District—each of the area high schools will receive \$20,000. The hope of Illinois Valley is that they can combine community effort with the Duck Derby money and Kellogg's money to make as much of an improvement in their track facility and/or their baseball field as they can.

Member Litak asked if there were any strings attached to the money. Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated only that they can use us as an advertisement. We are also required to use their designated person and/or group of people to do the facility improvement work. We don't get to choose who does the work.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Superintendent Huber-Kantola reported that the first look at the district's ending fund balance scenario is \$1.71million. If it ends up being that, we will spend \$400,000+ of that in order to reinstate three school days. Transportation is ten percent of our budget and we have only had one billing cycle this year so we will know more as the year goes on.

Member Litak asked if the increase in salaries by \$500,000 was because we restored positions from what we had approved in the budget? Superintendent Huber-Kantola responded that he will have to look at the spreadsheet and get back to him—but it was not because we hired substantially more people.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Mr. Bracken had nothing to add to his written report but wanted to state that it has still been pretty crazy. Ft. Vannoy lost a leg of power. It affected six classrooms with one-third of the lights and one-third of the electrical outlets not working. The partial outage ended up being 2.5 days after originally estimating five days.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola asked Mr. Bracken to advise what has been going on in the Manzanita parking lot. Mr. Bracken responded that they are doing bus re-routes which centers around the safety of the children. They have gone in and moved curbs, moved parking areas, re-lining roads, and changing signage. They are hoping to implement all of the changes next week.

FOOD SERVICE REPORT

Mr. Morris stated he had nothing to add to his written report unless there were questions. Member Meier stated it was fabulous what she had read about the revenues being over-budget by 13.74% - Congratulations to him for the great job he is doing. Mr. Morris then shared a new food program they are implementing at Hidden Valley where they are serving oriental cuisine with chopsticks. They are fine-tuning the program then hope to expand it to North Valley and Illinois Valley High schools.

It was requested that the following items be pulled from the consent agenda:

CONSENT AGENDA

- Item B—Routine Personnel Items
- Minutes from September 21, 2009 meeting
- Item D-5—Out of state travel

Member Meier moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Litak seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Personnel Reports were tabled until the November Board meeting.

Member Meier asked for clarification as to how the expenses were being paid for the out of state travel for Lacey Fox, Aaron Mathews and Kathy Mathews to Atlanta, Georgia. It was confirmed that their expenses were being paid out of the teachers Professional Development Fund.

Member Meier asked that the first paragraph of page 8 of the minutes be corrected to state "After much discussion it was agreed upon that we will not protest the decision at this time."

APPROVED

Member Meier moved to approve the minutes and Item D-5—Out of state travel. Member Lengwin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Jim Weaver  
Chairperson of the Board  
THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dan Huber-Kantola  
Superintendent-Clerk  
THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT