

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors met for a regular session, Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at the District Administrative Office, 8550 New Hope Road, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Ron Crume, Chairperson of the Board, Zone IV
Kate Dwyer, Member of the Board, Zone I
Danny York, Member of the Board, Zone II
Kara Olmo, Member of the Board, Zone III
Ron Lengwin, Vice-Chair of the Board, Zone V
Patricia Adams, Superintendent-Clerk
Debbie Breckner, Director of Human Resources and Athletics
David Marshall, Director of Support Services
Dave Valenzuela, Director of K-12 Education and Technology
Stephanie Allen-Hart, Director of Student Services

PRESENT

Also Present: Daniel Burdis, Jamie Ongman/Hidden Valley HS Assistant Principal, Rob Saunders, Dodie Bullard, Linda Kappen, Hannah Trukki, Sharon Fisher, Debbie Yerby, Vicki DiStefano, Liz Dolantree, Casey Alderson/Illinois Valley HS Principal, Jim Bunge/Aramark Custodial Manager, Peggy Sue Bunge, Linda McClanahan/North Valley HS Assistant Principal, Heather Yount/Fruitdale Elementary Principal, Bonnie Cameron, Dave Marks, Patricia Krauss, Mark Higgins/Lincoln Savage MS Assistant Principal, Kari O'Brien, Velma Woods, Kirk Baumann/Fort Vannoy Elementary Principal, Jessica Durrant/Manzanita Elementary Principal, Julia Richardson, Kim DeForest, Kirby Erickson, Kevin Marr, Patty Dickens-Turk/Hidden valley HS Assistant Principal and Lisa Cross/Recording Secretary.

ALSO PRESENT

Board Chair Ron Crume called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Patricia Adams stated that January is School Board Recognition Month and called attention to all of the thank-you's and acknowledgements from the schools and students in our district. Ms. Adams then presented a copy of the Three Rivers School District School Board Goals. The month of January is an opportunity for them to look at their mid-year progress. The end of January through the first week of February she will be meeting with each building principal on a mid-year progress check. This includes their School Improvement Plan and their professional goals. She asked the board reflect on these goals. The first goal "The district will provide an engaging, broad curriculum centered on core academic excellence and offering enrichment opportunities". We still face the challenges for early literacy and dropout. We recognize we want a greater alternative education program and greater career technical. We know that the classroom resources need to improve. Two percent of our budget is towards supplies and textbooks. Class size is a priority and continued staff development. With this goal she asked the board and our community to look at the goal and do a check-point mid year. As she reviewed the list of goals she doesn't want anybody to be sitting in their chair next year at this time talking about what we need to do and have a year pass and haven't done it. She brings it to their attention

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT(CONTINUED)

now and ask them to reflect and think about the direction and how they will spend their energy the next six months so that next year at this time they know they started these accomplishments.

The second goal the board identified is "The district will foster an environment of integrity and cooperation which invites community engagement and secures trust". In board discussions they have talked about the need for public relations and continued outreach. Many of the administrators have a community and parent outreach goal in their professional goals. Community service is probably our greatest strength in this district from staff and from students. An area to look back on is to increase the public relations. There are so many wonderful things happening in this district and as an administrative team we wish that we had the ability to have all of it out there on a regular basis. The third goal the board is "The district will maintain safe, clean, secure, inviting facilities with comprehensive plans for long-range upkeep". We are grateful to our custodians, our maintenance, our transportation and food services and the safety protocols that have been updated and implemented in the district. We still have long range needs for facility planning and David Marshall is in the process. He has identified a first draft, a five-year plan for facility. He is prepared now to tier that. Tier one is the most urgent and most immediate and do that over five years. The last goal that the board identified is "The district will develop financial strength with long-term planning to support increased services". The greatest long term planning with support for increased services has been the grants. The number of grants that enter and go through our schools in this district is enormous. Today we were just awarded an \$800,000 grant for a field at Hidden Valley. There is the gear-up grant, 21st Century grants and professional development grants. A challenge we have is our transportation, which is 10% of our budget. As a board, she reminded them that they need to address and reduce 10% of the budget that goes toward transportation. Our energy efficiencies are 4% of the budget. We need to come together and work toward energy efficiencies and addressing our transportation challenges. Classroom resources are 2% of the budget. That needs to be addressed and re-prioritized to put supplies and textbooks at a higher rate of the budget and improve the resources in the classroom. Another financial strength she hopes to develop is a full calendar. These are a few of the areas that she hopes at mid year they recognize that they need to come together and take steps to make it happen so that in June they know that we have made a great accomplishment and next year at this time they know that it is in process.

RECOGNITION

Superintendent Adams recognized January as School Board Recognition month. Principals from the schools in the district recognized members of the school board with various gifts of chocolate, cookies, certificates, cards, banners and tokens of appreciations from the students and staff in our schools.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

District Accountant Lisa Cross reported in the Cash Report the district has collected 2% more in taxes than last year. The estimated ending fund balance is a bit higher than last month due primarily to some district tuition that was received from some of the charter schools throughout the state.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Chair Ron Crume presented the Consent Agenda. All items on the Consent Agenda may 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. Board Chair Crume made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Lengwin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Parent Liz Dolantree commented that she and her husband have always been very involved in their children's education. She expressed an interest to be involved in the hiring of the new superintendent. She expressed the need for their to be a voice in the

hiring process from parents with students who have special needs.

COMMUNITY
COMMENTS
(CONTINUED)

Newbridge teacher Bonnie Cameron shared that she is the co-chair of the local chapter of PFLAG (parents, families, friends of lesbians and gays). She thanked the board for adopting the safe schools anti-bullying policy in the district. Understanding state and federal laws that protect all of our youth is extremely important and critical for any school board. She is glad they are becoming aware of those laws. The Oregon Safe Schools and Communities Coalition (OSCC) in Oregon every year puts out a state of the safe schools act report. They have three ways that they grade schools. A gold star means the school district goes above and beyond the governments documents, include all of the required provisions, plus extra training for school staffs and school boards. A silver star means that they are fully up to date on the governances and have adopted the policies that are set forth in the state laws. A bronze star means that they are out of date governance or that their policies are not up to date or adopted by the board. Three Rivers has previously been in the bronze star category so in this year's report she hopes the district will move up to at least silver. Thanks for taking the step to move in a positive direction.

Grants Pass High School student Hannah Trukki introduced herself as the President of the Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN). She thanked the board for adopting the new Safe Schools Act. She stated how important it is to consider the LGBT community as a protected class because she has had a lot of friends being severely bullied in her school. It's been going down since beginning GLSEN three years ago. She presented statistics from the Oregon Safe Schools and Communities Coalition which states that 53% of LGBT youth were harassed at schools in the past thirty days compared to 28% of straight youth and 15% of youth have missed school in the last thirty days because they felt unsafe compared to straight youth. 20% of LGBT youth have attempted suicide in the last year compared to 5% of straight youth. This shows a big difference between the two classes of people which is why they are considered a protected class—even though they really don't want to be it's necessary under the circumstances. She thanked the board for taking the step to make it that much harder to be bullied.

Parent Kevin Marr stated that every now and then he likes to do a quick assessment of what we are up to with their kids in the district and making sure they are on track to provide their mission. He reminded that it is the mission of Three Rivers School District to provide outstanding educational opportunities in partnership with parents, guardians and the community. He appreciates the vote that took place to affirm the laws of state and the country, but is concerned about the two abstentions. He doesn't know if the board members review their board members authority and responsibilities, conduct, powers and duties, and oath of office policies, but suggested they read their oath of office again and reaffirm it to make sure that they are clear on what they are voting on. "New directors must qualify by taking the 'Oath of Office' before assuming the duties of office. He then read aloud the 'Oath of Office' for board members which states that board members "will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Oregon and the laws thereof. And the policies of Three Rivers School District" In their oath they took an oath to uphold the laws of the United States and the State of Oregon. There are two board members who voted to abstain. When a person abstains it's for one of two reasons, they are either undecided, or they are confused. He asked to know the reason for the abstentions against upholding the laws of the Constitution of the United States and the State of Oregon?

Board Chair Crume responded that is Kevin Marr's twist on it and he refused to answer the question. He stated that he has read his oath.

Mr. Marr suggested Mr. Crume re-read his oath because he is very concerned, as many other parents, staff members and teachers are, who have asked him. He explained how

COMMUNITY COMMENTS
(CONTINUED)

the board should be advocates for the district.

Community Member Kirby Erickson stated that her family has lived in Josephine County for 25 years. All three of her children have gone through schools in Josephine County. Her oldest child is gay, and graduated from high school in 1998. He is the reason she is here as a mother of PFLAG, as well as co-advisor with the local GLSEN club (the gay straight alliance). Her son Ben was bullied in high school. Walking in the halls was an extremely stressful experience. Living with that kind of stress is not conducive to learning or being able to perform well on state tests. In 2009 House Bill 2599 was signed into law. It is called the Oregon Safe Schools Act. She remembers being on the steps of the State Capitol to celebrate it's passing. The bill defines bullying and harassment and it includes "creating a hostile educational environment including interfering with the psychological well-being of a student". House Bill 2599 is where protected persons are identified. This act also requires school districts to spell out who they will handle incidences of bullying and publicize the policy within the district. In 2012 Oregon Senate Bill 1555 was passed to further amend the statute. It requires schools to do anti-bullying training of it's staff and a mandatory reporting of bullying incidents by school employees. School board members need to understand the law and stand up for our youth. It is their duty to adopt policies that keep the children safe. Her son Ben reminds us that the harassment that he experienced in the targeting of this population is not allowed in the workplace. We should be reinforcing the Safe Schools Act from a very young age to all of the children attending our public schools so they will learn to be productive, consciences workers and citizens in their community.

TECHNOLOGY

Director Dave Valenzuela and TOSA (Teacher on Special Assignment) Rob Saunders presented a picture of technology in Three Rivers School District. Mr. Valenzuela explained how much technology is tied to the classrooms. The technology department, which includes Rob Saunders, is composed of five people which range from hands-on techs that go into the schools, our desktop coordinator and a systems analyst. There are technology components in the infrastructure that are older than some of our older students. TRSD offers a lot of different services, one of which includes the recently added Parent Portal which is now live and running and it's really similar to what Student Vue would be. The students now have the power to take control and ownership of their progress academically. Email, shared drives and the website are also things that are handled by the tech department. Rob Saunders provides a lot of service to our district. He takes the time to work with all the teachers in our district. Rob Saunders spoke to the board about the integration of technology in the classrooms and introduced them to some of the items used in the classroom. He explained how a learning management system (LMS) website is used for online learning and the student standards in using technology properly, which includes accessing the internet safely and responsibly. He introduced some of the apps that are being used. Mr. Saunders also explained how students can use their personal mobile devices to enhance their learning with things such as QR codes. He then shared a few of his student projects he is currently using in the classroom and some examples of student work.

SNOW DAYS MAKE UP

Superintendent Adams stated that schools were closed for six days due to snow. Instructional days were five. The current calendar indicates June 9, 10 & 11 as clerical and furlough days. She proposed restoring those days as instruction days and the teacher curriculum and work day move to June 12 and 13. Surrounding districts in Southern Oregon are making up two to five snow days. She recommended the board have a conversation to determine the direction they would like to go. Also, the graduation dates remain the same and seniors do not return. Board Chair Crume responded that he would like to see the graduation dates remain the same but doesn't see a problem with having the seniors come back to school after they have graduated to make the days up. Member Lengwin agreed. Member Olmo asked if this plan worked for the teachers and unions? Member York asked about the cost to the district to restore days? Ms. Adams

responded that the savings for transportation on the five days was \$125,000 and the cost of adding three additional days in June would be \$75,000. The cost to add back the classified staff is about \$19,000, so the district is about \$25,000 to the good. Member Olmo made a motion to amend the calendar to reflect the changes that were presented. Member Lengwin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

SNOW DAYS MAKE
UP (CONTINUED)

Superintendent Adams reported that the district wants to keep the kids in school as much as possible. If the buses can get to an intersection or a main artery the buses could be run a little bit better. She asked First Student to propose snow routes. They have proposed a two-step process. The first step is that they have listed the roads that will not have bus access and to go to the nearest intersection. Ms. Breckner will communicate that information on the website as well as to the families. The second is that will move to another level of specifics to include the exact intersection and the approximate time. Member Olmo expressed some safety concerns with the snow routes and preferred having snow days and adding back the days in June. Board Chair Crume felt the snow routes were a good option. Ms. Adams explained that a decision would be made on an area by area basis.

SNOW ROUTES

Superintendent Adams explained that the process of updating board policies began with discussions with Jann Taylor in October and her ability to contract for doing it. Jann began working on the policies in December. Ms. Adams presented a draft schedule for reviewing the specific sections with the administrator and board representation. The policies are being updated according to law and recommendations from OSBA. The schedule also has the board meeting dates for the first and second reading. Member Olmo commented that the schedule does seem aggressive, but was willing to get started and see where it goes. Ms. Adams stated that even if the schedule gets delayed and goes in to next August or September, the policies have been updated and will be ready for review. Board Chair Crume requested that Shelly send meeting reminders.

POLICY RE-WRITE
UPDATE

Superintendent Adams brought forward a proposed 2013-14 contract for the Administrators and explained that it is the same as the draft that they had reviewed in executive session. Member York made a motion to approve the 2013-14 Memorandum of Agreement for the Association of Three Rivers Administrators. Member Olmo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2013-14 ATRA
MEMORANDUM OF
AGREEMENT

Director Allen-Hart brought forward the following policies for the second reading and board approval:

- IGBA Students with Disabilities
- IGBA-AR Students with Disabilities-Child Identification Procedures
- IGBAB/JO Education Records/Students with Disabilities
- IGBAB/JO-AR Education Records/Records of Students with Disabilities Management
- IGBAF Special Education-Individualized Education Program (IEP)
NEW
- IGBAG-AR Special Education-Procedural Safeguards
- IGBAH Special Education-Evaluation Procedures
- IGBAJ Special Education-Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
- IGBAJ-AR Special Education-Free Appropriate Publication Education
- JGAB Use of Restraint and Seclusion
- JGAB-AR Use of Restraint and Seclusion

POLICIES-SECOND
READING

She addressed the concern expressed by Member York regarding the Restraint and Seclusion policy regarding the statute that removed the district's ability to use restraint for destruction of property. She learned that ORS is in a number of places in our policies,

POLICIES-SECOND
READING
(CONTINUED)

discipline matrix and student handbooks. Policy JN refers to it and lists the ability to assess fees for damage of property, textbooks, etc. The ORS is still current and active. That removal for specific special ed reasons and restraint doesn't mean that we are not able to still, if there is damage and destruction, to assess that charge.

Board Chair Crume stated that he has read through the policies and has no questions and asked if there were questions or concerns by other members of the board? Member Olmo made a motion to approve the policies as presented. Member Dwyer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT
SEARCH PROCESS

Board Chair Crume explained that the board had a presentation at the last board meeting and asked the board for discussion or if they were ready to make a motion? The board commented that Greg McKenzie had a good presentation and felt comfortable with his experience. Member York made a motion to use Greg McKenzie Consulting to conduct the superintendent search. Member Olmo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Adams said that she would notify him of the selection tomorrow. She expects that he will want to meet with the board very soon. Member Olmo wants to ensure that the parents and public that want to be involved can be notified of the process.

OTHER

Member Dwyer asked if the district legal counsel was going to be in the area next week so that the board could take advantage of that opportunity to meet with her? Ms. Adams responded that our legal counsel is in the district January 27-29 if there is anything that the board would like while she is here. Member Dwyer stated she would like to take the opportunity to meet with her and be advised on board practices. Ms. Adams explained that if the board has legal counsel as any form of guidance it is executive session. Member Olmo responded that she could be available. Ms. Adams will check the availability of legal counsel and email the board with choices.

Superintendent Adams expressed an interest to work with the board at a future work session on some very specific roles of the board to generate some high needs that are in the district. She would like people involved in the budget planning, CTE and alternative education. This will be discussed further at the next work session.

ADJOURN

Adjourn at 7:30 PM

Ron Crume
Chairperson of the Board

Patricia Adams
Superintendent-Clerk