



FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J
School Board Meeting Minutes

WORK SESSION of the FERN RIDGE SCHOOL BOARD

August 18, 2025

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

CALL TO ORDER (Agenda Item 1): The work session of the Fern Ridge School Board was called to order by Chair Grover at 5:33pm.

In attendance were Directors Lisa McCann, Kathleen Pizzola, Mark Gent, WC Grover, Brian Kirkpatrick and Superintendent Gary Carpenter.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS: (Agenda Item 2):

2. A. OSBA Summer Conference: Directors McCann, Gent, and Grover shared their experiences and perspectives from the Oregon School Board Association Summer Conference.

2. B. Superintendent Goals – Action Plan: Superintendent Carpenter presented the 2025-2026 Superintendent Goals document and opened the discussion for feedback.

2. C. Board Operating Agreement: It was proposed to skip this item and circle back to it at the end of this work session.

2. D. Board Meeting Schedule: The School Board Meeting Schedule update was presented with the work sessions added. The pre-meeting schedule was also presented and discussed.

2. E. Board Stipends: Superintendent Carpenter presented the options of moving forward with adopting stipends for the board and not participating all together. There was a time of discussion surrounding this topic.

2. F. Electronic Devices Building Practices: Summarized the parameters of the rules and

protocols for the rules not being followed during the school day. It was asked of the board to discuss the language being added to the Parent/Student Handbook that will be updated on the website. There was a time of discussion surrounding this topic.

The work session was reaching the end of the hour and it was proposed to postpone item 2.H. and 2.C. to the work session in September.

Chair Grover moved to postpone the Board Operating Agreement and the Board Action Plan from our Goals to the work session in September, seconded by Director Pizzola.
Director McCann suggested the two other items remaining in the agenda to be moved as well.
Superintendent Carpenter and Chair Grover said they will be quick and can be addressed in the remaining minutes of the work session.
The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

2. G. Volunteer / Visitors: The discussion around having additional systems in place when community members enter the buildings.

2. G. 1. Report on RAPTOR: Summarized the system and cost for the entire district. It was presented as a \$9,000 start up cost with a \$4,000 annual cost thereafter. The facility reserve account would fund this system if the district decides to go ahead with this plan. There was a time of discussion about the criteria for the system and if there were alternative companies.

2. G. 2. Visitor/Volunteer Policy Discussion – GCCA/GDDA and KK: Decided to move on to the regular meeting.

2. H. Board Goals – Action Plan: Postponed until the September work session.

2. I. Public Comment – change to four minutes from three minutes:

ADJOURNMENT (Agenda Item 6): The work session was adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Attest: _____
School Board Representative

Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., Superintendent