



FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J
School Board Meeting Minutes

REGULAR MEETING of the FERN RIDGE SCHOOL BOARD

February 24, 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, Mark Boren 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.

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 February Citizenship Award was presented to Veneta Elementary School student, Alex Brown.

FLAG SALUTE (Agenda Item 3): Veneta Elementary School student, Alex Brown 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 on January 27, 2025, were presented for approval.

Director McCann moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on January 27, 2025, seconded by Director Pizzola. 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 February 1, 2025. District Enrollment is 1,289, which is 5 over our budgeted enrollment, 6 less than last month. The elementary level is up by 2, the middle school is up by 25, and the high school is down by 22. There are seven more out of district placements than what was projected in the budget.

6. B. General Fund Revenue and Expenditure Report: Business Manager Quanah Bennett reviewed the general fund revenue and expenditure report as of January 31, 2025. The district has received 75% of our budgeted revenue. We were at 80% last year. The district's operating expenditures are at 44%, we were at 45% last year.

Director Boren moved to accept the financial report for January 31, 2025, 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. Fidelity Insurance Coverage: Business Manager Quanah Bennett discussed the option to increase our coverage or to maintain what the district is currently covered for. Business Manager Quanah presented comparisons of other districts. She recommends to remain at our current coverage of \$500,000. Lisa McCann inquired again what the district is currently paying. Quanah stated we pay \$2,122 with a \$5,000 deductible.

REPORTS (Agenda Item 7):

7. A. West Lane Charter School Presentation: Director Darci Stuller presented slides to highlight West Lane Charter School's programs and initiatives.

7. B. Fern Ridge Education Association: FREA Representative, Debra Lloyd presented slides of each building's recent activities and events. Representative Forest Cooper gave an update on the Legislative sessions and their focus for Oregon schools.

7. C. Student Representatives: Student representatives Fern Valle-Arvizu and JT Meyers reported that basketball senior night was February 14 and girls and boys won both games. OSAA Cheerleading placed 4th at 1A-3A competition on February 15. All of the wrestling athletes were named that qualified for state championships. Sign-ups for the Rough and Tough Grad Night Fundraiser competition with staff is open. National Honor Society sold 100 candy grams collecting \$83. The Grad Night Committee collected 182 bags of cans and bottles. Applications and interviews for outdoor school have begun. Scholarship aid workshops for students and guardians helped students with application information. Job shadows are being scheduled out over the next two months. On March 19, Elmira High School will host a career fair and students will participate in a mock interview. Leadership is meeting with the YARG foundation to present National Honor Society projects to possibly receive funding for them.

7. D. Director of K-12 Programs: Director Michelle Marshall informed the board that the health curriculum information has gone out as well as invitations for any community input. She also informed the board that United Way of Lane County has awarded the district \$30,000 to continue LetRs training for teachers. Director Marshall continued with her presentation on Board goals and Longitudinal Growth data.

7. E. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Carpenter gave a brief overview of the Bond projects that are going to begin in March. He directed attention to the Fern Ridge School District website and where to find the newsletter update every two months. Superintendent Carpenter also explained that with weather closures so far this year, and pending that we do not have any more, he does not recommend that the district adds any student contact days. He informed the board that ultimately it is the board's decision. There was a time of discussion on the 5 potential days on the calendar that are earmarked for that makeup time. Superintendent Carpenter gave a reminder of the work session with Kristin Miles at the next board meeting on March 17. Superintendent Carpenter invited the board to attend the Outdoor School counselor training process at the Middle School.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (Agenda Item 8):

8. A. First Reading of the 2025-2026 Proposed Calendar: The 2025-2026 Public Staff Calendar was presented for review.

8. B. First Reading of Proposed Policy Updates: A first reading was held on the following proposed administrative rule and policy updates: GCBDA_GDBDA G1 updated, GCBDA_GDBDA R 1 D1- Delete, GCBDA_GDBDA R 1 G1-new, GCBDA_GDBDA R 2 D1-Delete, GCBDA_GDBDA R 3 A D1-Delete, GCBDA_GDBDA R 3 B D1-Delete, GCBDA_GDBDA R 3 C D1-Delete, GCBDA_GDBDA R 3 D D1-Delete, GCBDA_GDBDA R 4 D1-Delete, GCBDA_GDBDA R 5 D1-Delete, GCBDA_GDBDA R 6 D1-Delete, GCBDA_GDBDA R 7 D1-Delete, GCBDD_GDBDD G1 updated, and JECB R 3 G1(update).

8. C. Second Reading of Proposed Policy Updates: A second 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).

There was a time of discussion on the requirements for a second reading and that administrative rules were not required to be on that action item per OSBA. Also, that there is a list of administrative rules that do require a second reading, like JHCD RG1 listed currently.

Director Boren moved to adopt the policy proposal updates as presented, seconded by Director McCann. There was no more discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, and Pizzola, Director McCann voting yes. 5-0.

PERSONNEL (Agenda Item 9):

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

9. A.1: None at this time.

9. A.2: Resolution 24-25/04 - Teacher Contract Extension

Director Boren moved to approve the Resolution 24-25/04, seconded by Director Pizzola. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, and Pizzola, Director McCann voting yes. 5-0.

9. A.3: Resolution 24-25/05 – Probationary Teacher Contract Renewal

Director McCann moved to approve the Resolution 24-25/05, seconded by Director Pizzola. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, and Pizzola, Director McCann voting yes. 5-0.

9. A.4: Resolution 24-25/06 – Retired/Temporary Terminal Contract

Director Larson moved to approve the Resolution 24-25/06, 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. A.5: Resolution 24-25/07 – Probationary Administrator Contract Renewal

Director Pizzola moved to approve the Resolution 24-25/07, 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. A.6: Resolution 24-25/08 – Administrator Contract Extension

Director Larson moved to approve the Resolution 24-25/08, seconded by Director Boren. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Graham, and Pizzola, Director McCann voting yes. 5-0.

9. A.7: Resolution 24-25/09 – Administrator Three-Year Contract Extension

Director McCann moved to approve the Resolution 24-25/09, seconded by Director Pizzola. 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. None at this time.

New Hires/Transfers

1. Hiring of Brandon Gailey, Temporary 5.25 Instructional Assistant at Elmira High School, effective February 21, 2025.

Other

1. None at this time.

Coaches

1. Hiring of Lily Morales, Assistant Track/Field Throws Coach 24-25 at Elmira High School, effective March 3, 2025.
2. Hiring of Brandon Gailey, Assistant Track/Field Sprints Coach 24-25 at Elmira High School, effective March 3, 2025.

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

10. A. Director McCann attended all grades of basketball games, attended the Hall of Fame, and has been observing FREA negotiations.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Agenda Item 11):

11. A. Upcoming Events:

March 3-7: Classified Employee Appreciation Week!

March 13: Heart of the Community at Veneta Elementary 6-7 pm

March 21: NO School

March 24-28 Spring Break

Elmira Elementary

March 5: Kindergarten Information Night

March 6-14: Iditaread

March 18: PTA at 6pm

Veneta Elementary

March 5: Kinder Information Night

March 6: Title Math Night 5:30-7

March 7: Read Across America-PJ Day

March 11: PALS Meeting 5:30

Fern Ridge Middle

February 26: 4:30 7th Grade Boys Basketball-Home

March 18: Emergency Preparedness Workshop for students

Elmira High

March 21: Elmira Track Relays

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Agenda Item 12): Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2)(i): to review and evaluate the performance of the chief executive officer or any other public officer, employee or staff member, unless the person whose performance is being reviewed and evaluated requests an open hearing.

Chair Graham moved into executive session at 7:45 with a 5 minute break prior to.

ADJOURNMENT (Agenda Item 13): Chair Graham adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Attest: _____
School Board Representative

Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., Superintendent