

THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT
8550 NEW HOPE ROAD
GRANTS PASS, OR 97527

Three Rivers School Board of Directors met for a regular session, Monday, June 17, 2013 at the District Administrative Office, 8550 New Hope Road, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Ron Lengwin, Chairperson of the Board, Zone V
Bob Litak, Member of the Board, Zone I PRESENT
Ron Crume, Member of the Board, Zone IV
Dan Huber-Kantola, Superintendent-Clerk
Stephanie Allen-Hart, Director of Student Services
Debbie Breckner, Director of Human Resources
Doug Ely, Director of High School Education, Maintenance and Athletics
Dave Valenzuela, Director of K-8 Education, Technology and Transportation

Absent: Leslie Meier, Member of the Board, Zone III ABSENT

Also Present: Dodie Bullard/OSEA President, Patty Adams, Danny York, Rob Clark, Kari O'Brien, Casey Alderson/Illinois Valley HS Principal, Kim DeForest, Jim Bunge/Aramark Custodial Manager, Peggy Sue Bunge, Lisa Cross/District Accountant, Morris Givens, Lee Belcher, Anna Patch, Samantha Everett, Sarah Givens, Kacy Clark, Dave Marks/TREA President, Lynn Wade, Susan Jacobs, Linda Kappen, Jerry Herrington, Faith Herrington, Kate Dwyer, Jenica Thomas, Kara Olmo, Lynne Still, Gary Still, Cassie Logan, Joe Ycaza, Derek Duman, Linda McClanahan/North Valley HS Assistant Principal, Dennis Misner/North Valley HS Principal, M. Adams, Kaitlin Hobach, Megan Hobach, Octavia Wade, Benjamin Givens, Pamela Mein, Catherine Morrison, Jazmine Jacobs, Jacob Duffy, Michael Morris/Sodexo Food Service Manager and Shelly Quick/Recording Secretary. ALSO PRESENT

Board Chair Ron Lengwin called the meeting to order at 6:55 PM for the purpose of conducting the Budget Hearing prior to the regular board meeting. CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated the first order of business for the Budget Hearing was to approve the minutes from the last Budget Committee meeting on May 22, 2013. Member Litak moved to approve the minutes. Board Chair Lengwin seconded and the motion passed unanimously. BUDGET HEARING
MINUTES APPROVED

North Valley High School parent Morris Givens expressed their concern for the budget, specifically in regards to the fine arts program at North Valley High School (NVHS). In a meeting with Principal Misner, Director Valenzuela and Director Ely earlier in the day they were told that the budget for the fine arts program was not being cut, but the monies were being redirected; therefore the music and fine arts program at NVHS is being reduced. The fine arts program is as important as Spanish, sports, or any of the other academic programs. He is concerned that this is just the first step. If the budget is cut in this area that it is possibly going to be cut again next year, and again after that, until the fine arts program is completely COMMUNITY COMMENTS

BUDGET HEARING
COMMUNITY COMMENTS
(CONTINUED)

eliminated. He requested the fine arts program not be cut to half time and the monies not be redirected to Spanish and the Board find an alternative way of directing the Spanish program and the music and fine arts program at North Valley be kept in tact.

TREA President Dave Marks stated that the Association has concerns with a budget that builds in a deficit. It is their belief that our budget should be a balanced budget without a loss that has to be somehow funded.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola responded that in regards to the comments made about the fine arts program. All of the fine arts cannot be eliminated at any high school. There is a fine arts requirement for graduation. He does not believe this is the first step with more cuts to come. Part of what Principal Misner was doing is trying to balance the class sizes and needs of his particular school. We have a half-time person at Illinois Valley High School, a half-time person for next year at Lincoln Savage Middle School and Hidden Valley High School. The number of students right now in the music program at Hidden Valley HS is about 130. The number of music students at Illinois Valley HS is 92 and the number of students in the music program at North Valley HS is 91. It's consistent with the student/teacher ratios that we have at the other schools. Whereas the Spanish classes are above the average student/teacher ratio class sizes. It is not the beginning of the end—nobody in their right mind would cut *Free Design* from North Valley—ever.

RESOLUTION

Board Chair Lengwin stated the last item for the Budget Hearing was the resolution to adopt the budget, appropriate funds and declare tax levy. Member Crume made a motion to approve resolution (#11) to adopt budget, appropriate funds and declare tax levy. Member Litak seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED

REGULAR SESSION

Board Chair Lengwin continued on to the regular board meeting and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Superintendent Huber-Kantola read a prepared letter to the Three Rivers School Community thanking the community and fellow staff members that he has worked with during his 21 years with Three Rivers School District. He “has seen miraculous things happen for the students in this district because of the hard work of our 600+ staff members; over the past five years employees of Three Rivers have made tremendous progress in spite of the second worst economic time in the history of our great nation”. After acknowledging some of the accomplishments in our district such as Model School, Exceptional Schools and a Champion School he thanked: Ron Lengwin, Ron Crume, Leslie Meier, Robert Litak, Jadd Horban, Phil Stephens, Dave Strahan, Jim Weaver and Shelly Quick for supporting him personally and as superintendent. “We haven’t always agreed on everything—which is a good thing as multiple, diverse viewpoints ultimately make the district stronger—but I have felt and been personally supported by each and every member of the Three Rivers School Board “.

BOARD MEMBER
RECOGNITION

He then recognized outgoing board members with plaques. Leslie Meier, served the board from 2004-2013 and was unable to be at the board meeting as she was attending her daughter’s graduation. Bob Litak served the board from 2007-2013. He then presented a plaque to Board Chair Lengwin recognizing him for his two years of service as the Board Chair.

Board Chair Lengwin presented Superintendent Huber-Kantola with a plaque from the Board thanking him for his 21 years of service to Three Rivers School District.

OREGON ED TECH
CADRE

Director Valenzuela recognized three teachers who actively participated in the Organization for Education Technology Curriculum (OETC): Kirsten Valenzuela, Tammy Griffis and Rob Saunders. All three volunteer their time throughout the year to bring back

the latest resources to educate our students. They are dedicated to this organization and have done a lot for our district as part of that association. He will pass on the *Certificates of Appreciation* received by the association.

District Accountant Lisa Cross stated that for the Cash Report we are in good shape. The estimated ending fund balance is at \$1.10 million, which is down just a little bit due to the tax collection being smaller than normal, but we are expecting the June tax collection to be higher than normal.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Aramark Custodial Manager Jim Bunge thanked the custodial staff. The end of May and June was pretty busy for them—setting up and breaking down for graduations, barbecues, parties and senior pranks. They are now deep into summer cleaning. He recognized Illinois Valley High School, they were there last Friday for a custodial training and they are light years ahead in their cleaning.

CUSTODIAL REPORT

Member Litak added that he hears comments from time-to-time and have heard some recently remarking on the good condition of the schools in Illinois Valley.

Sodexo Food Service Manager Michael Morris stated that in addition to his written report he wanted to let the Board know how hard the ladies and gentlemen in his kitchen have worked this school year with the new healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act. It's been a difficult year and they have done a wonderful job of making it happen.

FOOD SERVICE
REPORT

Board Chair Lengwin brought forward the Consent Agenda for approval. Superintendent Huber-Kantola asked to add a revised Personnel Report and an Out-of-State Travel Request from North Valley High School for three teachers to attend AP conferences.

CONSENT AGENDA

Member Litak made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as revised by Superintendent Huber-Kantola. Member Crume seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED

Leah Belcher, North Valley HS student—addressed the Board regarding the cuts being made to the North Valley fine arts department for next year. She considers the North Valley fine arts department the one place where North Valley really thrives. She believes the cuts open the door to further cuts and to bleed the program dry. Although it is impossible for the district to completely eliminate the entire fine arts department, the cuts that are being made now will basically kill it. With the cuts being made, there is no longer a drama department. Mr. Seitz, the teacher that is being cut, also supervised the two plays that were done this year. Without Mr. Seitz there will not be drama next year. Because of the limited part-time schedule of their current music program for next year—many of the classes, such as Free Design and band are conflicting with AP classes. Students respect Mr. Seitz, and he has done a lot for the students this year by supervising band and Free Design show at the end of the year— she feels a part-time teacher will not be able to effectively maintain their program. She feels that students should have say in who teaches them and asked that Mr. Seitz be kept at North Valley. She asked the Board to consider alternatives in the budget—to cut something else that isn't so important to the students at North Valley.

COMMUNITY
COMMENTS

Morris Givens concurred with the comments made by Leah Belcher. He agreed that the fine arts department may not go completely away—but this is the first step. North Valley has a lot of college-bound students that are high achievers. He has two boys at North Valley and is seriously considering pulling them out of North Valley. He does not want his kids to go there because they have told him they won't go there if they don't have the fine arts programs. His son is a high achiever and was forced this year to make a decision between college preparatory classes or fine arts. The kids are pushed from eighth grade on to prepare for college, and told by counselors that they need to take their AP classes—

COMMUNITY COMMENTS
(CONTINUED)

and pushed away from fine arts. He asked that the Board find other ways to fund Spanish and offer a well rounded education to our youth.

Gary Still—Expressed his support for the North Valley HS students. Mr. Still and his wife attended the two plays this year. The kids were so excited about their programs. Fellow students attended and were excited to attend. He asked the Board to do what they can to support the kids.

Sarah Givens, Parent volunteer for NVHS Free Design program—Fears this administration is railroading the fine arts program and will have viable and verifiable numbers which will kill the fine arts program entirely for lack of numbers. Ms. Givens thanked Doug Ely for meeting with the students and parents of North Valley today and thanked him for promising to follow up on the following three items of concern: scheduling issues, keeping Mr. Seitz and seeking out third party funding to keep the program.

Samantha Everett—Has a daughter that has 4 AP classes and Spanish. She has no room for music. She has no slot because of the AP classes to take fine arts. There is definitely a scheduling issue.

Susan Jacobs, Parent and volunteer at NVHS—Her daughter will be a senior next year and has been involved in fine arts since second grade. This fall will be the first term she has ever had that there is no option for her to be in fine arts. She appealed to the Board to address the scheduling issue to make fine arts possible.

Anna Patch—This is also important to kids not directly involved in the music department. Over 300 students and parents at North Valley signed a petition a couple of weeks ago to keep full-time fine arts and Mr. Seitz as a teacher. All students feel strongly about keeping the music and fine arts programs. The music department seems to be consistently improving and Mr. Seitz is the best teacher they have ever had. There are other places to cut money from. Many of the students involved in the music and fine arts department are willing to fundraise and do whatever it takes to get the fine arts department to full time. Ms. Patch urged the Board to reconsider their decisions regarding Mr. Seitz and the fine arts department for next year.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola expressed his appreciation for the peaceful way that the community has gone about asking to be heard. He recognized the three issues to be addressed by Director Ely and ensured them that he will follow up on them. Our new superintendent, Patty Adams, will be here and follow up on them as well. He will ask Mr. Misner to go back and look at the schedule and see what the conflicts are, addressing the issue of Mr. Seitz and also seeking out additional funding.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola explained, without getting into personnel, particular teaching issues are more difficult because they are governed by contract language. He then gave an example of how teacher positions work with union: cutting, bumping and seniority. The district will have to follow contract language regarding Mr. Seitz. He then stated that we are not going to completely eliminate music—ever. North Valley also had, this year, the only full-time art teaching position in the district, which is a fine arts program. North Valley also has the only Speech class. There are some fine art things that are unique to North Valley that weren't touched, but wished we weren't touching this one either and there was a different way to do what is being done. He again assured that the district will go back and look at the three things that they have requested.

Member Litak expressed his appreciation of the music program. He doesn't know where people are getting the idea that this is the first step in the district eliminating music altogether. He understands why Mr. Misner wants to reallocate his resources so that we

have a music program that is more in line with our other schools and in order to alleviate some of the issues in Spanish. He recognized the scheduling issues regarding the AP classes and hopes that can be looked at more closely and addressed. He then added that as far as individual teachers, the Board does not have any say over that sort of thing.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS
(CONTINUED)

Member Crume stated that he graduated from North Valley and likes the school. One of his reasons for getting on the Board when he did was because he saw vocational classes and arts and music classes being taken away and was passionate about it. Cuts that need to be made will take place across the board. He does not think that academics is any more important than the vocational, arts or music programs. It takes all of those classes to keep kids in school and get them graduated. There is no agenda—the first he heard of this was about two weeks ago when the board started getting e-mails. Member Crume invited parents to come to the budget meetings and see what challenges the district is facing and offer some solutions. He heard a lot of complaints tonight—but never heard one solution, other than fundraising. Fundraising won't get us a teacher hired. They want the arts, music and vocational classes to continue.

Mr. Morris asked if the district has ever considered setting up technology to have a teacher be able to teach simultaneously at more than one high school? Member Litak responded that we have done that.

Member Litak wanted to make sure that the change was not due to budget cuts, it was due to reallocating resources within the school in a manner that the building principal feels is most equitable.

Board Chair Lengwin added that he has a lot of confidence in Mr. Misner and feels they will come up with a decent solution to this problem.

Principal Misner wanted the Board to understand that in addition to the small cut in the fine arts area, they also lost a science teacher due to reductions which also complicates the matter of scheduling. He clarified that the music does not conflict with all of the AP classes—they don't; they conflict with one per period across the way. Unfortunately they are in a situation where hard choices have to be made. He will review the schedule and have a full picture of what the class loads look like and is willing to adjust those to see what they can do to make it more practical for kids to get into the Free Design, band and beginning choir.

Director Ely explained that maintenance normally has about 200 work orders per month. This summer there are some pretty big ones. The largest one they have is getting the portables moved over from Lincoln Savage to Madrona in preparation for the merger of Jerome Prairie to Madrona. They were scheduled to be moved the end of June, but due to a process that has to be followed with the Planning Department and the Building Department they plan to move them on July 12, 13 and 14. *Serve Grants Pass* will be painting them the beginning of next week.

SUMMER MAINTENANCE

The next thing that is taking quite a bit of time is getting outfitted for the North Valley Lifeskills rooms and moving a computer lab to another location to accommodate that. Work is going well and on schedule and will be ready for opening in the fall for students.

Other projects planned and/or ready to do:

- ◇ Widening the entrance at Madrona and the exit area to accommodate for a better traffic flow.
- ◇ Playground revision/redesign at Madrona; move playground equipment from Jerome Prairie to Madrona.
- ◇ Jerome Prairie gym roof repair.
- ◇ Hidden Valley HS band room sound board installation.

SUMMER MAINTENANCE
(CONTINUED)

- ◇ Fencing projects at multiple schools to address safety and access concerns.
- ◇ Bleacher replacements for one side of the gym at Hidden Valley HS.
- ◇ Fleming sewer plant upgrades.
- ◇ Installation of safety strap system on all remaining middle and elementary school basketball backboards.

Member Litak asked who is paying for the sewer plant upgrades? Mr. Ely responded that it is our plant, then we turn around and charge a fee to the county. It's a win-win for the district if we can keep the sewer plant going. We have to balance that with what the costs are and what we are taking in and analyze it. It pretty much pays for itself.

ACHIEVEMENT COMPACT

Director Valenzuela presented the Achievement Compact for the 2013-14 school year. In January 2013 he came to the Board after meeting with the Achievement Compact Advisory Committee, which is composed of various staff members from all over the district. The committee looked at what the requirements for the Achievement Compact were and decided on a course of action, which was to take incremental steps from a baseline year to the year 2025 when the Governor's 40/40/20 plan comes to fruition. They changed the format of the Achievement Compact from last year to this year—what they are looking for. Due to the changes last year it is not good to designate it as a baseline year but they want to use this year's achievement and some of the achievement they are predicting to create the Achievement Compact for 2013-14. In the last week legislation was passed that would delay the submission and approval of Achievement Compacts by the School Board to October 15th. Oregon Department of Education and OEIB are still requiring the district to submit the Achievement Compact on July 1st. Director Valenzuela asked that the Board approve the Achievement Compact as it has been submitted, knowing that we have through our September board meeting to revise the numbers and resubmit in October, given the opportunity for that to happen. He believes the numbers presented are solid and represent the direction we need to go.

APPROVED

Member Crume made a motion to approve the 2013-14 Achievement Compact. Member Litak seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PLANNED COURSE
STATEMENTS

Director Valenzuela brought forward three Planned Course Statements for approval. The first is for a Robotics course to take place at Illinois Valley HS. Over the last couple of years, we have applied for and received over \$65,000 in grant money that supports STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) initiative activity. Through the STEM monies we have been able to purchase several computers and robotics kits. The class that was proposed for Illinois Valley HS ramps up the science component compared to the elementary and middle school level. We also have an opportunity to grow this program into something that might allow students to make up math standards that were not met in a math class. The class does not require an increase in FTE—they are using title teachers and some existing class schedule vacancy pieces.

Member Litak made a motion to approve the Robotics planned course statement. Member Crume seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Director Valenzuela then brought forward Planned Course Statements for High School Math Common Core I and II with support from Illinois Valley High School principal Casey Alderson and math teacher Derek Duman. The descriptions and the basis of these classes have been something that the math department as a whole have been working all year long on the Planned Course Statements and building these classes. These math classes articulate what students need to know to meet the essential skills requirements next year and align with the next steps of the Common Core. Next year we will be asking about Common Core III and IV.

There was some discussion regarding the title of the courses, and the reasoning behind it. These are no longer traditional algebra and geometry courses.

PLANNED COURSE
STATEMENTS

Member Litak made a motion to approve High School Math Common Core I and II. Member Crume seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED

District Accountant Lisa Cross explained that resolution #12 is the annual carry over. Back in 1993-94 the Board approved that schools could carry over their discretionary dollars if they have anything left into the next year and it would be identified solely for that school's purpose. The schools make a really good effort to save their money and any of their savings they have been using to upgrade computer classes and purchase additional equipment wherever they can. It is all used for the classroom. An estimate done on June 10th indicating what they had left was presented and would not be more than the \$140,000. If there is any money left over in vehicle maintenance it is carried over as well. It allows for the replacement of damaged or old vehicles.

RESOLUTION (#12) TO
TRANSFER FUNDS

Member Litak made a motion to approve Resolution #12 to Transfer Funds from General Fund to Carryover Fund not to exceed \$140,349. Member Crume seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Cross explained that we cannot have any of our funds go into the deficit at the end of the year. Food Service has worked very hard for the past 8-10 years to not have to transfer funds, but last year our transfer for the deficit in Food Service was only \$3,000. It could possibly be up to about \$23,000 deficit this year and we will need to transfer for that deficit from the General Fund. The other part of the resolution is that we have some unpaid bills from Boys & Girls Club, which are over 60 days. Debbie and Michael are working diligently with Boys & Girls Club to get them paid in time, but the district has a deadline. All of the accounts receivables must be received by August 30th, and if they're not then a transfer has to be made to cover the deficit in that fund. The resolution requests a transfer not to exceed the \$50,000.

RESOLUTION (#13) TO
TRANSFER CONTINGENCY
AND APPROPRIATIONS

The Board asked for clarification on the money that was owed to the district by the Boys and Girls Club. Director Breckner explained it's for their after school program. They provide dinner, purchase the meals through us, get reimbursed from ODE and then they are to reimburse us. There has been discussion with the Boys & Girls Club to get this paid in a timely way. The portion of the resolution that relates to the Boys & Girls Club is about \$27,000.

Member Litak commented that the Food Service program has been doing well in recent years and what has happened this year to cause a \$23,000 deficit? Ms. Cross explained that the reduction in school days has a lot to do with it. Superintendent Huber-Kantola explained an anomaly with the provision two schools which also may factor into the deficit.

Member Crume stated that he recalls one of the big sales pitches to get the district to sign the Sodexo contract was that they were always within budget, and we didn't have to play make-up at the end of every year. He hoped we could get back to that. And stay within budget. Mr. Morris responded that it's his goal to do that every year.

APPROVED

Member Crume made a motion to approve Resolution (#13) to Transfer Contingency and Appropriations. Member Litak seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Director Breckner brought forward the final copies of the evaluation systems for the administrators and the licensed staff that have been created as a result of SB 290, which they have been discussing since March. There is a requirement that the Board adopt an evaluation system that includes student learning and growth goals as well as making the

SB 290
RECOMMENDATION

SB 290 RECOMMENDATION (CONTINUED)

student learning and growth goals a substantial part of the evaluation system. Last month she shared the recommendation from the committee that the student learning and growth be measured as 30% and the paperwork in the board packet reflects that recommendation as well as the paperwork to submit to ODE by June 30th. She requested approval by the Board.

Member Litak asked Director Breckner to elaborate about the 30%. She explained that the window that ODE gave them in measuring student learning and growth was to adopt somewhere between 10-50% of the entire evaluation. In looking at the districts that participated in the class projects the majority of those districts chose 20% as their measure. Both the administrators and the teachers on the Evaluation Committee felt that 30% was right in the middle and met the definition of 'substantial'. In talking with other districts, 30% is one of the higher percentages. Also knowing that the U.S. Department of Education will come back in June with its evaluation of Oregon's application for waiver, and could very well come back in June and tell us it's going to be 50%.

Debbie Breckner thanked the people that worked on the committee. The challenge of changing the evaluation system has been a collaboration and true work in partnership.

APPROVED

Member Litak made a motion to approve the SB 290 recommendations for the licensed and administrative evaluation systems. Member Crume seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

OTHER

Superintendent Huber-Kantola introduced the new interim superintendent Patty Adams as well as the three new board members: Kate Dwyer, Danny York and Kara Olmo.

ADJOURN

Adjourn at 8:20 PM

Ron Lengwin
Chairperson of the Board

Dan Huber-Kantola
Superintendent-Clerk