

Three Rivers School Board of Directors met for a regular session, Monday, March 9, 2009 at the Three Rivers District Office, 8550 New Hope Road, Grants Pass, Oregon, Josephine County, Oregon at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Dave Strahan, Chairperson of the Board, Zone IV PRESENT  
Leslie Meier, Vice-Chairperson of the Board, Zone III  
Jim Weaver Member of the Board, Zone II  
Phil Stephens, 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

Also Present: Michael Morris/Food Service Manager, Patricia Snyder/Daily ALSO PRESENT  
Courier, Dennis Misner/Hidden Valley H.S. Principal, Rowdy  
Bates/First Student, Tasha Kahl, Ryan Kahl, Craig Volz/  
McKinstry, Jackie Gray, Dave Bracken, JoAnn Bethany/Illinois  
Valley H.S. Principal, Margaret Quist, Marcy Quist, Elly  
Lenggwin, Ron Lenggwin, Kevin McCaskill, Stan Goodell,  
Connor Kasler, Christopher Cline, Frank Arbour, Alex Angstedt,  
Andrew Watson, David Johnson, Jason Arbour, Earl Brown,  
Jamison Becker, Jim Stublefield, David Fuller/Wolf Creek  
Principal, Van Granger, Wayne Brown, Midge Watson, Chris  
Bristow/McKinstry and Shelly Berry/Recording Secretary.

Chairperson Strahan called the meeting to order at 7:14 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. CALL TO ORDER

Hidden Valley High School Principal recognized the 4A State Champion Cross Team from Hidden Valley: Chris Klein, Andrew Watson, Alex Anstad, Connor Kasler, Jason Arbor, Earl Brown and Jamison Becker. HIDDEN VALLEY  
CROSS COUNTRY  
STATE CHAMPIONS

Stan Goodell was recognized for his years of service and outstanding dedication as coach of the 4A State Champion Cross Country team. Coach Goodell briefly addressed the audience.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola gave a PowerPoint presentation which addressed the financial issues relating to the rest of this school year. The state legislature approved the School Day Restoration Fund which from February 20th, reduced the amount of our loss by \$440,000. The total reduction for our school year this year will end up being \$600,000. He then gave a brief summary of the various cuts in days that the other districts in our area will be taking this year. Three Rivers will not be cutting any days this year. SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT

Board Chair Strahan opened up the meeting for community comments. He stated

---

COMMUNITY COMMENTS	<p>that any comments relating to the inter-district transfers will be taken when that item comes up on the agenda. There were no comments at this time.</p>
ESIS UPDATE	<p>Director Breckner stated that we are still dealing with some virus issues and an overload of SPAM which is slowing things down. Given these issues, it is difficult to give a read on eSIS, and we will have more accurate update at the next Board meeting. Director Breckner publicly thanked the ESD for their help in getting us back up and going after the virus hit.</p>
TRIMESTER UPDATE	<p>Superintendent Huber-Kantola and Director Breckner presented the results of the first trimester parent survey. There was poor participation; only 146 parent responses were received. The staff time and energy got de-railed due to the economic issues the administrators were dealing with. Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated that there is a high school principal's meeting tomorrow, at which time they will gather a plan to gain more parent input in to the second trimester surveys.</p>
ATHLETIC COMMITTEE	<p>Director George announced that there is an Athletic Committee meeting scheduled for tomorrow, March 10th. There are three different groups working on different phases of the committee. There is a revision to the Athletic Handbook coming, as well as a revision of the coach's evaluation. The meeting scheduled for earlier this month had to be postponed due to state athletic competitions.</p>
QZAB	<p>Superintendent Huber-Kantola explained that the QZAB is a Qualified Zone Academy Bond which is a federally sponsored program where school districts, under certain parameters, are able to borrow money for energy type projects at a no-interest loan. He then requested permission to move forward with the QZAB and presented a resolution (09) for approval. Would like to work with the two experts from McKinstry, Craig Volz and Chris Bristow, to pursue the most appropriate provider. Craig Volz with McKinstry explained how the matching contribution portion of the bond works. Member Weaver made a motion to approve the resolution. Member Litak seconded and the motion carried unanimously.</p>
SCHOOL BOARD FILING DEADLINE	<p>Board Chair Strahan announced that the filing deadline for the three Board positions is March 19, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.</p>
GLENDALE INTER-DISTRICT TRANSFERS FOR WOLF CREEK STUDENTS	<p>Board Chair Strahan opened the floor for public comment on the request for consideration of inter-district transfers for Wolf Creek students to Glendale.</p> <p>Parent Nicole Watson is requesting inter-district transfers for her two children. She has had previous experience with large class sizes at Ft. Vannoy, and since moving her son to Wolf Creek, her son has done better in a small school setting.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENT	<p>Parent Marcy Quist stated she was speaking on behalf of Wolf Creek parents that are looking at requesting an inter-district transfer. Some of the big things weighing on their minds is not just the inter-district transfer, but that it won't be taken away after a year; or some of them are thinking they won't know until two weeks before school starts. Also any child that is affected by the closure of Wolf Creek should be given the right to be transferred, or request a transfer to Glendale, even siblings not yet in school.</p> <p>Jim Stublefield stated that Glendale is 'ecstatic' about the decision to close Wolf Creek. They are seriously looking in to forming a charter school. Once they do that inter-district transfers are not necessary. If all sixty kids go over there, Three Rivers stands to lose more than the potential savings.</p>

Superintendent Huber-Kantola clarified that if a district sponsors a charter school, they are allowed to take members from other school districts without doing an inter-district transfer, which is part of the charter school law, up to fifty percent of the total enrollment.

Member Weaver asked since this is an action item, what is being proposed?

Board Chair Strahan stated that there are some options that have been presented, but there was no formal proposal at this time.

Member Meier asked for clarification on the scenario presented by the Wolf Creek parent in which a child was struggling educationally and feel they would do better in a small school setting; how is that dealt with in our current inter-district transfer policy?

Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated that would be very rare. It would have to have been some sort of real solid documentation that was the case.

Director George clarified the current cases that meet 'extraordinary academic needs' are curricular areas where we do not offer the program in our schools such as: elementary and middle school orchestra or a foreign language they have a background in that we do not offer.

Director George re-stated there was clear direction from the Rightsizing Committee last year to substantially decrease transfers, which has been done this year.

Member Litak stated his concern that some students might have very long bus rides to Manzanita. There is much shorter transportation to Glendale and feels it is a good reason to grant a change to the policy.

Member Meier stated that she supports Wolf Creek and voted against the closure. But, for the same reason has concerns about allowing students to go to Glendale due to their low test scores. Three Rivers consistently out-performs Glendale. A blanket change to the policy is not in the best interest of the Wolf Creek students.

Maps were displayed that were provided by Member Weaver that shows the 8.5 mile route from Wolf Creek to Glendale and the 15.5 mile route from Wolf Creek to Manzanita.

Rowdy Bates, First Student Transportation Manager stated that for the Sunny Valley group of students, which is one-third of the students, there is not a huge difference in the commute. The ride will be about fifteen minutes longer for elementary students, but they will not have to catch the bus at an earlier time in the morning. The middle and high school students, as well as Special Education students of all ages, have been making the drive for years.

Mr. Bates then stated that he estimates the longest time on the bus for the Wolf Creek students to be one hour and fifteen minutes. They will attempt to switch the morning and afternoon bus routes so that if the students have a long ride in the morning, they will try to arrange a short ride in the afternoon.

Director George expressed his concern that if an exception to the transfer policy is created for the Wolf Creek students, that it will create issues with current transfer requests that were denied, citing East Jones Creek as an example.

Member Weaver suggested that a special exception to the transfer policy be drawn up for

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF GLENDALE INTER-DISTRICT TRANSFERS FOR WOLF CREEK STUDENTS (CONTINUED)

a transitional time only for the current Wolf Creek students.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola suggested a change be made to the current inter-district transfer policy that could be proposed at the April meeting in which we were able to look at students needs on a more individual basis for the Wolf Creek area only, and for a transitional time period.

Member Stephens stated that he could not support a blanket policy change, we already have a policy in place, and if there were issues, they would need to be looked at on an individual basis with Mr. George.

Member Litak moved that we change the current policy so that any student, grade kindergarten through fifth, that is currently attending Wolf Creek and residing in the Wolf Creek zip code, be granted a transfer to Glendale if requested. Member Weaver seconded. The motion failed 2-3; members Meier, Stephens and Strahan opposing.

Member Weaver moved a change to allow the primary students, grades K-2, currently attending Wolf Creek to attend Glendale through second grade. There was no second, the motion failed.

Wolf Creek Principal Dave Fuller stated that per a survey that was done at Wolf Creek, there will not be very many transfer requests. The Sunny Valley students are not interested in transferring to Glendale. Also students that have siblings at Fleming and North Valley are not likely to request a transfer.

MOTIONS FAILED

Some questions came up about the number of students per grade level currently attending Wolf Creek. A short recess was taken at 8:35 to gather this information.

The meeting was re-adjourned at 8:43.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola provided the requested data to the Board.

Member Litak made a motion that we allow any current student residing in the Wolf Creek zip code, currently attending Wolf Creek to transfer to Glendale through the fifth grade. Member Weaver seconded. The motion failed 2-3, members Strahan, Stephens and Meier opposing.

MCKINSTRY PHASE II ENERGY PROJECT

Chris Bristow with McKinstry stated that the Technical Energy Audit (TEA) for Phase II of the McKinstry Energy Project is complete. Seeks authorization to proceed to the Project Development Plan (PDP). Craig Volz with McKinstry presented an Executive Summary outlining the energy proposals for Evergreen Elementary, Illinois Valley High School, Madrona and North Valley High School.

Member Weaver stated his support for the project and that we need to take advantage of the opportunities.

APPROVED

Board Chair Strahan also felt it was beneficial to the district.

Member Weaver made a motion to approve the TEA and move to the PDP phase. Member Meier seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ILLINOIS VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL INSPIRATION AWARD

Illinois Valley High School Principal JoAnn Bethany stated that Illinois Valley High School is a finalist for the \$25,000 College Board Inspiration Award. Ms. Bethany

shared that there are currently twenty ASPIRE mentors at the high school. Currently 76% of the students qualify for free and reduced lunch. Also, 45 of 96 current seniors have been accepted to college. It was determined that no action is necessary by the Board.

Superintendent Huber-Kantola stated that with \$440 thousand back from the School Day Restoration Fund the projected ending fund balance is \$2.42 million. It is expected to grow slightly due to most of the \$200,000 contingency fund being added in. In regards to next year, we are looking at the potential figures, but we won't know next year numbers until late April/early May. A \$2-4 million shortfall is projected for next year.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Michael Morris stated he had no additions to his written report.

FOOD SERVICE RPT

Member Weaver moved to approve the consent agenda and member Litak seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA  
APPROVED

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

ADJOURNED

---

Dave Strahan  
Chairperson of the Board  
THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT

---

Dan Huber-Kantola  
Superintendent-Clerk  
THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT