



FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J
School Board Meeting Minutes

REGULAR MEETING of the FERN RIDGE SCHOOL BOARD

October 20, 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 6:31 pm.

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

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 October Citizenship Award was presented to Veneta Elementary School student Eleanor Imholt.

FLAG SALUTE (Agenda Item 3): Veneta Elementary School Student Eleanor Imholt 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 work session and regular school board meeting on September 15th, 2025 were presented for approval.

Director Kirkpatrick moved to approve the minutes from the work session meeting on September 15th, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

Director McCann moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on September 15th, 2025, seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

BUSINESS OFFICE (Agenda Item 6):

6. A. Enrollment Report: Business Manager Quanah Bennett stated that last month Elmira Elementary's enrollment number was incorrect but this report reflects the correct number. She then reviewed the enrollment report as of October 1st, 2025. Elmira Elementary has an average class size of 24.10 and Veneta Elementary is at 22.43. Total elementary enrollment is at 578. The middle school has 315 students enrolled. The high school has 383. In-district enrollment is down by eight than what was projected in the budget. There was a time of clarification around those numbers.

6. B. General Fund Revenue and Expenditure Report: Business Manager Quanah Bennett reviewed the general fund revenue and expenditure report as of September 30th, 2025. The district has received 24% of our budgeted revenue. The districts operating expenditures are at 12%. September expenses increased because of payroll.

Director McCann moved to approve the budget for September 30, 2025; seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

6. C. Budget Adoption Calendar: Business Manager Quanah Bennett presented the Budget Adoption Calendar. There was a time of discussion on the dates for the board to attend.

Director McCann moved to accept the Budget Adoption Calendar for 2026-2027; seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no more discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

REPORTS (Agenda Item 7):

7. A. Fern Ridge Education Association: Certified Union Teachers President, Jennifer Prutzman presented appreciations for each school building in their activities. She then outlined the process for Collective Bargaining Agreements and the network of support that other schools provide during that time.

7. B. Student Representatives: Student representative Jake VanDamme gave the updates on cross country, girls and boys soccer, volleyball, and football. Student representative Rylee Rice gave a report on how the personal electronic device school ban has been going at the high school. There have been walkie talkies purchased for outdoor school to plan for communication during that event. On November 1st and 2nd Leadership will travel to the Oregon Association of Student Councils conference in Seaside. Rylee also gave a report of homecoming week news and events

and their successes with plans to improve for next year. Jake stated that the National Honor Society has planned a blood drive on March 6th, 2026. There will be a clothing drive in early to late November. Powder Puff football is a Grad Night event that will be on November 7th, 2025 at 7pm. Board Chair Grover expressed appreciation for the energy and effort that went in to the events of homecoming week.

7. C. Director of K-12 Programs: Director Marshall gave appreciation for our district's work with teachers and administration.

7. D. Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent Carpenter summarized Principal Olivia Johnson's and Cydney Vandercar's building reports of the adaption to the cell phone restrictions so far.
- The Bond has punch lists for all aspects to finish the current bond projects.
- The School Safety page that has been added to the district website was reviewed and summarized.
- The staff climate survey went out today from UPBEAT and will be open for two weeks.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (Agenda Item 8):

8. A. Division 22 Compliance Report: The 24-25 Report on Compliance with Public School Standards 2024-2025 School Year was presented to the board.

8. B. Transit Dollar Request Form: The Lane Education Service District School District Transit Dollar Request for Fiscal Year 2026-27 was presented and explained to the board for approval.

Director McCann moved to accept the Transit Dollar Request form for 2026-27; seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

8. C. Board Operating Agreement: The finalized Board Operating Agreement for 2025-2026 was presented for approval.

Director McCann moved to approve the Board Operating Agreement for 25-26; seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

8. D. Board Goals: The finalized Board Goals for 25-26 were presented for approval.

Director McCann moved to approve the Board Goals for 25-26; seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

8. E. Community Feedback on Board Stipends: A section was added to the School Board page on the district website. There is a button in this section for community feedback before a decision is made to enact House Bill 2753 Board Stipends. It was presented to the board to review before it is made live and advertised to the public.

8. F. First Reading of Proposed Policy Updates: A first reading was held on the following proposed administrative rule and policy updates:

BG-Board Staff Communications

8. G. Second Reading of Proposed Policy Updates: A second reading was held on the following proposed administrative rule and policy updates:

KK - Visitors to district facilities,

Director McCann moved to approve the policy KK-Visitors to District Facilities; seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

JFCEB NEW Personal Electronic Devices,

Director McCann moved to approve the policy JFCEB NEW-Personal Electronic Devices; seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

GCDA/GDDA - Criminal Records Check,

Director Kirkpatrick moved to approve the policy GCDA/GDDA-Criminal Records Check; seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

BDDH and BDDH-AR Public Comment at Board Meetings.

Director McCann moved to approve the policy BDDH and BDDH-AR Public Comment at Board Meetings; seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and 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. B Non-Licensed Personnel Report: The non-licensed personnel report was presented for review:

Resignations/Retirements

1. Resignation of Jamie Atwater, 6.75 Instructional Assistant at Fern Ridge Middle School, effective September 19, 2025.

New Hires/Transfers

1. Hiring of Marlene Goland, 6.75 Instructional Assistant at Fern Ridge Middle School, effective September 29th, 2025.

Other

1. None at this time.

Coaches

1. None at this time.

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

- 10. A. Fern Ridge School District/Crow School District Girls Wrestling Co-Op and Fern Ridge School District/Crow School District Boys Wrestling Collective was presented for approval.

Director Kirkpatrick moved to approve the Fern Ridge and Crow girls and boys wrestling co-op and collective; seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

- 10. B. Fern Ridge School District/Marist High School Swim Co-Op was presented for approval.

Director McCann moved to accept the Fern Ridge and Marist swim co-op; seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Gent, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, Grover and McCann voting yes. 5-0.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Agenda Item 11):

11. A.

October 30: End of First Quarter

October 31: NO SCHOOL-Teacher Work Day

November 10: NO SCHOOL-Teacher Work Sample

November 11: NO SCHOOL-Veterans Day

Elmira Elementary:

October 21: 6pm PTA

October 30: 5-7pm Harvest Carnival

Veneta Elementary:

November 10: 5:30pm PALS

Fern Ridge Middle School:

November 7: Fall Dance

Elmira High School:

October 21: Senior Night-Cross Country, Soccer, Volleyball

October 24: Senior Night-Football and Cheer

ADJOURNMENT (Agenda Item 12): Chair Grover adjourned the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Attest: _____
School Board Representative

Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., Superintendent