



FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J
School Board Meeting Minutes

REGULAR MEETING of the FERN RIDGE SCHOOL BOARD

August 17, 2026

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 6:45 pm.

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

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.

FLAG SALUTE (Agenda Item 2): The flag salute was led by the Board Chair Grover.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Item 3): Public Comment: The Fern Ridge School Board encourages public input. A person wanting to provide public comment will need to complete and submit an Intent to Speak form to the Board secretary by 1:00 pm on the day of the board meeting.

Public comment is limited to this place on the agenda not to exceed a total of 30 minutes for all commenters. A person giving public comment is limited to an established time limit of (4) four minutes. While speakers may, during public meetings, offer objective criticism of school operations and programs, the Board will not hear personal complaints concerning district personnel nor against any person connected with the school system.

Please state your name and if you are a resident of the district. If speaking for an organization, state the name of the organization. The Board reserves the right to refer the matter to the administration.

- Community member Hayden Henneman commented on the K-2 / 3-5 Reconfiguration.

MONTHLY ITEMS (Agenda Item 4):

4. A. Approval of Minutes:

4. A. 1. July 20, 2026: The minutes of the regular school board meeting on July 20, 2026 were presented for approval.

Director Kirkpatrick moved to approve the July 20, 2026 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Grover, Kirkpatrick, McCann, Pizzola and Gent voting yes. 5-0.

4. A. 2. July 27, 2026: The minutes of the board retreat meeting on July 27, 2026 were presented for approval.

Director Kirkpatrick moved to approve the July 27, 2026 board retreat meeting minutes, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Grover, Kirkpatrick, McCann, Pizzola and Gent voting yes. 5-0.

BUSINESS OFFICE (Agenda Item 5):

5. A. General Fund Revenue and Expenditure Report: Business Manager Quanah Bennett reviewed the general fund revenue and expenditure report as of July 31, 2026.

Director Kirkpatrick moved to approve the general fund and expenditure report for July 31, 2026, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Grover, Kirkpatrick, McCann, Pizzola and Gent voting yes. 5-0.

5. B. June 30, 2026 Un-Audited Financial Report: Business Manager Quanah Bennett reviewed the Un-Audited Financial Report as of June 30, 2026.

Director Gent moved to approve the June 30, 2026 Un-Audited Financial Report, seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Grover, Kirkpatrick, McCann, Pizzola and Gent voting yes. 5-0.

5. C. Construction Excise Tax Rates: Business Manager Quanah Bennett and Superintendent Carpenter reviewed the current construction tax rate Fern Ridge School District receives funds at. Other districts were shown for comparison and the max rate was presented. The motion was to stay at the current rate or to change it.

Director Pizzola moved to keep the percentage where it's at \$1.23, seconded by Director Kirkpatrick. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Grover, Kirkpatrick, McCann, Pizzola and Gent voting yes. 5-0.

REPORTS (Agenda Item 6):

6. A. Director of K-12 Programs: Director Marshall gave an end of year OSAS (state testing)

data report. There was time for questions and discussion.

6. B. Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent Carpenter gave an update on admin staff that have returned, sports that have begun, and the first day of registration.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (Agenda Item 7):

7. A. Award Contract to Greensuns Construction for the dirt movement and grass seeding: Scott Rose proposed the award of the contract to Greensuns, Inc. for approval.

Director Kirkpatrick moved to approve the contract award to Greensuns, Inc., seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Grover, Kirkpatrick, McCann, Pizzola and Gent voting yes. 5-0.

7. B. HCE Discussion: The board was tasked to schedule themselves a 1:1 consultation with Kathleen Rodden-Nord, HCE Search Consultant. And also, to schedule two dates and times for planning meetings with Human Capital Enterprises to start planning the process to hire a new Superintendent for the 27-28 school year.

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

KNA New – Immigration Enforcement on District Property
KNA-AR(1) New – Interactions with Immigration Enforcement
KNA-AR(2) New – Federal Immigration Enforcement Request Log

7. D. Second Reading of Proposed Policy Updates: A second reading and motion for approval was held on the following proposed administrative rule and policy updates:

CBA delete—Qualifications and Duties of the Superintendent,
CBA G1 replace—Qualifications and Duties of the Superintendent,
CBG G1 update—Evaluation of the Superintendent,
EBB G1 update—Integrated Pest Management,
GBA G1 update—Equal Employment Opportunity,
GBA AR G1 update—Veteran and State Servicemember Preference,
GBN_JBA G1 update—Sexual Harassment,
JBA_GBN G1 update—Sexual Harassment.

Director Kirkpatrick moved to approve all of the policies as presented, seconded by Director Gent. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Grover, Kirkpatrick, McCann, Pizzola and Gent voting yes. 5-0.

PERSONNEL (Agenda Item 8):

8. A. Licensed Employees Resignations/New Hires/Transfers/Other:

9. A.1. Hiring of Benjamin Matthew, 1.0 FTE Elementary Teacher at Elmira Elementary School, effective August 26, 2026,
Resignation of Arthur "Corky" Franklin, 1.0 FTE Physical Education Teacher at Fern Ridge Middle School, effective June 12, 2026.

Director Kirkpatrick moved to approve the licensed resignations, new hires, transfers, other as proposed, seconded by Director Gent. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Grover, Kirkpatrick, Pizzola, McCann and Gent voting yes. 5-0.

8. B. Non-Licensed Personnel Report: The non-licensed personnel report was presented for review:

Resignations/Retirements

1. Resignation of Owen Lounsbury, Districtwide Custodian, effective August 7, 2026.
2. Resignation of Robin Younger, 6.5 Special Education Instructional Assistant at Fern Ridge Middle School, effective July 17, 2026.

New Hires/Transfers

1. None at this time.

Other

1. None at this time.

Coaches

1. Resignation of Rindy Spicer, Head Softball Coach at Elmira High School, effective July 17, 2026.
2. Resignation of Katy Miller, Assistant Track and Field Sprints Coach at Elmira High School, effective June 12, 2026.
3. Resignation of James Duty, Assistant JV Boys Basketball Coach at Elmira High School, effective August 2, 2026.
4. Resignation of Tessa Slager, Assistant Track and Field Throws Coach at Elmira High School, effective July 24, 2026.
5. Hiring of Gilbert Lucero, Assistant Football Coach at Elmira High School, effective August 17, 2026.

LATE ITEMS/CLOSING COMMENTS/BOARD COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (Agenda Item 9):

- None at this time.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Agenda Item 10):

August 18, 19, 20: Returning Student Registration
August 31-September 2: Inservice Week
July 7–August 20: KITS Summer Program

Elmira Elementary:

August 18: 7am-7pm Returning Student Registration
August 19: 8am-3pm Returning Student Registration

August 20: 8am-12pm Returning Student Registration
September 23: 6-7pm Open House

Veneta Elementary:

August 18: 7am-7pm Returning Student Registration
August 19: 8am-3pm Returning Student Registration
August 20: 8am-12pm Returning Student Registration
September 23: 6-7pm Open House

Fern Ridge Middle School:

August 18: 7am-7pm Returning Student Registration
August 19: 8am-3pm Returning Student Registration
August 20: 8am-12pm Returning Student Registration
September 24: Open House

Elmira High School:

August 12 : 9am-7pm **New** Student Registration and Picture Day
August 19: 8am-11am **Seniors**, 1pm-4pm **Sophomore** Registration and Picture Day
August 20: 10am-1pm **Juniors**, 3pm-6pm **Freshman** Registration and Picture Day
September 30: Open House

ADJOURNMENT (Agenda Item 11): Board Chair Grover adjourned the meeting at 8:02 pm.

Attest: _____
School Board Representative

Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., Superintendent