



**FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J**  
School Board Meeting Minutes

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**WORK SESSION of the FERN RIDGE SCHOOL BOARD**

**March 16, 2026**

**Zoom Webinar & In-Person Meeting**  
88834 Territorial Rd.  
Elmira, Or 97437

**CALL TO ORDER (Agenda Item 1):** The work session of the Fern Ridge School Board was called to order by Chair Grover at 5:30pm.

In attendance were Directors Kathleen Pizzola, WC Grover, Brian Kirkpatrick, Lisa McCann, Mark Gent 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. Also, please note that all Board meetings are live streamed and posted on the School Board area of the website.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS: (Agenda Item 2):**

**2. A. Athletic Director:** The document with the athletic director scenarios was presented and there was a time of discussion regarding if there were other budget priorities, the preferred scenario, how the job description will be developed and outreach to other schools to get feedback on their programs and organization with their athletic director. It was agreed upon that a full time athletic director will be added to the 26-27 budget and Superintendent Carpenter will begin to draft a job description.

**2. B. First Student Contract Renewal:** The board agreed to approve the First Student contract for renewal as presented.

**2. C. Facilities Use Form:** It was identified during the review of the policy and form that the wording that defined revenue generating was not clearly stated and needed to be amended before the second reading.

**2. D. New Fields Behind (West) Elmira Elementary:** The board agreed to dedicate the field space to the west of Elmira Elementary for baseball, softball and soccer.

**2. E. Superintendent Evaluation:** There was a time of discussion regarding the survey schedule and when information will be shared with the board prior to the evaluation on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April.

**2. F. Posting of official board agenda timeline:** Director McCann proposed having the board agenda packet with attachments distributed earlier. The board agreed to make Wednesday the day of official agenda notification.

**LATE ITEMS/CLOSING COMMENTS: (Agenda Item 3):**

**ADJOURNMENT (Agenda Item 4):** The work session was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
School Board Representative

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Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., Superintendent