

Fern Ridge School District Board of Directors

Monday, November 17, 2025 The doors will open at 6:15pm

District Administration Office, 88834 Territorial Road, Elmira, Oregon 97437

1. Call to Order: Public - 6:30 pm

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.

2. Citizenship Award

Presenter: Olivia Johnson

3. Flag Salute led by Citizenship Award Winner

4. 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 (3) three 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.

5. **Monthly Items:**

5.A. Approval of Minutes - Board Action

6. **Business Office**

Presenter: Business
Manager, Quanah
Bennett

6.A. Enrollment Report

6.B. General Fund Revenue and Expenditure Report -
Board Action

7. **Reports:**

7.A. Fern Ridge Education Association

7.B. Student Representative(s) to the School Board
Report

Presenter: Rylee Rice
and Jake VanDamme

7.C. Superintendent's Report

8. **Discussion Items**

8.A. OSBA Conference Report

8.B. Board Stipends - Board Action

8.C. Second Reading of Proposed Policy Updates -
Board Action

Policy BG-Board Staff Communications

9. **Personnel**

9.A. Licensed Employees Resignations/New
Hires/Transfers/Other

9.A.1. None at this time

9.B. Non-Licensed Personnel Report

10. **Late Items/Closing Comments/Board Community
Involvement**

11. **Upcoming Events**

Elmira Elementary:

November 18: 6pm PTA

November 21-22: Holiday Bazaar and Book Fair

November 24-25: NO SCHOOL-Parent/Teacher

Conferences and Book Fair

November 26-28: NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving Break

December 3: PTA Bottle Drop

Veneta Elementary:

November 19:: 5-8pm Literacy Night

November 24-25: NO SCHOOL-Parent/Teacher

Conferences

November 26-28: NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving Break

December 8: 5:30pm PALS Meeting

Fern Ridge Middle School:

November 26-28: NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving Break

Elmira High School:

November 26-28: NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving Break

12. Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2)(i): to review and evaluate the performance of the chief executive officer or any other public officer, employee or staff member, unless the person whose performance is being reviewed and evaluated requests an open hearing.
13. Adjournment



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.

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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



FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J
ENROLLMENT REPORT

November 1, 2025

Avg.
Class
Size

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
EES Teacher 1	28													28
EES Teacher 2		20												20
EES Teacher 3		10	13											23
EES Teacher 4			26											26
EES Teacher 5				23										23
EES Teacher 6				10	13									23
EES Teacher 7					25									25
EES Teacher 8					24									24
EES Teacher 9						25								25
EES Teacher 10						23								23
Elmira Elementary	28	30	39	33	62	48								240
VES Teacher 1	18													18
VES Teacher 2	22													22
VES Teacher 3	8	12												20
VES Teacher 5		21												21
VES Teacher 6		22												22
VES Teacher 7			19											19
VES Teacher 8			20											20
VES Teacher 9				20										20
VES Teacher 10				22										22
VES Teacher 11				22										22
VES Teacher 12					23									23
VES Teacher 13					25									25
VES Teacher 14						28								28
VES Teacher 15						30								30
Veneta Elementary	48	55	39	64	48	58								312
Total Elementary	76	85	78	97	110	106								552
Fern Ridge Middle School							104	97	106					307
FRMS Options														-
Elmira High School										99	83	95	85	362
EHS Options												13		13
EE Bridges (K-2)	1	2	3	1										7
EE Bridges (3-5)				5	3									8
VES (Structured Learning)	1		2	1	3	2								9
Home Tutor														-
FRMS Bridges (6-8)							1	1	4					6
Total In-District Enrollment	78	87	83	104	116	108	105	98	110	99	83	95	98	1,264
<i>Change from Adopted Budget (based on ADMr of 1,284)</i>														
<i>(20)</i>														
Out of District Placements			2	2		2		1	1	2	2		4	16
<i>Change from Adopted Budget (based on ADMr of 22)</i>														
<i>(6)</i>														
Total West Lane Charter										8	18	33	30	89
FRSD Attending WLC										5	10	17	15	47
<i>Change from Adopted Budget (based on ADMr of 70)</i>														
<i>19</i>														
Total District/ Out of District /Charter School Enrollment														1,369
<i>Change from Adopted Budget (based on ADMr of 1376)</i>														
<i>(7)</i>														


FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J

General Fund Revenue and Expenditures

October 31, 2025	ADOPTED 25-26 BUDGET	2025-2026				TOTAL YTD	REMAINING BALANCE
		JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT		
Beginning Fund Balance	3,342,741	-	-			-	3,342,741
OPERATING REVENUE:							
PROPERTY TAXES	5,750,283	9,846	13,713	9,744	10,239	43,542	5,706,741
TRANSPORTATION FEES	2,100	-	-	-	-	-	2,100
EARNINGS ON INVESTMENTS	342,641	34,045	30,812	30,343	29,620	124,820	217,821
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	4,626	-	-	-	-	-	4,626
RENTALS/DONATIONS/LEASES / PY REV / GRANT FEES / MISC	147,154	6,348	4,861	(1,644)	12,373	21,938	125,216
COUNTY SCHOOL FUND / ESD	188,000	-	-	-	-	-	188,000
OTHER INTERMEDIATE SOURCES	5,500	-	1,725	-	-	1,725	3,775
STATE SCHOOL FUND	12,751,881	2,272,642	1,096,497	1,102,540	1,087,631	5,559,309	7,192,573
COMMON SCHOOL FUND	199,740	-	-	-	-	-	199,740
STATE MANAGED COUNTY TIMBER	-	-	37,030	-	-	37,030	(37,030)
RESTRICTED GRANTS-IN-AID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RESTRICTED FR FED/GOV ST	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FEDERAL FOREST FEES	58,620	-	-	-	-	-	58,620
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	7,360	-	7,360	-	-	7,360	-
SALE OF FIXED ASSETS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	19,457,905	2,322,880	1,191,998	1,140,982	1,139,864	5,795,724	13,662,181

**TOTAL BUDGETED REVENUE (INCLUDES
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE)**

22,800,646

30%

5,795,724

OPERATING EXPENDITURES:							
SALARIES	8,442,595	159,578	181,552	661,573	678,257	1,680,960	6,761,635
BENEFITS	6,558,782	107,516	125,623	486,372	481,372	1,200,883	5,357,899
PURCHASED SERVICES	4,343,999	151,940	99,074	58,725	385,239	694,978	3,649,021
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	477,310	52,532	64,401	32,362	19,104	168,398	308,912
CAPITAL OUTLAY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER	292,515	280,772	11,860	(95)	2,551	295,087	(2,572)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	20,115,201	752,338	482,510	1,238,937	1,566,521	4,040,307	16,074,894

20%

NON-OPERATING EXPENDITURES							
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	533,500	-	525,000	-	-	525,000	8,500
CONTINGENCY	2,151,945	-	-	-	-	-	2,151,945
TOTAL NON-OPERATING EXPENDITURES	2,685,445	-	525,000	-	-	525,000	2,160,445

TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES

22,800,646

4,565,307

Fern Ridge School District 28J

Code: **BG**
Adopted: 5/23/05
Readopted: 9/22/08
Orig. Code(s): 1190, 2122

Board-Staff Communications

The Board desires to maintain open channels of communication between itself and the staff. The basic line of communication will, however, be through the superintendent.

Staff Communications to the Board

All formal communications or reports to the Board or any Board committee from staff members will be submitted through the superintendent. This procedure will not be construed as denying the right of any employee to address the Board about issues which are neither part of an active administrative procedure, nor disruptive to the operation of the district. In addition, this procedure does not restrict protected labor relations communications of bargaining unit members. Staff members are invited to Board meetings, which provide an opportunity to observe the Board's deliberations on matters of staff concern.

Board Communications to Staff

All official Board communications, policies and directives of staff interest and concern will be communicated to staff members through the superintendent. The superintendent will provide appropriate communication to keep staff fully informed of the Board's priorities, concerns and actions.

Visits to Schools

Visits to schools by board members are encouraged. School visits by Board members will be regarded as informal expressions of interest in school affairs and not as "inspections" or visits for supervisory or administrative purposes. To coordinate a visit, Board members may request assistance from the Superintendent or communicate directly with the building principal. When contacting the principal directly, Board members should copy the Superintendent on the correspondence. ~~Official visits by Board members will be carried on only under Board authorization and with the full knowledge of staff, including the superintendent, principals and other supervisors.~~

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[OAR 581-022-1720](#)

Anderson v. Central Point Sch. Dist., 746 F.2d 505 (9th Cir. 1984).

Connick v. Myers, 461 U.S. 138 (1983).

Lebanon Education Association/OEA v. Lebanon Community School District, 22 PECBR 323 (2008).

Cross Reference(s):

GBD - Board-Staff Communications

KK - Visitors to District Facilities