

AGENDA

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD of DIRECTORS

Public Meeting

Thursday, October 8, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.
Mist Elementary 69163 Hwy 47, Mist, OR 97016

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81951566154?pwd=mqjLQnOra76Ze0e1bhUrNScvDm9gg6.1>

Meeting ID: 819 5156 6154

Passcode: w3Z1Mx

Public participation on agenda items occurs at the discretion of the chair. Please indicate your interest by completing a “Public Comment Card” provided at the agenda table and give it to the Board Secretary or if attending virtually, email your interest to bcarr@vernoniak12.org 24 hours before the meeting. **Individual comments are limited to 3 minutes. Group comments are limited to 5 minutes.**

At 8:00 p.m., the Board may take a five-minute recess, and the chair will review the agenda for possible rescheduling of agenda items. For special accommodations call 429-5891 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

REGULAR SESSION

1.0 CALL TO ORDER..... Chair

1.1 Flag Salute

2.0 AGENDA REVIEW Chair

2.1 Action to Approve the Agenda

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

This is a time for public comment. Normally the Board will not take any immediate action, but will refer concerns to the Superintendent and ask that they report to the Board. We would appreciate you keeping comments to 3 minutes per individual or 5 minutes if you are representing a group of patrons. Please note: Under Oregon Revised Statutes, we cannot discuss personnel concerns in a public meeting. If you have any concerns with school district personnel, please schedule a meeting with the Superintendent.

4.0 SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS

4.1 Administrator Reports

5.0 BUSINESS REPORTS

5.1 Superintendent Darla Waite-Larkin

5.2 Financial Pam Voss

5.3 Maintenance Debbie Johnston

6.0 BOARD REPORTS / BOARD DEVELOPMENT Chair

6.1 Committee Reports

6.1.1 Policy Committee

1st Reading – GCAB – Personal Electronic Devices and Social Media – Staff

Vernonia School District does not discriminate and prohibits discrimination in any programs or activities on the basis of protected class, including age, citizenship status, color, disability, gender identity, immigration status, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation. See Policy AC Nondiscrimination and Policy KL Complaints and Procedure KL-AR Complaint Form. Complaints and/or inquiries regarding discrimination based on any protected class listed here may be directed to the appropriate Coordinator specified below. Unresolved complaints may be appealed to the Oregon Department of Education. Complaints and/or inquiries regarding discrimination based on age, color, disability, national origin, race, and/or sex may be referred to the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights (OCR).

1st & 2nd Reading – JA/JAA Student Policy Objectives, JEDB – Student Dismissal
Precautions, JGB – Detention of Students, and JHDA – Psychological Testing of Students

.....
6.1.2 Safety Committee

6.1.3 Scholarship Committee

7.0 OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION

7.1 Division 22 Standards Darla Waite-larkin

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

8.2 Policy Approval

*I move to approve policy JA/JAA - Student Policy Objectives, JEDB - Student Dismissal
Precautions, JGB - Detention of Students, and JHDA - Psychological Testing of Students
as presented.*

9.0 MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE Chair

10.0 CONSENT AGENDA Chair

The Board, on an individual basis prior to the meeting, has reviewed all material. All financial reports are available for review by the public in the business office. All items listed are considered by the Board to be routine and will be enacted by the Board in one motion. There will be no discussion of these items at the time the board votes on the motion unless members of the Board request specific items to be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Agenda.

10.1 Minutes of the 09/10/2026 Regular Meeting and the 09/23/2026 Workshop

I move to approve the consent agenda as presented.

11.0 OTHER ISSUES Chair

11.1 Agenda Setting Meeting Next Month – Wednesday, Nov. 4th @ 3:30 p.m.

12.0 ADJOURNChair

UPCOMING DATES

Oct. 19, 2026 – School Board Work Session – 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Nov. 10, 2026 – School Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m. (NOTE: This is a TUESDAY)

Nov. 12-14, 2026 – OSBA Annual Convention

Nov. 18, 2026 – Community Engagement Night

Nov. 25-27, 2026 – Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 10, 2026 – School Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.

(Dates and times are subject to change. Please check the district web site at www.vernoniak12.org for the most up-to-date information)

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Vernonia School District 47J

Oct. 1, 2026

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	F/T	Total	F&R	SpEd	
District																	1	
Mist Elementary	9	8	5	8	6	9										45	14	3
																	31%	7%
Vernonia Elem.	20	26	21	17	34	33										151	106	46
																	70%	
V.F.A.	2	8	4	9	5	9										37		
Elementary Total	31	42	30	34	45	51										233	120	49
																	52%	21%

Vernonia MS	274546										118				56	23		
V.F.A.	455										14				132	42%	17%	
Vernonia HS	363720306										129				82	23		
V.F.A.	9110120										32				161			
																	51%	14%
Total	31	42	30	34	45	51	31	50	51	45	38	30	42	6	526	258	96	
																	49%	18%
(as of 6/1/26)																542		

October 1	31	42	30	34	45	51	31	50	51	45	38	30	42	6	526			
November 1															0			
December 1															0			
January 1															0			
February 1															0			
March 1															0			
April 1															0			
May 1															0			
June 1															0			

VERNONIA & MIST ELEMENTARY

Small Things Big Impact

Routines, procedures and expectations are being solidified in our classrooms across our schools. This was evident during our Math Walkthroughs with the NWRESD team on September 28th. The team stated they noticed, "strong classroom routines, clear structures, and rich opportunities for students to engage with numbers in multiple ways". We are excited to partner with the NWRESD to plan meaningful and engaging math professional development for our staff this year.

One focus area will be increasing the discussion students have around math and solving problems. The research shows the more students talk about math, the deeper their understanding. You can support this by asking your child to explain how they solved the problem.

LOGGER EXPERIENCE

Salmon Watch 2026

- Mist, VES Kinder and 4th grade along with Jewell learned about salmon, caught waterbugs and learned about animals in our area. A big thanks to Steve Thomas, property owner.



Upcoming Events

- October 6- Picture Retake Day
- October 7- Districtwide Required Bus Evacuation Drill
- October 9- No School (Statewide Inservice Day)
- October 23- Student of the Month Assembly
- October 30- No School (Grading Day)

SETTING STUDENTS UP FOR SUCCESS

Chronic Absenteeism is defined as missing 10% of the school year (18 days).

We are revamping our Attendance System to find ways that are inclusive and promote students feeling

Connected, Happy & Proud.

- Our staff will begin the work of creating a vision statement for our schools in October that reflect the Logger Experience.



FAMILY PARTNERSHIP:

Conferences will be held on November 4th and 5th. This is a great opportunity for us to connect with families and share how your child is progressing in school. Please be looking for communication from your child's teacher on how to schedule your conference. We are aiming for 100% attendance.

Thank you for partnering with us to support your child's academic and social growth!

VERNONIA MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL



October with the Loggers

Celebrating students, service, and a strong start to fall.



HOMECOMING & CLASS SPIRIT

2026 HOMECOMING COURT



Addilyn Draeger



Morgan Dennis



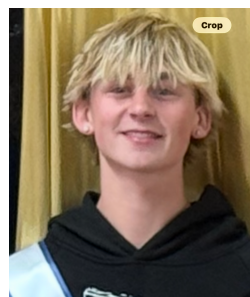
Nova Gleason



Huxley Grant



Koa Leininger



Blake Pultz



CLASS ADVISORS

Freshmen Melanie Holsey • Sophomores Karen Roberts

Juniors Glenda DeLemos • Seniors Justin Benassi and Lee Costanzo

Classes are hosting fundraisers at school events and throughout the community. Thank you for supporting your Loggers! See the next page for Homecoming Week events and dress-up days.

VERNONIA MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

Logger Homecoming Week

October 12-17, 2026

SCHOOL SPIRIT • EVENTS • DRESS-UP DAYS

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Monday follows the regular Monday schedule. Tuesday-Friday follow the regular seven-period Thursday/Friday schedule to accommodate Logger Olympics and several pre-planned field trips.

HOMECOMING EVENTS

- TUE • OCT. 13** Pack the Gym Night: Volleyball vs. Nestucca (Senior Night).
JV begins at 5:00 p.m.
- WED • OCT. 14** Coronation 2026 • VSD Commons • 7:00 p.m.
- THU • OCT. 15** Vernonia Invitational Cross Country Meet • 3:30 p.m.
- FRI • OCT. 16** Homecoming Football vs. Mohawk • 7:00 p.m.
- SAT • OCT. 17** Homecoming 2026 Dance • VSD Wrestling Room • 7:30 p.m.

DANCE REMINDER

Guest passes must be completed and returned by **Wednesday, October 14, before 3:00 p.m.** Only registered high school students may attend.

DRESS-UP DAYS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
High School	PJ OR Anything but a backpack (HS only)	Adam Sandler OR Dress to Impress	Class Shirt Day	Soccer Mom, BBQ Dad OR Flannel	Logger Colors
Middle School	PJ OR Sports Day	Adam Sandler OR Dress to Impress	Pink Out OR Black Out	Soccer Mom, BBQ Dad OR Flannel	Logger Colors
Elementary School	Comfy	Twin	Wacky Wednesday	Flannel (dress like a logger)	Logger Colors

LOGGER DRESS-UP DAYS

October 12-16, 2026

MONDAY 	PJ 	Anything but a Backpack (HS) 	Sports Day (MS) 	Comfy (Elementary) 
TUESDAY 	Adam Sandler 	Dress to Impress 	Twin (Elementary) 	
WEDNESDAY 	Class Shirt (HS) 	Pink Out (MS) 	Black Out (MS) 	Wacky Wednesday (Elementary) 
THURSDAY 	Soccer Mom 	BBQ Dad 	Flannel 	Logger (Elementary) 
FRIDAY 	Logger Colors — All Schools 			

VERNONIA MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL



Learning in Action

Students and staff are building connections across classrooms and community.

AROUND OUR SCHOOL

COMMUNITY ART | OCTOBER 2

Mrs. Kintz and the High School Community Art class will paint panels in the gymnasium at Mist Grade School.



Logger tile concept

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Student Support Team (SST)

The SST brings staff together to support each student's success through collaborative problem solving.

Transformative Social and Emotional Learning (TSEL)

Staff are exploring self-awareness and identity; self-management and agency; social awareness and belonging; relationship skills and collaborative problem solving; and responsible decision making and curiosity.

THE LOGGER EXPERIENCE

We are developing a shared vision for student learning through the "Ideal Day in the Classroom."



Connected



Happy



Proud



Classroom illustration

STAR ASSESSMENTS

Students in grades 6-10 have been taking STAR interim assessments in English language arts and mathematics. Staff use the results to monitor progress and plan instruction. The school offers interim assessments at least three times during the year, ahead of spring 2027 state testing.



Assessment illustration

VERNONIA MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL



Skills That Drive Learning

Oregon's five TSEL standards connect directly to classroom learning.

TSEL & ACADEMIC LEARNING



SELF-AWARENESS & IDENTITY

Understanding strengths, values, and purpose builds confidence, focus, and readiness to learn.



SELF-MANAGEMENT & AGENCY

Managing emotions, setting goals, and persevering supports attention and academic success.



SOCIAL AWARENESS & BELONGING

Empathy and belonging create positive learning environments and strengthen engagement.



RELATIONSHIP SKILLS & COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING

Communication and teamwork support collaboration and solving complex problems.



RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING & CURIOSITY

Thoughtful choices and curiosity fuel learning, creativity, and responsible action.

TSEL skills develop through academic learning.

VERNONIA MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL



Logger Leadership

Meet the students helping shape our middle and high school community.

STUDENT VOICE

HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

Facilitated by Ms. Safier

Charlotte Schlegel, Nova Gleason, Brody Campo, David LaBelle, Anthony Thomas, Jasmin Peterson, Naomi Pelster, Bella Granucci, Jack Nelson, Ayden Abbott, Sabrina Pederson, Carolyn Glenn, Shiloh Pike, Joshwa Ellis, Ripple Skillin, Sarah Pelster, Orinthia O'Neill, Elsie Plummer, and Logan Briggs.



Leadership illustration

MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

Facilitated by Mrs. Campbell

Brian Brown, Kinley Busch, Avery Cota, Elsa Holloway, Emma LaBelle, Jameson Lake-Cieloha, Lucas McWhirter, and Ashlynn Tovey.



Leadership illustration

GO LOGGERS!

Thank you to every student who steps up to serve our school.

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Superintendent Board Report
Darla Waite-Larkin
October 8, 2026

2026-2027 Theme

Small Things. Big Impact.  

The Logger Experience

I am in the process of developing surveys for students, staff, and families to help us better understand what the Logger Experience currently feels like across our schools and, just as importantly, what we want that experience to feel like in the future.

This work is grounded in the Center for Educational Leadership (CEL) framework from the University of Washington, which emphasizes beginning with a clear vision for the student experience and then identifying the classroom experiences, instructional practices, and adult behaviors that will help create that experience consistently.

For Vernonia, we are beginning with a simple premise: every student should feel connected, happy, and proud to be a Logger. From there, we want to better understand what those words actually look, sound, and feel like in the daily experience of our students. What does it mean for a student to feel connected to their school, their teachers, and their peers? What experiences help students feel happy, valued, and supported? What makes a student feel proud to be a Vernonia Logger?

The surveys will give us an opportunity to hear directly from the people who experience our schools every day. We will use that feedback to identify where our current experience aligns with our vision and where there are opportunities to grow.

The next step will be connecting that vision of the student experience to the classroom experience and instructional practices that support it. Ultimately, the Logger Experience is about creating consistency across our district so that, regardless of grade level or classroom, students experience adults who know them, support them, hold high expectations for them, and believe in their ability to succeed.

This is an important part of our larger work this year: defining what it means to be a Logger and intentionally creating that experience for every student.

Curl Transportation Contact Information

We've created a Vernonia SD email for Shelley Hennessy, Curl Transportation Manager. The email is shennessy@vernoniak12.org. This new email was sent out to all families with the intent of making communication easier.

Division 22 Standards Report

Oregon Division 22 Standards establish the minimum requirements that Oregon public school districts must meet to operate as a standard school district. The standards address the educational programs, services, policies, staffing, safety requirements, and systems that districts are expected to provide for students.

The standards generally fall within five areas:

- High-Quality Learning Experiences for All Students – curriculum, instruction, assessment, graduation requirements, instructional materials, special programs, and other educational services.
- Aligned and Focused Educational Systems – district planning, policies, improvement efforts, accountability, and systems that support student learning.
- Engaged Partners and Communities – communication, community engagement, and processes that provide opportunities for families and community members to participate.
- Safe and Inclusive Schools – requirements related to student health and safety, prevention and intervention programs, school climate, equity, and student well-being.
- Committed and Supported Staff – requirements related to appropriate staffing, educator qualifications, professional development, and personnel practices.

Division 22 includes many individual Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) covering specific requirements. Examples include curriculum, instructional time, instructional materials, media programs, physical education, school counseling, dyslexia, substance-use prevention, suicide prevention, athletics, human resources/staffing, and district policies and plans.

Annual Assurance Process

Each year, school districts review their compliance with the Division 22 standards and report the results to the local school board and community. Districts then submit their assurances to the Oregon Department of Education. For each standard, the district identifies whether it is in compliance or, if not, explains the area of noncompliance and identifies corrective action.

For Vernonia School District, this process provides an opportunity to review our current practices, identify areas that need attention, and ensure that our policies and day-to-day practices align with Oregon requirements. It is also an important part of our commitment to transparency, accountability, and providing students with the services and educational opportunities they are entitled to receive.

Vernonia School District is compliant in all areas.

NWRESD BASES Team Training

I am pleased to have our team participating in training with the NWRESD BASES Team. This partnership provides our staff with additional tools and support to strengthen school culture and climate through a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) lens.

The BASES team brings expertise in social-emotional learning, mental and behavioral health, MTSS, PBIS, and safety and prevention. The training will help our team continue developing consistent, proactive approaches to student behavior, strengthen supports for students, and foster a welcoming and inclusive environment across our schools.

I appreciate that the BASES team takes a needs-based, collaborative approach rather than offering a one-size-fits-all program. This allows us to focus the training on the areas that are most relevant to Vernonia and to build our internal capacity to support students and staff.

For me, the greatest benefit is that we are investing in our own team and building shared knowledge and practices that can be carried back into our schools. This supports our ongoing work to create positive school environments where students feel connected, supported, and ready to learn.

NWRESD Instructional Services Partnership

Our partnership with the NWRESD Instructional Services Team provides Vernonia teachers with ongoing, job-embedded professional learning and support in mathematics. Beginning this year, the NWRESD team will work with our K–8 teachers once each month during district professional development time, with the focus determined by our student assessment data and identified areas of need.

This partnership is especially valuable because the work will extend beyond one-time professional development. The NWRESD team will model and support effective math instructional practices, help teachers analyze student learning, and provide opportunities to apply and refine strategies over time. The team will also conduct classroom walkthroughs with administrators and our elementary math committee, allowing us to connect professional learning directly to what is happening in classrooms and identify areas where teachers may need additional support.

This creates a continuous cycle of data → professional learning → classroom implementation → observation and reflection → continued support. The goal is to build teacher capacity and consistency in math instruction while ultimately improving student learning outcomes.

Safety-Care Training

Several members of our administrative team, along with classified and certified staff, recently renewed their Safety-Care training. This training provides staff with strategies for proactively

supporting students, responding to challenging behaviors, and maintaining a safe and supportive learning environment.

Having trained staff across multiple roles strengthens our district's ability to respond consistently and appropriately when students need additional support. It also helps ensure that we have staff with current training available to support students and colleagues when challenging situations arise.

Vernonia School District

Business Manager's Financial Report | Q1 Overview (As of September 30, 2026)

Executive Summary

Our school district operates within a structured operating fund fueled by seasonal revenue streams to cover core educational and operational costs. Because this report marks the end of our first quarter on September 30, our fiscal year is in its initial implementation phase. This summary details our year-to-date cash inflows, actual spending, outstanding contract obligations, and provides a direct point-in-time comparison against the exact same period last year. All values are sourced directly from the verified district general ledger.

1. District Revenue Inflow (Receivable Management)

- **The Big Picture:** The district has not yet received the majority of its anticipated funding for the fiscal year. Local property tax revenues are primarily collected and disbursed during the winter months, while state resources arrive in staggered installments.
- **Where We Stand as of Sept 30:** Our adopted General Fund revenue target for the fiscal year is **\$10,058,000.00**. Currently, our financial tracking system shows received year-to-date cash inflows of **\$1,385,451.10**.
- **Current Collection Pace:** We have successfully collected **13.8%** of our budgeted revenue, leaving an outstanding balance of **\$8,672,548.90** to collect as the fiscal year progresses. This pacing aligns perfectly with normal Q1 historical baselines.

2. General Fund Expenditures & Legal Appropriations

When analyzing district spending, we evaluate two distinct financial categories: cash already disbursed, and funds formally committed for future delivery.

- **Actual Cash Spent:** The district has disbursed **\$1,269,455.23** in actual out-of-pocket cash expenditures year-to-date.
- **Encumbrances (Committed Funds):** We have legally committed **\$4,950,999.67** to cover fixed contractual obligations, such as teacher salaries and service agreements, for the remainder of the school year. In municipal accounting, these are tracked as 'Encumbrances'—meaning the funds are locked and restricted for their intended purpose, even though the cash has not yet left our bank accounts.
- **Total Financial Commitments:** Combining our year-to-date cash outlays and outstanding encumbrances, we have committed **\$6,220,454.90** of our **\$10,284,700.04** total legal appropriations budget. This leaves the district with an open, uncommitted operational safety reserve of **\$4,064,245.14**.

District Financial Summary Table

Financial Category / Fund	FY 2026-27 Adopted Budget	FY 2026-27 YTD Expended	FY 2026-27 Active Encumbrances	Total Committed Obligation	(Over)/Under Budget	% Budget Committed
General Fund Revenue	\$10,058,000.00	\$1,385,451.10	\$0.00	\$1,385,451.10	\$8,672,548.90	13.8%
General Fund Expenditures	\$10,284,700.04	\$1,269,455.23	\$4,950,999.67	\$6,220,454.90	\$4,064,245.14	60.5%
Special Revenue Funds (Grants)	\$2,258,180.00	\$397,443.39	\$1,180,280.82	\$1,577,724.21	\$680,455.79	69.9%
Food Services Fund (Fund 299)	\$589,000.00	\$90,462.53	\$349,689.87	\$440,152.40	\$148,847.60	74.7%
GRAND TOTALS (Expenditures)	\$13,131,880.04	\$1,757,361.15	\$6,480,970.36	\$8,238,331.51	\$4,893,548.53	62.7%

Historical Point-in-Time Cash Comparison

Core General Fund Cost Centers	Previous YTD (thru Sept 30, 2025)	Current YTD (thru Sept 30, 2026)	Absolute Fiscal Variance	Core Driver Analysis
1000 Instruction Functions	\$1,985,837.71	\$1,467,156.60	-\$518,681.11	Decreased via summer instructional vacancy pacing.
2000 Support Services Functions	\$2,119,476.96	\$1,571,413.16	-\$548,063.80	Decreased due to delayed regional ESD invoices.
3000 Community Operations	\$38.26	\$38.26	\$0.00	Aligned exactly with historical baselines.
TOTAL GF OUT-OF-POCKET CASH	\$4,105,352.93	\$3,038,608.02	-\$1,066,744.91	The district has disbursed over \$1.06 Million less in cash than at this point last year.

Key Takeaways for the Board Panel

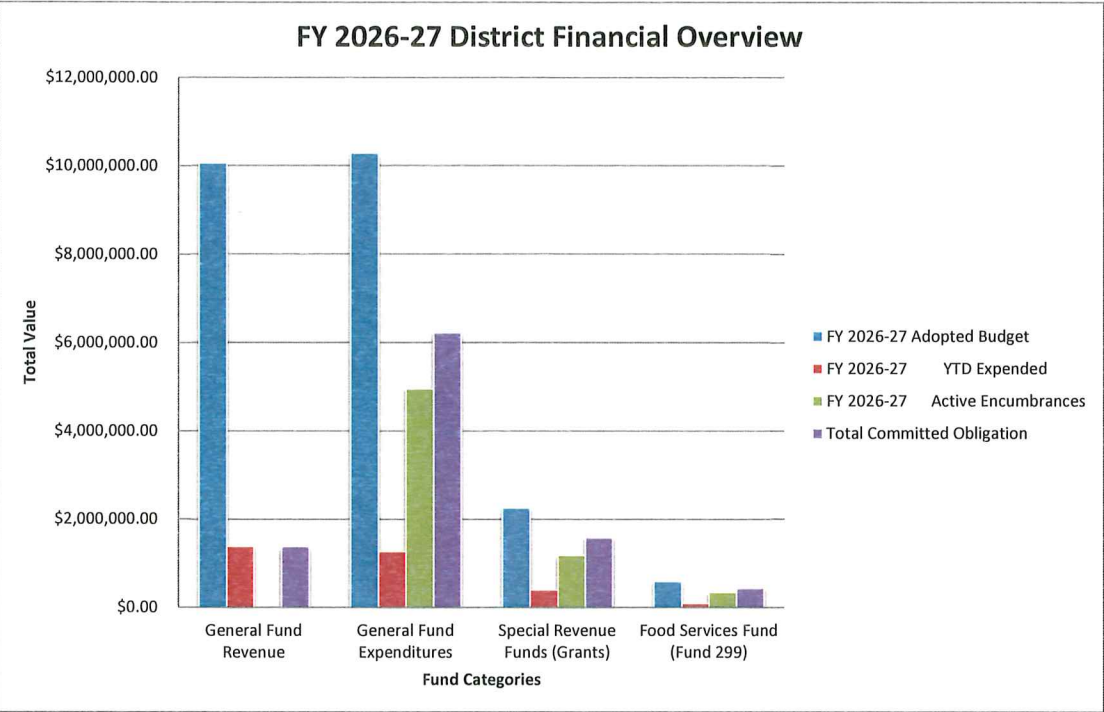
- 1. Strong Structural Pacing:** By intentionally managing our hiring timelines and controlling seasonal summer spending, the district enters the active school year in a significantly more secure cash position than last year.
- 2. Variance Figures Reflect System Timing:** The positive variance margins across major cost centers reflect a standard billing lag rather than reduced operational scope. Contracted salary lines are fully restricted, safe, and backed by strong liquid capital reserves.

The Bottom Line: As of September 30, 2026, all current liabilities are fully covered, district liquid capital is exceptionally stable, and we are tracking significantly ahead of last year's out-of-pocket spending pace.

Vernonia School District - Board Financial Summary

As of September 30, 2026 (Q1 Overview)

Financial Category / Fund	FY 2025-26 Actuals	FY 2026-27 Adopted Budget	FY 2026-27 Expended	YTD	FY 2026-27 Active Encumbrances	Total Committed Obligation	(Over)/Under Budget	% Budget Committed
General Fund Revenue	\$10,112,500.00	\$10,058,000.00	\$1,385,451.10		\$0.00	\$1,385,451.10	\$8,672,548.90	13.8%
General Fund Expenditures	\$9,486,656.05	\$10,284,700.04	\$1,269,455.23		\$4,950,999.67	\$6,220,454.90	\$4,064,245.14	60.5%
Special Revenue Funds (Grants)	\$0.00	\$2,258,180.00	\$397,443.39		\$1,180,280.82	\$1,577,724.21	\$680,455.79	69.9%
Food Services Fund (Fund 299)	\$114.28	\$589,000.00	\$90,462.53		\$349,689.87	\$440,152.40	\$148,847.60	74.7%
GRAND TOTALS	\$9,486,770.33	\$13,131,880.04	\$1,757,361.15		\$6,480,970.36	\$8,238,331.51	\$4,893,548.53	62.7%



General Fund Revenue Breakdown

Source Description	FY 2025-26 Actual	FY 2026-27 Budget	YTD Rev (As of Sept 30)	Outstanding to Collect
1111 Current Year Property Taxes	\$3,375,000.00	\$3,725,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,725,000.00
1112 Prior Year's Property Taxes	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$13,675.09	\$61,324.91
1114 Payment in Lieu of Property Taxes	\$15,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$147.18	\$852.82
1190 Penalties & Interest on Investments	\$7,500.00	\$12,000.00	\$235.76	\$11,764.24
1510 Earnings on Investments	\$130,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$3,657.07	\$76,342.93
2101 County School Funds	\$30,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$5.00	\$44,995.00
2102 ESD Apportionment Matrix	\$150,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00
3101 State School Support Funds	\$4,800,000.00	\$5,360,000.00	\$1,367,731.00	\$3,992,269.00
3103 Common School Fund	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$0.00	\$80,000.00
3104 State Timber	\$650,000.00	\$480,000.00	\$0.00	\$480,000.00
5400 Ending Fund Balance	\$800,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$150,000.00
Total Revenue Sources	\$10,112,500.00	\$10,058,000.00	\$1,385,451.10	\$8,672,548.90

General Fund Expenditures Ledger

Function Description	FY 2026-27 Budget	YTD Exp (Sept 30)	Active Encumbrances	Total Committed	(Over)/Under Budget
1111 Elementary, K-5 or K-6	\$1,574,092.93	\$130,956.01	\$127,832.46	\$258,788.47	\$1,315,304.46
1121 Middle/Junior High Programs	\$827,838.54	\$69,949.60	\$0.00	\$69,949.60	\$757,888.94
1122 Middle/Junior High School Extracurricular	\$51,230.29	\$5,616.84	\$28,850.06	\$34,466.90	\$16,763.39
1131 High School Programs	\$955,007.57	\$78,025.79	\$730,316.54	\$808,342.33	\$146,665.24
1132 High School Extracurricular	\$232,876.16	\$32,804.88	\$114,727.04	\$147,531.92	\$85,344.24
1210 Programs for Talented and Gifted	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
1220 Restrictive Pgms for Students w/Disabilities	\$72,000.00	\$0.00	\$65,328.00	\$65,328.00	\$6,672.00
1250 Programs for Students w/Severe Disabilities	\$900,366.94	\$84,481.42	\$797,260.40	\$881,741.82	\$18,625.12
1260 Treatment and Habilitation	\$15,000.00	\$4,530.42	\$10,469.58	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
1283 District Alternative Programs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1284 Vernonia Family Academy	\$234,173.85	\$16,379.24	\$145,603.99	\$161,983.23	\$72,190.62
1285 Distance Learning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1400 Summer School Program	\$6,768.80	\$7,219.56	\$0.00	\$7,219.56	(\$450.76)
2110 Attendance Services	\$72,390.32	\$5,884.98	\$65,930.13	\$71,815.11	\$575.21
2119 Other Attendance/Social Work Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2120 Guidance Services	\$151,725.95	\$14,466.02	\$47,758.68	\$62,224.70	\$89,501.25
2130 Health Services	\$4,334.87	\$26.07	\$750.00	\$776.07	\$3,558.80
2140 Psychological Services	\$6,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,700.00
2150 Speech Pathology and Audiology Services	\$93,500.00	\$0.00	\$90,854.40	\$90,854.40	\$2,645.60
2190 Service Directions, Student Support Svcs	\$164,342.92	\$7,224.10	\$55,940.03	\$63,164.13	\$101,178.79
2210 Improvement of Instruction	\$55,433.00	\$3,041.31	\$725.00	\$3,766.31	\$51,666.69
2220 Library/Media Center	\$135,534.59	\$15,896.00	\$105,946.95	\$121,842.95	\$13,691.64
2310 Board of Education	\$93,877.60	\$9,303.00	\$74,299.79	\$83,602.79	\$10,274.81
2321 Office of the Superintendent Services	\$422,323.87	\$125,486.95	\$311,219.25	\$436,706.20	(\$14,382.33)
2410 Office of the Principal Services	\$641,836.67	\$112,115.02	\$487,513.89	\$599,628.91	\$42,207.76
2490 School Administration- Other Support	\$2,500.00	\$660.48	\$0.00	\$660.48	\$1,839.52
2520 Fiscal Services	\$546,074.92	\$97,941.10	\$228,289.15	\$326,230.25	\$219,844.67
2524 Payroll Services	\$1,500.00	\$274.24	\$0.00	\$274.24	\$1,225.76
2542 Care and Upkeep of Building Services	\$775,810.98	\$318,713.28	\$266,171.40	\$584,884.68	\$190,926.30
2543 Care and Upkeep of Grounds Services	\$67,972.02	\$15,860.81	\$34,519.16	\$50,379.97	\$17,592.05
2544 Maintenance	\$127,746.41	\$24,472.04	\$73,118.09	\$97,590.13	\$30,156.28
2545 Vehicle Upkeep	\$3,300.00	\$1,918.00	\$172.00	\$2,090.00	\$1,210.00
2550 Student Transportation Services	\$1,118,893.70	\$65,283.65	\$982,919.94	\$1,048,203.59	\$70,690.11
2640 Staff Services	\$7,443.25	(\$0.05)	\$0.00	(\$0.05)	\$7,443.30
2660 Technology Services	\$163,429.23	\$15,807.13	\$96,497.88	\$112,305.01	\$51,124.22
2710 Supplemental Retirement Program	\$36,174.66	\$4,617.34	\$7,735.86	\$12,353.20	\$23,821.46
3100 Food Service	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$1,750.00
5200 Transfers of Funds	\$320,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$320,000.00
6000 Contingency	\$300,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300,000.00
7000 Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
Grand Total Expenditures	\$10,284,700.04	\$1,269,455.23	\$4,950,999.67	\$6,220,454.90	\$4,064,245.14

Legal Resolution Appropriations Compliance

Legal Resolution Categories	Approved Appropriations	YTD Actual Cash Outlays	Active System Encumbrances	Total Financial Commitments	Open Legal Appropriation
1000 Instruction	\$4,869,855.08	\$430,463.76	\$2,020,388.07	\$2,450,851.83	\$2,419,003.25
2000 Support Services	\$4,692,844.96	\$838,991.47	\$2,930,361.60	\$3,769,353.07	\$923,491.89
3000 Community Operations	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$1,750.00
5200 Interfund Transfers	\$320,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$320,000.00
6000 Operating Contingency Cap	\$300,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300,000.00
7000 Unappropriated Balance Buffer	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00

Special Revenue Grants & Enterprise Funds

Specialized Program Funding Pool	Base Allocation	Grant YTD Outlays (thru Sept 30)	Outstanding System Encumbrances	Total Financial Commitment	Grant Available Margin
SIA (Student Investment Account)	\$670,000.00	\$172,778.53	\$431,186.79	\$603,965.32	\$66,034.68
Title IV B	\$425,000.00	\$0.00	\$234,908.39	\$234,908.39	\$190,091.61
Title 1A (Disadvantaged)	\$145,000.00	\$0.00	\$96,911.75	\$96,911.75	\$48,088.25
YTP (Youth Transition Program)	\$48,190.00	\$726.00	\$0.00	\$726.00	\$47,464.00
IDEA Part B (Special Education)	\$127,000.00	\$71,791.92	\$0.00	\$71,791.92	\$55,208.08
M98 HSS (High School Success)	\$190,000.00	\$46,000.00	\$66,701.50	\$112,701.50	\$77,298.50
Early Literacy Initiative	\$63,990.00	\$15,684.41	\$882.52	\$16,566.93	\$47,423.07
Food Services Fund (Fund 299)	\$589,000.00	\$90,462.53	\$349,689.87	\$440,152.40	\$148,847.60
Grand Total Other Funds	\$2,258,180.00	\$397,443.39	\$1,180,280.82	\$1,577,724.21	\$680,455.79

Historical Point - in - Time Camparison

Core General Fund Cost Centers	Previous YTD (thru Sept 30, 2025)	Current YTD (thru Sept 30, 2026)	Absolute Fiscal Variance	Core Driver Analysis
1000 Instruction Functions	\$1,985,837.71	\$1,467,156.60	(\$518,681.11)	Decreased via summer instructional vacancy pacing.
2000 Support Services Functions	\$2,119,476.96	\$1,571,413.16	(\$548,063.80)	Decreased due to delayed regional ESD invoices.
3000 Community Operations	\$38.26	\$38.26	\$0.00	Aligned exactly with historical baselines.
5200 Transfer Reserves	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Aligned exactly with historical baselines.

Maintenance School Board Report September 2026

The Maintenance Department has continued working on repairs, preventative maintenance, classroom needs, and general building upkeep throughout September and will continue focusing on preventative maintenance, classroom and staff requests, safety-related repairs, grounds upkeep, and keeping the district's facilities clean, functional, and ready for students, staff, and community events.

Facilities:

- Classroom drinking fountains: Several classroom drinking fountains have not been working properly. We are replacing O-rings where possible and are hoping to avoid the expense of replacing the entire faucets.
- Kitchen dishwasher: The dishwasher has several broken parts. We are working to locate replacement parts, although some parts have been discontinued by the manufacturers.
- HVAC: Replaced filters on HVAC Unit 12 after waiting for back-ordered filters. Greased all HVAC units as part of preventative maintenance.
- Room 144: Repaired ceiling fans that were not working.
- Office needs: Hung a picture and clock in Pam Voss's office.
- Locker room restrooms: Replaced urinal cartridges in the boys' locker room restrooms.
- Classroom furniture: Pulled desks, chairs, and cabinets from storage throughout the month and delivered them to classrooms as requested. We are continuing to remove unwanted furniture from classrooms.
- Restrooms: Replaced a broken paper towel holder. Repaired several restroom doors by rehanging hinges. Additional brackets are still needed before a couple more doors can be rehung.
- Yellow Hall bathroom: One bathroom door was damaged beyond repair and will need to be completely replaced. We are checking the budget to determine when the replacement can be completed.
- Staff lounge: Repaired the massage chair in the staff lounge, which had been out of service for approximately a year. Staff were very happy to have it working again.
- Kitchen: Repaired a leak in the dishwasher hose.
- VFA House: Removed a large table from the VFA house and moved it into storage.
- Walkie-talkies: Continuing to replace batteries and update walkie-talkies for staff.
- Lighting: Continued working with Mark Brown on the interior and exterior lighting system. The system is older and has been challenging to program consistently. The settings appear to be working correctly, and I adjusted the time on Monday, September 28, in preparation for the upcoming daylight-saving time change. I am continuing to monitor the system to make sure the lights turn on and off at the appropriate times. Football game schedules are also being taken into consideration, including keeping the lights on later for Friday night games and away-game needs.
- Classroom setup: Assembled six tables for Mrs. Myatt's classroom.

Grounds:

- Continue maintaining the football field each week, including being on the field Wednesday before the lines are completed on Thursday.
- Continue making approximately two trips each week to pick up trash and empty garbage cans around the football field, snack shack, and front of the school.
- Completed additional hedging in front of the school now that the bees are no longer an issue in that area. Additional trimming will continue.
- Practice field goalpost: The goalpost on the practice field continues to be pulled on by students, particularly during football games when it is dark. I have discussed the issue with the Building Committee working on the new grandstands. They have agreed to assist with removing the goalpost after football season.

Mist Elementary:

- Continued mowing and trimming.
- Located and treated a wasp nest in the ground.
- Bathroom sink needs a new O-ring. This will be repaired during the next visit.
- Water testing was completed on September 23. We are currently waiting for the results.
- Install of additional water holding tank is still in process. Precision Pump is on hold until they get the necessary parts.
- One large bulletin board still needs to be hung, waiting on brackets to arrive.
- Plumbing/drains will be replaced on the two urinals in boys' bathroom

Personal Electronic Devices and Social Media - Staff

Staff possession or use of personal electronic devices on district property, in district facilities during the work day and while the staff is on duty in attendance at district-sponsored activities may be permitted subject to the limitations set forth in this policy and consistent with any additional school rules as may be established by the superintendent. At no time, whether on duty or off duty, will a personal electronic device be used in a manner that interferes with staff duty and responsibility for the supervision of students.

A “personal electronic device” is a device, not issued by the district, is capable of electronically communicating, sending, receiving, storing, recording, reproducing, and/or displaying information and data

Personal electronic devices shall be silenced during instructional [or class] time, while on duty or at any other time where such use of the device would cause a disruption of school activities or interfere with work assignment. Devices which have the capability to take photographs or record video or audio shall not be used for such purposes while on district property or while a staff member is on duty in district-sponsored activities, unless as expressly authorized by the principal or designee for a use directly related to and consistent with the employee’s assigned duties. Computers, tablets, iPads or similar devices brought to school will be restricted to academic activities during on duty time.

The district will not be liable for loss or damage to personal electronic devices brought to district property and district-sponsored activities.

Staff members, while on duty and off duty, will utilize social media websites, public websites and blogs, judiciously by not posting confidential information about students, staff or district business.^a Staff may not post images of district facilities, staff, students, volunteers or parents without written authorization from persons with authority to grant such a release. Staff members, while on duty and off duty, will treat fellow employees, students and the public with respect while posting on social media websites, etc., in order to prevent substantial disruption in school. Communication with students using personal electronic devices will be appropriate and professional.

Communication with students using personal electronic devices regarding nonschool-related matters is prohibited during work hours and strongly discouraged at all other times. If communicating with students electronically regarding school-related matters, staff should use district e-mail using mailing lists and/or other internet messaging to a group of students rather than individual students. Texting students during work hours is strongly discouraged. Texting a student while off duty is strongly discouraged.

Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons with superintendent or designee approval.

Staff are subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal for using a personal electronic device in any manner that is illegal or violates the terms of this policy. Staff actions on social media

^aNothing in this policy is intended in any form to limit the right of employees to engage in protected labor activities via the use of social media.

websites, public websites and blogs, while on or off duty, which disrupt the school environment, are subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. A “disruption” for purposes of this policy includes, but is not limited to, ~~one or more parent threatens to remove their children from a particular class or particular school, actual withdrawal of a student or students from a particular class or particular school and/or a threatened or~~ **staff social media actions which result in, or can be reasonable predicted to result in, an** actual negative impact on the learning environment. The taking, disseminating, transferring or sharing of obscene, pornographic or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (commonly called texting, sexting, emailing etc.) may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law. Any person taking, disseminating, transferring or sharing obscene, pornographic or otherwise illegal images or photographs, will be reported to law enforcement and/or other appropriate state or federal agencies.

Licensed staff are subject at all times to the Standards of Competent and Ethical Performance for Teachers. (See Board policy GCAA)

The superintendent shall ensure that this policy is available to all employees.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

<u>ORS 167.057</u>	<u>ORS 163.693</u>	<u>ORS 339.372</u>
<u>ORS 163.432</u>	<u>ORS 163.700</u>	
<u>ORS 163.433</u>	<u>ORS 167.057</u>	OAR 584-020-0000 – 020-0035
<u>ORS 163.684</u>	<u>ORS 326.011</u>	
<u>ORS 163.686</u>	<u>ORS 326.051</u>	Senate Bill 155 (2019)
<u>ORS 163.687</u>	<u>ORS 332.072</u>	
<u>ORS 163.688</u>	<u>ORS 332.107</u>	
<u>ORS 163.689</u>	<u>ORS 336.840</u>	

18 U.S.C. § 1466A (2018)
18 U.S.C. § 1470 (2018)
20 U.S.C. § 7131 (2018)
20 U.S.C. § 7906 (2018)

Copyrights, Title 17, as amended, United States Code (2018); 19 CFR Part 133 (2019).

Melzer v. Bd. Of Educ., City of New York, 336 F.3d 185 (2d Cir. 2003).

Ross v. Springfield Sch. Dist., No. FDA 80-1, aff’d, 56 Or. App. 197, rev’d and remanded, 294 Or. 357 (1982), order on remand (1983), aff’d, 71 Or. App. 111 (1984), rev’d and remanded, 300 Or. 507 (1986), order on second remand (1987), revised order on second remand (1988).\

Student Policies, Goals and Objectives

Through its student policies, the Board seeks to advance these goals:

1. To enhance equal educational opportunities for all students;
2. To promote regular attendance;
3. To ensure that the constitutional rights of all students as citizens in a democracy have practical meaning and application;
4. To develop in students a sense of personal responsibility for their actions;
5. To assure student safety, health and welfare;
6. To deal justly and constructively with all students in matters of discipline;
7. To help all students feel that they are valued as individual persons in the school environment.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 329.015](#)
[ORS 329.025](#)
[ORS 329.035](#)
[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-022-1030](#)

Vernonia School District 47J

Code: **JEDB**
Adopted: 02/10/00
Readopted: **10/08/26**
Orig. Code(s): JEDB

Student Dismissal Precautions**

No teacher may permit any individual student to leave school prior to the regular hour of dismissal except by permission of the superintendent or designee.

A student will not be released to any person without the approval of his/her parent or as provided for in Oregon Revised Statutes.

The superintendent will develop procedures for parents wishing to pick up their student from school prior to the scheduled end of the student's day.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 107.154](#)
[ORS 163.245 - 163.257](#)
[ORS 332.107](#)

Vernonia School District 47J

Code: **JGB**
Adopted: 05/14/87
Readopted: **10/08/26**
Orig. Code(s): JGB

Detention of Students**

A school administrator or teacher may detain a student for disciplinary reasons after school hours, provided the parent has been notified of the detention and, in the case of bus students, arrangements have been made for the student's transportation home. In cases where transportation is required, 24-hour notice will be given so that transportation may be arranged.

Parents may be asked to arrange for the transportation of the detained student; however, if the parent cannot or will not provide it, an alternative disciplinary procedure must be substituted.

Students who are detained after school must never be left alone during their detention. Their supervision must be provided, or arranged for, by the teacher or administrator who detains them.

Detention on one day is to be limited to 60 minutes except for detention at Saturday School.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 339.250](#)

[OAR 581-021](#)-0050 to -0075

Vernonia School District 47J

Code: JHDA
Adopted: 05/14/87
Readopted: 10/08/26
Orig. Code(s): JHDA

Psychological Testing of Students**

Psychological tests, excluding intelligence tests, will be administered to students only by licensed school psychologists/psychometrists employed for this purpose or by interns under their supervision. Adherence to this policy will ensure quality psychological services and will protect the educational rights, dignity and privacy of students and parents.

Psychological evaluations will be made only after informed and written consent of the student's parent or surrogate is obtained, unless the student is of legal age to give his/her informed and written consent. Psychological data will be only one of several criteria used for determining any change in a student's educational program. Psychological data older than three years, excluding intelligence tests, will not be used as the basis for prescriptive teaching or placement.

To ensure confidentiality of psychological records, written parental consent is required prior to the release of psychological data. Parents will also be informed of their right to: (1) inspect all psychological records pertaining to their student; and (2) a hearing to challenge the contents of their student's psychological records. Students age 18 and older will be extended all education records rights heretofore accorded to parents.

Education records will be released only in accordance with law.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[OAR 581-021-0030](#)
[OAR 581-021-0046 \(7\)](#)
[OAR 581-022-1670](#)

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, sec. 438, 20 U.S.C. sec. 1232g (1988).
Act of August 21, 1974, sec. 439, 20 U.S.C. sec. 1232h (1988).

Cross Reference(s):

JO - Education Records

MEETING MINUTES

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD of DIRECTORS Regular Meeting – September 10, 2026 Vernonia Schools Library, 1000 Missouri Avenue, Vernonia

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER:** A Regular Meeting of the Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Greg Kintz, Board Chair. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Tony Holmes, Chris McManus, Amy Cieloha, Lisa Curry and Greg Kintz. Joanie Jones arrived at 6:02 p.m. BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** Alicia Mahoney BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Darla Waite-Larkin, Superintendent; Pam Voss, Business Manager; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Debbie Johnston, Maintenance Supervisor; and Brett Costley, Sara Goodman and Charise Ash, Licensed Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Scott Laird VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 2.0 AGENDA REVIEW:** Lisa Curry moved to approve the agenda as presented. Amy Cieloha seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. AGENDA REVIEW
- 3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT:** None. PUBLIC COMMENT
- 4.0 SHOWCASING OF SCHOOLS:**
- 4.1 Administrator Reports:** Darla Waite-Larkin has asked principals to create parent newsletters and use these for their board reports. There were no questions from the Board. Amy Cieloha commented that she was glad to receive a copy of the master schedule. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS
- 5.0 BUSINESS REPORTS:**
- 5.1 Superintendent Report:** Darla Waite-Larkin's report was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Enrollment was highlighted as well as staffing changes at the elementary schools. She further shared that she has been holding meetings with her special education team. The virtual speech and language therapist as well as the school psychologist will be leaving as on- site staff in these positions will be starting soon. Bringing them back in-house is the best option for our students and staff. She reviewed all contracts and financial impacts before making this decision. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT
- Darla Waite-Larkin shared that she feels very supported as she continues to transition into her role as superintendent.
- 5.2 Financial Report:** Pam Voss provided a high-level overview report since there has only been 2 months in this fiscal year. She is still expecting the state school fund revenue to come in. Cash is tight at the moment until we get farther into the year. The District has slowed down on any bigger purchases until money comes in. Revenue that comes to us from property taxes and state school fund comes monthly. The 2025-26 ending fund balance was small which proves to be a bit challenging starting a new year, while waiting for funding to arrive. FINANCIAL REPORT
- Darla Waite-Larkin shared that after visiting with Pam, a few surprises were discovered. There isn't a clear path as to why previous decisions were made and they have worked with both unions on some of the issues. Working together with the unions has gone well.
- Amy Cieloha asked about student body accounts. Pam shared that she is still having trouble getting access to the Student Body accounts. She can and will generate any reports the Board wants.
- 5.3 Maintenance Report:** Debbie Johnston's report was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Darla Waite-Larkin shared that there are bees in the ground in the front landscape MAINTENANCE REPORT

areas which is why there is caution tape around them. Greg Kintz stated that he and his wife and Joanie Jones recently spent time working at Mist on the outside defensible space.

6.0 BOARD REPORTS/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT:

6.1 Committee Reports:

COMMITTEE UPDATES

6.1.1 Policy Committee: Greg Kintz shared that last month there was a first reading on policy KNA and KNA-AR. It is on tonight's agenda for approval. The committee is currently reviewing policy GCAB for next month's meeting.

6.1.2 Safety Committee: Chris McManus provided an update to the Board on the work of the safety committee. A safety drill schedule and goals of the committee have been reviewed. They also wish to focus on bringing an elementary perspective to the committee. Safety walk-throughs with committee members assigned to areas is in the works. More evacuation maps are needed and they held discussion on installing a gate on the gravel road by the CTE area. Mr. Costanzo is obtaining a quote for materials. There is unfinished work in the metal shop and Chris is going to assist with this on the October 9th inservice day. Darla Waite-Larkin spoke about the second egress from staff room. This door, which is a back access to the District Office space, will be unlocked during the day when staff are present

6.1.3 Scholarship Committee: Nothing to report.

7.0 OTHER INFORMATION and DISCUSSION

7.1 Staff Resignation and New Hire: The MS/HS Counselor previously hired was recalled back to her position at Portland Public Schools. Ree Ann Leslie has been hired in the position.

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Policy Approval: Amy Cieloha moved to approve policy KNA and KNA-AR version 1 and 2 as presented. Tony Holmes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

POLICY APPROVED

8.2 Staff Resignation & New Hire: Chris McManus moved to accept the resignation of MS/HS Counselor, Abby Welter and the Administration's recommendation to hire Ree Ann Leslie, MS/HS Counselor effective 8/25/26. Joanie Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

WELTER RESIGNS
LESLIE HIRED

9.0 MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE:

Greg Kintz mentioned the OSBA conference in November. He will be attending the preconference as well as the conference.

MONITORING BOARD
PERFORMANCE

10.0 CONSENT AGENDA:

CONSENT AGENDA

10.1 Minutes of 08/13/2026 Regular Meeting.

Amy Cieloha moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Chris McManus seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA
APPROVED

11.0 OTHER ISSUES:

OTHER ISSUES

11.1 Next Agenda Setting Meeting will be held virtually on Wed. 09/30/26 at 3:30 Amy Cieloha will join Greg Kintz and Darla Waite-Larkin.

12.0 UPCOMING DATES:

UPCOMING DATES

September 23, 2026 – School Board Retreat – 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

October 8, 2026 – School Board Meeting @ Mist Elementary – 6:00 p.m.

13.0 MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:41 p.m.

ADJOURNED

Submitted by Barb Carr,
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Directors

Board Chair

District Clerk

MEETING MINUTES

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD of DIRECTORS Workshop Meeting – September 23, 2026 Vernonia Schools, 1000 Missouri Avenue, Vernonia

1. CALL TO ORDER: A Workshop of the Board of Directors of Vernonia School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 4:01p.m. by Greg Kintz, Board Chair.	MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
Board Present: Tony Holmes, Chris McManus, Alicia Mahoney, Amy Cieloha, and Greg Kintz. Joanie Jones arrived at 5:00 p.m.	BOARD PRESENT
Board Absent: Lisa Curry	BOARD ABSENT
Staff Present: Darla Waite-Larkin, Superintendent; and Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant.	STAFF PRESENT
Visitors Present: Mike Scott, Righttime Coaching	VISITORS PRESENT
Welcome and Introductions: Mike Scott introduced himself and asked the group to introduce themselves. Board members shared their “why” for being a board member.	ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES TRAINING
It was shared that when the Board and Superintendent work together as a team, great possibilities can happen. Proposed meeting norms were highlighted: balance participation between speaking and listening. Make progress on board issues, have respectful dialogue, ask questions, focus on solutions, and have student-centered decision making.	
Board members shared what they were most proud up last year and also what improvements they’d like to see this year.	
Mike Scott shared the high stakes currently being seen for board/superintendent teams in relation to confidence in the organization, attainment of goals, positive impact on student achievement, impact on staff morale, and superintendent longevity (average of 3 years).	
Roles and Responsibilities - Board members are not elected to manage the organization, but rather to provide direction through vision and goals. - The Board governs: establishment of goals, adopts policies, approves the budget, evaluates the superintendent, and represents the community - The Superintendent manages: daily operations, personnel, programs and services, implementation of board direction, provides meaningful engagement opportunities for board members on topics impacting the district	
Effective Boards: shared value and belief that all students can learn, unified governance with superintendent, data monitoring, community engagement, conditions for success, board bonding and bridging.	
Ineffective Boards: micromanagement, personal agendas, disorderly meetings, refer to external pressures, less reliance on the superintendent, interpersonal conflict.	
Scenarios of community and staff interactions with board members were reviewed and discussed.	
The meeting was paused shortly after 5:00 p.m. for a dinner break and resumed at 5:32 p.m.	
A discussion on goals was held. The traditional model had separate board and superintendent goals. The shared goals model has both the board and the superintendent team setting goals together. The board identifies action that they can do to meet the goal and the superintendent and their team identify actions they can take to meet the goal. Monitoring the progress every couple of meetings is important to the success of the goal.	
Shared Goals Reminders: - Create a tight focus - Roles are different but the destination is the same	

- 3. Alignment builds confidence in the district
- 4. Clear goals allow for better monitoring and accountability

The Board/Superintendent team is invested in each other’s successes. Regardless of the goals, sustained change takes time. 3-5 years is where the meaningful and lasting change occurs. Some actions speed up a goal and others slow the progress down.

Behaviors that slow momentum / progress include reinforcing negative perceptions without evidence, reopening decisions without new information or clear reasons, stepping outside defined roles and not following through on commitments, sending mixed messages to staff or community and leading with criticism instead of questions and problem solving.

Behaviors that continue to move towards sustained progress include expect and normalize the slow shift from resistance to momentum, recommit to shared goals and revisit working agreements, especially communication and roles, normalize feedback, recognize teamwork, and celebrate progress, model emotional intelligence – pause judgement and stay curious.

Shared goals to consider: Darla Waite-Larkin talked about her goals.

- 1. Build Trust Through Visible, Consistent Leadership.
- 2. Improve Use of Highly Effective Instruction Strategies.
- 3. Strengthen Organizational Excellence Through Systems and Accountability
- 4. Ensure Long-Term Fiscal Stewardship and District Sustainability
- 5. Foster a Culture of Excellence, Belonging, and Continuous Improvement.

Discussion was held on these goals and Mike and Darla will update as discussed. The goals will be brought back for board approval.

ADJOURNED: Workshop adjourned at 7:12 p.m. ADJOURNED

Board Chair

District Clerk