



401 N Canyon City Blvd • Canyon City, OR, 97820-6111
Phone: (541) 575-1280 • FAX: (541) 575-3614

Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 09/18/2024 | 7:00PM

ZOOM IN BY USING THE FOLLOWING ACCESS CREDENTIALS:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2595245851?pwd=ZjFIZ2w2eDNPMmhoT1VtS0wvbk1MZz09>

Meeting ID: 259 524 5851 | Passcode: HelloGSD3

[* = supplement enclosed]

1) **PRELIMINARY BUSINESS:**

- 1.1 Call to order: The meeting was called to order by chair Will Blood.
 - 1.1.1 Board Attendance: M.T. Anderson, Amy Charette, Chris Labhart, Jake Taylor, Zac Bailey, Will Blood, Superintendent Mark Witty.
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.3 Agenda Review
 - 1.3.1 Motion was made by Zac Bailey and seconded by Amy Charette to adopt agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

2) **PUBLIC COMMENTS | 3-MINUTE LIMIT: 0**

- 2.1 Public Forum: There were no public comments

3) **STUDENT BODY REPORT(S):** Mallory Lusco, ASB president for elementary school reports that they have had two assemblies this school year. The first assembly was on the first day of school and the ASB introduced the new teachers, staff members, and the Prospector Fight Song. The second was a pep assembly, where they introduced sports teams and clubs and informed students what was happening with these programs. They played games and announced homecoming week, October 7-12th, 2024. The activities planned for that week include power volleyball, powder puff football, a noise parade, class games and bonfire, homecoming king and queen coronation, home football game, home soccer game and dance on Saturday night.

4) **REPORTS:**

- 4.1 Financial/Business Manager/ MJE *
 - 4.1.1 See: Board Meeting Packet – Addendum | Financial Report – Mary Jo Evers is sick and excused from attending the board meeting. Financial reports are in the board packet and the board can email Mrs. Evers if there are any questions concerning the financial business of the district.
- 4.2 Current Enrollment | Average Daily Membership (ADM) Reporting) as of last day of previous month/ JM *

Mr. Witty reported that student enrollment at the district is down 15 students from the end of June; this is because the graduate class of 2024 was a large class, and the incoming kindergarten class is smaller. It is key to watch the kindergarten group and serve younger students because of its impact on the district; this is one of the reasons the district has a child care center.
- 4.3 Current Staffing/JY/jm
 - 4.3.1 GU = 38
 - 4.3.2 HES = 42
 - 4.3.3 SES = 4
 - 4.3.4 HCCC = 5
 - 4.3.5 DO = 4

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- 4.3.6 Transportation = 7
- 4.3.7 **TOTAL: 100**
- 4.4 Administrator's Reports | Previous Month:
- 4.4.1 Principal, Justin Lieuallen | Vice Principal, Andy Lusco | GU * Chair Will Blood asked if there was an emergency in the high school, how could he quickly have access through the new security doors. Superintendent Witty said they are working out the protocol; there is an app that can quickly give permissions to approved personnel; but he will have a conversation with the sheriff's department for best procedures. The district has chosen to have a security system and will use it, following all protocol and procedures.
- 4.4.2 SpEd Director, Shanna Northway | GU/HES *
- 4.4.3 Principal, Janine Attlesperger | Humbolt (HES)* Principal Attlesperger commented that students are excited about the new playground.
- 4.4.4 Principal, Janine Attlesperger | Seneca (SES) *
- 4.4.5 Director, Trina Fell | Humbolt Child Care Center (HCCC) *
- 4.5 Superintendent's Report/ Superintendent Mark Witty
- 4.5.1 Advocacy Letter Update – Malheur Lumber/ Superintendent Witty discusses the potential economic impact of the mill closing. Information came from a study done by the State of Oregon Employment Department. If 76 people lose jobs at the mill due to closure, the impact rolls forward and causes an anticipated job loss of 207. Labor income lost is \$10,963,000 a year, Grant County as a whole is \$58 million loss. This would impact hospitals, grocery stores, and school districts. Historically speaking, when the forest service consolidated and relocated to Albuquerque, New Mexico, they took a lot of jobs, and Grant Union lost 30 students over the next five years. The impact of the mill closure could be 60 students in the next two to four years. We need to be very cautious and knowledgeable about this. If the district lost 60 students, the diminished funds would total about 8% of the total budget. This type of loss would impact our program significantly. We need to work really hard and collaborate with whoever wants to keep this mill open. There's a lot of reasons to keep it open, but for the district, both students and staff, it's critical for jobs and student learning. In 2007 when the mill was going to be closed down, there was a town hall meeting and people were really engaged, and action occurred. When people raise their voice, there's an opportunity for some solutions. Oftentimes, people leave jobs to get ahead of the layoffs, which leads to employment issues at the mill. If there is no mill in John Day, there is no management of the forest, and the forest becomes service will struggle managing the forest.
- 4.5.1.1 Economic Forecast State [of Oregon] → COSA Rep Superintendent Witty reports that economics for Oregon has exceeded forecasts and expectations and Witty thinks there will be a reasonable COLA for K-12 funding.
- 4.5.2 OSBA Roadshow | Prairie City School District | 10/28– 6:00 – 8:00PM */ Witty reports that there is OSBA meeting Monday, Oct 28th at Prairie City. It's worth getting involved to have your voice heard.
- 4.5.3 OSBA Fall Conference | 11/07 – 11/09/2024 */ 9th Witty strongly encourages board members to attend the OSBA Fall Conference. Board members comment on their past experiences at the conference.
- 4.5.4 Studer Leadership Training | 09/20 – 8:00AM – 12:00PM Witty reports that it's the second sessions with students. We will finalize it and bring it to closure on Friday. It's been great to work with certified teachers and admin.
- 4.5.5 Educational Workforce Advocacy w/ ODE * Witty reports that he and Robert Waltenberg wrote a letter that addresses some of the main challenges of workforce. Representative Owens agreed to put together

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a meeting with ODE. Rural Oregon is competing for hard to find teachers and other specialized positions, and there aren't enough people to fill the positions that baby boomers retired from. This has never been the case before. The state of Oregon needs to start taking a step and looking at what it can do to incentivize high school students to pursue a career in education. A question was asked about loan forgiveness in hospitals or scholarships to help recruit teachers. Witty explained that the district does that to some degree, but school districts across the board have got to be creative in finding teachers and other staff. Grant district added into the CBA a hard to fill section to help staff teaching positions. Witty also encourages Educational Assistants to consider becoming teachers.

- 4.6 Construction/Capitol Projects Update/Budget Narrative/MW * Witty reports that the district won the Renew America grant, along with 11 school consortia in the state of Oregon. Phase one is not a large amount of money but will fund an energy audit with the district matching 5%. Phase two, we are the guinea pigs for this phase, and work will begin the third week in June 2025. Phase two is a significant grant of \$636,000. Details for phase three are still to come. We are excited about this Renew America grant; it looks like it will come out in our favor.
- 4.6.1 GSD3 Project Tracker
- 4.6.2 GSD3 Project Updates
- 4.7 Strategic Plan Scorecard – draft/MW */ Witty shares an update with the Strategic Plan Scorecard; there are different components and systems in place to help students receive support, achieve success, and learn respect. We will give a final report in October to review and ask for your input.
- 4.8 NWEA MAPS Growth Assessment/ The NWEA is a new testing mechanism brought to us through the state of Oregon, from the federal government. Shannon Northway reported that the new math assessment is a tool that will allow the district to test students, utilize and own the data. One of the goals of the district is to individualize education and this math assessment program will allow the district to track students throughout their education at GU. Northway explained that students will be tested at the beginning, middle, and end of the year; all tests are 42 questions long and take up to 40-60 minutes to complete. The district will also still open up the state testing window if students want to take state tests. Students may opt out of the state tests if desired by the family. NWEA Growth testing began today with reading fluency; data will be available next month. It has been a lot of work for Northway to roll out this testing system. Dayville has been using this for the past years and have felt like it has been helpful; educators are able to tailor and individualize education plans for each student. Students can see their results and work with teachers.
- 4.9 **Executive Functioning Training: supplement(s) will be added to finalized minutes**
- 4.9.1 Janine Attlesperger, Principal | Humbolt Elementary School Janine Attlesperger reported that as part of the district's strategic plan, all staff will be trained in executive functioning skills. The first training session included how to teach students self-regulation skills as a prerequisite for academics, and at what point in student's development do the skills typically emerge. Attlesperger followed up with teachers after the training; seasoned teachers felt like the information in the program was basic and wanted a deeper dive, but newer teachers thought it was helpful. The next training will focus on how to implement skills and strategies, with concrete examples. The training was presented virtually, but the next training will be in person. Witty believes that executive functioning skills are critical for overall success. Northway said that since staff has had this training, they have been looking at problems through the lens of self-regulation skills, and teachers are able to pinpoint issues and create strategies to fix problems.
- 4.9.2 Justin Lieuallen, Principal | Grant Union JR/SR High school/ **JA presented for JL**

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5) **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 5.1 Recommend Approving 08/21/2024 Board Meeting Minutes *
- 5.2 **Recommend Accepting New Hires:**
 - 5.2.1 Stacy Durych, Teacher | Seneca Elementary School
 - 5.2.2 Kristal Hansen, Head JH Girls Basketball Coach | Grant Union JR/SR High School
 - 5.2.3 Kaitlyn Swaggart, Head JH Volleyball Coach | Grant Union JR/SR High School
- 5.3 **Recommend Accepting Employment Role Transfer:**
 - 5.3.1 VanLoo, Melissa | Educational Assistant → Office Specialist I | Humbolt Elementary School
- 5.4 **Recommend Accepting Employment Role Addition:**
 - 5.4.1 Cindy Dougharity-Spencer, Online Teacher of Record for Social Studies | Grant Union JR/SR High School
 - 5.4.2 Elijah Humbird, Online Teacher of Record for Language Arts | Grant Union JR/SR High School
 - 5.4.3 Drew Lusco, Online Teacher of Record for Math | Grant Union JR/SR High School
 - 5.4.4 Sonna Smith, Online Teacher of Record for Science | Grant Union JR/SR High School
 - 5.4.5 Trista Strong, Social Media Specialist | Grant Union JR/SR High School
 - 5.4.6 Kalinn Cummings, SpEd Aide | Grant Union JR/SR High School
 - 5.4.7 Brooklynne Rhinehart, Instructional Assistant | Humbolt Elementary School
 - 5.4.8 Jennifer Smoot, 3rd Grade Teacher | Humbolt Elementary School
- 5.5 **Recommend Accepting Employment Resignations:**
 - 5.5.1 Amanda Gibbs, Boys JH Basketball Coach | Grant Union JR/SR High School
- 5.6 **Recommend Approving APRIL 2024 POLICIES BATCH | READING: 2 of 2 (action required):**
 - 5.6.1 OSBA Policy Update Guide | Vol. 69 No. 2 sch * | See: **Board Meeting Packet – Addendum 1 (05/15/2024)**
 - 5.6.1.1 Optional | See: **Policies Packet | “Optional”**
- 5.7 Approval Consent Agenda (Entire Section): Motion to approve consent items was made by Amy Charette and was seconded by Jake Taylor. Motion carried unanimously.

6) **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 6.1 **Malheur Lumber Closure & Economic Impact Advocacy Letter** Will Blood reports that a letter has been drafted that states the devastating impact of the mill closure in the county. Housing availability, workforce availability, and geographic isolation have caused economic challenges for the mill. The intent of the letter is to inform and engage the government and other agencies in the state, and to encourage people to contact local leadership, state and federal legislators. Will Blood is hopeful that through a collective effort, the community can navigate these challenges and emerge stronger, and that the health of the forests can be maintained. Mark Witty commented that Malheur Lumber needed \$8-\$10 million investment to continue operations; in contrast without the mill, the forest fails, the state loses \$58 million in revenue, and social services and challenges will increase. \$10 million dollar investment will pay dividends; if politicians think that the community is apathetic to the situation, nothing will get done, but if people will voice concerns, solutions can be found. Discussion followed about the impact of the mill closure on the county and school district.
 - 6.1.1 Motion was made by Jake Taylor to support and promote the advocacy letter; motion was seconded by M.T. Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- 6.2 Construction Contract to Approve:
 - 6.2.1 AIA Document A133 – 2019 Exhibit A *
 - 6.2.2 **Grant Union HS HVAC & Electrical Upgrades** Troy Farwell called into explain the addendum to the contract for the heating, electric and communications upgrades in the junior high and high school buildings. The

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addendum takes the project from the initial contract to dollar phase. By approving the addendum, Troy will be able to purchase materials, invoice the district, and use \$330,000 of ESSER dollars that will otherwise expire. Witty comments that Troy Farwell's expertise has been paramount in finding better design and solutions to the project. The district can start collecting phase two of the Renew America grant in June 2025. CB is hoping to start doing exterior work this fall. If Grant Union has any 18-year old seniors that have openings in their schedules, CB could potentially use them on the project when they get started. Wages are set at the prevailing wage.

6.2.2.1 Motion to approve the AIA document A133 was made by Zac Bailey, was seconded by Jake Taylor. Motion carried unanimously.

7) **FUTURE CALENDAR DATES | 2024 | ALL Meetings are held at District Office, unless otherwise specified:**

- 7.1.1 09/18 – Board Meeting | 7:00PM
- 7.1.2 10/16 – Board Meeting | 7:00PM
- 7.1.3 10/28 – OSBA Roadshow | Prairie City School District | 6:00 – 8:00PM
- 7.1.4 11/07 – 11/09/2024 | OSBA Fall Conference
- 7.1.5 11/20 – Board Meeting | 7:00PM (subject to change)
- 7.1.6 12/12 – Board Meeting | 7:00PM (subject to change)

8) **BOARD REPORTS:**

- 8.1 **KB:** Out
- 8.2 **M.T. A:** Thank you to Shanna Northway, Janine Attlesperger's presentations
- 8.3 **AC:** Thank you for a successful start of this school year, and for the presentations by SN and JA
- 8.4 **CL:** Impressed with assembly awarding Sonna Smith with the 2023/2024 Crystal Apple Award; programs per Tonia Seebart; also SN presentation
- 8.5 **ZB:** Thank you to MW for leading the educational world forward with Oregon; presentations by SN and JA
- 8.6 **WB:** Appreciated presentations by SN and JA; award assembly; Seebart programs presentation; shared driving volley ball team to their destination and back – fun times!
- 8.7 **JT:** Thanks for presentations by SN and JA; MW contending with Oregon; number of students in programs – showing momentum

[Board Packet posted on district web site at: https://grantsd3.schoolsites.com/](https://grantsd3.schoolsites.com/)


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9) **TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE:**

- 9.1 In Person: 8
- 9.2 Via Zoom: ~ 9

10) **ADJOURNED: 9:02PM**

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

X:  Date: 10/16/24
 Mark Witty, Superintendent

X:  Date: 10/16/24
 Will Blood, Board Chair
 Amy Charette

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Grant School District No. 3

PLEASE SIGN IN

BOARD MEETING

District Office Board Room

DATE: 09/18/2024 TIME: 7:00 pm

CHECK HERE if you wish to address the Board during Public Forum.

(3- Minute Limit)

NAME (please print)

TOWN REPRESENTING

<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Janine Atlesperger</u>	<u>JD</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Levana James</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Landon James</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Shanna Northway</u>	<u>John Day</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Andy Lasco</u>	<u>John Day</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Mallory Lasco</u>	<u>John Day</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Carrie Sullivan</u>	<u>Seneca</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Anna Field</u>	<u>John Day</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>		