

**SHERMAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Budget Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Moro, OR**  
**May 6, 2019**

The Budget Committee of the Sherman County School District met for the budget committee meeting on Monday, May 6, 2019 in the Sherman County Public/School Library at 7:00 p.m. The following were present: Elected members: Bill Martin, Scott Susi, Kristie Coelsch, Merrie von Borstel and Jesse Stutzman; appointed members: Johnathan Rolfe, Lisa Kaseberg, Ron Holmes, Ted von Borstel and DeeAnn Ramos; Wes Owens, Superintendent, Kim McKinney, Business Manager, and Gerald Casper.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Kristie Coelsch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**NOMINATION OF CHAIRPERSON**

**Motion by Ted von Borstel, second by Jesse Stutzman to elect Johnathan Rolfe for chairperson. Vote: Motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Chair Rolfe asked for public input. There was none.

**BUDGET MESSAGE AND DISCUSSION**

Chair Rolfe asked Superintendent Owens to deliver the budget message. The budget message is attached to these minutes for reference. Superintendent Owens began by thanking everyone for serving on the budget committee. The Committee decided to have Superintendent Owens share the highlights of the budget message presented in a PowerPoint presentation as they had all read it prior to the meeting. Those highlights included:

- We are very fortunate in our district to receive the support of so many including the community, Sherman County and our wonderful staff.
- This budget is based on the more conservative co-chairs biennium budget of \$8.871 billion. The legislature is currently in session and there is talk of more school funding so we will wait and see.
- Additional Professional Development opportunities for all staff (which totals \$15,000 for Tuition Reimbursement and \$17,000 for Professional Development).
- Support of a three year District Strategic Plan to guide our important work.

- Full implementation of One to One Technology for students K-12 with generous support from the James Weir Memorial Trust.
- Advancing Oregon Response to Instruction and Intervention (ORTIi) to continue to improve student outcomes K-6 which includes purchasing intervention curriculum materials and updating the universal screener.
- Addition of .8 FTE in a Teacher on Special Assignment position (five days a week) to be a champion for ORTIi/PBIS. This position will also support Supervision, State Testing K-12 and Instructional Coaching K-12.
- Increase in support of Title 1 services from .7 FTE to .8 FTE to allow for more direct student contact and team time with classroom teachers that will enhance instruction. Title 1 is a federally funded program that supports reading and math at the elementary level.
- Providing funding for the adoption of new social sciences textbooks K-12.
- Enhancing the continued effort of Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS) K-12.
- Continued creation of opportunities through Measure 98(Student Success) funds to increase Career and Technical Education offerings, support college and Career Readiness, and Dropout Prevention. We are hoping to receive an additional \$20,000 over last year's grant amount.
- Increasing our PERS Reserve Fund by \$60,000 from \$190,000 to \$250,000. We are being proactive and looking ahead to possibly buying down PERS rates in the future if matching funds from the state become available.
- Continued support of 2.0 FTE in Special Education Services through a sustained collaborative partnership with the North Central Education Service District. We now have a structured learning center classroom at the elementary level. Previously we had transported students to The Dalles for this program but it was hard on students and families and instructional time was lost in the commute.
- Support of additional .62 FTE Instructional Assistant time in the classroom and through a Skills Trainer/mentor supported by a Juvenile Crime Prevention Grant.
- Continued efforts to seek a Qualified Mental Health Professional. It has been difficult as there is a shortage in the area.
- Continued support of the Early College Year's Program with additional fund support from the James Weir Memorial Trust.

- Increased infrastructure and opportunities for students and teachers to access technology for teaching and learning (Licensing, Wireless Access Points and Network Clocks).
- Upgrade from 1 Gbps (1,000 Mbps) to a 10 Gbps (10,000 Mbps) bandwidth connection with a saving of \$16,500 to the district.
- Continuation of SKORE (Sherman Kids on the Road to Excellence) and Husky Helping Hands (HHH) after school programs.
- Increase in classroom teacher budgets to \$750.
- Return to 2.0 FTE Confidential Employees.
- Free feminine products for students in all restrooms.
- Addition of .5 FTE in Custodial Services (which brings us back to the 17-18 FTE level).
- Professional speakers for the trades supported by the James Weir Memorial Trust.
- Continued support of one art education course in the 9-12 curriculum.
- Building of a greenhouse for science electives and the FFA program with support from the James Weir Memorial Trust.
- The adoption of a new Student Information System (Synergy).
- Complete Event Center resurfacing and painting to support events PK-12.
- Update of championship banners and signs with support from the Sherman County Athletic Foundation.
- Increased support of the Facility and Maintenance Department through the purchase of a used tractor to assist with snow removal, landscaping projects and to augment the Agricultural Science program.

Superintendent Owens discussed possible additional funding. After talking with staff the priority would be to develop a 7-12 Student Support/Credit Recovery Program. This is not in the proposed budget but would be added in additional funding comes from the legislature. The various bills regarding school funding in the legislature were discussed. It might be an additional \$290,000 in funding for our district.

Historically we have used County SIP funds to backfill our General Fund Budget. For the third year in a row we will not be doing that.

Kim McKinney discussed each of the district funds and answered questions from the committee including Social Studies textbook adoption, building loan and payoff date, school report cards and

how graduation rates are calculated, shortage of bus drivers, possible change in athletic league. We are on a four year rotation for sports uniforms.

**Motion by Ted von Borstel, second by Ron Holmes to approve the budget as presented and approve the 2019-20 budgeted property taxes at the rate of \$3.4203 per \$1000 assessed value for operating purposes. Vote: Unanimous.**

Chair Holmes declared the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

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Johnathan Rolfe, Chair

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Kim McKinney, Recording Secretary