

Time & Location:

The September 27, 2023 School Board Work Session was held in Board Room, 1419 NW Valley View Drive in Roseburg, Oregon, and also available via Zoom. An Executive Session followed.



**SUPERINTENDENT
JARED P. CORDON**

Superintendent Cordon and Chair Rodney D. Cotton both welcomed attendees and wished our Board Vice-Chair Rev. Howard Johnson a belated but very sincere Happy Birthday!

**Executive Session
Pursuant to
ORS 192.660(2)(d)**

The Board met immediately following the Board Work Session to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

Next Regular Board Meeting:

October 11, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.
Fir Grove Elementary Library
1360 W Harvard Avenue
Roseburg, Oregon
Zoom Link Available

**PHOENIX CHARTER
SCHOOL
CHECK-IN**

Phoenix Charter School Executive Director Thomas McGregor and Principal Kat Bierkens addressed the School Board in their periodic check-in to update the RPS Board on their three goals.

Goal 1: Phoenix will maintain supports and systems with a goal of demonstrating post-secondary readiness of students via the school increasing student attendance rates of those not attending 90% or more.

For the third trimester of 2022-23 for all students, 16% of students were attending 90% of the time; 38% of all students were attending 89-50% of the time; and 46% of all students were attending less than 50% of the time.

Goal 2: Phoenix School's education plan will increase completion rates for students earning High School Success via a Diploma, Modified Diploma or GED. For the same period, third quarter of 2022-23, 41% of all students were on track for graduation; 25% were less than 3 credits behind; and 34% of all students were 3 or more credits behind.

Thirty-four students graduated for the 2022-23 school year.

Goal 3: Curriculum and Instructional supports will increase and improve student growth in academic ability with positive trending grade-level interim assessment report scores for English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics annually for all charter students.

Data was based on 92.07% of all students enrolled, tested as of February 2023.

26.8% of students were at/above benchmark; 25.1% were "on watch"; 22.4% were "intervention"; and 25.7% were rated at "urgent intervention".

Phoenix serves students in grades 8-12 and have dedicated the RPS Strategic Plan to ensure all students receive the necessary care, support and instruction to graduate with plans for their most successful futures.

SCHOOL FINANCE 101

Cheryl Northam, Director of Finance and Operations provided an overview of funding at RPS including:

- Where funds are held
- Purchase approval process
- All revenue sources
- Breakdown of the 2023-24 budget—revenue and debt service

Important factors to consider when looking at revenue are:

1. Grant monies may only be used for the purpose stated in the grant. Child Nutrition Program revenue may not be used for expenditures such as utilities, air conditioning or instructional salaries.
2. Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) is coming to an end. Hard decisions will have to be made regarding associated positions.
3. The State School Fund (SSF) is appropriated on a biennial basis with 49% allocated in the first year and 51% allocated in the second year. 2023-24 is the first year of this biennium. Funding cannot be reliably estimated beyond the second year of a biennium. SSF fluctuate each year depending on enrollment.

A review of 2022-23 expenditures was also provided. Each school is given a per-student allocation to pay for discretionary supplies and library books. This amount varies by elementary/secondary. The SIA grant fund supplies purchases at the building level, and those funds are specifically to offset the financial burden of families and guardians.

District support includes Maintenance, Warehouse and Purchasing, Student Transportation, Office of Student Services, Office of Teaching and Learning, the Business Office, District Security, Office of the Superintendent, Human Resources and Technology.

Cheryl shared the top three things to know about district expenditures:

1. Monthly financial statements are for the General Fund only, reflecting actual and estimated inflows and outflows for the district on an annual basis.
2. Phoenix School is funded according to ORS and OAR related to charter schools. The district flows through to Phoenix 95% of the funds for students in grades 9-12 and 90% for the students in grade 8. The per student amount can be the same or different, and can be higher than the district receives.
3. Special education grant funds are to supplement, not replace or supplant. Districts must spend at least as much on qualified expenditures out of the General Fund in a year as they did in the prior year with few exceptions.

BOARD TRAINING

(Continued)

Chair Rodney D. Cotton briefly reviewed the Public Meetings Law, Board Meetings and Executive Sessions guide for public schools with the Board.

School Board:

- Rodney D. Cotton, Chair
- Rev. Howard Johnson V Chair
- Steve Hammerson
- Ann Krimetz
- Michael Leone
- Andrea Miner
- Andrew Shirtcliff