



Ozark Mountain School District
Regular Session- Western Grove

March 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m

Board members present: Travis Freeman, Andy McCutcheon, James Morris, Bart Beaver, Allen Glidewell, and Travis Dixon

Board members absent: None

Zone 6- Vacant

1. Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Meeting was called to order by Board President, Travis Freeman, at 6:02 p.m.
3. Public Comment – None.
4. Election of Board Officers
 - Allen Glidewell nominated Andy McCutcheon for President. All were in favor. Motion carried.
 - Allen Glidewell nominated James Morris for Vice President. All were in favor. Motion carried.
 - Travis Freeman nominated Travis Dixon for Secretary. All were in favor. Motion carried.
 - Travis Freeman nominated Allen Glidewell for Legislative Liaison. All were in favor. Motion carried.
5. Following the election of officers, Andy McCutcheon assumed the role of President and presided over the remainder of the meeting.
6. Motion was made by Travis Dixon and seconded by Travis Freeman to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2026 Regular Session Meeting. Motion carried.
7. Motion was made by Travis Freeman and seconded by James Morris to approve the Financial Report ending February 28, 2026. Motion carried.
 - Ending balance: \$8,955,539.87

8. Student Achievement – Informational.

- a. Greg Evans, FFA Advisor, presented

10. The Board entered Executive Session at 6:08 p.m. to discuss personnel and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

11. Motion was made by Travis Dixon and seconded by Bart Beaver to accept the resignations as presented. Motion carried.

- a. Lynn Chandler- Elementary SPED
- b. Eva Wray- HS Science
- c. Delaney Worsham- Elementary Teacher
- d. Kayla Byler- Para
- e. William Hyden -Custodian

12. Motion was made by Allen Glidewell and seconded by James Morris to approve the reassignment of Beverly Grinder. Motion carried.

- a. AR Teacher Residency to Para at SJES

13. Motion made by Travis Freeman and seconded by Bart Beaver to approve the certified rehires for the 26/27 school year. Motion carried.

14. Motion was made by Travis Dixon and seconded by Allen Glidewell to approve the certified salary schedule. Motion carried.

15. Motion made by Travis Freeman and seconded by James Morris to approve the admin salary schedule. Motion carried.

16. Motion was made by Travis Freeman and seconded by Travis Dixon to approve the certified additional pay schedule. Motion carried.

17. Appointment of Board Member Zone 6

Two individuals were interviewed for the Zone 6 vacancy, Kenneth Hancock and Jason Smith. Both individuals were given the opportunity to present a statement and answer questions regarding why they believed they were the best candidate for the position.

- a. Kenneth Hancock was interviewed first. He was asked why he wished to serve on the Board and represent all three campuses, whether he would be able to meet attendance and other board requirements, and questions regarding his experience as mayor. Mr. Hancock stated that he would have no issues attending meetings and meeting all requirements. He shared his years of service as mayor and expressed his belief that the district should operate as one unified school, Ozark Mountain School District, rather than as three separate campuses.
- b. Jason Smith provided a statement to the Board requesting to complete his term as elected by the zone he currently serves. He spoke about his involvement with the school and students and noted that he has two children enrolled in the district. He stated that, if he had been given additional time to provide medical documentation regarding his prior absences, the situation may have been different. He expressed multiple times his desire to fulfill his elected duties. The Board asked if, if given the opportunity, he would be able to attend future meetings. Jason replied that he would be able to attend future meetings.
 - Allen Glidewell, Bart Beaver, Andy McCutcheon, and James Morris voted in favor of Kenneth Hancock to be appointed to fill the Zone 6 vacancy. Travis Dixon and Travis Freeman voted in opposition. Motion carried.
 - Travis Dixon and Travis Freeman voted in favor of Jason Smith. Allen Glidewell, Bart Beaver, Andy McCutcheon, and James Morris voted in opposition. Motion failed.
 - **Kenneth Hancock was appointed to fill the Zone 6 vacancy and will serve the remainder of the term.**

18. Motion was made by Travis Freeman and seconded by James Morris to approve the slate of petition for transfer of students. Motion carried.

19. Motion was made by Allen Glidewell and seconded by James Morris to approve the bid list as presented. Motion carried.

20. Motion was made by Travis Dixon and seconded by Travis Freeman to approve the E-Rate projects for the 26/27 school year. Motion carried.

21. Motion was made by Travis Freeman and seconded by Bart Beaver to approve the 2026-2027 Assurances under ESSA & IDEA as presented. Motion carried.

22. Motion was made by Travis Freeman and seconded by James Morris to table the discussion of opening additional CDs until September 2026, pending the payoff of the current bond. Motion carried.

23. Land Purchase

Discussion was held regarding the potential purchase of approximately 1.49 acres of land, including a modular building, with an asking price of \$125,000.00 (negotiable). The property is located between the Western Grove/Ozark Mountain High School campus. The property in question divides the existing district property lines.

Mr. Travis Freeman expressed interest in pursuing the purchase. Mr. Allen Glidewell questioned how the purchase might be perceived following the recent passage of the millage.

Superintendent Mr. Jess Knapp recommended that the District consider engaging a buyer's agent to assist with and guide the process. When asked, Mr. Knapp confirmed that no appraisal has been completed at this time.

Motion was made by Travis Freeman and seconded by Travis Dixon to consider using a buyer's agent. The motion failed with a vote of 4–2, with Andy McCutcheon, Allen Glidewell, James Morris, and Bart Beaver voting opposed.

24. Motion was made by Travis Freeman and seconded by James Morris to adopt policy 8.6B (Sick Leave Donation Policy). Motion carried.

- a. Classified PPC Approved
- b. Omit line 3

25. Motion was made by Travis Dixon and seconded by Travis Freeman to accept the PT/OT agreements for the 2026-2027 school year from Martin School Based Therapy, PLLC. Motion carried

26. General Discussion

- a. Enrollment- 494
- b. Discussion was held regarding promoting the St. Joe campus as a school of conservation. The District is currently working with AGFC and exploring plans to develop an outdoor classroom.
- c. Mr. Knapp will meet with Ms. Aliza Jones and Phoenix Construction to address questions and discuss design considerations for future construction options.

Under this section, the following is a direct quote from Superintendent Mr. Knapp.

- “Outdoor classroom options at St. Joe to determine the best location, review the facilities, overall placement and design. Target audience can be local homeschool families from south of the river and possibly even students from the Western Grove campus who are looking for a smaller, more intimate environment and thinking, and promote and emphasize St. Joe as a viable option, clearly communicate that transportation is available, share a video on our webpage, Facebook, and at open house at St. Joe, and publish an article in our local papers. It’s nothing revolutionary, but it might fit in well with what we are already doing at St. Joe, so those are just some ideas that I had that I wanted to share with you.”
- “I will be honest, I also looked at the addition that was built at Cotter. Jamie said they were able to do that for about 6 million. It added 15 classrooms. I know that there are differing opinions on this, but I think it is something that we should at least consider for this campus (referencing Western Grove, which is where the meeting was held) and for the future of OMSD in general.”

27. Motion was made at 7:08 p.m. by Allen Glidewell and seconded by Bart Beaver to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Board President

Board Secretary