

Nooksack Valley School District #506

**NV District Office
3326 E Badger Road
Everson WA 98247**

Regular Meeting

April 20, 2023

Visitors

Marcos Huante
Judy Meixner
Tom Meixner
Suzanne Lange
Lori Bruland

Lori Bruland
Ty Elmendorf
Krista Burke
Katie DeVries
Hannah Ordos

Directors

Steve Jones, Chairman
Jason Heutink
Mark Olson
Halli Kimball-Absent
Cheryl Thornton

Administrators

Megan Vigre
Kim McGee
Joel VanderYacht

Matt Galley-Absent
Supt./Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Nooksack Valley School Board of Directors was called to order by Chairman, Steve Jones, at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, 2023.

MINUTES APPROVED REGULAR MEETING

Mark Olson moved, and Cheryl Thornton seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2023, regular meeting.

M.C. 4-0

COMMUNICATIONS

- Supt. Galley shared that St. Paul Episcopal Church donated their Easter Offering to the Nooksack Valley Family Services department and are thankful.
- Supt. announced that Open Hands from Creekside Church is being nominated for the WASA Community Service award for their generous weekend meal offerings. We are truly grateful for the service they provide.
- Lastly, Supt. Galley thanked Hannah Ordos, Leslie Burke, Katie DeVries, and Candice Navarro for joining secondary and district admin to increase the presence of volunteers in our HS and MS and talk more about student safety.

- Hannah shared her experiences volunteering and asked that admin clearly communicate to staff their presence.
- Krista Burke shared a concern about the MS locker room policies and asked for clarity on the district's policy on transgender athlete eligibility.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE PRESENTATION

Fiona Piasecki, Middle School Science teacher, and Joel VanderYacht presented an overview of the adoption process the Middle School undertook to ultimately recommend Open Science Ed for 6-8th grade. The board will take action at the May meeting.

EMPLOYMENT FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR APPROVED

Cheryl Thornton moved, and Jason Heutink seconded the motion to approve the hire of:

- America Ortiz-Garay, ParaEducator I, Sumas Elementary School
 - Effective 03/27/23
- Kalina Bergeron, ParaEducator III, Everson Elementary School
 - Effective 04/17/23

M.C. 4-0

ACCEPT THE RETIREMENT WITH GRATITUDE

Mark Olson moved, and Cheryl Thornton seconded the motion to approve the retirement with gratitude of:

- Michele Birkett, Teacher, Nooksack Valley Middle School
 - Effective 06/30/23
- Pamela Bronkema-Szili, Teacher, Nooksack Valley Middle School
 - Effective 06/30/23
- Carmen Butterfield (Lindeman), Teacher, Nooksack Valley Middle School
 - Effective 06/30/23
- Judy Meyer, Teacher, Nooksack Elementary School
 - Effective 06/30/23

M.C 4-0

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR APPROVED

Jason Heutink moved, and Cheryl Thornton seconded the motion to approve the resignation of:

- Zachary Phelps, ParaEducator, Nooksack Valley Middle School
 - Effective 08/31/23
- Courtney Kooy, Teacher, Nooksack Valley Middle School
 - Effective 08/31/23
- Dakota Garl, Teacher, Everson Elementary School
 - Effective 08/31/23
- Lauren Karp, Teacher, Nooksack Valley High School
 - Effective 08/31/23

- Deanna Sloane, Speech Language Pathologist, Everson Elementary School
 - Resign .4 FTE Effective 2023-2024 School Year

M.C. 4-0

TEMPORARY LEAVE APPROVAL

Jason Heutink moved, and Mark Olson seconded the motion to approve the temporary leave of:

- Judith Larranaga, CNA/Health Technician, Nooksack Valley School District
 - Effective 04/27/23 through 06/16/23
- Stephen Dale, Teacher, Nooksack Valley High School
 - Temporary leave of .4 FTE 2023-2024 School Year
- Nayomi VanderMeulen, Teacher, Middle School
 - Effective for 2023-2024 School Year

M.C. 4-0

HIGHLY CAPABLE PROGRAM APPROVAL

Megan Vigre presented the Highly Capable program and shared examples of the plans that have been put in place for students currently in program; as well as efforts to recruit more students in the future.

Motion made by Cheryl Thornton, seconded by Mark Olson to approve the Highly Capable Program.

M.C. 4.0

CALENDAR FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR APPROVED

Cheryl Thornton moved, and Jason Heutink seconded the motion to approve the 2023-2024 school year calendar.

M.C. 4-0

POLICY 3418-RESPONSE TO STUDENT INJURY OR ILLNESS, SECOND READING

Mark Olson moved, and Cheryl Thornton seconded the motion to approve Policy 3418, Response to Student Injury or Illness.

M.C. 4-0

APPROVE RESOLUTION No. 13 ACCEPTANCE OF BUILDING COMMISSIONING REPORT FOR SUMAS ELEMENTARY

Cheryl Thornton moved, and Jason Heutink seconded the motion to approve Resolution No. 13 Acceptance of Building Commissioning Report for Sumas Elementary.

M.C. 4-0

APPROVE RESOLUTION No. 14 FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION FOR SUMAS ELEMENTARY

Mark Olson moved, and Cheryl Thornton seconded the motion to approve Resolution No. 14 Final Acceptance of Construction Completion for Sumas Elementary School.

M.C. 4-0

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Galley presented on the following topics:

- Budget/Staffing: Supt. Galley explained the budget landscape and how declining enrollments, staffing levels, and the sunset of ESSER money are factors that have impacted budgets. He then explained that the district has identified a reduction of 5.0 FTE, mainly through attrition, that will reduce the budget by approximately 2%, and will await a final budget from the legislature before taking next steps.
- Levy information: Supt. Galley then explained how levy limits are decided upon, how NV compares to neighboring districts, and what levy money is used for. He announced that Cory Plager from DA Davidson will attend next month to explain the process in more depth.
- Board Vacancy and Elections: Supt. Galley explained the process the board will follow to appoint a new member in light of Jason Heutink's resignation. He also explained the upcoming election process.
- The school board reviewed the ICOS Asset Preservation Report as submitted by Dave Gebhart and accepted and approved the results.
- Superintendent Galley gave a brief explanation on the following:
 - The board will review a possible therapy animal policy and decide whether to pursue a policy or not in May.
 - CEE Survey: District will conduct the Educational Effectiveness Survey in May and will provide access for parents to review the week of April 24-28.
 - Elementary principals will present school improvement work in May.
 - Tom Harmon will present school safety work in June.
 - The district and both the NVEA and SEIU will begin contract negotiations in May.

VOUCHERS AND PAYROLL PAYMENT APPROVED

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by law have been recorded on a listing made available to the Board.

As of the 20th of April 2023, the Board on a motion by Cheryl Thornton and a second by Mark Olson and a unanimous vote does approve for payment, the payroll, and the vouchers included in the presented list and further described as follows:

General Fund Check Number	136021 to 136049;	total	\$3,101.11
General Fund Check Number	136033 to 136049;	total	\$410,600.56
General Fund Check Number	136050 to 136117;	total	\$235,510.44
Capital Projects Fund Check Number	136118 to 136124;	total	\$29,406.00
ASB Fund Check Number	136125 to 136151;	total	\$41,933.07
General Fund Check Number	136152 to 136204;	total	\$146,578.36
ASB Fund Check Number	136205 to 136205	total	\$93.91

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Regular session was recessed at 9:03 p.m. for Executive Session.

- The board discussed Superintendent Galley's mid-year evaluation. It was noted that this process should take place in February but was missed. Superintendent Galley was absent from the March Meeting. The board reported a satisfactory mid-year evaluation.

Executive session adjourned at 9:43 p.m. and regular session reconvened.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Motion made by Jason Heutink, seconded by Mark Olson to extend Superintendent Galley's contract through the 2025-2026 school year.

M.C. 4-0

- Motion made by Cheryl Thornton, seconded by Mark Olson to approve Jason Heutink's resignation from the school board.

M.C. 3-0

- The board thanked Jason Heutink for his service and wished him well. Routine Passage.
- Motion made by Mark Olson, seconded by Steve Jones to elect Cheryl Thornton as the new Vice Chariman
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ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Chairman of the Board

Superintendent/Secretary