

## BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on December 12, 2022.

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Chair Naomi Raven called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Director Mason read the following Land Acknowledgement:

*We acknowledge that we are in the traditional homeland of the Kalapuya people, specifically the community that was known as Chifin, the area that we now call Springfield.*

*Kalapuya people, who have lived in this region since "[Time Immemorial](#)", were illegally dispossessed of their land and forcibly removed to what are now the Grand Ronde and Siletz reservations over several years, but most notably in treaties between 1851 and 1855.*

*The Kalapuya are now members of the [Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde](#) and the [Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians](#), and members of the Kalapuya still live, work, study, and thrive in this area, and continue to make important contributions here in Springfield, across the land we now refer to as Oregon, and around the globe.*

*This information is shared out of a responsibility to honor the heritage and the humanity of all people and to promote unity within our school district.*

### Attendance

Board Members attending the meeting included Board Chair Naomi Raven, Board Vice Chair Todd Mann, Director Emilio Hernandez, Director Jonathan Light and Director Kelly Mason.

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, Dustin Reese, Pat Best, Judy Bowden, Brett Yancey, Mindy LeRoux, Joan Bolls, Whitney McKinley, Brian Megert, Nicole Nakayama, Karrie Thiele, Holly Schaper Maelette Brockmann, Giselle Garcia Rosales, Susan Rogers, Jamie Strand, Alana Strand, Ariel Jorkan, Lacey Macdonald, Ame Beard, Charlie Jett, Joan Bolls, Jonathan Gault, Caroline Omeara, José da Silva, Brooklyn Ramirez, Kimberlee Pelster, Pat Best, Taylor Madden and Joyce Johnson.

### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Raven asked for a motion to approve the December 12, 2022 agenda as presented.

**MOTION:** Director Mann moved, seconded by Director Mason, to approve the December 12, 2022 agenda as presented.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Chair Raven asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the December 12, 2022 agenda as presented: Director Hernandez – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Mann – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director Raven – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

### 3. PRESENTATIONS

#### A. Student Board Representative Communication

A3: Maelette Brockmann shared the following highlights:

- With the help of local entrepreneurs Keith and Amy Lewis, 250 full turkey dinners were donated to Springfield Public Schools' families.
- All students watched a biopic about Temple Gardin, an autistic woman who overcame the limitations imposed on her by her condition. Following the presentation, the A3 community had thoughtful discussions about how people with challenges can overcome adversity to be successful.
- Recent production of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. The cast received feedback from neuro divergent community members and their caregivers that the students did a good job at expressing what it's like to care of a neuro divergent individual.
- A3's next production in March will be William Shakespeare's *12<sup>th</sup> Night*.
- A3 continues to support academic success and saw 13 students come to school on a non-school day to get extra support from their teachers.

Gateways High School: Susan Rogers shared the following highlights:

- 41 families received Thanksgiving dinners.
- Spirit week for December 12-16 included holiday hat day, flannel day, PJ day and holiday sock day. Other activities in the cafeteria included hot chocolate, winter themed activities, candy grams and decorating cookies.
- Several interesting topics are being studied in physics classes (energy and engineering), art classes (creating album covers for their favorite bands) and math classes (financial algebra, balancing a checkbook and simple and compound interest).
- Small group instruction for additional support for students continues.
- Counselors help teachers understand when students are having problems and they work together to support students.

Springfield High School: Giselle Garcia-Rosales shared the following highlights:

- Ongoing focus on students and community needs
- Annual food drive just ended
- A clothing drive is being coordinated by the Family Resource Coordinator. There is no charge for students to access these items.
- SHS Band was the Honorary Grand Marshall at the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Springfield Christmas Parade. This is the only group to participate in every single parade since its inception in 1952.
- The Leadership class collected gifts for the Tree of Joy project which will distribute gifts to elementary school students in our district.
- Winter sports season has officially started for wrestling, basketball and swimming.
- Leadership is planning a winter dance along with a spirit week, an assembly and a student vs teacher basketball game.

Thurston High School: Brooklyn Ramirez shared the following highlights:

- Students continue to receive Colt Compliment Cards. More than 1200 compliment cards have been awarded to students this year.
- End of term performances will be taking place in the coming weeks.

- Mental health continues to be a priority on campus
- Family Resource Center has been able to provide students with coats, shoes, personal care items, food and school supplies.
- December activities included the canned food drive bringing in 734 cans of food for THS families; Tree of Joy raised over \$3500 to purchase Christmas gifts for 34 future THS students.
- Winter sports season is underway for swimming, wrestling, cheer, dance and basketball. Over 25% of THS students are participating in a winter sport.
- The Multicultural Club hosted free holiday movie nights for the entire school
- Colton the Elf made return appearances during December. Students were given a clue each day during advisory or a posting on THS Instagram account to assist in finding Colton and win a reward. Colton is a fun way to engage students and help them feel that they belong to the THS community.
- Leadership is planning the next student dance to be held in January.

Willamette Leadership Academy: Alana Strand shared the following highlights:

- WLA mission is to serve the unique academic, physical, social and emotional needs of students through a military-style model with a focus on leadership, self-discipline, consistency, structure and personal growth. Promote excellency and strive for greatness.
- Color Guard team visited Churchill Estates Senior Living Center giving a rifle spinning performance and an appreciation speech to the veterans. They also marched in the Springfield Christmas Parade.
- Gift card giveaway for five cadets who had 90% or better attendance rate for the month of November.
- School wide canned food drive, clothing and gift cards for holiday baskets for WLA families.
- Honor one Cadet of the Month and one Staff of the Month
- Creating a virtual tour for the website along with videos on how to shine your boots, roll your sleeves and male and female hair requirements.

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Raven read the following statement concerning public comment:

*This is the portion of our agenda for public comment. The board provides three ways for community members to share public comment: written public comment, in person oral public comment and virtual public comment. Written public comment is received via email. Public comment received via email for this evening has been reviewed by the Board and has also been posted on the District's website. The deadline for submitting a request for oral public comment was today at noon. Those who requested an opportunity to speak this evening were notified by the board secretary about their request.*

*We encourage groups with a common purpose to designate a spokesperson. If your comments will be covered by a group spokesperson, please indicate so when your name is called. I want to remind those members of the public who have indicated a desire to make comments that our policy provides for a limitation of three (3) minutes per person.*

*The Board will not hear comments regarding any school personnel. We ask those speaking to refrain from using names and titles of school personnel. Any complaints regarding a particular employee must be processed through the procedure set forth in Board policy KL, which requires that complaints be submitted in writing to the Superintendent. This procedure must be followed before there is any Board*

*involvement with such issues. A compliment involving a staff member should be sent to the superintendent, who will forward it to the employee, their supervisor and the Board.*

*Speakers are reminded that their public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.*

Karrie Thiele stated there was little focus on the board goal of addressing immediate problems. She said the process for making public comments was still restrictive, with no opportunity for back and forth conversations and little to no public input being considered. Ms. Thiele concluded by stating that any requests made for the Board to hold a community input opportunity had been denied.

Holle Schaper shared her comments virtually and said that her child was in the blended kindergarten, first grade classroom for the Brattain Online Elementary Program. She expressed that it had been absolutely wonderful. Her daughter had met or exceeded all benchmarks and absolutely loved school and learning. Additionally, she stated the requirement to sign up by noon on the day of a meeting to give public comment was an unnecessary barrier to providing public comment and asked that the request of address be removed, in an effort to ensure equity and access to public comment and for those with safety concerns.

There was one written comment submitted for review prior to this meeting. The email was posted to the District website before 4:00pm on the date of this meeting. Please see below for the text of the email.

# Public Comment Business Meeting -- December 12, 2022 (Staff Surveys)

COLLEEN HUNTER <ckhunter13@aol.com>

Mon 12/12/2022 12:34 AM

To: public comment <public.comment@springfield.k12.or.us>;

This message is from a non-SPS email address. Please use caution and only click links and attachments if you are sure they are safe.

Members of the Springfield Public Schools Board of Directors and Superintendent Hamilton:

As a retired teacher from SPS, I know how important it is for staff to feel respected and valued as part of the district team of care takers and educators who put their students and families first daily, not only when planning but also when putting those plans into action. The reality of teachers' lives is that they spend much of their time working without positive or any feedback from the folks higher up, unless there is something big or attention-grabbing from media or elsewhere. During my last year as a teacher, I spoke to the board twice sharing why I was leaving the profession which I loved 3 years earlier than I had planned. As there are no "exit interviews" now, nor were there then, this would be the only way for the district to know the reason that staff might be leaving their positions. We know that many people have left employment with SPS in the last 3 years.

When the people doing the daily work of educating and caring for students feel like they are working in isolation from district leadership, without support or interest in their feelings or input, it isn't surprising that many of the teaching staff have been moving on...going elsewhere to teach or leaving teaching all together. So when I heard about the "Stay Interviews" which took place not long ago, I was hopeful that teachers and other staff members would finally get to have some input by sharing their realities with district leadership. Multiple members of the community, staff, and others have spoken at numerous board meetings to ask for the results of those interviews. All of these requests or complaints have fallen on deaf ears, as nothing became of all of the time and energy spent on this effort to 'take a pulse' from staff. It could have been very useful to administrators in doing planning for professional development, dealing with the new realities for teachers since the pandemic began, as well as hearing and valuing the opinions of those in the trenches. However, the data which could have provided useful staff perspectives to district leadership, appears being held hostage by those who could have used it for the intent purpose which everyone was told was the reason for taking their time to talk about things.

Instead of making use of the information which was shared during these "Stay Interviews", and despite multiple requests to do so, the many hours spent on this effort were wasted. Working under unbelievably difficult conditions during the pandemic and afterwards, staff were asked to give input which went nowhere. As if that wasn't bad enough, now teaching staff are required to complete a commercially produced survey product :UPBEAT. More harmful than the monetary costs involved, is the inability of people to openly react to any of the questions. It can not provide any useful data about teachers' and other staff members' true feelings which could have been helpful, but alas..."throwing good money after bad" or in this case, making employees feel worse about being ignored and undervalued. I implore members of the board to request sharing of the results from the original "Stay Interviews". It is truly priceless information...which should be respectfully looked at by all involved parties: teaching and other staff, district leadership and members of the school board and community. Please be a brave group of school board members and ask for leadership accountability to all stake holders in the SPS community.

I appreciate your work on behalf of the students, staff, families and community members.

Respectfully,

Colleen Hunter  
Member of Community Alliance for Public Education (CAPE)

4921 Glacier Drive  
Springfield, OR 97478  
(541) 510-9515



#### **4. ACTION ITEMS**

##### **A. Approve Consent Agenda**

- 1. November 14, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes**
- 2. Financial Report**
- 3. Personnel Action, Resolution #22-23.019**
- 4. Out of State Trip Springfield HS Cheer, Resolution #22-23.020**

**MOTION:** Director Mann moved, Director Mason seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Ms. Raven asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the Consent Agenda: Director Hernandez – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Mann – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director Raven – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

##### **B. Accept Annual Comprehensive Financial Report & 2021-2022 Audit, Resolution #22-23.021**

Oregon State law requires an annual audit of all financial transactions of the School District for all operating funds, including grant funds and trust funds. The independent accounting firm of Pauly, Rogers and Co., PC conducted the 2021-2022 fiscal year-end audit and a copy of this document was made available to the School Board prior to tonight's meeting. A copy of the report is published on the District website, as well as available tonight. In addition to the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) is the management letters for the District addressed to the School Board. This year a district finance committee was presented with the document and a comprehensive explanation of the detail. Included on the committee are two (2) Board members and two (2) budget committee members. Joan Bolls was available for a brief presentation and any questions from Board members.

**MOTION:** Director Mann moved, Director Light seconded the motion to accept the audited financial reports for 2021-2022 as presented by the firm of Pauly, Rogers and Co., PC.

Chair Raven asked if there was any discussion.

Director Mann praised Mr. Yancey, the Finance Committee and Ms. Bolls, for the amazing work that went into the finance document. He stated that the auditor had given them an unmodified opinion, which meant there were no issues with how the school financing was completed. The Springfield School District had won a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence for the nineteenth year in a row. The awards they have achieved show investors that they are a good investment for their money. Director Mann noted that there could be future challenges, such as the issue of declining enrollment, which would impact their budget moving forward, in addition to a potential recession in the near future for Oregon. He explained that the ending fund balance had been strategically built up over time and that now was the time to use those funds to catch up. The ending fund balance had gone from nineteen million to eleven million and while it seemed like a lot of money, they had other funds they had been building up over time. He concluded by stating that they were in a really good state despite the decrease of the ending fund balance.

Chair Raven noted that after her fifth year on the Board, she was in new territory and still learning, although she was getting more familiar with the lingo and more capable at reviewing budget documents. She was very pleased with the district's consistent effort to make sustainable choices for programming and staffing. Whether challenging times arrived now or later, she felt their Finance Department and District Administration would continue to put Springfield Public Schools in a very strong position. Ms.

Raven believed the document was put together very well and was incredibly impressed with the expertise of those involved. She declared that she was looking forward to their budget season this year.

Director Hernandez requested clarification of the government wide statements. Mr. Yancy explained that years ago the state determined that each employer that participated in PERS had to book the liability on their books. The state no longer booked it on their side.

Ms. Bolls stated that year after year the PERS amount moved up and down depending on investment earnings. It was a volatile number based on the actuarial study, but was a number given to them for use in their report.

Director Raven said to Director Hernandez that page 132 and 133 referenced the information he asked about. She pointed out there was a ten-year overview featured on those pages. It also included the state requirement change made in the year 2014-2015 when the end number, total net position went negative and the state began requiring individual entities to record it on their books.

Mr. Yancy thanked all involved for their hard work and expressed how lucky they were to have Ms. Bolls involved in the project.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Ms. Raven asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of accepting the audited financial reports for 2021-2022 as presented by the firm of Pauly, Rogers and Co., PC.: Director Hernandez – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Mann – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director Raven – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

## **6. INFORMATION/REPORTS**

### **A. Student Investment Act (SIA) Annual Report**

Whitney McKinley, Teaching and Learning Director, Brian Megert, Special Programs Director and Nicole Nakayama, Special Programs Assistant Director shared annual updates for the Student Investment Act (SIA) and the High School Success Act.

Ms. McKinley reported that they had done a number of different engagement sessions within the district community. They also reached out online with all staff, community and family members that were unable to attend the various listening sessions. The District analyzed the data that led them to making a proposal and then decided the two primary areas where funds would be invested.

Please see the slides below for additional details from Ms. McKinley's update.

Dr. Megert shared an overview regarding the addition of mental health specialists in all of the schools. There were some limitations on the number of qualified people to fill these positions as partnering agencies were struggling to hire and retain qualified individuals. Unfortunately, this is a state-wide problem for mental health providers. He also shared that the District continued to work to ensure there were dedicated spaces for meetings with students and that the mental health providers were paid regardless if the student's family had insurance or if the student missed the meeting.

Please see the slides below for more details from Dr. Megert's update.

Dr. Nakayama shared that they had twelve Elementary Behavior Interventionists, one for each school. Their role was essential as part of their multi-tiered system of support, specifically for social behavior. In addition to providing direct support to the students, their Interventionists also partnered with their principals to offer professional learning for all staff, both certified and classified on a number of topics. The Interventionists had the opportunity to meet twice a month to receive training both for their technical skills, as well as having opportunities to collaborate with one another.

Dr. Nakayama next discussed Classified Investment, in the area of family resource coordination. She stated they also have a designated educational assistant for each of their schools, whose primary job was to coordinate resources for their students and families. They also had the opportunity to meet twice a month to discuss how to partner with them to meet student and family needs. They partnered with the following organizations: Catholic Community Services, Lane ESD discussing migrant education programs, representatives of Lane Community Health Centers of Lane County, Bags of Love, One Hope and multiple faith-based partners.

Dr. Nakayama explained that they began to add adults, pre-pandemic, specifically to target class size reduction. Both certified and classified staffing were added. The adults they added into their system required professional learning and mentorship. There was also some turn over in their workforce. They bolstered their Three-Year Mentor Program. To partner their coaches with their building base mentors and their new staff members, a comprehensive mentoring plan was created. Temporarily for one year, they were able to use those floating teachers in each of their buildings to help fill the gaps when they were unable to fill a substitute teacher position.

Please see slides below for additional details from Dr. Nakayama's update.

### **B. High School Success Act Annual Report**

Mindy LeRoux summarized the High School Success Act as an effort to ensure that systems were in place and that there were research and evidence-based ways to offer the best outcomes for students. This produced a greater number of high school graduates in four years which supported and created engaging CTE Pathways for students to engage in and have access to college level courses while in high school. Current activities have established grade level data teams in the high schools. Those teams identify students at-risk of not passing classes, and then intervene in time, providing support to help them pass those classes. Ms. LeRoux noted that they were continuing to refine and expand their CTE Programs. Expansion included: Cosmetology program at Gateway High School beginning in the fall, a culinary, as well as a film and video pathway at Thurston High and Springfield High Schools. She said they were committed to implementing AVID schoolwide at both Thurston and Springfield High. AVID elective classes were already in grade nine and ten, with grade eleven to be added next year. In time, they expected to see not just more students graduating, but graduating college and career ready.

Please see slides below for additional details from Ms. LeRoux's presentation.



# Investing in Student Success

Springfield Public Schools  
Student Investment Account Update  
December 12, 2022



**SPRINGFIELD**  
**PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Every Student, Every Day



# Student Success Act- Student Investment Accounts



## Our Charge:

Listen to our community to invest in targeted areas that will...

- *Meet students' behavioral or mental health needs*
- *Increase academic achievement for all students and reduce academic disparities for:*
  - *students of color*
  - *students with disabilities*
  - *emerging bilingual students*
  - *students navigating poverty, homelessness, foster care*
  - *other groups that have historically experienced academic disparities*



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Every Student, Every Day

# Where We Invested

## Additional Staff\*

- Certified 47.5
- Classified 43.0
- Administrator 7.0

*\* displayed as total FTE*



**\$8.17 Million**



# Supporting the Health and Safety of Students:

*Meeting students' behavioral and mental health needs*

## Additional Staffing:

- Certified - 27.5 FTE
- Classified – 15.0 FTE
- Administrator – 7.0 FTE



**\$4.07 Million**

## Outcomes:

- School cultures that support students and families navigating crisis and mental health issues
- Increased physical health through specialized instruction
- Increased training and access to mental and behavioral health services
- Improved relationships with students and families

# Supporting the Health and Safety of Students:

*Meeting students' behavioral and mental health needs*

**Investment Goal:** *Support students' behavior, social emotional, physical, and mental health and wellness.*

## Elementary:

- Elementary Behavior Interventionist (8.0 FTE) ←
- Elementary Behavior EA Support Staff (5.5 FTE)
- Elementary Assistant Principals (4.0 FTE)
- Elementary Physical Education Teachers (11.5 FTE)
- Outside Mental Health Provider Support ←

## Secondary:

- Middle School Licensed Mental Health Support (4.0 FTE)
- Middle School Behavior EA Support Staff (2.0 FTE)
- Outside Mental Health Provider Support ←
- High School Assistant Principal (2.0 FTE)
- Campus Security and Facility Improvements
- Free student access to feminine hygiene products

## Districtwide:

- Free Student Access to Breakfast and Lunch
- Family Resource EAs ←
- District Equity Coordinator (1.0 FTE)
- Certified Support Positions (4.0 FTE)



# Mental Health Partnerships

**Investment Goal:** *Support students' behavior, social emotional, physical, and mental health and wellness.*

## Partner Providers in All Schools

- Students receive services from mental health providers, during the school day
- Dedicated spaces provided by the school
- District-Pay for students not covered by insurance
- District-Pay for 'no show'
- Therapists integrated into our school structures, when possible

## Our Partners:

- The Child Center
- Looking Glass
- Roseburg Therapy
- HOOTS
- Ophelia's Place
- Options



# Behavior Interventionists

**Investment Goal:** *Support students' behavior, social emotional, physical, and mental health and wellness.*

## **Elementary:**

- Behavior Interventionists at each elementary school
- Team-based approach to developing and implementing behavioral supports
- Ongoing learning and collaboration through PLC





# Family Resource Support

**Investment Goal:** *Support students' behavior, social emotional, physical, and mental health and wellness.*

## Family Resource Coordination

- Designated Education Assistant in every school
- Devoted resource to each school
- District-level coordination and support

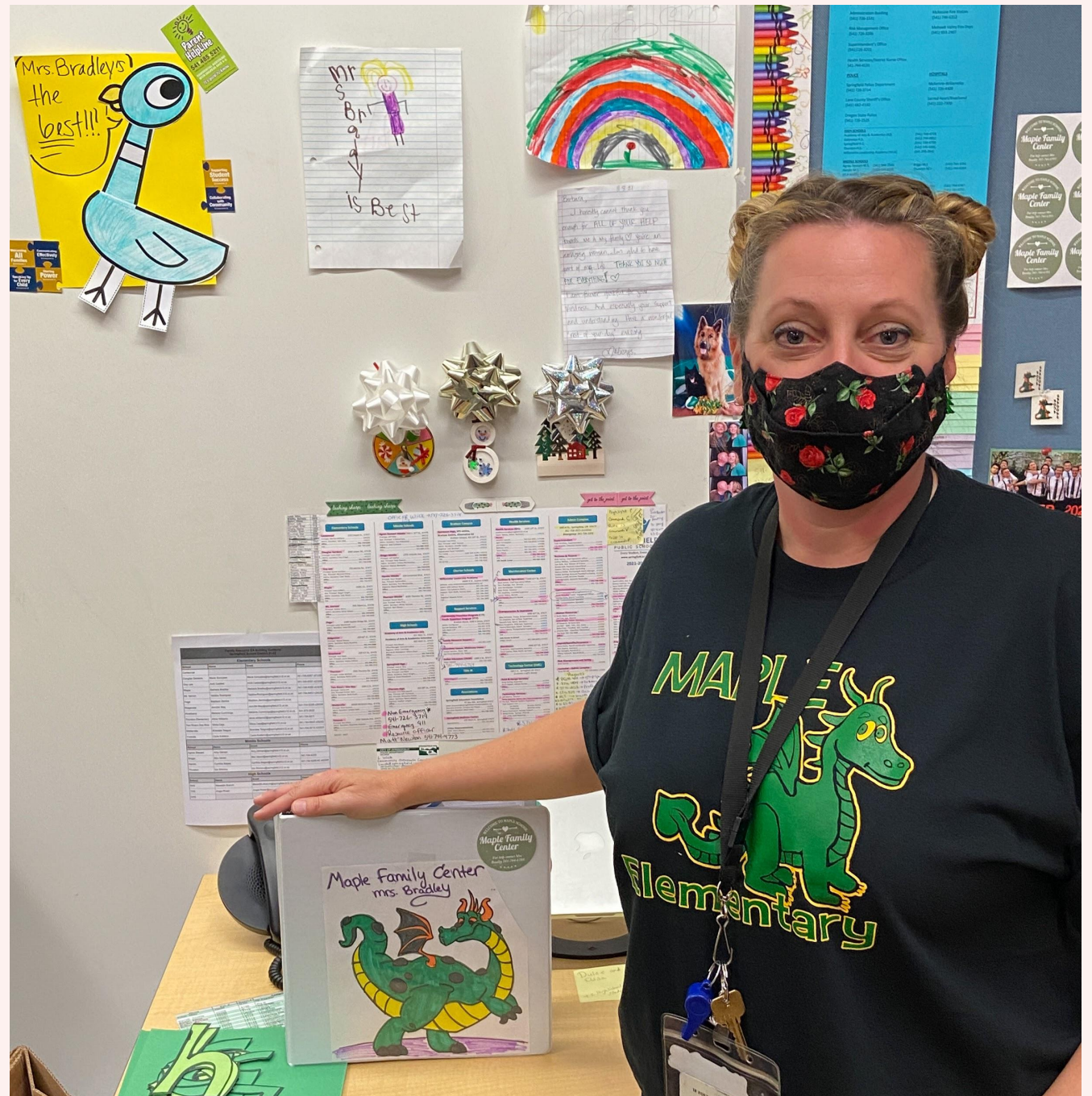


# Success Story: Family Resource Navigators

## Barbara Bradley, Maple Family Resource Coordinator

*“My favorite part of the job is helping the families. Absolutely, helping families. The rewarding feeling you get after you see that [your work] is helping them.*

*I get up in the morning and go, ‘I get to work today.’ I love that!” - Barbara Bradley*





# Success Story: Elementary P.E. Specialists

Jason Clark, PE Specialist, Two Rivers/Dos Ríos



*“I am doing exactly what I want to be doing. Teaching physical education is the most fulfilling work I have ever done. It’s an opportunity to teach lifetime fitness activities, which promotes a healthy body and mind.”*

*- Jason Clark*

# Increasing the number of adults in our system:

*Targeted class size reduction*

## Additional Staffing:

- Certified - 20.0 FTE
- Classified – 16.0 FTE

**\$3.90 Million**



## Outcomes:

- Improved academic outcomes for every student



# Increasing the number of adults in our system:

*Targeted class size reduction*

**Investment Goal:** *Improve instructional environment through targeted reduction in student-to-adult ratios*



## Targeted Investments:

- Elementary Targeted Class Size Reduction (12.0 FTE)
- Elementary Classroom EA Support Staff (9.0 FTE)
- Middle School Targeted Class Size Reduction (8.0 FTE)
- Middle School Classroom EA Support Staff (3.0 FTE)
- Professional Development/Three-Year Teacher Mentor Program
- Temporary Teachers to support Substitute Needs





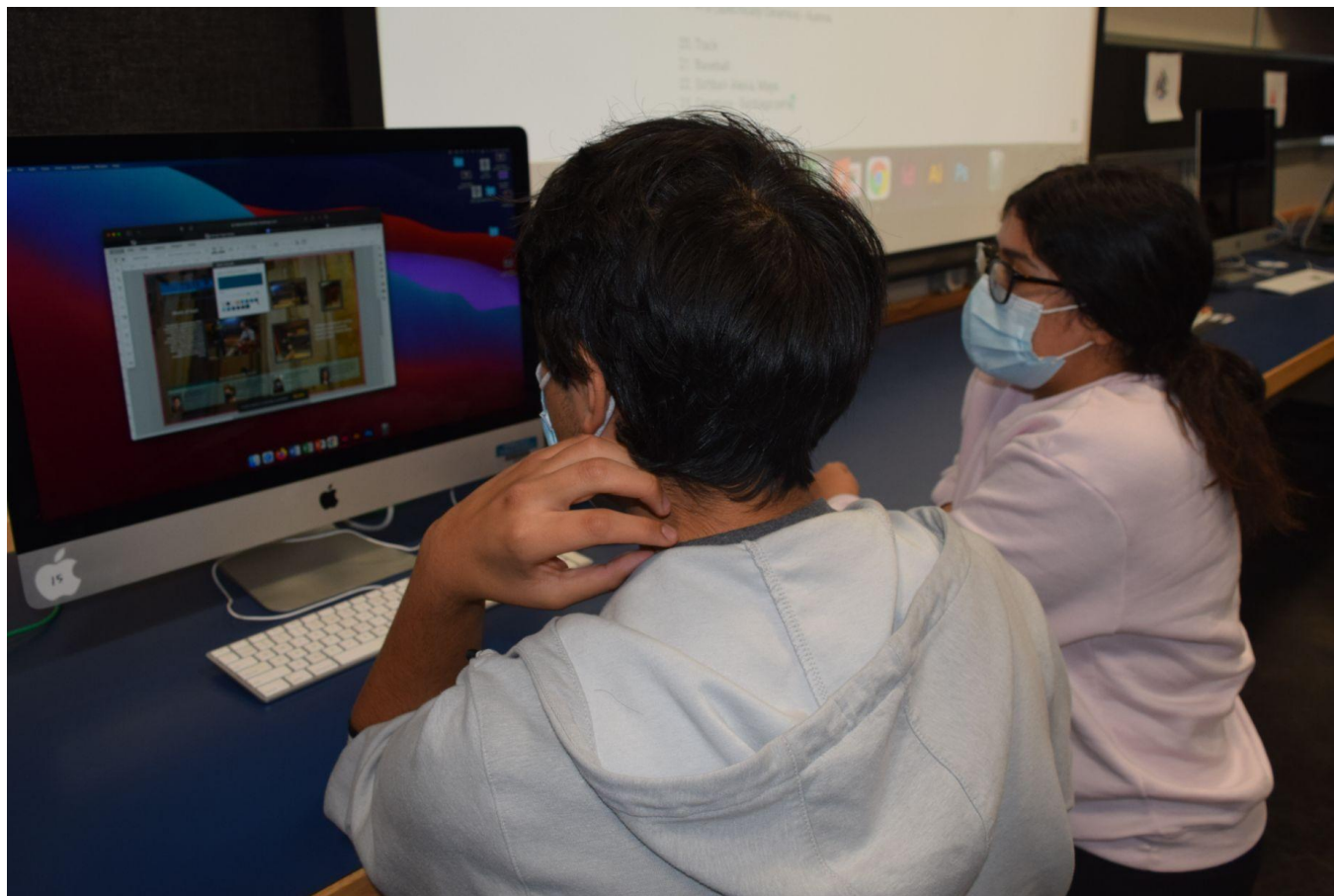
# High School Success Grant

**\$2.60 Million**



# High School Success Requirements

1. Systems to ensure on time graduation,
2. Teacher collaboration around data,
3. Equitable access to advanced courses,
4. Practices to reduce chronic absenteeism







# Current Activities

## 2021-2023



- Grade Level Data Teams
- Care and Connect Teams
- Expanding AVID to grades 10-12, Springfield HS & Thurston HS
- CTE: Cosmetology Program, Gateways High School
- CTE Expansion at Thurston HS
- MS Alignment of Programs to HS Pathways



**Thank you**



**SPRINGFIELD**  
**PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Every Student, Every Day

The Board took a five-minute recess at 8:05pm and returned at 8:10 pm.

Following the break, the Board shared the following for additional information or topics for work sessions:

- The kitchen at Thurston High school will be updated to meet industry standards.
- Ensure that all students are able to participate in the new class offerings at Springfield and Thurston High Schools.
- How are these programs evaluated for success and where additional supports might be needed?
- Have District staff share data on student participation in these programs.
- Currently, the District has developed strong partnerships with many organizations in the community, but it continually reaches out to new mental health partners. Central Latino is currently trying to increase their capacity to be able to send people to our schools.
- With the current shortages of mental health workers, are staff receiving adequate professional development to be able to recognize and deal with distressed students with behavioral issues?
- What have been the greatest impact from the Student Investment Account for students with disabilities?

### **C. Superintendent Communication**

Superintendent Hamilton thanked Ms. LeRoux, Dr. Megert, Dr. Nakayama and Ms. McKinley for their presentations regarding the Student Investment Act and the High School Success Act. He appreciated input from the board which had surfaced their interests regarding topics for future work sessions. He thanked Mr. Yancey and his team for their work putting together the budget document which was presented and accepted by the Board. He added that this document is the exemplar for other districts and it clearly articulates the status of the District. The inclement weather driving team had been activated two mornings in the past week. He mentioned that there is a video on the District website which clearly walks you through each step in the process for deciding if school needs to be cancelled or have a delayed start time when there is inclement weather in our area. Last week, Lane County superintendents gathered in Eugene for the COSA Law Conference. Most of the discussions centered around the upcoming legislative session and the anticipated release of the Governor's budget. Finally, he shared about the celebration that took place at the City Council meeting where SPS teacher Pauline Pham was celebrated as the 2021 Distinctively Springfield Teacher of the Year. Several SPS administrators joined the City Councilors and Ms. Pham's family to celebrate her award.

### **D. Board Communication**

Chair Raven offered an update on the Board Retreat to be held January 7th and the 14th of 2023. It would be held from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. for both of those Saturdays and would be held at the District office. Kristin Miles from Oregon School Boards Association would be the Facilitator. Ms. Raven said the Agenda would be created from the proposed agenda items that was in their packets from their August work session discussion. News was received that Judy Bowden would be retiring at the end of December. Ms. Raven, on behalf of the Board, expressed their appreciation for everything that she had done for them, and all with such an incredibly caring way about her. While they were excited for her and would be celebrating her, she would be dearly missed.

Director Hernandez expressed appreciation for the support from the staff and Board during a difficult period of time away.

Director Light shared that he and his wife had attended all three high school plays and that they were each very different and absolutely phenomenal. He attended the Briggs Thanksgiving Feast and gave a shout out to International Papers who had many volunteers present to help with the Feast. It was a great success.

At the Christmas Parade, he got to walk with the Transportation Department and noted how much fun he had while meeting nice people and distributing candy. Mr. Light shared that last Saturday he had attended the Eugene Education Association (EEA) Legislative Breakfast that they hold periodically. He said if any Board members wished to attend they would love that, as they felt it was a legislator's opportunity to talk with the people doing the work in their schools and keep them informed while in a much more relaxed environment than you might have on a legislation day in Salem. He felt they should revisit their sign-up policy for public comments in the near future. The naming rights of the Hamlin Sports Fields needed to be revisited and completed as well. Mr. Light attended an event last week, where a tribute was made to former Superintendent Nancy Golden.

Director Mann shared that he had started the holiday season by serving Thanksgiving meals to the students of Briggs Middle School. The Springfield Education Foundation (SEF) published a full newsletter including a digital version available online. The SEF adopted twenty students in need and holiday gifts had been collected for them. Mr. Mann said they had started their new School and Grant Buddy System Program. He was partnering with a grant winner at Yolanda Elementary and had the opportunity to meet her, see her classroom and see the investment that they had made in her and her innovative idea. Mr. Mann shared that he had the pleasure of participating in the Grand Opening of Arrow Park, noting that it was a thoughtful and wonderful thing to be part of all those smiling faces. Lastly, he mentioned that he had the opportunity to be a part of the Springfield Chamber award selection process and although it had been a first for him, he always enjoyed seeing the wonderful things happening in the schools and community and seeing just how interconnected they were.

Director Mason announced that the Wildish Theatre's leader had been having difficulty filling seats for their shows. She encouraged all to choose from a variety of shows to attend.

#### **8. NEXT MEETING**

The first Budget Committee Work Session is scheduled for Thursday, January 5, 2023. The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2023 this will be a Work Session followed by a Business meeting. Start time for the Work Session has yet to be determined. The Business meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Raven thanked everyone for attending.

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, Chair Raven adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

*(Minutes recorded by Trenay Ryan)*