

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on January 10, 2022.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Board Chair Naomi Raven called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

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

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Judy Bowden, Marilyn Williams, Brett Yancey, Rachel Rich, Jessica Lemley, Colleen Hunter, Sammy Alcantar, Janery Valladolid, Johanis Tadeo, Jorge Peralta, Carlos Sequeira, Vanessa Truett, Skyleigh McKibben, Wyatt Tiller, Chemen Clearwaters, Nicki Gorham, José da Silva, Sarah Chandler, Meili Ward, Amy Bernatz, Katie Keeler, Chris Reiersgaard, Andy Price, Peter Raven, Jim Crist, Lesa Haley, Allyssa Kent, Kirsten LaShot, Janet Conklin, Heather Murray, Becky Willis, Brandi Starck, Laura Cherry, Dustin Cherry, Desmond Scott, Lucas Paugh, Jeff Mather, Josh Donaldson, Karri Thiele, Jeff Fuller, Jonathan Gault, Dustin Reese, Ame Beard, Jenna McCulley, Whitney McKinley, Mindy LeRoux, Brian Megert, Judy Bowden and Marlene Hockema, minutes recorder.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Raven called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Mann moved and seconded by Dr. Hernandez that the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Light asked that the agenda be amended to include a preliminary oral report from the district leadership team on what they have learned from the staff listening sessions with a board discussion to follow. Ms. Mason seconded the motion.

Chair Raven opened the floor for discussion regarding Mr. Light's motion and asked specifically for the reasoning behind the motion. Mr. Light said that in light of transparency and open governance, he wanted to bring this important topic forward for discussion.

Mr. Mann added that he is also very interested in hearing from district leadership regarding these meetings, but also acknowledged that the information is still very preliminary and it might be better to wait until all the data has been collected. He added there are no actions in front of the board regarding this topic. He wondered if it might be more prudent to wait and have the report that could present actionable items for the board.

Chair Raven reviewed the process for requesting items be added to the agenda. She also added that at this point not all staff have been interviewed and that it seems inappropriate to share a report when not all staff have been interviewed. She added that the time spent at board meetings should be focused on our students and actionable items that affect student outcomes.

AMENDED MOTION: Mr. Mann moved and seconded by Mr. Light to amend the motion made by Mr. Light to have the district leadership share a preliminary oral report on the ongoing processes for staff listening sessions, narrowing the scope to the process only and not allowing for discussion at this time.

Discussion: Chair Raven cautioned that the board needs to honor the process the district is using to interview all staff who work with all our students every day.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Ms. Raven asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion to have the district leadership share a preliminary oral report on the ongoing processes for staff listening sessions, narrowing the scope to the process only and not allowing for discussion at this time: Dr. Hernandez – Yes, Mr. Light – Yes, Mr. Mann – Yes, Ms. Mason – Yes, and Chair Raven – No.

Motion passed 4:1

ORIGINAL MOTION:

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Ms. Raven asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion that the agenda be amended to include a preliminary oral report from the district leadership team focused on process only for the listening sessions with no discussion to follow. Dr. Hernandez – No Mr. Light – Yes, Mr. Mann – Yes, Ms. Mason – Yes, and Chair Raven – No.

Motion passed 3:2

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 January 10, 2022 agenda as amended: Dr. Hernandez – yes, Mr. Light - Yes, Mr. Mann – Yes, Ms. Mason – Yes, and Chair Raven – Yes.

Motion passed 5:0.

3. SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH PROCLAMATION

Superintendent Todd Hamilton read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, school boards create a vision for what students should know and be able to do;

WHEREAS, school boards establish clear standards for student performance;

WHEREAS, school boards ensure that student assessments are tied to established standards;

WHEREAS, school boards are accountable to the community for operating schools that support student achievement;

WHEREAS, school boards align school district resources to ensure that students meet standards;

WHEREAS, school boards create a climate that supports the philosophy that all children can learn at high levels;

WHEREAS, school boards build collaborative relationships based on trust, teamwork and shared accountability; and

WHEREAS, school boards are committed to continuous education and training on issues related to student achievement;

NOW, THEREFORE, we hereby declare our appreciation to the members of the *Springfield Public Schools Board of Education* and proclaim the month of January to be School Board Recognition Month.

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We urge all citizens to join us in recognizing the dedication and hard work of local school board members in preparing today's students for tomorrow's world.

Dated this 10th day of January 2022.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. School Presentation: Centennial Elementary School

Centennial Elementary Principal Marilyn Williams shared her belief that Centennial Elementary is the “best school ever.” Current programs are:

- Supporting growth for all students
- Full time Physical Education teacher
- Music program
- Library inclusion of books of diversity
- Social/emotional learning, everyday
- Blue Jay Way: Safe, Respectful, Responsible
- Kindness Grant
- Health and Safety (classrooms, cafeteria, outside)
- Family Resource Coordinator
- Personalized learning opportunities
- WIN – What I Need

B. Student Board Representative Communication

Thurston High School’s Board Representative Wyatt Tiller shared the school is striving for more discipline with the support of the administration. He added that the sports program is strong and it was good to be back in the classroom.

Springfield High School’s Board Representative Desmond Scott shared the school had a successful leadership conference on December 13, 2021 and would be planning a Valentine’s Day activity. They, too, have had a successful winter sports program and are prepping for semester finals.

A3’s School Board Representative Skyleigh McKibben shared that the school art program is flourishing with school walls displaying student art; noticeable improvement has been made in student art throughout the school year.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Raven read the following statement concerning public comment:

This is the portion of our agenda for public comment. The board continues to accept public comment 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. 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. Those wishing to make public comments must complete a “request to speak” form. Audience members who wish to make public comments must state their name and address for the record.

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.

The Board will not hear comments regarding any 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.

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

Rachel Rich, a former Springfield District 19 teacher with grandchildren in Springfield schools, stated that there had not been an item on recent agendas for other business. Also, she has not seen the topic of student behavior addressed while there is an unprecedented number of incidents, and reports that one-third of student enrollment accomplishes no schooling.

Jessie Lemley expressed a concern regarding the inequality of COVID-19 unvaccinated staff versus COVID-19 vaccinated staff and its purpose. She added that due to staff shortages students are being taught by unskilled staff.

Colleen Hunter, former Springfield school teacher, expressed her dissatisfaction with the new policies regarding public speaking and encouraged parents to go online to Opt Out of student testing.

Johanis Tadeo added his disapproval of the changes to the public speaking policies stating the online sign up processes are too difficult for some and unavailable to others. In addition, he would like to see more advocating in other languages.

Sammy Alcantar and Janery Valladolid lamented changes to the public speaking sign up process and asked that it not be changed.

Jorge Peralta asked that there be no change to the public sign in process and stated having an interpreter at board meetings would be advantageous.

Chair Raven called a five minute recess from 8:15 p.m. to 8:20 p.m.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Consent Agenda

- 1. November 15, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**
- 2. December 14, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**
- 3. Financial Report**
- 4. Personnel Action, Resolution #21-22.022**

MOTION: Dr. Hernandez moved, Mr. Light 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 favor of approving the Consent Agenda: Dr. Hernandez – Yes, Mr. Light – Yes, Mr. Mann – Yes, Ms. Mason – Yes, and Chair Raven – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

B. Adopt Board Policy, Resolution #21-22.023

From time to time, changes in laws or operating practice require changes or additions to board policies. In addition, the district subscribes to a policy review service with Oregon School Boards Association and receives drafts that are used to craft policy for Springfield Public Schools.

The below nine policies have been updated to reflect legislative changes and were brought to the board for review in a first reading on November 15, 2021, and discussed at the board meeting on December 13, 2021.

Staff have incorporated the amendments that were shared with the superintendent and the below policies are now submitted to the board for approval and adoption.

Jenna McCulley recommended that the Board of Directors approve the following board policies as updated:

- AC Nondiscrimination
- ACB Every Student Belongs
- BBAA Individual Board Member's Authority and Responsibility
- BD/BDA Board Meetings
- BDDH Public Comment at Board Meetings
- GBA Equal Employment Opportunity
- IB Freedom of Expression
- IGBI Bilingual Education
- IKFB Graduation Exercises

MOTION: Mr. Light moved, Ms. Mason seconded the motion to approve these board policies as updated.

Chair Raven asked if there was any discussion. Mr. Light responded that he would recommend that policies BDDH and IKFB be pulled for further discussion. Chair Raven responded that those policies were discussed in both November 2021 and December 2021 for clarity and final draft. After a time of discussion Superintendent Hamilton suggested BDDH be pulled from adoption for further review in a work session with an Oregon School Boards Association representative to facilitate the conversation.

MOTION: Dr. Hernandez moved, Ms. Mason seconded the motion to remove BDDH from the packet of policies put forward for later adoption and approve all the other policies as presented.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Chair Raven asked each Board member to indicate if they were in favor of the motion to approve the board policies as updated, with the exception of Policy BDDH which would be reviewed at a later meeting. Dr. Hernandez – Yes, Mr. Light – Yes, Mr. Mann – Yes, Ms. Mason – Yes, and Chair Raven – No.

Motion passed 4:1

MOTION: Mr. Light moved, Mr. Mann seconded the motion to remove IKFB graduation exercises/dress uniforms from the packet of policies put forward for adoption.

Chair Raven asked if there was any discussion. Mr. Light indicated he would like to see WLA (Willamette Leadership Academy) be allowed to wear their uniforms at graduation. Dr. Hernandez agreed that students would take pride in wearing uniforms and they had worked diligently achieve graduation.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Chair Raven asked each Board member to indicate if they were in favor of the motion to set aside policy BDDH and approve the other policies as presented for adoption: Dr. Hernandez – No, Mr. Light – No, Mr. Mann – Yes, Ms. Mason – No, and Chair Raven – No.

Motion failed 3:2.

ORIGINAL MOTION:

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote and asked each Board member if they were in favor of the motion to adopt the policies that had been presented for adoption, excluding policy BDDH: Dr. Hernandez – Yes, Mr. Light – Yes, Mr. Mann – Yes, Ms. Mason – Yes, and Chair Raven – Yes.

Motion passed 5:0.

C. Declaration of Emergency Waterville Elementary School Food Mitigation and Repairs, Resolution #21-22.024

Brett Yancey CEO presented an update on the status of the flooding of Walterville Elementary School which took place January 6, 2022.

- 3”-6” water on floors
- Insurance claim started
- McKenzie Fire Department helped with pumping
- 50% of building impacted including wings and offices
- Sandbag dam in place
- Category 3 contamination, which includes
- 20% moisture 18” up walls
- Discard materials, HAZMAT testing, disinfecting
- Drying - 2 weeks
- Mitigation - 2 months
- Restoration – 2 months
- Replacement – TBD

Classes were cancelled January 6, 2022 thru January 10, 2022. Students would use comprehensive distance learning for a short time followed by a move to Mohawk Elementary School. Nutrition staff will continue to provide meals at Walterville Elementary School because the kitchen was unaffected by the flood waters.

MOTION: Dr. Hernandez moved, Mr. Mann seconded the motion to approve Walterville Elementary School Flood Mitigation and Repairs, Resolution #21-22.024.

Chair Raven asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. Light questioned if parents had been surveyed as to online schooling and the move to Mohawk Elementary to which Mr. Yancey responded not all have been reached but the feedback has been positive and families will continue to receive regular updates. Mr. Yancey added that the flooding took place on school district property and plans are being made to build up a berm to prevent a reoccurrence. After viewing photos of the school library Mr. Yancey was asked if books could be saved and responded in the affirmative.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Ms. Raven asked each Board member to indicate if they were in favor of the motion to approve the Walterville Elementary School Flood Mitigation and Repairs resolution #21-22.024: Dr. Hernandez – Yes, Mr. Light – Yes, Mr. Mann – Yes, Ms. Mason – Yes, and Chair Raven – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

7. DISCUSSION

A. 2021-2023 Lane ESD Local Service Plan Year Two

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Superintendent Hamilton introduced Lane ESD Assistant Superintendent Carlos Sequeira and Lane ESD Board Member Vanessa Truett who shared updates on the 2021-2023 Lane ESD Service Plan, Year Two:

- Special Ed, Tech, Administration
- CTE programs and certification
- New tech support position
- “Promise” Program
- Career learning
- Student success

Chair Raven asked for discussion or questions. There was no discussion. Chair Raven thanked Mr. Sequeira and Ms. Truett for attending the meeting this evening and sharing their report.

8. INFORMATION/REPORTS

A. District Leadership Report

Superintendent Hamilton shared updates on the following:

- Preliminary report of processes
- Processes – leadership and licensed staff
- Classified staff will be included in the near future
- Exit interview – put “a stay” interview in process with Human Resources Director
- Conversation with custodians to prepare for snow and/or storm conditions
- Process with early career teachers

B. Superintendent Communication

Superintendent Hamilton commented that the schools were ready for snow and the road crews had previously made a run on an icy morning. In addition, the State and Federal agencies are continuously reporting COVID-19 rates; LCPH (Lane County Public Health) announced 1/10/2022 that there would be a quarantine update and guidelines with a layered approach: masks, 6’ distancing, vaccines and boosters.

C. Board Communication

Vice Chair Hernandez shared that due to the late hour, he would not be sharing any updates.

Mr. Light shared he would still be interested in board listening sessions.

Mr. Mann shared that he would not be sharing a report either due to the late hour.

Ms. Mason shared that she would not be sharing a report either due to the late hour.

Chair Raven stated she has been attending board chair cafes presented by the Oregon School Boards Association. She also shared that due to the current community spread of COVID, the State of the City report for the City of Springfield had been moved to a virtual event on January 13, 2022.

9. NEXT MEETING

The Board will meet on January 24, 2022 (TBD) for a Work Session, February 10, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. for a Budget/Board Work Session and February 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. for a Business Meeting.

Chair Raven thanked everyone for attending.

At 10:06 Chair Raven stated that there would be a five-minute recess while the Board moved into Executive Session. The Board Meeting would be adjourned immediately following the Executive Session.

10. The Board will meet in Executive Session (non-public) pursuant to ORS 192.600(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Chair Raven adjourned the meeting at 10:37 p.m.

(Minutes recorded by Marlene Hockema)