

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No.19 Board of Education was held on May 8, 2023.

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

Board Chair Naomi Raven called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Director Mann 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 and Director Kelly Mason.

Absent: Director Jonathan Light and Director Emilio Hernandez.

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Dustin Reese, Brett Yancey, Martie Steigleder, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Brian Megert, Mindy LaRoux, Joyce Johnson, Jonathan Gault, Kari Isham, Anthony Reed, Brooklyn Ramirez, Debra Roberts, Lacey Macdonald, Teresa Leon, Amara Espinora, Jessica Lemley, Rocio Abundis, Maria Moran, Jose de Silva, Ame Beard, Violet Olszyk, Charlie Jett, Josh Donaldson, Sahara Fisher, Jeff Fuller, Miguel Mono sos, Maria Lopez, Maria Barboza, Andy Price, Giselle Garcia, Alma Lopez, Maria del Sol, Nicole De Graft, Lindy Gonzales, Maria Montoya, Malette Brockmann, Maria Espinoza and Teresa Calvillo.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Raven asked for a motion to approve the May 8, 2023 agenda as presented.

MOTION: Director Mason moved, seconded by Director Mann, to approve the May 8, 2023 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 March 13, 2023 agenda as presented: Director Mann – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director Raven – Yes.

Motion passed, 3:0.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Teacher Appreciation Week Proclamation

Superintendent Todd Hamilton was honored to read a statement in honor of this week. The statement individually named the many avenues that our honored teachers dedicate themselves to. As part of the statement, the Springfield Board of Directors recognize and support the teachers by proclaiming May 8-12, 2023 to be Teacher Appreciation Week. All members of the Community are encouraged to join in personally expressing appreciation to their teachers for their dedication and devotion to their work.

Teacher Appreciation Week Proclamation

May 8 – 12, 2023

WHEREAS, teachers mold future citizens through guidance and education; and
WHEREAS, teachers encounter students of widely differing backgrounds; and
WHEREAS, our country's future depends upon providing quality education to all students; and

WHEREAS, teachers spend countless hours preparing lessons, evaluating progress, counseling and coaching students and performing community service; and

WHEREAS, our community recognizes and supports its teachers in educating the children of this community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Springfield Board of Directors proclaims May 8 – 12, 2023 to be **TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Springfield Board of Directors strongly encourages all members of our community to join with it in personally expressing appreciation to our teachers for their dedication and devotion to their work.

DATED this 8th day of May 2023.

B. Student Board Representative Communication

A3: Maelette Brockmann shared:

- The Student Council hosted a Talent Show, featuring acts and skills of all kinds. The show was a success.
- Earth Day was celebrated on April 21, 2023. Many fun activities were available. The spoken word and live music was also provided.
- A3 hosted a dance concert at Wildish on April 28-29, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. The event combined costumes designs, dance, choir, and band.
- The last ArtWalk will be held on May 12, 2023 from 5-8 p.m.
- A3 will host the free public event the regional Fix It Fair.
- Prom will be on May 19, 2023, at the Elks Lodge. The theme is Enchanted Grove.
- Graduation will be held at Wildish, June 6, 2023 at 6:00 pm
- Confluence will be held on May 16th and 17th of 2023.

Gateways High School: Krista Sweeney shared:

- They recently had a very successful Prom.
- College and Career class was held. Many different careers and different qualifications were discussed. Guest speakers discussed available after school job opportunities and programs that

could aid students in finding local jobs, as well as available financial aid to pay for uniforms or transportation. Guest speakers included those from the military who discussed the various branches and the benefits of joining.

- Biology class taught evolution.
- Global State testing for juniors begins at the end of May. The first session for Night School has begun and many students have already signed up.
- Graduation is June 7, 2023 at 6:30 at Wildish Theatre. 11 students have already graduated. 18 students have completed their GED and several students are very close to doing so.
- There will be an end of the year barbecue. Details are still being worked out.

Springfield High School: Giselle Garcia-Rosales shared:

- SHS Leadership Students have worked hard to have the hall decorations ready for Spirit Week, May 15th-19th of 2023.
- The final assembly will be on May 18, 2023 and will present the first ever Student versus Staff Basketball Game. Following the assembly, will be the annual Car Bash fundraiser hosted by their Auto Tech Teacher Mr. Simmons.
- Prom will be held on Saturday May 20, 2023 at Venue 252. The theme is, Alice in Wonderland.
- Graduation will be on Friday June 9, 2023.
- SHS Digital Arts Teacher and Black Student Union Advisor Mr. Klindt along with four SHS students are in Tulsa, OK this week attending a 4-day National Youth Social Justice Youth Conference.
- The SHS library's new activity center was featured in the Springfield Education Foundation spring newsletter. It covered all the new activities provided and featured the chess tables, which have been popular. A Chess Club was recently formed.
- Three SHS seniors received scholarships from the Ford Family Foundation.
- Four SHS students received scholarships from the Singer Foundation.
- Staff, students and families were encouraged to participate in the National Certified Staff Appreciation Week. Events have been planned for each day of the week to show some love and appreciation for their Certified Staff.
- SHS Acting Ensemble is presenting a new play by Playwright Brianna Barrett. The play, After this Episode, is about a teenager coping with cancer while in her senior year. The play is May 11th-13th, 2023.
- Several of the SHS Performing Arts students participated recently in the State Competitions and placed well. We are proud of all their great successes.

Thurston High School: Brooklyn Ramirez shared:

- Thurston High School (THS) remains committed to upgrading an inclusive, empowering and proud learning environment for all students. They have implemented various initiatives that celebrate students and promote a positive environment. They have been celebrating the student body with the Risk Taker Rewards program and have highlighted their Excellent Eight, two nominated role model students.
- THS has been promoting their, See Something, Say Something campaign.
- The Community joined in celebrating Colt talent and skills. Student ambassadors planned interactive displays that showcased a program or content that they were passionate about.
- Last week students took AP exams from the 5 Advanced Placement classes. Students with Spanish and English language skills had the opportunity to take the test to earn a Seal of Biliteracy. Students in College Now classes are registering for credit through Lane Community College. There were 39 college credit courses offered by THS this year.
- Students have gone on many field trips to explore post high school options such as AVID students visited the U of O, Forestry students went on industry tours, and more than 70 students

attended the U of O International Conference. Many summer enrichment opportunities for students have been advertised.

- The spring musical, The Little Mermaid performed their final show, receiving rave reviews. Six-hundred elementary students joined in with them to watch the play and enjoy the bubbles and fun. The THS Theatre program also hosted a Mermaid Tea Party last Saturday.
- State Performances for Orchestra and Band will be held on May 10th and 12th of 2023. As Spring sports season concludes, THS applauded their student athletes for their hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship.
- Seniors are working toward achieving the highest graduation rate of THS, exceeding the Class of 2022's graduation rate of 84%. Senior events planned include the Senior Sunset on May 25, 2023 on the football field and the Senior Breakfast on June 9, 2023.
- Freshman Leadership is putting together a Spring Festival and the Student Senate is planning the last Pep Assembly.

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.

Chair Raven announced that there were thirteen individuals who requested to speak. This would double their time frame to just under forty-minutes. Chair Raven asked the Board if they were in agreement to increase their time frame or if they prefer to continue with the allotted time frame of twenty-minutes for public comments.

The Board was in agreement to increase that evening's Public Comment time frame.

An interpreter was used for some public speakers.

Debra Roberts from Springfield commented that many parents, as well as herself felt that the topic of Inclusiveness was very broad and that indoctrination did not belong in schools. It should be for the parents to decide how to shape their family without their values being undermined. They, as families,

residents, and taxpayers have conservative family values and expect those to be maintained and supported within the school system.

Maria Del Sol Granados stated that the teachers were very kind and patient and her children have continued support for the Migrant program. Last year it was very difficult for many families to participate in the Migrant program due to lack of transportation. It is a wonderful program that her children love and truly benefit from the numerous programs offered. She requested transportation support for the Summer Migrant program.

Colleen Hunter spoke virtually. She asked the Board to consider making public comment access easier, more available to all community members. Some people are not very tech user friendly and lack experience interacting with the District. The twenty-minute allotment time for public comments usually goes unused for the most part. She had previously spoken before the Board and felt they did not give her the attention that she deserved. She felt insulted.

Rocio Abundis shared that her children participate in the Summer Migrant program, which really motivates them. They have learned a lot in agriculture and their Spanish skills have improved. She said they were in great need of transportation support for the Summer Migrant program.

Cindy Gonzalez explained that during the pandemic, her three children of various ages experienced difficulties, but they had seen improvement since then. The teachers have provided support and motivation for those who had fallen behind. She offered her appreciation to all the teachers. It is nice that they have bilingual teachers in the Summer Migrant program. Her children have learned about many cultures from around the world, besides their own. They love the program and have gained so much from it. She requested transportation support for the Summer Migrant program.

Teresa Leon shared that her elementary age children have participated in the Summer Migrant program for the last two years. It is a really good program. They are taught bilingual language skills and also learn about their culture. It was difficult to drive the children there because as parents, they were working. She requested transportation support for the Summer Migrant program.

Anthony Reed, father of two children, and running for the Springfield School Board offered a few suggestions to the public comment policy. He thought the expansion to online comments was great, but would love to see the written or sign-in, so that when people show up they would still have that same sign-in. If no one signs up online, the remaining twenty minutes could be used to open it up to in-person public comment. He concluded with a suggestion to expand the time for people with translators.

A recess was taken at 7:50 p.m.

5. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approve Consent Agenda
 - 1. April 24, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
 - 2. Financial Statement Brett Yancey
 - 3. Personnel Report, Resolution #22-23.038 Dustin Reese
- B. Approve Supplemental Budget, Resolution #22-23.039 Brett Yancey
- C. K-8 Math Instructional Materials, First Read, Resolution #22-23.040 Whitney McKinley

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

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 Consent Agenda: Director Mann – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director Raven – Yes.

Motion passed, 3:0.

B. Approve Supplemental Budget, Resolution #22-23.039

MOTION: Director Mason moved, seconded by Director Mann to approve the Supplemental Budget 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 Supplemental Budget as presented: Director Mann - Yes, Director Mason - Yes and Director Raven - Yes.

Motion passed, 3:0.

C. K-8 Math Instructional Materials, First Read, Resolution #22-23.040

Whitney McKinley began her presentation by sharing a little on the history of the math program. In 2016 the Coraline Math program was adopted. They were now recommending a renewal of a revised version of that same program, which still meets those same standards, but with enhancements. This is actually building upon the success of the previously approved program, but they were not able to have an opportunity to see that fully implemented due to the pandemic. This program would allow them to continue that alignment that prepares students for high school Geometry, Algebra II, and Advanced Plus I courses. It does remain aligned and on the highest ranked programs on the State list. They are very aware that there is a learning gap, but in real time, the growth data suggests that the students are closing that gap more quickly than expected. This is a hybrid blended learning program with whole group instruction at grade level standards and a personalized path, that all students get what they need when they need it.

Mr. Mann asked if there were any correlations between their curriculum and the impact and the falling scores compared to the national standards.

Ms. McKinley replied that learning gaps were seen across the nation during the pandemic and that had more to do with the fact that they were in hybrid learning and did not have regular attendance. When they returned, Springfield was quite comparable to the national standards. Getting back to teaching their standards and being aligned in their teaching is proving to be successful in closing that gap.

MOTION: Director Mason moved, seconded by Director Mann to approve the K-8 Math Instructional Materials, First Read.

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 K-8 Math Instructional Materials, First Read: Director Mann - Yes, Director Mason - Yes and Director Raven - Yes.

Motion passed, 3:0.

6. Discussion

A. Public Comments Process Review

Superintendent Hamilton addressed the Board, stating they would be taking a close look at the current public comment processes and policies and seek to identify any problems and to improve upon those practices. Public comments are intended as an invitation by the Board for Community

members to share comments, ideas and opinions with the Board, with the hope that those ideas, comments and opinions will aid in informing the Board with related decisions before them.

- Public comment is accessible through written, in-person and online/virtual comments.
- The Board has flexibility regarding;
 - The number of topics allowed.
 - The number of people allowed to speak in an allotted time.
 - The prioritization of topics related to decisions in front of the Board.
 - To ask a member of a group to choose someone to represent the group.
 - To modify the time limit for public speaking.

Public and written comment is not intended to be an exchange between the public and the Board members. The sign-up deadline is at 12:00 p.m. the day of the Board Business Meeting. This allows time for the materials to be reviewed, packets to be assembled and to post all materials online by 4:00 p.m. Mr. Hamilton reminded the Board that this was not a decision item, but was intended to surface the discussion.

Mr. Mann remarked that not all in the room, those listening and in the community were aware of the policy. There is misinformation being shared. He wanted to ensure that once they began the conversation to identify the problem, that they have a shared understanding of what the expectations, policies and practices are for public comment.

Ms. Mason felt the issue was with virtual and in-person comment and pre-registration. She believed it was mostly the pre-registration that needed to be reviewed. For written comments it made sense to her that the District needed time to compile the written comments and send them to Board members with ample time to review, but she did not need to be notified in advance of who was speaking online. She felt she had been quite clear that people want to be able to show up to a meeting in-person and sign-up to speak. Perhaps speaking in the order they signed up should be conducted as a test run.

Ms. Raven agreed with the areas Ms. Mason felt needed to be reviewed. She reminded the Board that they were running a large organization and there were times when a lot came in and other times when there were less, but the process needs to be sustainable across that influx. Boards across the state have been trying to figure out how to meet the needs of their community. It is very tricky on that scale. Consistency of that process is difficult to achieve because the consistency of the problem is not there. It becomes an awareness of just that. In using an equity lens they will be able to ensure the provision of space in an equitable way. Ms. Raven posed the question, how often did these issues arise? From her perspective she did not feel that it was a problem and do not see the scale of this being large enough to make drastic changes.

Mr. Mann stated that it was important to differentiate between their policy, practices and procedures. Other than a few small tweaks, he did not feel the policy had issues. He stated their focus as a Board has always been on expanding access and to hear as many voices as possible. They have been able to expand in so many ways. One of the challenges that he had heard is the complexity of the process, so to create different deadlines for different public comments would only further complicate matters. Mr. Mann felt that there are multiple methods for the community to reach out to them and that the current system has expanded so much with so many opportunities.

7. Reports and Information

A. Superintendent Communication

Superintendent Todd Hamilton shared:

- The 21st Annual Tour of Huerta and Caesar Chavez celebration was held at Hamlin Middle School to raise awareness for social justice. He was able to hand out awards along with Marian Gordon, to some really deserving individuals in the community. Mariachi Del Sol performed, as well as the singers from Guy Lee Elementary School Immersion program, and the dancer from the Ballet Folklorico Colibri.
- A group of 30 or 40 Early Career Educators from the District met together for the purpose of continuing to learn and to inspire one another. They had the pleasure of listening to Marsha Boyer, a longtime educator in Oregon. She is passionate about students and teachers and improving their craft. She was humorous and inspirational. The teachers heard many ideas that resonated with them. SCF participated and supported the afternoon with students by speaking about the Innovative Educator grants and making sure the Early Career Educators knew about that opportunity and had support to apply for those. They also hosted a reception in appreciation and support of the Early Career Educators.

B. Board Communication and Committee Reports

Chair Raven shared that she had the opportunity to plant trees with for Arbor Day with Team Springfield group. She had fun and enjoyed coming together to celebrate the planting of trees.

Director Mason shared that Wildish Theatre did not have their last Board meeting, but there are early conversations for Soccer 2024 for the Springfield Arts and Culture Awards. Planning for the SACA 2024 Awards had already begun.

Director Mann shared:

- There were 36 applications received for The Social Emotional Learning grants and for The Frank Sherman grants for Outdoor and Physical Education.
- SCF is hoping to grant \$8,000 to educators in Gym and are inviting School Board members and Administrators to join the Grant Giving Tour.
- SCF is accepting nominations for the Alumni Awards, to be held on Monday June 12, 2023.
- Bookfest is held in the first week of June at Maple, Two Rivers Dos Rios, Douglas Gardens and Riverbend Elementary Schools.
- SCF is supporting Senior Grad Night parties.
- Thurston High is collecting donations for Prom tickets and Prom attire.
- SCF is currently recruiting for new Board members.

8. NEXT MEETINGS

May 11, 2023 Budget Committee 6:00pm

May 22, 2023 Board Work Session, Time TBD

Chair Raven thanked everyone for attending.

9. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Chair Raven adjourned the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

(Minutes recorded by Trenay Ryan (LCOG))