

WORK SESSION MINUTES

A Work Session of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on January 7, 2023.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Board Chair Naomi Raven called the Springfield Board of Education Work Session to order at 1:05 pm, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and read a Land Acknowledgement.

Attendance

Board Members attending the meeting included Board Chair Naomi Raven, Vice-Chair Todd Mann, Kelly Mason, and Jonathan Light. Emilio Hernandez was excused due to illness.

District staff included Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Dustin Reese, Brett Yancey, and Jeff Michna.

Kristen Miles from the Oregon School Boards Association was present to facilitate the training.

2. Training

Kristen Miles from the Oregon School Boards Association facilitated the Work Session and proposed the following agenda topics: 12 standards for effective boards, Crucial conversations, Plans and goals for board professional development, and Productive board relationships and tools.

Ms. Miles began with an opening activity to highlight the powerful experiences board members and staff had at school between the ages of 10-13. The common themes included access to caring adults and extracurricular activities.

Ms. Miles provided background information on the School Board Assessment tool that the board used in spring of 2022 and led the group through a review of the twelve evidence-based standards for effective board performance: Vision-directed planning, Community engagement, Effective leadership, Accountability, Using data for continuous improvement, Cultural responsiveness, Culture and climate, Learning organization, Systems thinking, Innovation and creativity, Board member conduct, ethics, and relationship with the superintendent, and Budgeting and financial accountability. She gathered feedback from board members on what the board is doing well and would like to improve.

The board took a break at 2:24 pm.

The board resumed the meeting at 2:34 pm.

Ms. Miles provided an overview of Crucial Conversations (Opposing opinions, Strong emotions, and High stakes) and how to navigate having these conversations with others; Start with the heart; and Make it safe.

Ms. Miles continued with a review of the board self-assessment and board-identified areas of improvement from the 2022 survey. Areas identified for improvement in the board self assessment survey included: Trust and respect on the board, Reflection on the board relationship, Fostering an environment of cooperation, growth and support throughout the entire organization, Creating an environment of trust, respect and teaming with the superintendent, and Setting performance goals.

Ms. Miles proposed crafting a summary of focus areas to begin the conversation at the next Work Session on January 14th.

3. Adjournment

Chair Raven adjourned the Work Session at 4:08 pm.