

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on August 9, 2021.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Board Chair Naomi Raven called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

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

Kelly Mason was excused from the meeting.

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Brett Yancey, Judy Bowden, Johanis Tadeo, Anthony Reed, Carla Smith, Amber Mitchell, Donna Riddle, Steve Schmunk, Dawn Bryson, Cole Bryson, June Fothergill, Melissa Myers, Britney Standeford, Kelli Myers, Kirsten Camerer, Curtis Crosswhite, Marion Malcolm, Peter Raven, Abby Raven, Kimberlee Pelster, Kari Isham, Colleen Hunter, Jonathan Gault, Andy Price, José da Silva, Jeff Fuller, Kayla Stewart, Ryan Dow, Kayla Dow, Reese Dow, Evan Dow, Kayla Johnson, Anna Stewart Harry Sanger, Jen McCulley, Dustin Reese, Jeff Michna, Whitney McKinley, Joyce Smith-Johnson, Brian Megert, Chris Reiersgaard, Mindy LeRoux and Jayson Hayden.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MOTION: Todd Mann moved, seconded by Jonathan Light to approve the August 9, 2021 agenda as presented.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote in favor of approving the August 9, 2021 agenda as presented: Dr. Hernandez – yes, Mr. Light – yes, Mr. Mann – yes, and Ms. Raven – yes.

Motion passed, 4:0

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Raven read the following statement concerning public comment:

This is the portion of our agenda for public comment. 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 and speakers will be called upon in the order in which they are received. 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 personal complaints concerning school personnel or against any person connected with the school system. Any complaints regarding a particular employee must be processed through the procedure set forth in policy, 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. Speakers are reminded that their public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.

Johanis Tadeo is an equity and respect organizer. He explained that there was no option for families to attend the meeting while feeling safe and heard and asked if online options were being considered. He asked if the board was operating from a crisis pandemic mindset and noted that 50 students in the county in K-12 had tested positive for Covid-19. He asked if online resources and distance learning would still be offered. He said that teachers and students should feel backed by the district and suggested a safe space for teachers to address issues and concerns around working environments. He thanked the Board for their time.

Anthony Reed wished to withhold his address for safety concerns. He thought that holding these limited access meetings did not make them accessible. He suggested offering hybrid meetings with the option to comment virtually. He noted that due to the lack of mask mandates in meetings, anyone attending was at risk. He wanted the meetings to be archived so they could be viewed at people's convenience. Mr. Reid noted that most students were ineligible for vaccines due to their age and hoped the Board would require masks indoors.

Donna Riddle shared that she was concerned about efforts to protect children. She noted that 58 people were currently in the hospital due to Covid. Ms. Riddle noted the lack of camaraderie between students with distance learning and hoped to see mask requirements and staggered school days to maintain distance.

Steve Schmunk thanked the Board for their service. He asked to delay the adoption of pension obligation bonds as he thought they were a bad idea. He explained that these bonds were risky for the community and wished for more community discussion. He also wished for a definition of a racial equity lens.

June Fothergill is a pastor and member of the Springfield Alliance for Equity and Respect. She was supportive of masks being used and thanked the Board for their hard work.

Curtis Crosswhite is a 4th grade teacher. He claimed that systematic racism was a big lie. He said that any support of systematic racism gave students a victim mentality and took away their individuality.

Marian Malcom works with the Springfield Alliance for Equity and Respect. She congratulated the newly elected members. She thought it was important to have an online option for future meetings. She said that she did not like wearing masks, but did so to protect against breakthrough Covid cases. She supported mask mandates.

Kirsten Camerer shared her concerns about the emotional impact of wearing masks on children. She thought that the newest variant was not affecting children like it was adults and was against vaccine mandates. She thought that the choice of masks should be up to the parents.

Harry Sanger noted that Covid deaths were at their lowest and that Lane County hospitals were only at 54% ICU capacity. He thought that forced masking lead to further shortages. He wished to respect family's choices.

4. ACTION ITEMS

A. Consent Agenda

- 1. June 28, 2021 Board Work Session Minutes**
- 2. June 28, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**
- 3. July 26, 2021 Organizational Board Meeting Minutes**
- 4. Personnel Action, Resolution #21-22.001**
- 5. 2019-2020 Oregon English Language Learner Report**

MOTION: Jonathan Light moved, Dr. Emilio Hernandez 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 of approving the Consent agenda: Dr. Hernandez – yes, Mr. Light – yes, Mr. Mann – yes, and Ms. Raven – yes.

Motion passed, 4:0.

B. Approve Budget Appropriations – PERS Pension Bonds, Resolution #21-22.002

This resolution is necessary to recognize additional revenue and properly record expenditures in the 2021-2022 budget appropriations within the levels as required by Oregon Budget Law. Oregon Budget Law requires that expenditures are recorded within the proper account, and that expenditures not exceed the total amount budgeted by function level (1000 – instruction, 2000 – support services, etc.).

On May 10, 2021, the Board of Directors adopted resolution 20-21.038 authorizing the District the authority for issuance and sale of Full Faith and Credit Pension Obligations Series 2021 to finance the District’s unfunded PERS actuarial liability.

Following the approval of the resolution, the District participated in the sale of pension bonds which will close on August 19, 2021. The sale and issuance of bonds for the pension obligations generated \$106,955,000. The District’s recommendation to the Board is to recognize receipt of these resources and associated budget costs and to allocate these funds in the following areas:

Debt Service Fund (300):

(106,955,000)	Revenue - Bond Proceeds (Fund 300, Function 5110)
731,925	Bond Issuance Costs (Fund 300, Function 2521)
106,223,075	Lump sum payment to PERS (Fund 300, Function 5400)
(4,578,043)	Assessments (Fund 300, Function 1970)
2,670,000	Debt Service - Principal (Fund 300, Function 5100)
1,908,043	Debt Service - Interest (Fund 300, Function 5100)

These are the only modifications being proposed at this time. Brett Yancey will be available at the meeting for additional questions.

Brett Yancey recommended the Board of Directors adopt the 2021-22 Budget Resolution as presented.

MOTION: Jonathan Light moved, Todd Mann seconded to approve the 2021-22 Budget Resolution as presented.

Chair Raven called for discussion.

Mr. Light asked for more detail and Mr. Yancey explained that the district participated in the first pension bond in 2005 and that PERS at that time managed their unfunded liability at a cost of 8% and that the bonds were issued at 4.77%. Through 2019, that action had resulted in \$12,639,000 in savings. Mr. Yancey said a cap was issued in May at 4.5% and the bonds were sold at 2.53%. By participating in this bond, it was estimated that if the market performed the same way it did, then they would save \$60.1 million through 2040.

Mr. Light asked what the risk was and Mr. Yancey answered that he had several conversations with the public and noted that this issue was managed by PERS which had a different investment strategy as the district. He added that historically they had considerably outperformed the market on several investments. He said there was a risk, but it was not significant.

Mr. Light asked if the history of PERS managing leaned more conservative or progressive. Mr. Yancey answered that it leaned more moderate. Mr. Light asked if the district had ever lost money in this and Mr. Yancey said there was a loss in 2008 at the bottom of the recession. Mr. Light asked if 2005 was the only time they had exercised this option and Mr. Yancey said yes.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Ms. Raven asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion to approve the 2021-22 Budget Resolution: Dr. Hernandez – yes, Mr. Light – yes, Mr. Mann – yes, and Ms. Raven – yes.

Motion passed, 4:0.

C. Approve Budget Appropriations – Summer Learning, Resolution #21-22.003

This resolution is necessary to recognize additional revenue and properly record expenditures in the 2018-2019 budget appropriations within the levels as required by Oregon Budget Law. Oregon Budget Law requires that expenditures are recorded within the proper account, and that expenditures not exceed the total amount budgeted by function level (1000 – instruction, 2000 – support services, etc.).

House Bill 5042A authorized the Oregon Department of Education to make grant funding available to participating schools for academic summer school to support high school students facing academic credit loss, summer enrichment programs, and wrap around child care. This House Bill followed the preparation of the School District’s budget process.

The following revisions have been made to the Grant Funds to recognize revenue from the Summer Learning Grant. This funding source generated \$3,692,936, of which the District is required to provide a match in the amount of \$941,649. The ESSER III grant funds will be used for the District match.

The District’s recommendation to the Board is to recognize receipt of these resources and associated budget costs and to allocate these funds in the following areas:

Summer Learning Grant Fund (205):

(1,636,023)	Summer Enrichment Program (Fund 205, Function 3299)
(1,274,040)	High School Academic Summer Program (Fund 205, Function 3299)
(782,873)	Wrap Around Child Care Program (Fund 205, Function 3299)
3,092,936	Instruction Services (Fund 205, Function 1000)
500,000	Support Services (Fund 205, Function 2000)

100,000 Community Services (Fund 205, Function 3000)

These are the only modifications being proposed at this time. Brett Yancey will be available at the meeting for additional questions.

Brett Yancey recommended the Board of Directors adopt the 2021-22 Budget Resolution as presented.

MOTION: Dr. Emilio Hernandez moved, Jonathan Light seconded the motion to adopt the 2021-22 Budget Resolution as presented.

Chair Raven called for discussion;

Mr. Light asked for clarification of the source of the funds. Mr. Yancey explained that this was a state grant with a 20% match which came from ESSER III dollars and not the general operating fund.

Chair Raven asked how the summer programs were going. David Collins shared that they were able to visit sites and work with operations teams to provide barbeque lunches for students. He added that it was focused around unfinished learning and reengagement. Mr. Collins said this followed guidance from the state and that in his experience this was the first comprehensive summer offering. He concluded that it was a great success overall.

Chair Raven asked how many years this was being offered and Mr. Yancey answered through 2024. Superintendent Todd Hamilton added that this would continue to support summer learning until the ESSER III funds were expended.

Mr. Mann noted that community feedback indicated that people did not know about the program until it was too late and encouraged increased participation.

Dr. Hernandez asked what community services entailed and Mr. Yancey answered that it covered nutritional services cost.

Mr. Light asked if the funding would run out next year and Mr. Yancey said yes. Mr. Light asked for a more definitive breakdown of the goals of the program. Superintendent Hamilton noted that there were two different funding sources and what the Board was being asked approved today were the state funds.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Ms. Raven asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion to adopt the 2021-22 Budget Resolution as presented: Dr. Hernandez – yes, Mr. Light – yes, Mr. Mann – yes, and Ms. Raven – yes.

Motion passed, 4:0.

D. Approve OSAA Cooperative Sponsorship, Resolution #21-22.004

Full member schools, located in the same geographic area, may apply for cooperative sponsorship for an OSAA activity when a school has difficulty sponsoring the activity by itself.

For the 2021-22 academic year, the following programs are applying for cooperative sponsorship:

- Boys Soccer – Thurston High School and Mohawk High School

Support for this application will make activities available for students that would not be available in their resident school because of a lack of numbers if joint sponsorship did not occur.

David Collins recommended the Board of Directors support the OSAA Cooperative Sponsorship Application for Boys Soccer between: Thurston High School and Mohawk High School.

MOTION: Todd Mann moved, Jonathan Light seconded the motion to support the OSAA Cooperative Sponsorship Application for Boys Soccer between Thurston High School and Mohawk High School.

Chair Raven called for discussion.

Mr. Light appreciated the opportunity for inter-district cooperation.

Chair Raven called for a roll call vote. Chair Raven asked each Board member if they supported the motion to approve the OSAA Cooperative Sponsorship Application for Boys Soccer between Thurston High School and Mohawk High School: Dr. Hernandez – yes, Mr. Light – yes, Mr. Mann – yes, and Ms. Raven – yes.

Motion passed, 4:0.

5. INFORMATION/REPORTS

A. Superintendent Hamilton

Superintendent Hamilton shared a couple of updates regarding public board meetings. He explained that legislation was passed for districts to have board meetings broadcast. He noted that public comment would have to be available both in person and remotely as much as possible.

Superintendent Hamilton explained that they had received the latest framework from the Governor and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and would be following this guidance. He said that an emergency rule was put in place to mandate masks in K-12 schools.

Superintendent Hamilton shared that at the end of the month all staff would be returning and they were looking forward to full time instruction.

Dr. Hernandez asked if they would get guidance from Oregon Health Authority (OHA) should the pandemic get out of hand again. Superintendent Hamilton explained that the Governor and OHA were communicating with school districts and reinforced their commitment to the safety of students. He added that online learning was still being offered with a minimum of two days of contact a week as recommended by ODE.

Dr. Hernandez asked if they would seek community and parent input. Mr. Collins answered that they were assessing input from families compared to last year while waiting for further guidance from ODE.

B. Board Communication

Vice Chair Hernandez shared that he attended a Lane ESD Board meeting last week where he was asked to remain an at-large district representative. They would be looking for a new budget committee representative.

Mr. Light offered to serve on the Springfield Education Foundation board.

Mr. Mann shared that he had been serving on the LCOG board of directors and enjoyed his time there. He said he was looking forward to the Night of 11,000 Stars event in October.

Chair Raven shared that she had attended the OSBA summer conference. She was grateful for the opportunity to ask questions and receive follow up information. She reminded the Board about the OSBA webinar about *Back to School Guidance Framework: Guidance for School Board Members* on Tuesday, August 10th.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, August 30, 2021 beginning at 5:00pm.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Chair Raven adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

(Minutes recorded by Jayson Hayden)