



LAKE STEVENS
School District

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' SPECIAL AND REGULAR MEETINGS
April 26, 2023

**Board
Members:**

Mari Taylor, President
Nina Hanson
David Iseminger
Vildan Kirby
Paul Lund
Ken D. Collins, Superintendent/Board Secretary

**Student
Advisory
Council
Officers:**

Samuel Orduna
Riley Boerger
MacKenzie Conniff

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors met in a Special Meeting at the Educational Service Center. President Taylor called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Superintendent Collins stated good evening and welcome to the 2023 Volunteer Celebration! Tonight, is all about you - our wonderful volunteers. This is a time to pause and celebrate the energy and commitment each of you gives. Your time is a precious gift. We are fortunate to have an amazing staff in our district, but volunteers are an essential part of our daily operations. Your volunteerism is critical to the success of our district. You help us to build better, stronger, healthier schools and enhance our community. I want each of you to know how much I appreciate your time, skills, knowledge, energy, and commitment to the children of Lake Stevens. Because of your generosity, the lives of our students are enriched. You are here tonight because you have been selected as your school's Volunteer of the Year. It is our pleasure to honor you. I'd like to start by recognizing the five members of our community who volunteer their time to serve as School Board members: President Mari Taylor, Vice President David Iseminger, Legislative Representative Paul Lund, Director Vildan Kirby, and Director Dr. Nina Kim Hanson. I would like to also introduce the student members of the Student Advisory Council to the Board - President Sam Orduna, Vice President Riley Boerger, and Secretary McKenzie Conniff. Thank you for your service to our district and community!

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The first award of the evening is the Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes a community member or a community organization for outstanding support of the Lake Stevens School District. It's my pleasure to announce that this year's Distinguished Service Award goes to the Lake Stevens Education Foundation. Since 1993, the Lake Stevens Education Foundation has been an integral part of our community and our school district. LSEF is a non-profit charitable organization managed by these amazing volunteers. These are some very familiar faces in our schools and our communities. These volunteers are active in our schools and are teaching our students to be contributing members of society and servant leaders. LSEF supports our district in a myriad of ways, including scholarships for students, the Academic Beginnings for Children early learning program, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, and Innovative Teaching and Learning Grants. LSEF has contributed nearly \$100,000 in grants to our teachers over the past 30 years. The Lake Stevens School District and our entire community greatly benefit from the Lake Stevens Education Foundation and its generosity. We sincerely appreciate their support. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources John Balmer introduced himself and congratulated the Lake Stevens Education Foundation. He stated it is his pleasure to begin the presentation of our awards for the Volunteer of the Year from each school. He said he would invite each administrator to come forward and introduce themselves and their school's award winner. The following are the recipients from each school for Volunteer of the Year: LSHS – Dr. Jared Anderson, LSMS – Katie Rugg, NLMS – Cassie Mulivrana, Glenwood – Joelle Martin, Hillcrest – Tammy Kim, Highland – Rachel Stutes, Mt. Pilchuck - Mary Rand, Skyline – Kristina Schweizer, Stevens Creek – Rachel Beyer, Sunncrest – Nichole Kirschner, Early Learning Center – Andrew Wild, and HomeLink – Angel Brave. Cavelero's recipient Jan Novak was unable to attend. President Mari Taylor congratulated and thanked all of the volunteers. She stated she appreciates their time, energy, and generosity. She told them they are the best of the best! Director Lund said what a huge range of talent the volunteers generously share across the district every day. Superintendent Collins invited all of the Volunteers of the Year to come forward for a group picture. He then thanked everyone for being here this evening! President Taylor adjourned the Special Meeting at 6:29 p.m.

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors met in a Regular Session at the Educational Service Center. A Zoom option was available for this meeting that President Taylor called to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

All Board members were present except Director Iseminger was not able to attend.

AGENDA/MINUTES

Director Lund made a motion to approve the April 26, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and unanimously approved.

Director Hanson made a motion to approve the April 12, 2023 minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

Student Advisory Council President Sam Orduna spoke on the Student Advisory Council (SACo). He stated SACo is a council of eight student representatives of LSSD that work with the board to provide student views and input. Policy 1900, worked on by Superintendent Collins and a few other students, the SACo was approved in December 2021. Members are 8th-grade students Muhammed Ceesay and Laila Njie, 9th-grade students Aashisri Bendalam and Yostina Mosa, 10th-grade students Riley Boerger, Vice President and Sam Orduna President, 11th-grade students MacKenzie Conniff, Secretary, and Hayden LaCelle. Student Advisory Council members stated at the beginning of this term they met and defined some goals for their term and later created their committees. They knew that making their schools a place, where everyone wanted to be, was super important, and that is why they created their Sense of Belonging Committee. They also want to continue Interrupting Hate Speech Training and want to continue educating the community on the policies that are being approved. They stated that they knew that stress in their school has always been an issue but after the pandemic it had skyrocketed, which is one of the many reasons they created the Student Stress Relief Committee. The purpose of the

Stress Relief Committee is a way of alleviating stress within our school demographic. The stress relief committee's main agenda is to find affordable, sufficient, and innovative ways to aid our students and to help them associate school with positivity. The Student Advisory Council's goals for next year are to make school a better place for students, find ways to relieve stress, and help students become more successful. SACo wanted to talk about the purpose of Interrupting Hate Speech Training. They have noticed an increase in hate speech around their schools, and in this committee, they are hoping to educate their schools on what hate speech is, how to interrupt it as it happens, and how to teach others about it as well. SACo's goals for next year on interrupting hate speech are to make everyone feel welcome at their schools, to educate others on what hate speech is, and to teach students and staff how to stop hate speech. The purpose of the Sense of Belonging Committee is as a committee, they are working on establishing a greater sense of belonging within the district student body. The goals for this committee for next year are creating new activities to encourage positive relationships, collaborating with other committees to achieve their goals, and continuing their work on a district-wide level. Their Publishing Policy Update Committee's purpose is to increase the visibility and accessibility of school district policies to foster a community that is connected, cultivated, and confident. To achieve this, they will work on making these policies easily viewable, readable, and understandable at a glance using tools that we already have at their disposal. Their goals for this are to make their announcements connectable, easily viewable, and understandable while continuing to use and apply feedback. Their monthly SACo Newsletter can be used to keep in touch with SACo and to help better explain to our community what SACo is truly doing. The Student Advisory Council's future goals will be to continue their meetings with the administrators at their respective schools, collaborate with the Big 5 at Sunnycrest, attend and work at Heritage Night, meet as a SACo team every two weeks, continue their hate speech training in their secondary schools, and continue to attend the school board meetings. Director Kirby said she thinks it is a great idea to inform others about the policies. She stated knowledge is power. President Taylor stated she is so excited about the work the SACo members are doing. Director Lund asked the SACo members if they are working with administrators on their projects. Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Monica Meadows said the students meet regularly with their Principals.

Principal Songstad talked about the Hillcrest Student Body fifth-grade leaders. Hillcrest Associated Student Body - ASB students assist with kinder buddies, the food drive, reading in primary classrooms, and seeking out those in need. This year, ASB has focused on students seeking out those students who are alone or displaying signs of needing a friend. One day a week, each ASB student goes out to recess wearing a brightly colored vest and roams the playground where they find ways to be a friend to those in need. Principal Songstad talked about One School, One Book. They are reading Fenway and Hattie by Victoria J. Coe. The Highlights for her were hearing kids and staff talking about the same book around the school. She loved seeing the kids excited to see the book reveal, hear the trivia question, and be able to answer it. I had parents report that they had fun reading the book with their children and that they were enjoying the book, too. I loved the opportunity to be able to do something that connected everyone and a common experience that linked everyone K-5. Principal Songstad is interested to see the results of the survey as well. Hillcrest also has a program called Rainbow Readers. This program was a collaboration of our library with Sno-Isle and the third-grade teachers. The goal was to get third graders reading chapter books as this age is such a pivotal age for kids to define themselves as readers. Research shows that reading ability at this grade is a tipping point for later academic success. The challenge was for as many 3rd graders as possible to read all six of the nominated OTTER award books (OTTER awards is a WA State book award). Hillcrest had 57 out of 120 students succeed in this goal. That is nearly 50%! The majority of students read 1-5 of the books as well (normally, we've gotten 1/4 of the grade that have read two of the six books so this is a huge increase). Principal Songstad spoke about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) in the Hillcrest Library. She talked about the PTA Assembly that included Science and Robotics. A favorite part of robotics is seeing the ownership students have in their robot. Every student not only came in on Fridays from October through March for the regular meeting but gave up their recess time to spend extra time on their bot - some of them coming in daily at the end of the season. The best time is when they get their hero bot built (the bot that all groups build to start with) and then start revising. They practice on the game field and determine what the bot is doing well and isn't able to do. This year's game was extremely difficult with three different mechanisms needed to get the game pucks down from the towers to be able to score points. Students watched other bots gather ideas and researched online different ways to solve the problem.

None of the Hillcrest team's bots looked like the hero bot in the end and several could get all towers to unload! The growth was incredible. One team went from not making it to the finals at the first competition to getting first place at the final competition! Principal Songstad spoke on PBIS and the focus on SEL/Behavior strategy, their Intervention Team strengthening Tier II and III Intervention, and strengthening PBIS goal setting. They are working on understanding how to utilize a problem-solving process to identify the root causes of behavior. Principal Songstad talked about iReady Reading. She presented a graph comparing Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Winter 2023, and a Spring 2023 iReady Reading goal for each grade level. Their action plan is to use PAST assessments, LETRS interventions, RISE writing, K-1 Rotations - Phonological Awareness, Wired grades second through fifth, stretch their growth goal, and align SBA interims with science kits to integrate reading, writing, and vocabulary. Principal Songstad presented information on Academics - Interventions LETRS Learning Incorporated. She spoke on assessments used including Word Knowledge Inventory, PAST, and Sight Words in Context. Other new practices are Sound Walls vs. Word Walls and decodable text vs. predictable text. Decodable books are simple books that are written for the beginning reader. Decodable books encourage children to sound out words using decoding strategies rather than guessing from pictures or predicting from other cues. Decodable books are sequential in nature and build phonic knowledge gradually. She showed that 100% of first-grade students that participated grew two or more levels in their Word Knowledge Inventory, more than 90% demonstrated proficiency in the correct spelling of sight words, and 100% are consistently demonstrating proficiency in short vowels. Eight percent of second and third-grade students that participated grew four to five levels based on PAST, 47% grew two levels in Word Knowledge, and they had high proficiency and growth in sight words. On a collaborative grade level team, the third-grade team worked on iReady reading scores, spelling inventories, WFR, prefixes, and suffixes, and breaking apart multisyllabic words. The fifth-grade students worked on digraphs, long/short vowels, initial/final blends, vowel team diphthongs, r-controlled vowels, and inflectional endings. Principal Songstad shared information on staff connections and the Hillcrest Social Committee. She said they have cook-offs, played pickleball, and dressed up like book characters. Principal Songstad also wanted to share information on Hispanic Family Night – Principal Songstad thanked everyone and talked about what is next at Hillcrest.

She stated the first week of May the 5th grade students will be planting trees to celebrate Earth Day. She also said on May 24 at 6:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. Hillcrest will have their Music Performances and of course, at the end of the year Hillcrest will celebrate their fifth-grade graduation.

Principal Abels introduced Associate Principal Sarah Mack and Administrative Intern Kyle Strand. Principal Abels spoke about several fun events happening at North Lake Middle School. Principal Abels talked about a pie-in-the-face contest, mummy wrap event, and pickleball tournament. He said pickleball gets very competitive. North Lake will be having SBA ELA testing followed by math coming up. He stated math just finished the last three chapters of the book Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics. The North Lake Middle School SIP Team has been working on the upcoming transitions for student placements for the 2023-2024 school year. The counselors will be meeting with elementary schools to move forward on student placement including special needs placement for 6th grade. Cavelero has already completed its registration with the seventh-grade students. Principal Abels said their incoming sixth-grade class will graduate in 2030. Associate Principal Sarah Mack spoke about North Lake athletics. She first wanted to give credit to the yearbook advisor for all of the great photos. They have had two full seasons of athletics. Girls volleyball was undefeated and boys basketball received big kudos for their sportsmanship. North Lake had over 50 athletes participate in co-ed wrestling. Associate Principal Mack stated that girls basketball had a lot of growth and track started a couple of weeks ago with 104 athletes on the track team. North Lake will be co-hosting the year-end championships at Lake Stevens High School. Administrative Intern Kyle Strand talked about activities and clubs at North Lake Middle School. He spoke about the cooking club, which is their pride and joy. He stated that 39% of the North Lake students join clubs. They had an exciting toilet paper mummy competition during one of their assemblies, celebrated NLMS Diversity Week, and now have two Bulldog stores. They have had two well-attended dances this year with a third one coming next week. Administrative Intern Kyle Strand talked about their Leadership Club and creating the Periodic Table of Black History which included a wall of information with QR Codes you can use to go in-depth to learn about Black History. He stated Leadership has done a lot of activities including creating relationships and checking on students.

Associate Principal Mack spoke about North Lake having a military family night dinner, placing a world map on the wall so military families could pin all the places they have been in the world, and they had a wall of parent pictures that served in the military in the foyer. They also had pictures of veterans outside along the North Lake entrance. Principal Mack spoke about engaging the military community being a huge success. Director Lund stated it was a well-rounded report and he loved the work North Lake is doing to engage the community. He said the Periodic Table of Black History was brilliant. SACo Vice-President Riley Boerger said they need to create something similar at Cavelero and LSMS. Director Kirby agreed and stated it is so amazing. Director Hanson said thank you this was wonderful.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Taylor called for community comments. Hearing none, she closed this portion of the meeting.

DECISION ITEMS

Consent Agenda:

Director Kirby made a motion to approve the "Consent Agenda" items:

1. Warrant Nos. 307766 to 307947 - \$862,032.79 (E:78/23)
2. Personnel Report: classified employment of Charles Coragiulo, Paul Zickefoose, Andrea Vanderschel, Kari Fleischman, Tiffany Porter, and Jamie Powell; volunteers: Greg Erickson and Noah French; resignations of Fred Chadwick, Lawanda (Debbie) Heide, Robin Giuliacci, Jill Clark, Laura Estella, Carrie Gosselin, Dean Pakinas, Jessica Sare, and Jessamyn Summers; retirements of Marilee Fronsman and Vicki Jimenez and the extension of the Superintendent's contract (E:79/23); the co-curricular assignments (E:80/23);
3. to declare curriculum items as surplus (E:81/23)

The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved.

Director Hanson made a motion to approve the final acceptance of the public works projects. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and was unanimously approved (E:82/23).

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Assistant Superintendent Teresa Main talked about Policy and Procedure No. 6025. She stated for a few years, we have had a couple of facility/therapy animals on our campus to support students' social, and emotional needs. This has been an effective addition to our instructional program, however, now we are having many more facility/therapy animals requesting to be part of our instructional program. With guidance from our attorney, we added a layer of approval to ensure the addition of the facility/therapy animal would be an educational benefit to our instruction. In the procedures, we've clarified considerations and responsibilities to make when accepting the request. We have also identified when it would be appropriate to remove or exclude a facility/therapy animal and defined who has responsibility and liability for a negligent act from the handler or animal.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Executive Director of Operations Robb Stanton gave a construction update. He presented an update to the Board on construction and improvement projects related to the 2016 Capital Bond. He stated it has been several months since the last update, and he shared information on the Lake Stevens High School modernization project and the district-wide security improvement projects. The following have been completed:

- LSHS Modernization Phase IV, including PAC video improvements, ASB garage door, and the plaza bollards
- LSHS Modernization – Phase V, including HomeLink renovation and the district warehouse at LSHS
- Security Improvements including school secure entries and middle schools access control and security improvements at LSHS
- Infrastructure for modular classrooms at Glenwood and Skyline
- Glenwood Modular Classrooms
- Hillcrest West renovation
- Portables at Cavelero, Stevens Creek, and Highland
- Cavelero road establishment
- 29th Street extension at Stevens Creek

The following projects are substantial completion: LSHS Modernization – Phase V

- Surplus and furniture storage
- Security Improvements Phase 4
- Security cameras at district schools and support buildings
- Access control, video cameras, and intrusion detection at the Transportation

The following are under construction: LSHS Modernization – Phase IV

- Old music classroom conversion
- Conversion of old health room to student support space

LSHS Modernization – Phase IV

- HomeLink restrooms
- Infrastructure to portables at Stevens Creek, Highland, and Cavelero Security Improvements Phase 4
- Access control at district schools and support buildings

Executive Director of Operations shared before and after pictures of the projects that are completed. Director Lund stated that it was a great report and thank you. He said he was impressed with turning the industrial space into classrooms. Director Lund said the band and choir rooms were beautiful and it was nice how some of the older artwork was kept for nostalgia. SACo Vice President Boerger stated the ASB garage door is wonderful and the new projector is amazing.

Executive Director of Educational Technology and Assessment Mike Weatherbie gave a presentation on WSIF (Washington School Improvement Frameworks) data. The Washington School Improvement Framework (WSIF) identifies how schools can improve the education of all students. The Framework combines as many as nine indicators (such as graduation rates, attendance, and proficiency on state tests in math and English language arts) into a 1-10 score. The school's score then determines the state's support for the school to improve. WSIF was originally released in March 2018 and was last updated in February 2020. New WSIF data was released in late March 2023, including an updated round of determining which supports schools are eligible for. Executive Director Weatherbie talked about highlights of WSIF Frameworks are more emphasis on growth than proficiency, including indicators that are not just academic. He stated focus on overall school performance as well as by subgroup. Focus on performance over time rather than year-to-year, and supportive in nature rather than punitive-no more failing schools.

Executive Director Weatherbie presented graphs on a typical three-year data run and how it is measured and examples for calculating the average achievement level measure. He also presented information regarding each category's scores and how they are combined for a comprehensive *All Student* score. Executive Director Weatherbie stated additionally each subgroup also has a score so a school could be targeted for support in just one or two areas. He presented the Washington School Improvement Framework Snapshot at a glance which showed district, school, score, and subgroups and allows you to use multiple measures of school success. He presented an older video that explains a typical year's measure and how the ID threshold is determined. Executive Director Weatherbie explained how elementary, middle school, mid-high school, and high school are measured and how much is weighted. He showed screenshots of each school's overall composite scores and relation to the identification threshold: 2.19. Director Kirby stated receiving the subgroup data is wonderful. President Taylor said the information was such an improvement and thought the ability to access data and identify student groups was wonderful.

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Lund said what a wonderful evening this has been and loved celebrating the volunteers. He stated it was fun to celebrate the best of the best and know that there are so many more. He thanked Ben Mattingly for the outstanding job, stating the food was great. He also thanked SACo for an awesome report and how they are doing such a phenomenal job. He said thank you for the informative building reports.

Director Hanson thanked everyone for always making her children feel welcome. She congratulated the amazing volunteers and stated it was so nice to see them this evening. She said she is looking forward to Heritage Night and is happy SACo is getting involved. Director Hanson told the SACo members that the Board is there to support them and she loves the student voice. She thanked Hillcrest and North Lake for their wonderful reports and said she learned a lot about the instructional animals. She also thanked Executive Director of Operations Robb Stanton and his team for doing an incredible job, and Executive Director of Educational Technology and Assessment for providing all of the data.

Director Kirby said how nice it was to recognize the volunteers. She takes her hat off to the volunteers and their contributions. She said she is grateful for every one of them. She stated her kids are lucky to

be in such a great school district. Director Kirby thanked everyone for the wonderful reports including the Student Council Advisory Members.

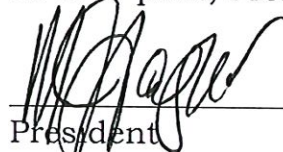
SACo President Sam Orduna congratulated all of the volunteers. He wanted to thank his amazing team and loves to be a part of the team. He stated he would like to find a way to continue and expand the Black History Periodic Table. He said the LSHS improvements are wonderful and the WSIF data was incredible.

SACo Vice President Riley Boerger said congratulations to all the volunteers and thanked the amazing SACo team. The Hillcrest and North Lake reports were amazing.

President Taylor thanked everyone for an amazing evening. She thanked everyone for the wonderful reports and congratulated all of the volunteers.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:45 p.m., President Taylor adjourned the Regular Meeting.



President



Secretary