



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING
October 26, 2022**

**Board
Members:**

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

**Student
Advisory
Council
Officers:**

Aimel Rai, President
Josefina Jarillo Odegaard
Duvaekk Smith

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

ROLL CALL

President Taylor announced Director Hanson would not be able to attend the meeting as she was home with her newborn.

The board members and students took the opportunity to introduce themselves to the audience by stating the length of time they have served on the board. The board members and Superintendent also commented on their daytime positions and children who attend/or have graduated from the high school.

AGENDA/MINUTES

Director Lund made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved.

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the October 12, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

Principal Lisa Sanchez welcomed everyone to Lake Stevens Middle

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School. She began her presentation by stating the Tier 1 support is offered and available to all students. Mrs. Sanchez introduced Kitchen Manager Nickki Croffut and Cashier Amber Scoglia who reported on the many ways in which they (1) interact with students to build safe, authentic, positive relationships, (2) ensure emotional and physical safety by meeting nutritional needs, and (3) understand the interrelated nature of emotional and physical health and academic success and the need to view students holistically. Ms. Scoglia listed the ways they have created a welcoming and happy kitchen environment, such as displaying fun, seasonal decorations and participating in "Spirit Days." They also have made it a goal to know each student's name. It was noted the students love the positive messages displayed on the salad bar. Ms. Croffut stated she loves her job and her great team members who go above and beyond. Associate Principal Jaime Sinning remarked the staff members were aware they needed to connect with students during the lunch period as it can be a stressful time for them. He then shared the opportunity that allows for 50 students at a time to have lunch in the library in order to decompress. He commented on the Lunch Bunch Program; lunch with Bruce, the support dog for Lake Stevens Middle School; and lunch with Mr. Coleman and the "Let's Catch Up Club." "Spirit Days" are held every Friday and students can enter the slushy drawings. Mr. Sinning stressed the goal is about providing safe opportunities for every student to connect with an adult. Library Specialist Jessica Anderson provided an overview of opportunities that are available for students such as books, media, literacy, the game corner, and Maker Space to support learning. Student demo leaders were invited to introduce themselves to the audience. They invited the members to stations to learn about and try Ozobots. Following this activity, Mrs. Sanchez gave an overview of the Tier 2 Mentor/Mentee Connections Program. Students in this group are on the cusp of meeting standards on the SBA and STAR assessments in reading and/or math and there is a focus on relationships and providing a sense of belonging. Mrs. Sanchez reviewed the percentages of students who self-rated on the Panorama assessment. She shared the names and photos of the staff members who volunteered to mentor students and read a statement from Mr. Wheat on why he chose to provide this support. Mr. Wheat understands the students are trying to figure out who they are and he wants to look them in the eye and tell them, "You are important and you are not alone." He wants this message to be loud and clear. A student shared

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his appreciation for the ability to talk to a mentor about his problems. Mrs. Sanchez commented on the work mentors do for the Learning Assistance Program and target subgroups. She shared how the nurse advocated and got glasses for one student who was falling behind in his assignments. The administrators, staff, and students were thanked for their presentations. President Taylor stated it is amazing what is happening at Lake Stevens Middle School.

President Taylor called for a break from 7:24 to 7:35 pm. She invited those interested to stay for the remaining portion of the meeting.

Executive Director of Student Inventions Sarah Danielson presented the annual HiCap Program Plan. She reported every year staff and families complete a survey on the program. During the previous year a broader range of communications took place and everything was moved to digital. It was found the families and staff preferred a blend of paperwork so for the 2022-23 school year there will be an increase in paper communications. Staff requested additional professional trainings and opportunities have been provided to attend state conferences. Mrs. Danielson stated all staff have worked hard to establish a rigorous and challenging program. She was pleased to announce the hiring of a full-time Highly Capable Program Coordinator, Samantha Sauter, and shared her background. She mentioned Ms. Sauter had explored testing programs where teachers would be able to receive information almost instantaneously. She commented on the focus of the process, such as the nomination piece and screening. Aimel questioned the improvement of equity for those students who do not speak English. Ms. Danielson provided details on the universal screening that takes place and the ability to nominate any student, as well as the ability for Google translations. In addition, students can nominate themselves with parental approval. Director Kirby commented on a previous book study that had been offered with the leadership of counselors. Ms. Danielson would love to reinstate this piece. President Taylor is glad to have the parent organization again as it is so much more powerful coming from family communication. Director Iseminger mentioned having a sense of community and continuity. He would like monthly communication for families and staff across the district. He questioned the ability for students to have the opportunities to test mid-year. Mrs. Danielson responded that this is another reason for hiring a full-time coordinator and any student who missed the original screening process would be accommodated. Director

Iseminger remarked on the program's improvement and the small grant available for it. President Taylor thanked Aimel for her questions and commented on having to think about ways to see through barriers. Mrs. Danielson acknowledged there is a need to do better for students who are on free or reduced meals.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Taylor read the protocols for community comments. She noted comments are welcome and important to the board members and they value the input. She called for community comments. Cynthia thanked the board members and apologized for her lack of control at a previous board meeting. She mentioned being in compliance with ADA laws and being proactive, her children being exceptional students, and more equity for students on free and reduced meals. Daniel remarked on the three "Rs" at Lake Stevens High School and his belief the teachers are not following them. He reported there is a lack of respect and trust. Todd stated he is impressed with the mentoring program at Lake Stevens Middle School and he said it would be a great addition across the district. Todd also commented on respect for students and it falling short at the high school. He stated adults should be accountable when making a mistake and acknowledge it and be open to feedback. Doug Lafferty commented on the recent bomb threat at the high school and offered suggestions for improvement, including the release of students and not holding them at the site. President Taylor called for additional 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. 305454 to 305616 - \$1,617,303.10 (E:175/22) and Nos. 222300006 and 222300007 - \$13,658.90 (E:176/22);
2. the Personnel Report: certificated employment of Amy Stock; classified employment of Brittany Black, Rina Carmichael, Amanda Kime, Amy Marciniak, Melissa Olson, Elsa Osborn, Melissa Powell, and Joseph Silva; resignations of Callie Darland, Jennifer Hines, and Deanne St. Germaine; retirement of Daloris Waltz (E:177/22); the co-curricular report (E:178/22);
3. to surplus equipment (E:179/22); the HiCap Program Plan

(E:180/22); a donation in the amount of \$1,330.00 from the Purple and Gold Club of Lake Stevens (E:181/22); and a donation in the amount of \$5,626.00 from the Hillcrest Elementary School PTA (E:182/22).

The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger. Director Kirby expressed appreciation for the donations. In response to a question from Josefina, Superintendent Collins responded the HiCap Program Plan goes to the State for approval in order to receive grant funding. The motion was unanimously approved.

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the Carl D. Perkins Grant (E:183/22). The motion was seconded by Director Lund. In response to a question from Director Kirby, the Superintendent explained the grant is for the Career and Technical Education Program. The motion was unanimously approved.

Director Lund made a motion to approve Final Acceptance of the following public works projects: repair risers on the stage at Lake Stevens Middle School (D&F Floor Service) and repair the water main at Lake Stevens Middle School (Newland Construction). (E:184/22). The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent Collins stated he was heavily involved in the writing of Policy No. 4045: Remote Work. Assistant Superintendent John Balmer reviewed the procedures which include employment conditions, eligibility, etc. Director Iseminger stressed this policy and its procedures was a close read for him, noting the many opportunities for abuse. He stated great work had been done and he could not find any holes in it. Dr. Collins commented on the policy's solid foundation, the flexibility of allowing an employee to work remotely, and the benefits to the District. President Taylor also appreciated the work done on this policy, noting the opportunities and critical connections it would maintain.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Executive Director of Technology and Assessments Mike Weatherbie provided an overview of the Spring 2022 Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA), the Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science, and the Washington School Improvement Framework. His

presentation included a review of the components of a balanced assessment system, background and context on the SBA ELA, math and recent history, and science, including the percentages of students who met or did not meet standards by grade, race, and program. Mr. Weatherbie stated the SBA is just one part of accountability and that the classroom-based assessments are really the most important ones. This was reiterated by Superintendent Collins. Mr. Weatherbie also reviewed the comparisons to the state data in each area. In response to a question from Aimel regarding the data, the Executive Director shared that in the next week presentations will be held on the School Improvement Plans (SIPs) and how concerns will be address. Mrs. Danielson remarked on strand data and rubrics that will guide work with the students and a brief conversation followed regarding assessments. The Executive Director shared that the elementary schools compared to neighboring districts in Snohomish County scored in the top two in all tested areas and the secondary in the top three to five in most tested areas. Superintendent Collins pointed out the remarkable gains last year and there being a lot to celebrate. Josefina inquired about the timing of the SIPs presentations and he replied the presentations will be held during an open public meeting on November 3. The plans will also be posted on the District's website. Mr. Weatherbie then shared information on the Washington School Improvement Framework, the key highlights, targeted support measures for release, and next steps.

BOARD COMMENTS

The board members and students expressed appreciation for all of the presentations and inviting them into the school.

Director Kirby complimented Mrs. Sanchez and Mr. Sinning on their leadership and the amazing things going on at the school. She believes the middle school years are the hardest for students and she appreciates the sense of belonging and giving the students so much attention. Director Kirby expressed appreciation for the donations.

Director Iseminger commented on the Advisory Program and the Mentorship Program being the next step. He is glad to see it in place.

Director Lund said it was a great evening and delightful to meet everyone. He was happy to see the students and their families and he

enjoyed the Ozobots activity. He stated the students were brave and had a lot of grace. Director Lund remarked that the Mentorship Program will change the trajectory of children and make them feel like they are on the right track. He thanked those who are mentoring the students and making a difference in their lives. He would like to see this program across the district. Director Lund expressed appreciation for the community comments. He stated it is nice to hear the community's thoughts and ideas as it makes the Board better.

Josefina appreciated the presentation on the HiCap Program as she didn't know much about it. She thanked the individuals for their community comments. She is grateful they have an avenue to share their concerns. Josefina is looking forward to hearing more about the SIPs.

Aimel enjoyed the activity with the students. She mentioned being involved in the HiCap Program beginning in middle school and she appreciates all of the supports in place for students.

President Taylor also stated it was a great night. She commented on the government students who attended the meeting. She appreciated having them present.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:50 pm, with no objection by the other directors, President Taylor adjourned the Regular Meeting.



President



Secretary