



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING
November 9, 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 Directors Iseminger and Hanson would not be able to attend the meeting.

AGENDA/MINUTES

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

Director Kirby made a motion to approve the October 26, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Principal Lisa Sanchez and Associate Principal Jamie Sinning introduced the Lake Stevens Middle School Students of the Month for October: Riley Livengood, Habib Oumarou, Emma Ross, and Asia Bowers.

Principal Brad Abels and Administrative Intern Kyle Strand introduced the North Lake Middle School Students of the Month for

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October: Shane Havens, Elise Morton, and Tadayuki Juker. Audrey Bakker was not able to attend the meeting.

Principal Dr. James Sellers and Dean of Students Jack Donley introduced the Cavelero Mid High School Students of the Month for October: Harshita Sinha, Samaya Jeannot-Schroeder, and Christopher Rapues. Rhys Burin was not able to attend the meeting.

Principal Leslie Ivelia and Associate Principal Dan Alderson introduced the Lake Stevens High School Students of the Month for October: Joshua Hayes, Jackson Mourer, Scarlett Trevino, and Sophia Michalisin. Sidney Packard and Lily Scrivens were not able to attend the meeting.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Dr. John Balmer introduced the October APPLE Award recipients: Gina Anderson, Paul Austria, Ken Engman, Staci Hoggatt, and Chanel West. Chuck Darlington was not able to attend the meeting.

President Taylor remarked if anyone ever had a concern for our future, he/she should attend one of the board meetings when student recognition is held and his/her faith would be renewed as it is an extraordinary time to listen to our students' speeches and hear of their hopes and dreams.

A break was held from 7:23 to 7:35 pm.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

Principal Ryan Henderson and Dean of Students Ben Cruz provided a report on Highland Elementary School. Highland had a strong start to the 2022-23 school year with 590 students and 15 new, talented staff members. Mr. Henderson said the quality of these new employees is amazing. He is pleased that all students are back in school. The staff started the fall with an offsite retreat, the theme being "Light a Fire." He described some of the retreat activities. He stated LETS is a powerful cohort model and the team is implementing it as they learn together. Mr. Henderson shared a couple of quotes, one about being vulnerable and when you know better you do better together. He commented on the powerful connection to the ELA curriculum, the review process, and the statewide structured literacy

initiative. Mr. Cruz covered information on the classified staff training with job specific needs and a paraeducators' Book Study using the Paraprofessional's Handbook for Effective Support in Inclusive Classrooms. Mr. Henderson then shared a poem he had written entitled "Playing with Fire." An assessment of the school was based on Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). The PBIS Team created an "Expectations Matrix," taught the expectations to all students, created and posted expectation posters, and revamped the rewards system. It was noted the matrix involved every staff member and includes all areas of what the expectations look like: be respectful, responsible, safe, and the adults' role. These will be reinforced again following the winter break. It was also noted of the support provided by Sahara Pizza, Jennies' Cookies, and the Everett Aquasox. Mr. Henderson stated the goals this year are to have the students be skilled, confident readers and writers. Director Lund thanked the administrators for their fantastic and thorough report. He stated clever people are accomplishing and doing amazing things. Director Lund thanked Mr. Henderson for sharing his inspirational poem, noting he will be reading it over several times. Aimel commented on the Aquasox's support. Director Kirby really likes the posters. She commented on her own experience and speaking English. She appreciates the entire staff was involved in creating the matrix and said she is excited for the students. President Taylor commented on a quote and the Science of Literacy. She thanked Mr. Henderson for his leadership and vulnerability and sharing his poem. President Taylor shared an experience of dropping off her granddaughter at school and the amazing paraeducator who made the experience positive. She said they are all "rock stars" at Highland.

Principal Susan Songstad, Associate Principal Keith Linington, and Counselor Kara Forston presented a report on Hillcrest Elementary School. The Superintendent and Board were thanked for the hiring of an additional counselor to help meet the needs of the 800 students at Hillcrest. There are 34 general education classrooms that are supported by Ms. Forston and Ms. Williams. They work together on the PBIS, Tier 1 and 2, conflict resolution, and restoring relationships. Ms. Forston mentioned the anxiety of some students and the families also struggling following the pandemic. They work with students on friendship skills and connect families to community outreach sources. It was noted the counselors wear many hats and students and families are aware they have access to them on a one-

on-one basis. Ms. Songstad commented on the Science of Reading and LETRS. There is a focus on phonics and phonemic awareness, handwriting/sight words, and the decodable readers aligned to the sounds learned in phonics stations. Progress monitoring occurs every two weeks. A photo was shared of Karen Hogan articulating a sound for the students. She noted Kate Benson provided a crash course in Wired for Reading, a multi-sensory word analysis program where speech is connected to sounds, sounds to letters, and letters to meaning. Mr. Linington commented on the Enhanced Intervention Program, a program meeting the needs of the students based on phonological awareness and phonics. A shift was made to decodable text this year and by doing this he said it brought strength to the writing component. He shared what this looks like for students. He noted equity and student voice is taken very seriously and they are finding ways at the elementary level to meet these challenges. A photo was shared of a fifth grade student, Kelly, who had taken an opportunity to help a second grade student in the lunchroom. The Associate Principal mentioned that he and Kelly came up with an idea to have student voice during the morning announcements by Kelly sharing announcements in her own language. This has expanded to other students and he shared a handout of an example announcement template. The morning announcements are a way to honor the students' cultures and languages. Mrs. Songstad mentioned activities held at school that create a sense of belonging; i.e., character traits assemblies and a whole school dance party. She was pleased to share Hillcrest held a Veterans Day assembly and over 80 veterans attended. Director Kirby said she is amazed at the morning announcement idea and the sense of belonging it has created. She appreciates all of the wonderful work going on at Hillcrest. Director Lund commented on taking a serendipitous moment and turning it into something special. He is glad the Board could assist in the hiring of an additional counselor. He thanked the team at Hillcrest for a great report. President Taylor expressed her appreciation as well.

Student Advisory Council (SACo) members Aimel Rai and Josefina Jarillo Odegaard introduced themselves and then presented an update on SACo's activities. Aimel commented on its Sense of Belonging Survey of Cavelero and Lake Stevens High School students. This survey included three main questions. A graph was shared using the 117 responses. It was noted that more than 50% of students feel they are accepted, valued, and supported in their learning. Josefina commented on the in-person survey of members of

several clubs and the results. Student quotes from the survey were also shared. Aimel reported on the hate speech training that occurred last year and the meeting planned for tomorrow. She pointed out there is so much more of an impact when students teach students. Future activities for SACo include working with the middle schools and student bodies. The students reported new officers will be elected in January and another update will be given in February. In response to a question Director Kirby asked about the hate speech trainings at the middle school level, Josefina responded the training took place at Lake Stevens Middle School last year and they will be meeting with the North Lake team this year. Superintendent Collins remarked it will be interesting to see how the SACo survey compares with the Panorama data. President Taylor suggested the SACo members connect with the Students of the Month as they are good resources. She told the students she is so grateful for their work and folks are so impressed by what a difference they are making. Director Lund stated he is so impressed with their passion, how engaged they are outside of the board meetings, and their giving back to the community. He thanked them for all of the work they are doing. He said he would like to attend a hate speech training.

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. 305669 to 305852 - \$990,569.53 (E:185/22) and No. 222300008 - \$2,053.83 (E:186/22);
2. the Personnel Report: certificated employment of Marsha Romens; classified employment of Maryis Albedyll, Jared Gibson, Amie Johnson, Lynda Johnson, and Kjerstine Loftus; resignations of Amanda Ordon, Shaun Ordon, and Amy Palmieri; retirement of Jeanine Granstrom (E:187/22); the cocurricular report (E:188/22); the October 2022 payroll, Warrants No. 305617 to 305667, 305286, 305287, and 305288 - \$11,605,125.46 (E:189/22); and
3. a donation in the amount of \$1,640.00 from the Purple and Gold Club (E:190/22).

The motion was seconded by Director Lund. Director Kirby asked a-

bout the Purple and Gold Club's makeup. Josefina explained it is a Booster Club at the high school formed by parents who want to help. Dr. Collins added the parents raise funds for all types of activities and the District has an outstanding partnership with the club. He mentioned Tim Posey and others who have come and gone who have helped in any way they could. The motion was unanimously approved.

Director Lund made a motion to adopt Policy No. 4045: Remote Work (E:191/22). The motion was seconded by Director Kirby. President Taylor stated a great job had been done on this policy and she is glad it will be in place. The other board members concurred and the motion was unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

Director Kirby made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 15-22: Certification of the 2023 Excess Property Taxes for the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Capital Projects Fund (R:15-22). The motion was seconded by Director Lund. Dr. Collins explained this resolution is adopted each year and the District is required to inform the County of excess taxes. President Taylor mentioned some people were unable to pay their taxes due to the pandemic. The motion was unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

Director Lund made a motion to approve the following public works projects: box light interactive display installation - Phase 1 at various schools (Advanced Classroom Technologies). Service calls: intercom at Hillcrest Elementary School (Dimensional Communications), intercom at Glenwood Elementary School (Dimensional Communications), program intercom to include HomeLink at Lake Stevens High School (Dimensional Communications), and program intercom to remove HomeLink at Cavelero (Dimensional Communications) (E:192/22). The motion was seconded by Director Kirby. The board members are pleased the projects are complete. The motion was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Assistant Superintendent John Balmer presented revised procedures for Policy No. 5500: Sexual Harassment of Students Prohibited. Superintendent Collins pointed out some of the revisions are due to changes in Title IX laws. Dr. Balmer noted the procedures involving investigations were updated a couple of years ago and the language

presented tonight clarifies and aligns those procedures with Title IX federal regulations. They also include a description of the Title IX roles and responses to notice of sexual harassment. The standard complaint processes include additional Title IX requirements. Josefina asked about the reporting of harassment. Dr. Balmer replied if it occurred outside of the district then these procedures would not apply. President Taylor stated she appreciates the work on the procedures and having them clearly spelled out.

BOARD COMMENTS

The board members and students congratulated the students and staff members on their recognition and expressed appreciation for the board reports.

Director Kirby stated there is no doubt in her mind how hard everyone is working in every school to get students further ahead. She thanked the SACo members for their work and noted she will look forward to its next report in February.

Director Lund told President Taylor he appreciated her remark about the board meetings being uplifting and hearing what the students are doing. He thanked Mr. Henderson for being vulnerable and sharing his poem. He told the SACo members they rock. He appreciates the passion and legacy they created and laying a foundation so powerful and awesome. Director Lund thanked the students for what they have done for all of the board members and said he would miss the seniors leaving the board but he will embrace the new members. He added they set the others up for success. Director Lund thanked everyone who stayed for the remainder of the meeting.

Josefina said it was fun seeing several Students of the Month that she recognized and she enjoyed hearing about the staff members' nominations. She also loved hearing about what is happening in the schools, especially about how Hillcrest is embracing the many cultures. Josefina said she is bilingual and it is heartwarming to know students will be able to express their cultures and backgrounds. Josefina thanked Mr. Balmer for his work on the revised procedures.

President Taylor said it was a great night. She is also excited about what is happening at Hillcrest. She stated it is awesome and wonder-

ful for students to be able to speak their first language and for others to learn another. She appreciated Josefina's comments. President Taylor remarked after meetings like this it is hard for her to unwind and she knows the world will be a better place.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:06 pm, with no objection by the other directors, President Taylor adjourned the Regular Meeting.



President

Secretary