



LAKE STEVENS
School District

Lake Stevens School District | 12309 22nd St. NE | Lake Stevens, WA 98258-9500
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING
May 10, 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 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

President Taylor announced Director Lund was out of town and not able to attend the meeting. Director Hanson joined the meeting via Zoom.

AGENDA/MINUTES

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the May 10, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved.

Director Kirby made a motion to approve April 21, 2023, Special Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and unanimously approved.

Director Kirby made a motion to approve April 26, 2023, Regular and Special Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger 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 April: Madden Allen, Amy Olivas-Hermosillo, Aiden Quayle, and Holly Young. Aiden Quayle was unable to attend.

Principal Brad Abels and Dean of Students Kyle Strand introduced the North Lake Students of the Month for April: Neha Boppana, Hailey Campbell, Breanna Brown, and Hannah Menzel.

Principal James Sellers and Associate Principal Jerry Grisham introduced the Cavelero Mid High School Students of the Month for April: Shannon Terry, Craig Mwangi, Gona Xiong, and Riley Walrod.

Principal Leslie Ivelia and Dean of Students Michael Moore introduced the Lake Stevens High School Students of the Month for April: Jasmine Dulay, Nathan Rodriguez, Brownie Balmori, Skyler Zapffe, Natelie Tsung, and Andrew Wild. Nathan Rodriguez, Skyler Zapffe, and Andrew Wild were unable to attend.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources John Balmer introduced the APPLE Award recipients for the month of April: Kathy Eacrett, Sarah Neill, Kristina Taylor, Mike Weatherbie, and Clinton Williams.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

Lake Stevens Middle School Principal Lisa Sanchez introduced CTE Director Dan Tedor. CTE Director Tedor shared about the CTE program and the extended learning programs and then introduced teacher, Alex Moll. Mr. Moll wanted to give a brief history of the LSMS Guitar Club. He presented a timeline of how the club was started. In 2012, they started the first club with enthusiastic support from ASB and Associate Principal Jamie Sinning. In 2013, there was a STEM Guitar Workshop. In 2018, the LSHS had an advanced build (body sculpting and making the neck) and had a STEM Guitar National Trainer. In 2019, they built ukuleles, which were difficult for middle school students. In 2019 LSHS TAs helped build guitars at the Edmonds Community College Veterans Build. In 2020 they created COVID Canjos and in 2021 when everything was back to "normal" they started to create the STEM Guitars that you see today.

Mr. Moll explained that STEM Guitar is an extension of the Design and Modeling course, offered at both North Lake Middle School and Lake Stevens Middle School. This opportunity provides students the opportunity to design, create and develop an electric guitar, built from scratch. They would like the school board to see the amazing work CTE students do by applying classroom learning in a non-traditional project. Students showed their beautiful guitars and talked about the process as well as the exciting and challenging experiences while building these instruments. STEM Guitar Club is an extended learning opportunity for the seventh-grade Design & Model course at Lake Stevens Middle School. In all classes, all students make a single-string, a fretted instrument called a "canjo". STEAM Guitar is an extension of that project, and it happens after school two days a week. It takes approximately 40 hours to build the guitar, and then they spend a month or so learning to tune and play them. This integrates multiple content areas into an application-based approach which students naturally gravitate towards. This program takes classroom-based learning and extends it beyond a traditional learning space. It combines multiple content areas and gives them a chance to "use" their learning from multiple classrooms. Lake Stevens School District is very proud of this information and the success of these student projects. Mr. Moll stated next is service learning at Hillcrest Elementary building Canjos, followed by the Schack Art Center Show in 2024. They are hoping to get back to a talent show and a band or choir concert soon. Director Kirby stated her son still picks up the canjo that he built. President Taylor said it was a wonderful building report and she loved seeing the guitars firsthand.

Highland Principal Ryan Henderson stated school culture is what you see; not what you hope for. Principal Henderson talked about building a better culture through increased capacity due to shared leadership, common learning and expectations of PBIS (system-wide), talented staff, and deep learning as shown in two outstanding stats: 1,924 hours of LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling) with 32 participating educators. He spoke on building a culture every day by earning Highland Way Tickets, having morning meetings, morning announcements to reinforce common area expectations, words matter, and proactive kindergarten recess centers. Recess centers have had a dramatic reduction in office disciplinary referrals. Principal Henderson talked about building a culture every week using Hornet Hurray (which is like an APPLE or student of the month award), second-step lessons taught by classroom teachers, Level Up attendance awards, and game-themed awards.

Principal Henderson then shared about the Student Store having slime time, lunch with the Principal, Mario Cart, drawings, and bonus recesses. He spoke on Student Council in regards to Spirit Days and Reset Week after spring break. He also presented information on Rhythm Rock stars and Movement Masters. Principal Henderson talked about building a culture of student achievement through goals, action steps, and mid-year checks. Kindergarten through first-grade students in iReady instructional groupings 1 and 2 (below grade level phonics) had a goal to reduce the number of students in instructional groupings 1 and 2 by 50%. At mid-year, both first and second-grade students had exceeded their goals. Students in the grade 3 subgroup also met their goal by mid-year reducing the number of students designated as requiring intensive phonics instruction in upper grades by 50%. Principal Henderson shared about a new student who has enthusiasm and spark. He is a Special Education student that received the lowest possible test score and only attempted to spell one word during testing. With sixty minutes of one on one support he can identify rhymes, all of the letters and can spell words. He was so proud of himself. This is what matters. Principal Henderson spoke about building a culture of partnerships. Highland has partnered with LSHS Diversity Student Union, Boeing (Highland STEAM night), Highland PTA, and Granite Construction, they also had a Tool Up for Parenting night guided by a Highland parent.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

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

DECISION ITEMS

Consent Agenda:

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

1. Warrant Nos. 308002 to 308168 - \$991,016.39 (E:83/23) and Warrant Nos. 222300020 to 222300021 - \$2,614.66 (E:84/23)
2. Personnel Report: classified employment of Micheal Davidson, Melissa Olson, Elsa Osborn, Sarah Rasmusen, Sandra Wiley; resignations of Jennifer Doucette, Kalin Edwards, Mary Rand, Joshua Roehl, Jamie Smith, David Stevens, and Denise Webb; retirements of Lynne Grubb and Chris Thompson (E:85/23); the co-curricular assignments (E:86/23); and the April 2023 Payroll Warrant Nos. 307948 through 308000 – 11,687,279.84 (E:87/23).

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3. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$300.00 from the Purple and Gold Club Boys Tennis Account (E:88/23), acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$6,000.00 from the Purple and Gold Club Cheer Account (E:89/23), and the acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from the North Lake PTSA (E:90/23).

The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved.

Director Iseminger made a motion to amend the proposed February Regular Session school board dates from February 14 and February 28 to February 7 and February 21, 2024. The amendment was seconded by Director Kirby and will be brought back to the board for adoption on May 24, 2023, along with the remaining school board dates for the 2023-2024 school year.

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 3-23, Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) Membership. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (R3-23).

Director Kirby made a motion to approve the final acceptance of the public works projects. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and was unanimously approved (E:91/23).

The Operations Department has reviewed the work of the contractors listed below on the following public work projects for adherence to contract documents and specifications.

Projects

Replace boiler at Highland ES (Cascade Boiler)

Camera sewer lines at Lake Stevens HS for the restroom project (Roto-Rooter)

Service Calls

Repair audio receivers in classrooms at Lake Stevens HS (Dimensional Communications)

Service walk-in cooler at North Lake MS (Hoover Refrigeration)

All items on the construction punch list have been completed and all the necessary paperwork to accept the projects has been received.

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the policy and procedure revisions for Policy No. 6025: Animals as Part of the Instructional Program. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (E:92/23).

DISCUSSION ITEMS

INFORMATION ITEMS

Executive Director of Secondary Learning Mike Snow talked about the 9-11th ELA Curriculum. He spoke about the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) Into Literature English with Writable as our core curriculum in grades 9th-11th grade. Executive Director of Secondary Learning Mike Snow introduced MTSS Specialist Secondary ELA Michele Stanifer, and teachers Tina Kinnard and Kelly Guilfoil. The current curriculum is from the year 2000. It is supported by teacher-created units of study. The curriculum from 2000 is not aligned with Common Core State Standards (2011). In 2021-22 our ELA Curriculum review team found that not only are the curriculum standards in the core curriculum not aligned but they also found that the reading selection included biased content. There is also no current digital platform for the current curriculum. Up-to-date curriculums have a digital platform that provides teaching and learning resources that meet the needs of our students and teachers. These resources include: access to assessments, a digital library for student choice, supplemental reads, English language supports and differentiated supports to meet the needs of students with varying abilities. By adopting HMH *Into Literature* as our core curriculum we will be able to:

- Align to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts
- Take an integrative approach to teaching and learning reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills that foster student agency
- Provide up-to-date, integrated technologies to foster student engagement, collaboration, and other 21st-century competencies. The use of a digital platform expands our ability to use a variety of resources in the classroom including purposeful assessments, digital libraries, instructional support resources, differentiation tools for personalized student learning, language learners support, and more.
- Use assessment data to identify targeted skills, focus on data-informed instruction and collaborative conversations about our students' needs
- Provide a curriculum with texts written by diverse authors about diverse characters with agency, thus meeting the need for a diverse and culturally inclusive curriculum
- Provide student-centered learning to include social-emotional learning and citizenship

- Take advantage of opportunities for vertical and horizontal alignment, thus providing equitable outcomes for our students
- Provide teachers with a platform for ongoing professional learning to pursue best practices and cultivate a culture of professional growth

President Taylor thanked MTSS Specialist Michelle Stanifer, and teachers Tina Kinnard and Kelly Guilfoil for their presentation and stated she was impressed with what she saw. President Taylor asked if they will have a manageable way for teachers to step in. Mrs. Kinnard stated it will be part of the training and it shouldn't be difficult because of the options. Director Iseminger asked when this would be rolled out. Executive Director of Secondary Learning Mike Snow said if this curriculum is approved it will start in the fall of 2023. They will start with three units and continue to add the following year. Director Hanson said it is very clear that it needs to be updated and thanked everyone for all of their work. She appreciated the focus on the emotional social learning, equity, and diversity piece. Executive Director of Secondary Learning Mike Snow stated how Michelle Stanifer and the team have worked extremely hard on this process.

Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning Steve Burleigh presented information on the K-5 English Language Arts Adoption. After two years of reviewing the current curriculum, providing professional development to all K-5 teachers, and screening and piloting a new curriculum, they would like the board to know that their Literacy Review Team was recommending the adoption of Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) as the core Language Arts curriculum across our elementary schools. Over the past few years, more and more brain research has come out that better defines how students learn to read. This body of research is known as the Science of Reading (SOR). The literacy review team determined that our current curriculum does not comprehensively align with this science and that they needed to learn more about this and find a fully aligned curriculum with the SOR. After a lengthy and thorough process, where they reviewed five SOR-aligned ELA curricula, CKLA was determined to be the most comprehensive and would do the best job in supporting an aligned, equitable, engaging literacy learning experience for the K-5 students across the district. CKLA is a comprehensive ELA curriculum. This means it is embedded with a reading curriculum (foundational skills and knowledge building), a writing curriculum, and a handwriting curriculum.

CKLA supports foundational skill instruction across the K-5 spectrum. CKLA will help align our practices and the literacy learning experiences of the students across the district. This leads to a more equitable experience for all students regardless of the school they attend or the teacher they happen to have. Adopting CKLA allows us to consolidate our funds into a high-quality ELA curriculum and discontinue spending funds on some of the other supplementary resources we have purchased on an annual basis. Our Literacy Review Team evaluated five programs. Wit and Wisdom, American Reading Corporation (ARC Core), EL Education, Magnetic Reading, and CKLA. None of these programs (outside of CKLA) included a K-5 scope and sequence for foundational skill instruction. CKLA was found to be developed specifically from the foundation of the Science of Reading. Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning Burleigh talked about Scarborough's Reading Rope comparing Language Comprehension and Word Recognition. He spoke on the foundational skills instruction in CKLA which included Scope and sequence aligned with LETRS Learning, sounds first (phonemic awareness), letter names later, and intentional handwriting instruction (K-2) (backed by brain research). All students read decodable readers using sounds they have already learned (shift in practice). He also spoke on knowledge building in CKLA including a focus on science and social studies in depth, aligned content across grade levels, building vocabulary, students become experts on engaging content, increased knowledge on engaging content leads to an increased ability to write and discuss with purpose, comprehension skills not taught in isolation, and all students access to grade-level text and content. Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning Burleigh stated the Literacy Review Team responded 100% yes from the survey that was given to them. The structure of implementation is all teachers have access to premade and editable Google slide decks for each lesson, all classrooms have grade-level text for each unit and teacher guides, K-3 grade students will use consumable "workbooks" for responses, 4-5 grade students will respond digitally or use paper and pencil on selected materials (google classroom or Amplify platform). A specialist will have access to all teacher and student grade-level content planning purposes. Director Burleigh introduced Pilot teachers Karlene Ross and Rachel Wellman. Karlene Ross stated they are confident and proud of the Reading Rope and Science of Reading.

The team understands the need for a strong literacy program and they have not forgotten that. Teachers across the district have been working with Director Burleigh to develop a literacy vision. It has been very rewarding, thoughtful, and collaborative. Rachel Wellman stated she loves this curriculum and she feels this can meet the needs of all of our students. Karlene Ross stated the curriculum engages IEP, 504, and ELL students. She is very excited to recommend this curriculum. Director Iseminger asked if they had the two-hour section that is needed for this K-2 curriculum. Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning Burleigh stated they do have ideas. President Taylor said she is so grateful for all of their efforts. Director Kirby said she was fascinated by the CKLA program.

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Iseminger congratulated the Students of the Month and the APPLE Award recipients. He stated it is one of the many highlights of being on the school board. He said he never gets tired of what the students say and the impact the APPLE Awards recipients have on everyone. Director Iseminger thanked everyone for the curriculum reports and the rigorous work of the folks that are piloting the curriculum and he appreciates their dedication.

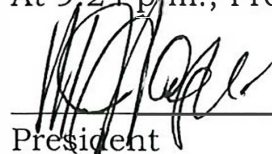
Director Kirby congratulated the Students of the Month and the APPLE Award Recipients. She said she appreciated Mr. Moll and Principal Henderson's presentations and all the amazing things they are doing for the students. She stated she is excited about the new curriculum and said this is an amazing school district.

SACo President Sam Orduna congratulated all of the recognized students and staff members. He said the STEM Guitar was very cool. He was excited to see Spirit Week at Highland last Friday.


President Taylor thanked everyone for a wonderful evening and stated she appreciates everyone. She thanked everyone for the great work on the curriculum. She expressed that it is extraordinary work. President Taylor wished everyone a lovely night.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:24 p.m., President Taylor adjourned the Regular Meeting.



President



Secretary