



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING
July 12, 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

Director Lund was out of town and unable to attend. Director Kirby joined via Zoom.

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the July 12, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and unanimously approved.

Director Hanson made a motion to approve June 14, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and unanimously approved. President Taylor abstained due to being unable to attend the June 14, 2023, School Board Meeting.

**RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY
MEMBERS**

Executive Director of WASBO Brianne King and WASBO Director Amber Porter recognized Budget Manager Allina Holmquist for her service as a WASBO Board of Director for Region 189 for the past six years. She stated that Allina made quite an impact throughout the state as well as in Region 189. WASBO Executive Director King stated Allina has passion, energy and has been a mentor to everyone.

Our students will be contributing members of society and lifelong learners, pursuing their passions and interests in an ever-changing world.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

Aquatics Manager, Jayna Lafferty presented updated information on the Lake Stevens High School pool from January 2020 until the present. She stated modernization of the pool was completed in January 2020. Major improvements included new locker rooms, a new lobby and office, a new staff room, additional storage, additional seating, a new air handling system, and replacement of all mechanical systems. Ms. Lafferty presented pictures of before and after modernization. After the closure, only eight staff were still employed by the pool. Before reopening they hired sixteen new employees who needed to go through the lifeguarding course before doing facility-specific training. They spent time learning the new mechanical and chemical systems and set a new programming schedule for when the public returned to the pool. The pool reopened to the public on February 27, 2020, including lap swim, water aerobics, storm aquatics, open swim, and facility rentals with swimming lessons returning on March 2, 2020. COVID forced us to close again after only two weeks. The pool was closed for a little more than four months. They were one of the first pools to open during the COVID pandemic. Ms. Lafferty said they were able to put restrictions in place to safely allow patrons to return to the water. Running a pool during a pandemic posed its own set of challenges. Everyone entering the building had to be masked and screened and participants signed released forms. They offered lap swimming by reservation only. As time went on, they were able to safely allow more swimmers per lane and started taking reservations for water aerobics. The most difficult aspect was ensuring their lifeguards were still adequately trained to make a rescue or to react in an emergency. Any on-deck training was done using manikins and maintaining social distancing. Lifeguards train for two hours each month and must pass skills check three times a year. As they came out of the COVID pandemic and began to return to normal, the aquatics community was faced with a nationwide lifeguard shortage. Aquatics Manager Lafferty was incredibly grateful that their facility remained open, and continues to be an asset for their students. They have seen a 57% group swim lesson increase and a 96% private and semi-private lesson increase over the past year. They also offer a variety of American Red Cross classes and are hoping to bring back their Junior Lifeguard program this fall. Special events help bring in people who might not otherwise use the pool and give them a chance to reach a new demographic. They had an Eggstravaganza in April and offered a free open swim in June and are planning a pumpkin patch in the pool and a free Veterans Day open swim.

Ms. Lafferty stated that they have also become a presence on social media. The pool has both a Facebook page and Instagram. This helps them reach more of the community for special events, registration dates, and schedule changes. Aquatics Manager Lafferty presented price comparisons for lessons, admissions, water aerobics, passes, and American Red Cross courses to other pools in the area. She stated their pricing is less than other local facilities and their patronage is increasing. She will be proposing a price increase based on the increased staffing cost and high demand for their programs. She asked if anyone had questions. President Taylor asked what the difference was between a lifeguard instructor and a water safety instructor. Ms. Lafferty said water safety instructors teach swimming lessons and lifeguard instructors teach lifeguarding. President Taylor said she had talked to some adult community members that were happy with their swim lessons at the pool. Ms. Lafferty stated it is never too late to learn to swim. Director Hanson asked what the ages were for the Eggstravaganza. Ms. Lafferty stated the ages were 11-14 and 139 people participated. Student Council Vice-President Riley Boerger remembers two of her favorite birthday parties were at the Lake Stevens Pool. Superintendent Collins stated his kids learned how to swim at the pool.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Taylor called for community comments. Mr. Stanley Mwari came forward and spoke regarding Hate Speech. He stated his daughter was being racially abused and was seeking help. President Taylor stated the board is not allowed to comment during community comments but said they are there for him and thanked him for sharing his heart with them. President Taylor closed this portion of the meeting.

DECISION ITEMS

Consent Agenda:

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

1. Warrant Nos. 308594 to 308769 - \$1,377,696.47 (E:118/23);
Warrant Nos. 222300025 to 222300026 - \$6,208.55 (E:119/23);
Warrant Nos. 308818 to 308946 - \$1,444,135.25 (E:120/23)

2. Personnel Report: classified employment of Rebecka Goranson, Chrystall Harman, Nichole Kirschner, Anna Lynch, Morgan Slomchinski, and Bria Styles; resignations of Katherine Appleton, Karen Call, Anthony Carr, Beth Cercone, Kelly Darrah, Jared Gibson, Erin Kelly, Melissa Lynn, Rachel Martinell, Collin Peterson, Peggy Ruble, Catherine Sanders, Laurie Sawyer, Jessica Solbakken, Sonja Stalnaker, and Denise Warstler; retirements of Rick Henderson and Susan Songstad (E:121/23); the co-curricular assignments (E:122/23); and Warrant Nos. 308770 to 30881 -\$11,911,447.37 June 2023 Payroll (E:123/23)

3.
 - a. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$27,005.45 from the Glenwood PTA (E:124/23)
 - b. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the Lake Stevens Education Foundation. (E:125/23)
 - c. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$850.00 from the LSMS PTA (E:126/23)
 - d. Approval of surplus equipment (E:127/23)

The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and unanimously approved.

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the final acceptance of the public works projects. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and was unanimously approved (E:128/23).

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

Install recessed door position switches for the security system at Transportation (LONG Building Technologies)

Add power for ovens in production kitchens at North Lake MS (Quality Electric)

Rewire for emergency power to fuel pumps and building lighting at Transportation (Quality Electric)

Service Calls

Monthly pool service (April) at Lake Stevens HS (Aquatic Specialty Services)

Monthly pool service (May) at Lake Stevens HS (Aquatic Specialty Services)

Service exterior intercom speaker at Lake Stevens HS
(Dimensional Communications)
Service exterior intercom speakers at Lake Stevens MS
(Dimensional Communications)
Service fire alarm trouble at Mt Pilchuck ES (Pacific Fire)

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 proposal to increase lunch meal prices by \$0.50 and breakfast meal prices by \$0.25 for students for the 2023-2023 school year. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and was unanimously approved (E:129/23).

Director Hanson made a motion to approve the update to the Procedures in Policy No. 5590: Gender-Inclusive Schools. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and was unanimously approved (E:130/23).

DISCUSSION ITEMS

INFORMATION ITEMS

The Lake Stevens School District received numerous awards from the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) and the Washington School Public Relations Association (WSPRA). The following awards were received.

NSPRA Publication and Digital Media Awards:
Earned awards for each entry submitted

- Award of Excellence: 2021-22 Annual Report
- Award of Excellence: 2022-23 District Calendar & Family Handbook
- Award of Merit: Finance Publication (2022 Replacement Levies)
- Award of Merit: External Print Newsletter (*Lake Schools*)

WSPRA Communication Awards:
Earned awards for each entry submitted

- Best in Category: Email Newsletter (*InDistrict News*)
- Award of Merit: 2021-22 Annual Report
- Award of Merit: 2022-23 District Calendar & Family Handbook
- Award of Merit: Print Newsletter (*Lake Schools*)

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- Honorable Mention: Communications, PR & Marketing (2022 Replacement Levies)
- Honorable Mention: Email Newsletter (*e-News*)

Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations Teresa Main presented information on the Bond Planning Timeline. She spoke about the process and defining facility needs, engaging the Bond Counsel & Financial Advisor, selecting an election date, drafting an election resolution, and filing a ballot title with the county. Assistant Superintendent Main talked about the rationale for the November 2024 election which included the eminent need for additional space and the need for remodeling existing facilities. Assistant Superintendent Main presented information preparing for the November 2024 election including the Facilities Committee evaluating facilities' needs and engaging the community research to develop project priorities, Board finalization of the scope of the projects, resolution filing deadline, counsel review of the draft ballot, ballots mailed to voters, and election.

Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations Teresa Main presented the 2023-2024 Preliminary Budget General Fund Information. Assistant Superintendent Main started with the 2022-23 Projected Ending Fund Balance including revenues, expenditures. She presented information on the Preliminary General Fund explaining the district revenues and revenue changes. She spoke about expenditures from regular instruction, federal stimulus, special education, vocational education, compensatory education, community services, and support services. Assistant Superintendent Main presented pie charts on expenditures by program, activity, and object. She talked about the 4-Year General Fund Budget based on current assumptions. She also spoke about the Capital Projects Fund, Debt Service Fund, Transportation Vehicle Fund, and Associated Student Body Fund. Assistant Superintendent Main stated the next steps will be a final review of the General Fund Budget, a hearing, and adoption of the budgets.

Superintendent Collins presented the Foundation for Excellence 2023 – 2028 Draft Review including the Lake Stevens School District Mission and Vision Statement. The five-year plan represents a collective effort from the Board of Directors, employees, students, families, and community members. They heard back through the Thought Exchange from families and community members asking about certain educational terms that they didn't understand so they added a glossary page.

He stated they will share the additional items with the Board so they can get feedback before they bring it back to the Board to finalize in August. Director Iseminger thought the addition of the glossary was helpful and commented the layout of the goals looked great. Director Hanson stated it is nice to follow and the lettering is helpful. Director Hanson asked if there would be a translation of the Foundation for Excellence. Director of Communications Jayme Taylor said yes there would be translated copies. President Taylor stated that this is an amazing example of utilizing skills that make something accessible and bring it to this level. She said she was amazed.

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Hanson said congratulations to Allina Holmquist and stated how thankful they are to have her in the district. She stated what a good example of a leader Allina is. Director Hanson thanked Aquatics Manager Jayna Lafferty for the pool presentation. She said to Mr. Mwari that she appreciated him sharing with the Board and is deeply sad to hear about his daughter and her experience. She stated she recognizes the impact it has on a person and they are not ok with this.

Director Iseminger said congratulations to Jayme Taylor and Allina Holmquist for their awards. He was not surprised but happy to see them get recognized. Director Iseminger thanked everyone for the generous donations and all of the hard work that goes into the bond and budget work. He stated the Foundation for Excellence is a real testament to how tuned in we are to the culture that we want to create in this district. He stated to Mr. Mwari that what happened is never acceptable and that they care about everybody.

Student Advisory Council President Sam Orduna said he was excited to hear the pool report. He thanked Mr. Mwari for addressing the board and handling it the way he did. President Orduna stated as a student of color he has struggled with the same things. He just thanked him for addressing the Board because it is unacceptable.

Student Advisory Council Vice-President Riley Boerger said thank you to everyone that came tonight. She said to Mr. Mwari that he is heard. Vice-President Boerger thanked everyone for the reports and stated she found it interesting that teachers are coming to teach in this district so their kids can attend the Lake Stevens School District. She said the Foundation for Excellence looks nice.

Student Advisory Council Secretary Mackenzie Conniff stated that she appreciated the Foundation for Excellence and she liked the picture of Superintendent Collins interacting with the students.

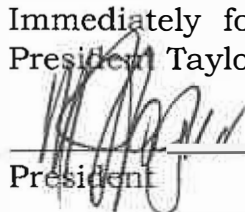
President Taylor thanked everyone for a great night. She thanked Mr. Mwari for his comments. President Taylor thanked WASBO Executive Director Brianne King and WASBO Director Amber Porter for celebrating Business Manager Allina Holmquist. She thanked Assistant Superintendent Main for her budget report and bond timeline presentation. President Taylor stated she very much appreciated the Foundation for Excellence.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:30 p.m., President Taylor announced the Board would move into a one-hour Executive Session to discuss the performance of an employee. At 9:30 p.m. President Taylor announced the Board would continue the Executive Session for another 20 minutes. President Taylor reconvened the Regular Session at 9:49 p.m. No action was taken during the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Immediately following, with no objections by the other directors, President Taylor adjourned the Regular Session.



President



Secretary