

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING**  
**October 25, 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 Cavelero Mid High School. A Zoom option was available for this meeting that President Taylor called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

SACo Secretary MacKenzie Conniff was unable to attend.

Director Lund made a motion to approve the October 25, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and unanimously approved.

Director Hanson made a motion to approve the October 11, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved.

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

Director Nina Hanson introduced herself and stated she is from District 4 and has been on the board for two years. She loves being a mom of three children, a one-year-old, a four-year-old, and a third-grade student who attends Skyline Elementary. Director Hanson graduated from WSU, earned her doctorate from UW, and is an educator. She enjoys spending time with her daughter attending Taekwondo.

Director Vildan Kirby introduced herself and said she has two boys attending Cavelero Mid High School and has been on the board for two years. She stated the reason she was wearing sunglasses was because she just had eye surgery. She enjoys being a substitute teacher for the district and loves baking.

Director David Iseminger introduced himself and stated he has been on the board for 16 years. He has two older children who graduated from the Lake Stevens School District and has eighth-grade twins who attend Cavelero Mid High School. Director Iseminger is in the software industry and enjoys supporting the community.

Director Paul Lund introduced himself and said he enjoys playing with his grandkids. He has had three children who graduated from the Lake Stevens School District and his youngest student was in the first class to attend Cavelero Mid High School. He retired from Boeing after 33 years and loves being in the buildings to see what is going on.

SACo President Sam Orduna introduced himself and said he is a junior at Lake Stevens High School. He enjoys school clubs including SACo.

SACo Vice President Riley Boerger introduced herself and stated she is a junior at Lake Stevens High School and attends full-time Running Start at ECC. In her free time, she enjoys working in her church theater production.

Superintendent Ken Collins introduced himself and stated he has worked for the Lake Stevens School District for 33 years and 40 years in education. He taught for 15 years and then became Principal of Lake Stevens High School, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, and now has been the LSSD Superintendent for three years. Superintendent Collins has three children who graduated from Lake Stevens High School. He loves this community and the people he works with.

President Mari Taylor said she has been an elected board member for 24 years. Her children graduated from Lake Stevens High School and she now has a grandchild in the Lake Stevens School District. Director Taylor works for the Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families. She stated she is thrilled to be at Cavelero Mid High School.



## **REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS**

Cavelero Mid High School Principal Dr. James Sellers addressed the School Board, Superintendent Collins, and the community and stated what an honor it was to present the Fall 2023 Board Report for Cavelero Mid High School. He said it has been a great year at Cavelero so far, and much of their success has been due to their outstanding leadership team. Principal Sellers introduced the Cavelero Mid High School Administrative Team which includes Associate Principal Raphil Hasegawa who supervises the Cavelero Math Department, Associate Principal Becca Faheem oversees the Science and History Departments, Athletic Director and Dean of Students Sydney Fee leads Cavelero athletics, ASB, and clubs, and Dean of Students Kyle Strand leads their PBIS program and attendance. Principal Sellers shared a short HYPE video that they sent to the Cavelero community welcoming students to an awesome 23/24 school year. Principal Sellers stated for the evening's Fall Board Report, they were going to focus on two programs that they believe represent the Foundational Principles in the Lake Stevens Foundations for Excellence. First, Associate Principal Hasegawa is going to showcase the Building Thinking Classrooms initiative that many of our Cavelero Math teachers have adopted in their classrooms. The Building Thinking Classrooms program epitomizes EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING through a strong focus on student-centered learning, collaboration, and productive academic struggle. I think you are going to enjoy the active demonstration of this math initiative, especially seeing some of our special guests working with students. Associate Principal Faheem will then turn our attention to a few student case studies that shine a light on the foundational principles of SAFE, EQUITABLE, AND INCLUSIVE CLIMATE AND CULTURE. We are so proud of our students and staff for their courageous steps in inclusion, and we want to celebrate their achievements. Associate Principal Raphil Hasegawa talked about Tool Kits and how you begin with a problem by giving a problem-solving task. Problems should be engaging, non-curricular, collaborative (which promotes talking), and then have problems be curricular e.g., textbook problems. Next, you would have visibly random groups daily and in front of students with two or three students per group which they could stand or sit together. The students would use vertical nonpermanent surfaces with one marker per group to promote discussion. Director Iseminger asked if there was any feedback from students. Associate Principal Hasegawa said they have had good feedback for example the students like something different including moving and thinking. They also appreciate meeting new people while learning.



Math teacher Joyce Osbourne invited a few board members and students up on stage to engage everyone in the Building Thinking Classrooms experience. She stated it is interesting thinking about a paper on a table vs. a whiteboard. This creates an environment where everyone is working with someone and is not afraid to make mistakes while working with others. Mrs. Osbourne thanked Executive Director of Secondary Learning Mike Snow and TOSA Tim Bartlett for their support. Director Lund stated he loved the video by Peter Liljedahl that created the thinking classrooms. It was very intriguing.

Associate Principal Faheem and Dean of Students Kyle Strand presented a few student case studies that shined a light on the foundational principle of Safe, Equitable, and Inclusive Climate and Culture. They are proud of their students and staff for their courageous steps in inclusion, and they want to celebrate their achievements. Associate Principal Faheem and Dean of Students Kyle Strand talked about inclusivity in the classroom and how everyone belongs. In the most recent years preceding this one, Cavelero case managers, administrators, and their Colt scholars have been asking big questions about what their students are capable of and ensuring that belonging means the right to try and the right to take risks. This year, a few of their students took their first swing at moving from less time in self-contained classrooms to more time in the general education environment. The shift for a few of these students was particularly drastic. They highlighted three of them because they are proud of them, the students are proud of themselves, and their families, who are here tonight, are super proud of them. Associate Principal Faheem stated once you learn the differences in their daily schedules and the access and opportunity their case managers and the Cavelero team generally have provided them, you will be too. They had an example of a few students' schedules showing how they have moved from Functional classes to Resource classes and how their Resource classes work with their general education classes. Special Education teacher Latasha Collins looked at every student very closely and gave input on what they wanted to do so they could create a schedule. One of the students wants to be a scientist so exposure to science in the general education environment increases the confidence level in the student. Jack's schedule is one example of what a typical schedule would be including two Academic Labs, a Functional Reading and Functional Math class, four periods with SLC, and then PE and art. His inclusive schedule would be one Academic Lab, Resource English, Resource Math, Physical Science, PE, and Intro to Engineering. Jack's teacher said Jack is positive and friendly and he understands the math that they are doing and turns in all of his work. He participates and loves to give answers. Liam-Rio's schedule went from Functional Reading, two periods with SLC, and two Academic Labs to Resource English, Physical Science, and one Academic Lab.



They asked Liam what his experience has been moving from Functional English to Resource English. The student said it has been a good challenge for him and it's like the HMM textbook Lord Berus and he is Goku taking on the challenge. Victor's schedule was two Academic labs, Functional Math, four periods with SLC, PE, and art and now is one Academic Lab, Resource Math, Physical Science, PE, and Business & Marketing. They asked Victor if Resource Math felt challenging. He stated that yes, this class is hard, but math is his favorite class. Principal Sellers thanked everyone and asked if there were any questions. Director Hanson thanked Associate Principal Hasegawa and Joyce Osbourne for including them in the whiteboard activity. Director Hanson asked Principal Sellers what their challenges were so far with the Building Thinking Classrooms. Principal Sellers stated the challenge as a leader is to leverage student energy and support their teachers and students so there is no stopping them. Director Kirby thanked Principal Sellers and all of the administrators for creating an environment of inclusiveness and equity.

#### **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

President Taylor called for community comments. Brian Kesler introduced himself and said he had three students attend and graduate from the LSSD. His wife was a teacher for the LSSD and his son is currently a teacher for the LSSD. He stated he had taught for a neighboring district for forty years. He talked about a tragedy that had happened that profoundly changed the students and staff. He wanted to say how thankful he is for the security entry protocols, perimeter fencing, and a host of other safety features in the LSSD. There are great programs including student mental health and staff training that create a safe environment. The administrative team has done a wonderful job. He said he was so proud to be a part of the Lake Stevens community and would like to see more done to keep weapons off of the campuses. He said he thinks screening devices are too expensive, just like the computers were ten years ago. He stated that hopefully soon there will be inexpensive devices to help with this. He encourages the district to keep their eyes open on technology. Brian Kesler stated he is so thankful and proud of the district. President Taylor asked for any other 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. 309873 to 310052 - \$1,067,297.77 (E:177/23);  
Warrant Nos. 232400004 to 23400005 - \$10,288.17 (E:178/23)
2. Personnel Report: certified employment of Lee Ann Kaplan, Melissa Ortega, Lauren Vance; classified employment of Abinash Dahal, Damon Matz, Laura Piercy, Alma Vizcarra, Camille Walton, Carlie-Rose Simmons; Resignation of Angie O'Connor, Pamela Stime;(E:179/23); Co-Curricular Report (E:180/23);
3. a. Acceptance of a donation of \$5,000.00 to Highland Elementary from the Highland PTA (E:181/23).  
b. Acceptance of a donation of \$152.61 to Stevens Creek Elementary from the Stevens Creek PTA (E:182/23).  
c. Acceptance of a donation of \$741.30 to Stevens Creek Elementary from the Stevens Creek PTA. (E:183/23).  
d. Acceptance of a material donation of \$243.60 to the LSHS Drama Club from (E:184/23).  
e. Approval of the LSHS Wrestling Team's participation in the three out-of-state wrestling tournaments in Sydney, MT December 1-2, 2023, Tri-State in Coeur d'Alene, ID December 14-17, 2023, and Nampa, ID Rollie Lane Tournament January 4-6, 2024. (E:185/23).  
f. Approval of surplus equipment. (E:186/23).  
g. Acceptance of a donation of \$9,000.00 to Sunnycrest Elementary from the Sunnycrest PTA. (E:187/23).

The "Consent Agenda" items were seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved.

Director Hanson made a motion to approve the revision to Policy No. 1500: Religion. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and was approved by a roll call vote. (E:188/23).



Director Lund made a motion to approve the revision to Policy No. 1320: Distribution of Literature and its subsequent procedures. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and was approved by a roll call vote. (E:189/23).

Director Kirby made a motion to approve the new Policy No. 3830: Use of Electronic Signatures. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and was approved by a roll call vote. (E:190/23).

Director Lund 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:191/23).

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 carpet at Hillcrest ES (Rubenstein's)

Install light in the fire lane at Lake Stevens HS (Valley Electric)

Service Calls

Transformer repair at Lake Stevens HS (Interior Technology)

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

Accepting the projects as complete will establish the date of contractual Final Acceptance and allow the district to complete the closeout process. The district will provide a Notice of Completion to state agencies per RCW.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Superintendent Ken Collins spoke about the removal of Policy No.1310: Printed Materials, Publicity. Superintendent Collins stated there are times we need policy revisions, adoptions, and removals of policies that are not needed. He stated they would bring it back to the next board meeting for a vote on the removal of this policy. Director Iseminger thanked everyone for the thoughtfulness that goes into the policy work. Director Lund thanked them for the policy cleanup.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

CTE Director, Dan Tedor talked about the Career and Technical Education Graduation Pathways. He stated all public high school students are required to meet statewide graduation requirements to earn a diploma. The goal is for more students to be better prepared to meet 21<sup>st</sup>-century demands in their working and personal lives. To earn a high school diploma, a student must:

- Earn high school credits (District Specific beyond state minimum)
  - ELA: 4 Credits
  - Mathematics: 3 Credits
  - Science: 3 Credits
  - Social Studies: 3 Credits
  - Arts: 2 Credits\*
  - Health and Fitness: 2 Credits
  - Career and Technical Education: 1 Credit
  - World Language: 2 Credits\*
  - Electives: 4 Credits
- Complete a High School and Beyond Plan
- Complete a Graduation Pathway

House Bill 1599 expanded opportunities for students to develop their course plans and show preparation for a meaningful first step after high school. Starting in 2020, students have been required to fulfill a pathway requirement to graduate. Current Graduation Pathways are

- English Language Arts and Mathematics Pathway (Target Pathway for all students)
  - Smarter Balanced Assessment
  - College Admission, AP, IB, Cambridge Exams and courses
  - Dual Credit Courses
  - Transition Courses, Washington Access to Instruction & Measurement (WA-AIM) Assessment
- Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Test (ASVAB)
- Career and Technical Education Sequence

A student may meet this graduation pathway option by completing a sequence of CTE courses in alignment with their High School and Beyond Plan:

- 2.0 high school credits in CTE courses; and
- 2.0 credits are in the same CTE Program Area; and
- The course has access for students to earn dual credit; or
- Leads to an Industry Recognized Credential (IRC); or
- Is a Core Plus program



The district provides Local CTE Graduation Pathways which must include at least 2.0 high school CTE credits from differing CTE program areas with approval from the school board, school board designee, or local advisory committee.

CTE Director Tedor presented a sample of the classes that are in the CTE Course Pathways including Family & Consumer Sciences, S.T.E.M., Health Science, Business & Marketing, and Skills & Technical Sciences.

He talked about current locally approved CTE Graduation Pathways that have an occupational alignment with high demand, high wages and high skills. He also showed examples of proposed locally approved CTE Graduation Pathways with a combination of program areas. The creation of these occupationally aligned local CTE Graduation Pathways provides:

- Access to more students
- Alignment of a wider scope of occupations
- Provides students with more choices in how they complete their Graduation Pathway.

These are not pathways created for individuals, but rather for a larger population of students. Alignment to a student's High School and Beyond Plan is monitored by the Counselor, Career Center, Pathways Coordinator, and CTE Director. Director Tedor thanked Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning Mike Snow for helping him see the big picture around these pathways. President Taylor stated this is a slam dunk in creating combinations of program areas. It makes perfect sense. Director Lund wanted to know if there was a downside. Director Tedor said they don't want to water down the pathways. They want to create a meaningful experience for their students. Director Lund said this is amazing. SACo Vice President Riley Boerger applauds all of this work. She said Sports Medicine was so nice to learn because that is what she is interested in. Director Tedor said it is the ability to make a connection and get students interested and engaged.

Executive Director of Educational Technology and Assessment Mike Weatherbie talked about the District Spring 2023 Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) and the Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science (WSAC) results. Executive Director Weatherbie talked about the Components of a Balanced Assessment System including annual accountability testing, school boards and district leaders, guide policy, program and fiscal decisions, and reporting to the community and families. This also includes:



Interim benchmark assessment

- School boards and district leaders
- Program evaluation, curricular decisions, and interventions
- Reporting to students and families

Classroom-based assessment

- Teachers
- Decide what comes next in student learning
- Reporting to students and families

The Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA has both English language areas (ELA) and math tests. These tests are given to students in grades 3-8 and 10 and are used as summative tests as well as for federal and state accountability. The high school ELA and math assessments can be used to meet a student's graduation pathway requirement. In 2020 and 2021 students were not assessed for SBA ELA and Math. In the fall of 2021/2022, students took a shorter version, with no performance tests, of the assessments they would have taken the prior spring. In the spring of 2022 students, students took a version of the test that included the original and longer performance tasks and a shorter computer adaptive portion. In the spring of 2023, students took a version of the test similar to the spring of 2022 but due to the shortened format, only overall proficiency data is available. The Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science (WCAS) is a science test for grades 5, 8, and 11 required for federal and state accountability. It has not changed since 2018, though it was not administered in 2020 and like SBA, the spring 2021 assessment was administered in the following fall.

Executive Director Weatherbie presented several SBA and WCAS graphs showing students who met and did not meet standards. The graphs were by grade, race, and program. The Executive Director shared state comparisons with neighboring districts and comparable districts. At the elementary level, they are in the top 1-2 among Snohomish County districts in all tested areas, and at the Secondary level, they are in the top 2-3 among Snohomish County district in most tested areas. Executive Director of Educational Technology and Assessment Mike Weatherbie gave a summary of the SBA and WCAS. He stated they had a stronger performance in ELA. Some gaps exist among sub-groups most significantly seen in program areas. LSSD students outperformed state averages in all tested areas. LSSD elementary students performed well compared to neighboring districts (top 1-2 in all tested areas). LSSD secondary students performed well compared to neighboring districts in most tested, and LSSD shows average performance in ELA and science and challenges in math against comparable districts. He asked if there were any questions.



Director Hanson stated this helps her visually and thanked Executive Director Weatherbie. President Taylor said they are not alone with the math challenges. They need to get a solid base on where they go and what needs to be changed. She believes they are in much better shape in understanding what motivates and keeps staff, students, and the community engaged. Director Kirby stated they are changing their ways of teaching and are culture-responsive. This will be a base for them to see how far they can go with their goals. She said communication is key. Director Lund said this data is helpful and all the other things that are coming into place are so strong he is hopeful this will help the test scores. Superintendent Collins said they need to place importance on testing and inform students to put their best foot forward. Executive Director Weatherbie said they are sending home results and writing notes on these to encourage kids to advance and move forward on their path to graduation. He said they need to send the message that testing is important. President Taylor thanked Executive Director Weatherbie.

#### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Director Hanson thanked Cavelero Mid High School and said it was amazing and fun being there and participating. She thinks there is power in the Building Thinking Classrooms. She thanked Brian Kesler for his community comments. Director Hanson thanked Director Tedor for his excellent CTE Pathways presentation and thanked Executive Director of Educational Technology and Assessment Mike Weatherbie for his presentation. She loved seeing all the students participate in the presentations.

Director Kirby stated they are here for the students and it was great to see all of the students. She thanked Cavelero Mid High School for the presentation and she knows they are taking care of her boys at Cavelero. She loved the student stories and is so grateful for everything they are doing at Cavelero. She is thankful they have such a great CTE Director. She thanked Executive Director Weatherbie for his informative presentation.

Director Iseminger said thank you to Cavelero Mid High School for welcoming them. He stated he has a vested interest and he is hearing good things about Cavelero. He appreciated the thoughtful approach to the Building Thinking Classrooms. He stated he likes numbers but he would like different numbers. He said it was great to be there tonight.

Director Lund said thank you for such a wonderful welcome this Wednesday evening. It was a great night and thanked Cavelero for inviting them. He enjoyed the video presentation and was honored to jump in with a couple of students to engage in the activity of Building Thinking Classrooms. He said they all need things like this to shake things up and get everyone engaged. He thanked Brian Kesler for his community comments, Director Tedor for doing such a great job, and Executive Director Weatherbie for all the work he does.

SACo President Sam Orduna thanked Cavelero for welcoming them. He stated he felt like he belonged. He thanked everyone for their presentations.

SACo Vice President Riley Boerger thanked everyone for being at Cavelero tonight. She was always the first student to be at Cavelero every morning so this is like home to her. She thanked everyone for their presentations and she loves the work going into the CTE Graduation Pathways.

President Taylor said thank you to everyone and she appreciated the presentations. She appreciated all of the great work that goes into a board report.

Superintendent Collins stated great work tonight. He said it is great that we remember all of the students are gen ed students first. He said thank you to Cavelero Mid High School for being so welcoming.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:25 p.m. President Taylor announced the Board would move into a 35-minute Executive Session to discuss the performance of an employee. President Taylor reconvened the Regular meeting at 9:00 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