

## BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on October 9, 2023.

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Chair Jonathan Light called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Board Vice Chair Kelly Mason read the following Land Acknowledgement:

*We acknowledge that we are in the traditional homeland of the Kalapuya people, specifically the community that was known as Chifin, the area that we now call Springfield.*

*Kalapuya people, who have lived in this region since "[Time Immemorial](#)", were illegally dispossessed of their land and forcibly removed to what are now the Grand Ronde and Siletz reservations over several years, but most notably in treaties between 1851 and 1855.*

*The Kalapuya are now members of the [Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde](#) and the [Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians](#), and members of the Kalapuya still live, work, study, and thrive in this area, and continue to make important contributions here in Springfield, across the land we now refer to as Oregon, and around the globe.*

*This information is shared out of a responsibility to honor the heritage and the humanity of all people and to promote unity within our school district.*

#### Attendance

Board Members attending the meeting included Board Chair Jonathan Light, Board Vice Chair Kelly Mason, Director Ken Kohl and Director Nicole De Graff.

Absent - Director Emilio Hernandez.

#### District staff and community members identified included:

Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Dustin Reese, Brett Yancey, Martie Steigleder, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Mindy La Roux, Ame Beard, Kimberlee Pelster, Christina Scott, Alana Strand, Sahara Fisher, Andy Price, Jose Da Silva, Jonathan Gault, Kenia Martinez, Sasha Chang, Kim Donaghe, Carla Smith, Lesa Haley, Colton Petersen, Megan Knight, Joan Bolls, Alexis DeLuna, Brian Johnson and Calli Dean.

### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Light asked for a motion to approve the October 9, 2023 agenda as presented.

Superintendent Hamilton made a request to the Board to pull Action item I; from the agenda because the grant agreements from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), as well as an updated timeline, had not yet been received.

**MOTION: Director Mason moved, seconded by Director Kohl, to approve the October 9, 2023 agenda as presented.**

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the October 9, 2023 agenda as presented: Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Chair Light – Yes.

*Motion passed, 4:0.*

### **3. PRESENTATIONS**

A. Introduction of the Student Board Representatives

Mindy Le Roux

#### **A3**

Maelette (Mae) Brockman  
Cameron Stratton

#### **Gateways High School**

Alexis DeLuna  
Danica Bolt was unable to attend.

#### **Springfield High School**

ASB President, Colton Petersen  
ASB Vice-President, Sahara Fisher

#### **Thurston High School**

ASB President, Abigail Warren was unable to attend.  
ASB Vice President, Eliana Sanchez was unable to attend.

#### **Willamette Leadership Academy WLA**

Alana Strand

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Light read the following statement concerning public comment:

*This is the portion of our agenda for public comment. The board provides three ways for community members to share public comment: written public comment, in person oral public comment and virtual public comment. Written public comment is received via email. Public comment received via email for this evening has been reviewed by the Board and has also been posted on the District's website. The deadline for submitting a request for oral public comment was today at 2pm. Those who requested an opportunity to speak this evening were notified by the board secretary about their request. We encourage groups with a common purpose to designate a spokesperson. If your comments will be covered by a group spokesperson, please indicate so when your name is called. I want to remind those members of the public who have indicated a desire to make comments that our policy provides for a limitation of three (3) minutes per person.*

*The Board will not hear comments regarding any school personnel. We ask those speaking to refrain from using names and titles of school personnel. Any complaints regarding a particular employee must be processed through the procedure set forth in Board policy KL, which requires that complaints be*

*submitted in writing to the Superintendent. This procedure must be followed before there is any Board involvement with such issues. A compliment involving a staff member should be sent to the superintendent, who will forward it to the employee, their supervisor and the Board. Speakers are reminded that their public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.*

#### In-Person Comment

Springfield resident Christina Scott respectfully addressed the Board regarding House Bill (HB) 2753, Compensation of Directors of District School Boards. She requested the Board vote against approval of this resolution. Scott also felt that if Board members were to receive stipends then she herself would deserve to receive stipends, for the help that she has done and continues to offer to Springfield children.

There were no requests for virtual comment(s) received.

### 5. ACTION ITEMS

#### A. Approve Consent Agenda

1. August 28, 2023 Board Work Session Minutes
2. September 11, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
3. September 25, 2023 Board Work Session Minutes
4. Financial Reports
5. Personnel Report, Resolution #23-24.009

Brett Yancey  
Dustin Reese

**MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director De Graff seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.**

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the Consent Agenda: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

***Motion passed, 4:0.***

- #### B. Approve OSAA Cooperative Sponsorship, Boys Swimming, Thurston High School and Mohawk High School, Resolution #23-24.010

David Collins

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the OSAA Cooperative Sponsorship Application for Boys Swimming between: Thurston High School and Mohawk High School.

**MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director Mason seconded the motion to approve the OSAA Cooperative Sponsorship Application for Boys Swimming between: Thurston High School and Mohawk High School.**

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.  
There were none.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve OSAA Cooperative Sponsorship Application for Boys Swimming between: Thurston High School and Mohawk High School: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

***Motion passed, 4:0.***

- C. Approve Out of State Travel, Springfield High School, Miller Integrated Nature Experience (MINE), Resolution #23-24.011 David Collins

It is recommended the Board approve Springfield High School MINE's request to travel to Boston, MA to participate in the National High School Journalism Convention. Dates of travel will be November 2 - 5, 2023.

**MOTION: Director Mason moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to approve the Springfield High School MINE's request to travel to Boston, MA to participate in the National High School Journalism Convention.**

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.  
There were none.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve Springfield High School MINE's request to travel to Boston, MA to participate in the National High School Journalism Convention: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

***Motion passed, 4:0.***

- D. Approve Out of State Travel, Springfield High School, Girls Basketball, Resolution #23-24.012 David Collins

It is recommended the Board approve Springfield High School Girls' Basketball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Nike Tournament of Champions. Dates of travel will be December 17 - 22, 2023.

**MOTION: Director Mason moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to approve the Springfield High School Girls' Basketball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Nike Tournament of Champions.**

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.  
There were none.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve Springfield High School Girls' Basketball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Nike Tournament of Champions: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

***Motion passed, 4:0.***

- E. Approve Out of State Travel, Springfield High School, Mariachi Del Sol, Resolution #23-24.013 David Collins

It is recommended the Board approve Springfield High School Mariachi del Sol's request to travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in the National Memorial Day Parade. Dates of travel will be May 24-28, 2024.

**MOTION: Director Mason moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to approve Springfield High School Mariachi del Sol's request to travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in the National Memorial Day Parade.**

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.  
There were none.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve Springfield High School Mariachi del Sol's request to travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in the National Memorial Day Parade: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

***Motion passed, 4:0.***

**F. Approve Out of State Travel, Thurston High School, Boys Baseball, Resolution #23-24.014**

David Collins

It is recommended the Board approve Thurston High School Baseball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Coach Bob National Invitational tournament. Dates of travel will be March 23-30, 2024.

**MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director De Graff seconded the motion to approve Thurston High School Baseball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Coach Bob National Invitational tournament.**

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.  
There were none.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve Thurston High School Baseball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Coach Bob National Invitational tournament: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

***Motion passed, 4:0.***

**G. Approve Lane ESD Transit Dollar Request 2024-2025,  
Resolution #23-24.015**

Superintendent Hamilton

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the Lane Education Service District – School District Transit Request for fiscal Year 2024-2025. Specifically, it is recommended that the Board of Directors request does not exceed 50% of the Transit Dollars pursuant to ORS 334.177.

**MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director Mason seconded the motion to approve Lane Education Service District – School District Transit Request for fiscal Year 2024-2025. Specifically, it is recommended that the Board of Directors request does not exceed 50% of the Transit Dollars pursuant to ORS 334.177.**

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.

There were none.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve Lane Education Service District – School District Transit Request for fiscal Year 2024-2025. Specifically, it is recommended that the Board of Directors request does not exceed 50% of the Transit Dollars pursuant to ORS 334.177: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

***Motion passed, 4:0.***

**H. Award of Contract, Centennial Roof Replacement, Resolution #23-24.016** Brett Yancey

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the award of construction for the Centennial Elementary re-roofing project to Roof Toppers from Vancouver, WA. The total base bid for the project is \$620,835.

**MOTION: Director Mason moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to approve the award of construction for the Centennial Elementary re-roofing project to Roof Toppers from Vancouver, WA. The total base bid for the project is \$620,835.**

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.  
There were none.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the award of construction for the Centennial Elementary re-roofing project to Roof Toppers from Vancouver, WA. The total base bid for the project is \$620,835: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

***Motion passed, 4:0.***

7:58 p.m. <<<————— **Break** —————>>> 8:04 p.m.

## **6. DISCUSSION**

**A. Compensation of Directors of District School Boards Update** Chair Light

Superintendent Hamilton shared that Brian Richardson, Director of Communications had made great efforts to communicate with all in the community and to announce opportunities for public discussion, as well as to give input on HB 2753.

Brian Richardson shared the actions that he and his team had taken:

- Issued a September press release announcing the stipend discussion and request for public comment.
- Several media outlets picked up on that conversation.
- KEZI, KMTR, KVAL and the Registered Guard covered these items.
- Newsletters, one internal, two external covered these items.
- 17,000 emails were opened.
- A web story was posted, as well as several social media postings.

The Board expressed appreciation for the outstanding job their team had done in getting the message out to the public.

- B.** (Possible Action Item) Approve HB 2753, Compensation of Directors of District School Boards,  
Resolution #23-24.018 Chair Light

Superintendent Hamilton referred the Board to their Board packets, to a conflict of interest inquiry letter sent to a school board member in Hillsboro, Oregon. In response Executive Director Ronald Burson offered four options for boards to move forward, should they be interested in considering compensation for directors.

The Ethics Commission offered the following four options:

- Option 1.) Make a decision for the next set of directors
- Option 2.) Choose a path that looks at each position separately
- Option 3.) Refer to the voters
- Option 4.) Wait for a legislative fix
- Fifth and separate option is to decide to do nothing, enabling the topic to be added as a future discussion opportunity.

Chair Light stated that the public input received was overwhelmingly against compensation for board members. From the comments received, it was apparent that there was a need for more information. Boards around the states are generally composed of people that are more financially secure. The intent of the Legislation is to create more diversity on the board. Chair Light answered a few questions from the public.

Director De Graff expressed her desire to convey more to the public, in regards time spent on board activities, research, school visits and other such items. She stated there was a need to be more transparent about where the money would be coming from to fund the stipends.

Director Mason echoed Director De Graff and commented that there was a bit of a public misconception around time spent on board work. In regards to a few of the comments received, it saddened her to think that there may be some students who did not have the needed school supplies. She wished to learn more about this, where the gap is and to remedy it. Mason also addressed comments surrounding board membership. She pointed out that not all members are retired and some have children. She was concerned that although it is a volunteer position, it is a huge time commitment and some may be deterred by that.

Director Kohl wished to keep the topic on the horizon, to implement it for future elections. He shared his thoughts in that, hopefully there would be work done towards that conflict of interest and through the Legislature more education of the intent and in how to achieve a more diverse board.

After much discussion, the Board decided for the time being to do nothing and to revisit the item when they have more information, after the OSBA Conference and following the Legislative session, which will meet in a few months.

## **7. REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

- A.** 2022-2023 Division 22 Assurances Report

David Collins

Mr. Collins was pleased to inform the Board that Springfield Public Schools have met all compliance standards for Division 22.

- This is a working report by the District Superintendent to the State, related to the standards and assurance areas.
- Compliance standards are continually assessed throughout the year.
- The deadline for Districts to report is by November 1, 2023 through the OER each year, for the previous year.
- Each year the State identifies the areas of focus for districts to report on.
- There is a requirement in the assurances related to instructional minutes, although this is not necessarily broken down specifically in all identified areas.

**B. Superintendent Communication**

Superintendent Hamilton

- Attended the grand opening of a new youth innovation space, Spark at Booth-Kelly by Connected Lane County. It provides hands-on experiences and is now the administrative home for the Connected Lane County staff. More students participated in this summer's programs than any other district in Lane County.
- Wished to recognize that the Board had attended the OSBA Legislative Roadshow. Board members had also attended the Springfield Education Foundation Gala.
- Team Springfield gathered to talk about system development charges. Director Mason was there representing the Board.
- Springfield Public School District is one of the fourteen partners that does not collect what would be the equivalent of a system development charge.
- Springfield continues to host the Equity Community Consortium First Friday events. The City of Springfield and SUB hosted the event at Willamalane.
- Wished to acknowledge the Board members for all that they do outside of the boardroom.

**C. Board Communication and Comments**

**Chair Light** shared:

- Mariachi Del Sol appeared on the television news program Good Morning America last Friday. He was fortunate to have attended the taping the week prior. The group had been awarded a \$5,000 award from GMA and the Guitar Center, which they may use towards their trip to Washington DC.
- Chair Light referenced a business item, in which there are some refrigerators and microwaves that went missing from classrooms during the pandemic. He stated that more information on the subject was needed before moving forward.
- The Springfield School District has been doing a great job managing a student incident that occurred at Springfield High. The incident was publicized by local news stations, however he felt that it had not been accurately reported upon. Mr. Collins will be sending to each Board member, a copy of the Student Rights and Responsibility Plan handbook, to review for a possible future work session.
- Last Friday was National School Lunch Week and he had received an invitation to visit from Thurston High. Upon arrival, Chair Light encountered confusing and conflicting Board and staff visitation protocols. Policies BG, GBD and KK, including non-policy operating agreements are unclear and do not clearly specify the practice around school visits.
- Request for an agenda item; the topic of policy clarification and alignment of Board expectations and desires with practice, to be placed on the work session agenda for October 27, 2023.



Board members agreed to discuss Chair Light's requested topic and for it to be placed on the work session agenda for October 27, 2023.

**Director De Graff** shared:

- She had been appointed to the Springfield Education Foundation (SEF) board, which through fundraising has already raised \$225,000 and continues to receive contributions.
- She is appreciative of district staff, learning a lot about agenda issues and backgrounds and histories on certain things.
- Ms. De Graff appreciates hearing from the public and suggested the addition of a listening session to the agenda.

**Director Kohl** shared:

- He had attended his first Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) meeting. He found LCOG's work toward rural broadband and the rural bus services that extend outside of the boundaries for LTD, very informative.
- He attended the First Friday event and appreciated the many good conversations that were had.
- Night of 11,000 Stars was a great event, where he enjoyed listening to presentations, seeing the community supporting the schools and listening to Mariachi Del Sol.

**Director Mason** shared:

- She enjoyed seeing elected officials and the community join together in support of Springfield students and joined in many good conversations. She felt it was very special to see student groups showcase and to hear from recent graduates.
- The Wildish Theatre welcomed two new members; Cj Mann, serving on the Willamalane's Board of Directors and Ryan Young, Manager of the Springfield Banner Bank.

## **8. NEXT MEETINGS:**

October 23, 2023, Board Work Session at 5:30 p.m.

November 13, 2023, Board business Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Light thanked everyone for attending.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, Chair Light adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

*(Minutes transcribed by Trenay Ryan, LCOG)*