

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on November 13, 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, Director Kohl 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, Director Nicole De Graff and Director Emilio Hernandez.

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Dustin Reese, Brett Yancey, Martie Steigleder, Whitney McKinley, Jeff Fuller, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Colton Petersen, Jonathan Gault, Marion Malcom, Jose Da Silva, Andy Price, Sahara Fisher, Joan Bolls, Lesa Haley, Laura Farrelly, Katie Dawson, Kimberlee Pelster, Lonnie Usrey, Brandi Stark, Kari Isham Skelton, Alana Strand, Carrie Petersen, Sasha Chang, Georgiann Jones, Larry Lewin, Alexis DeLuna, Rebekah Jacobson, Eliana Sanchez and Calli Dean .

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Light asked for a motion to approve the November 13, 2023 agenda as presented.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, seconded by Director Hernandez, to approve the November 13, 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 November 13, 2023 agenda as presented: Director Hernandez – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff– Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Chair Light – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Student Board Representative Communication

A3 Maelette (Mae) Brockman shared:

- Students from each grade were grouped together to work on the Mars Rover Project, actually building small Mars Rovers.
- October 17th juniors took the ACT test. 9th and 10th grade students took the pre-ACT test. Seniors worked on their senior projects.
- Student-led Conferences were held during the end of October.
- A3 hosted a school wide dance with games, dancing and crafts and had an exciting week of Halloween, as well.
- The musical 93 Unplugged, will be playing November 17th and 18th, free of charge. The house opens at 7:00 p.m. with the show beginning at 7:30 p.m.
- The Hot Sauce Challenge will be held on November 17th. Teachers and students will see how many hot wings they can eat.
- The Art Abrasion Confluence and Artwalk will be held December 8th. This is an event to celebrate the student's artwork before the new year.

Chair Light asked M. Brockman to share her thoughts on how the student-led conferences work for her as a student, if she feels they have a positive impact on learning and if the conferences are open to the public.

—M. Brockman replied, the first year of it was new and scary, but she enjoyed seeing the community actually care about their progress. It is an opportunity to show their work to parents, teachers and the community and to be proud of the work they did. It has had a positive effect on her, she said, however it really just depends upon the student. If her grades are not where she would like them to be, it has pushed her to work harder to achieve a new standard to present at the next student-led conference. These conferences are not open to the public.

Gateways High School Alexis DeLuna shared:

- October was full of many exciting events such as a school wide Bulletin Board Decorating Contest for each class, individualized and representing the incoming fall weather.
- In Mrs. Arnett's Cosmetology class the students were finally able to tour the new building. The tour included guest speakers and workshops. They have been happily hosting Hair Studio 408, Reflections Salon, Cosmoprof, Liz Barber Shop and many more and are hoping to be in it no later than December. Students are participating in a facial massage workshop with plans to do manicures towards the 14th and take a field trip to Hair Studio 408.
- 10th grade students took the pre-ACT. 11th grade students took the ACT. 12 grade students worked on their personalized learning, as well as completing the FAFSA college applications, resumes and job applications.
- Spirit Week was held a week before Halloween and featured many fun and wacky daily activities.
- Night School began and many students participated to make up credits. Ten students graduated in quarter one.

Springfield High School ASB President, Colton Petersen, ASB Vice-President shared:

- In October the SHS band Mariachi Del Sol was featured on Good Morning America's national television station, and also performed at the SEF fundraiser Night of 11000 Stars.
- On November 4, 2023 the Miller Integrated Nature Experience (MINE) program won its 5th Pacemaker National Award for its specialty magazine.

- The Acting Ensemble presented its 36th annual student written Hanging by Our Fingernails performance on November 8th-10th.
- On November 9th SHS will host CJ and Kane, spoken word poets from the Tulsa Social Justice in May of 2022. They will present at a school assembly and afterwards will be connecting with students.
- Spirit Week was full of many fun and wacky daily activities. There are currently more than 25 clubs and organizations on campus.
- The DECA Business Club toured the Oregon State Capitol and attended a two-day conference.
- The Latino Student Union hosted Hispanic Family Night on October 19th.
- Ranked fourth in the state, the football team made it to the playoffs. The cross-country team made it to the state meet.
- The Sources of Strength team is working to create a display of paper hands, showcasing the school's diversity and unity.
- A new policy was implemented last week, requiring students to display ID upon leaving and returning from off-campus lunches.

Director Hernandez asked who was doing the ID checks at the door during the lunch hour.

—C. Petersen replied that it is a certified staff member.

Thurston High School ASB Vice President, Eliana Sanchez shared:

- Freshman Day welcomed the Class of 2027, giving them an introduction to High School, underclassmen practiced the pre-ACT, juniors took the ACT test and seniors had the opportunity to visit a college.
- The College and Career Center has hosted colleges, military visits, ASBA testing, Financial Aid Night and Scholarship Night.
- Homecoming week was comprised of an assembly and class competition and a football game
- The Halloween Carnival with games, prizes and friendly competition was a highlight in October. A school wide Focus on Attendance with a focus on showing up on time was enacted.
- The Spirit Club helps to support the campus with acts of service and logging support for Sam, the School Sparrow. A campus Food Drive was held, as well.
- The Women's Empowerment group hosted Girls Night and the Multicultural Student Union hosted a piñata party.
- All fall varsity sports teams qualified for playoffs. Men's and Women's Soccer teams played in the first round. Volleyball placed third in state. Football played through.
- The play Apocalypse, opened November 10 at 7:30 and will continue through this weekend.
- The Craft Fair will be held November 24th and 25th.

Willamette Leadership Academy WLA, Alana Strand shared:

- At the beginning of the year Basic Training was held for incoming and returning students to help them understand what is expected from them. Those students were celebrated at the Award and Promotion ceremony for completing Basic Training.
- Every other week between the middle and high schools, students who have received C's or better in grades and who have not been written up, are rewarded with a Hootenanny, an hour and a half of music, a sweet food treat, music and free time.
- Seasonal testing or MAP testing was held and many students qualified for the Talented and Gifted program, even more excelled at the state average in many subjects.
- The Color Guard team in collaboration with the Fire Department is working toward establishing an annual flag event to retire all Springfield fire station's old and frayed flags and hoist new ones. The team will receive money for this service, while also representing their school in a good light

within the community. The Color Guard participated in and has several future events planned, ranging from flag presentations, community performances, Christmas parades and fundraising for their prom dance.

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.

Retired Teacher Marion Malcom, speaking in memory of Retired Teacher Colleen Hunter; M. Malcom discussed the problem areas such as excessive standardized testing and the lack of freedom educators have to pursue topics when the kids are really engaged. Learning does not always happen in prescribed increments. Colleen Hunter retired sooner than planned due to a top-down model of education that took the joy out of her professional experience, leaving her feeling she could not provide her students what they needed. She concluded by suggesting the Board incorporate listening sessions from employee groups into their Board agendas.

Retired Teacher Larry Lewin spoke in tribute of Retired Springfield Mount Vernon Elementary Teacher Colleen Hunter, who passed away earlier this month. He discussed their shared views on the connections teachers create for students, co-workers, families and the community. He cited Colleen's early retirement to the restructuring of American Public Education, which marginalizes teachers. In conclusion, he asked the Board to use their power to fix it. The one-size fits all, excessive standardized testing is backfiring on students. He urged the Board to listen to the teachers and principals who hold the most important connection to the students.

Retired Teacher Georgianne Lopada-Jones also spoke in honor of Retired Teacher Colleen Hunter, whom she first met through the Community Alliance for Public Education. She noted that she had retired for the same reasons given from the previous speakers and discussed the many good works Colleen performed, both during her career and afterwards into retirement. She asked the Board to keep Colleen's view of Civil Rights Education and caring relationships with them.

ELA Teacher Laura Ferrelly wished to celebrate the successes of their equitable and inclusive 9th and 10th grade Honors English program at SHS and also to share her fear of the program being dismantled. The term equity has been misconstrued and equated with standardization to establish truly equitable practices. Under the guise of equity, the Honors program in the science and math departments at SHS have been eradicated. She hopes the Honors program will not be diluted into an Honors Light program, where Honors is embedded into general education classes. The programs at the two high schools are radically different, she said. SHS has 160 students enrolled in the English 9th and 10th grade Honors classes, which is more than a 500% increase from a decade ago. She concluded, stating this is a cause for celebration not for restructuring into a program that does not adequately prepare students for AP and college bound classes.

Kyle Johnson submitted a written comment on the same topic.

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Consent Agenda

1. October 9, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
2. October 23, 2023 Board Work Session Minutes
3. Financial Report
4. Personnel Report, Resolution #23-24.009

Brett Yancey
Dustin Reese

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director Hernandez seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

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 Hernandez – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

B. Further Handling of Complaint

Vice Chair Mason

MOTION: Vice Chair Mason moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion for the Board to hold a written hearing related to the complaint viewed in Executive Session.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member: Director Hernandez – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

C. Approve 2024-2025 Budget Calendar, Resolution #23-24.020

Brett Yancey

It is recommended the Board approve the proposed 2024-2025 Budget Calendar.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director De Graff seconded the motion to approve the proposed 2024-2025 Budget Calendar.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the proposed 2024-2025 Budget Calendar: Director Hernandez – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

Director Kohl asked how they plan to fill those positions and the timing of that.

—Superintendent Hamilton answered that they would reach out to the three existing Budget Committee members whose terms are set to expire at the end of December. If there are vacancies, they will post those vacancies for the community and gather applications for the Board to review. They hope to bring those recommendations to the Board at the December board meeting. If needed, they will host a forum for the Board to interview candidates, prior to the board meeting.

Chair Light requested the Budget and the Board Committees offer their input, just as they did last year and for the meeting to be held either at the upcoming January 11th or February 15th Board meeting.

D. OSBA Elections:

Todd Hamilton

1. OSBA Legislative Policy Committee, Resolution #23-24.021
2. OSBA Board of Directors, Resolution #23-24.022
 3. OSBA Resolution 1, Resolution #23-24.023
 4. OSBA Resolution 2, Resolution #23-24.024

1. OSBA Legislative Policy Committee Resolution #23-24.021.

It is recommended the Springfield Board of Directors vote to select one candidate per position and submit the candidates name to the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote at the Oregon School Boards Association’s E-Voting Center no later than midnight on December 15, 2023.

Superintendent Hamilton noted that the order on the agenda resolution is backward and that Judy Newman is the Legislative Policy Committee Representative and Linda Hamilton is the nominee for Board of Directors.

MOTION: Chair Light moved, Director De Graff seconded the motion to approve OSBA Legislative Policy Committee, Resolution #23-24.021. Judy Newman for the Legislative Policy Committee Representative position, committee appointment for position six. The Board directs the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote online to OSBA no later than midnight on December 15, 2023.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the OSBA Legislative Policy Committee, Resolution #23-24.021. Judy Newman for the Legislative Policy Committee Representative position, committee appointment for position six. The Board directs the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote online to OSBA no later than midnight on December 15, 2023. Director Hernandez – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

2. OSBA Board of Directors, Resolution #23-24.022.

It is recommended the Springfield Board of Directors vote to select one candidate per position and submit the candidates name to the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote at the Oregon School Boards Association's E-Voting Center no later than midnight on December 15, 2023.

MOTION: Chair Light moved, Director Hernandez seconded the motion to approve the OSBA Board of Directors, Resolution #23-24.022. Linda Hamilton for the Board of Directors position for position six. The Board directs the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote online to OSBA no later than midnight on December 15, 2023.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve OSBA Board of Directors, Resolution #23-24.022. Linda Hamilton for the Board of Directors position for position six. The Board directs the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote online to OSBA no later than midnight on December 15, 2023. Director Hernandez – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

3. OSBA Resolution 1, Resolution #23-24.023.

It is recommended that the Springfield School District Board of Directors adopt OSBA Resolution 1. It is further recommended that the Board direct the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote online to OSBA no later than midnight on December 15, 2023.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.

MOTION: Chair Light moved, Director Hernandez seconded the motion to approve the OSBA Resolution 1, Resolution #23-24.023. The Board directs the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote online to OSBA no later than midnight on December 15, 2023.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve OSBA Resolution 1, Resolution #23-24.023. The Board directs the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote online to OSBA no later than midnight on December 15, 2023. Director Hernandez – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

4. OSBA Resolution 2, Resolution #23-24.024

It is recommended that the Springfield School District Board of Directors adopt Resolution 2. It is further recommended that the Board direct the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote online to OSBA no later than midnight on December 15, 2023.

MOTION: Chair Light moved, Director De Graff seconded the motion to approve OSBA Resolution 2, Resolution #23-24.024. The Board directs the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote online to OSBA no later than midnight on December 15, 2023.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the OSBA Resolution 2, Resolution #23-24.024. The Board directs the Superintendent or designee to submit this vote online to OSBA no later than midnight on December 15, 2023. Director Hernandez – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

Director Hernandez asked if they would have input on this.

—Superintendent Hamilton replied that it is OSBA related. Input from the Board had already been provided, resulting in the bylaws presented that evening, however if he had additional input they would be happy to share that with OSBA.

(5 - Minute)

<<<————— **BREAK** —————>>>

6. DISCUSSION

A. Early Literacy Success Initiative

Whitney McKinley & Jeff Fuller

Whitney McKinley presented a slide show, which offered a preview of information about the Early Literacy Success Plan and the non-competitive grant that comes with that. House Bill 3198 outlines the Early Literacy Success Initiative, established as the top priority in the spring of 2023.

The Four goals identified:

- Increase literacy for children from birth to third grade.
- Reduce literacy, academic disparities for student groups that have historically experienced academic disparities.
- Increased support to parents and guardians, enabling them to be partners in the development of their children’s literacy skills and knowledge. Increase access to early literacy learning through support that is research aligned to culturally responsive students centered and family centered.

These goals will be accomplished through the following programs:

- Early Literacy Success Tribal Grants
- Early Literacy Success Community Grants
- Early Literacy Success School District Grants
- Birth through Five Literacy Plan

The established timeline running from October 2023 through May of 2024, from ODE was discussed.

- October-November: becoming familiar with this initiative and the requirements for the grant application
- December 1st.: Submission windows open for the grant applications
- December-February: Applications are shared with and submitted for approval to the Board
- Spring: Funds are made available

Current requirements in-place in the Early Literacy Initiatives:

- Four-year goals for improving early literacy
- A review of our early literacy program, including curriculum
- A student growth assessment to measure student progress in early literacy

Additional requirements being added based on this initiative and grant:

- Professional development and coaching for teachers and administrators
- Extended learning by qualified teacher or tutor

- High-dosage tutoring by qualified tutor

Next Steps:

- Board Approval of Grant Application - December
- Continue Implementing Our Literacy Plan
- Update Professional Learning Plan to Reflect New Requirements
- Prepare for Summer Extended Learning

Director Kohl asked if additional staff would be needed with regards to the additional requirements.

—W. McKinley stated that the grant allows for that need. It is anticipated there would be a need for additional staff and professional staff training, but where and how they would be used still needs to be worked through.

—D. Collins added that while this is a standalone initiative, they were bringing it forward folded into the integrated guidance.

Chair Light asked if there was a way to be more discreet, protecting the identity of those students who are pulled out of class for these tutoring and literacy skills.

—W. McKinley commented that it is not something done to them, but it is being done for them and that they will work with the buildings on how to make that happen in a kind, caring and loving way.

B. Integrated Guidance: Data Follow Up

David Collins

Dave Collins had prepared some foundational information for the Board as they contemplated what their needs are to inform their work and the types of things they would like to receive. He included copies of:

- The Student Growth presentation, discussing the different assessments, the purpose of each, how to use them and to inform and improve outcomes.
- Two-years of required Summative Assessments in different areas, which are connected to many of the provided reports. Disaggregated datasets are also included.
- Benchmarks dataset specifically K-8, literacy and math, which are three times a year data sets.

Chair Light asked if this was related to Director Kohl’s idea of creating a type of baseline to review on a regular basis.

—D. Collins answered that it is related to comments they heard and that they all have been involved in either as a collective Board or as an individual Board member. They are trying to be intentional for the Board, as the Board contemplates what they are interested in and what they would like to be informed of. It is not just about the data, it is what is being done with the data and how they are using it to try and make a difference.

C. Review and Prioritize Future Meeting Topics

Todd Hamilton

Superintendent Hamilton committed to sending the Board members a form including questions to help gather their feedback, a formatted list of future agenda items, prioritizations of their ideas and any additions they may have. They want to hear the ideas of the Board members so that they can properly plan. If they have internal data, then they can present that often and frequently. If they have external data, then they can share with the Board ideas of when that would happen. He noted that the Board had done a fantastic job of identifying future agenda items, opportunities for planning, learning, discussion and future decisions so in prioritizing future agenda topics and board development ideas, they would like to gather their thoughts and interests. This will help in the scheduling, planning and preparing for subsequent

meetings. Once this information is compiled they will return with a plan for when they can schedule these items for the Board.

7. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

A. Superintendent Communication

Superintendent Hamilton wished to recognize:

- Elena Espinoza and Principal Da Silva for their leadership in hosting the Springfield High School (SHS) Latino Night. He received numerous thank you notes from community members who were grateful for the opportunity to interact with family and friends, as well as with other community-based organizations.
- The 5th Annual Springfield Mayor's Review was held in partnership with the school district.
- Jazz artist Karla Harris and her team of talented musicians shared their time and expertise with a group of high school musicians. The jazz ensemble was invited to be the opening act at the Mayor's Review.
- Mayor Van Gordon for bringing the opportunity to the Springfield School District and for supporting such a unique student experience.
- The Board members for their dedication to the district and the community.

B. Board Communication and Comments

Vice Chair Mason shared that she really enjoyed the OSBA Conference. She learned a lot and was able to spend time with the newer Board members, which she appreciated.

Director Hernandez shared that the OSBA workshops provided were more focused than in the past. The workshops he attended were on Native American identity and curriculum and language. He also attended a workshop on the Recovery School.

Director De Graff shared that the workshops she attended were more detailed than expected and were thought provoking. She has been studying her conference notes and materials and looks forward to becoming a better Board member based on what she learned.

Director Kohl shared that the OSBA Conference was great. The presentations he attended were very informative and thought provoking. The Thurston High School (THS) Robotics Team has a meet at THS this Saturday. It is great fun to see all the robots, which belong to kids from all around the vicinity that come to compete.

Chair Light shared:

- All of the conferences he has attended have been good and have helped him to be better informed. He thanked his fellow Board members for taking the time to attend and develop themselves. Networking with board members from other districts is always valuable.
- Local non-profit Big Band Swing Shift Jazz Orchestra brought in an artist and co-founder of the internationally known, New York Voices from New York City. He spent time working with the SHS Jazz Kaleidoscopes and was also able to visit a couple 4J middle schools. The children lit up and learned a great deal. Acknowledged Jacob at SHS for making that happen.
- Acknowledged the amazing person that retired teacher Colleen Hunter was and that she was a very important inspiration to him. She was relentless in facing cancer, but also in her advocacy for kids. She never gave up and was always there helping to support and push for excellence.
- Would like more information on the THS Robotics Team Competition sent to the Board before the next board meeting on December 11th at 7:00 p.m.

8. NEXT MEETING

December 11, 2023 - Board Business Meeting at 7:00pm

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Light thanked everyone for attending.

With no other business, Chair Light adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

(Minutes recorded by Trenay Ryan, Lane Council of Governments, LCOG)