

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' SPECIAL MEETING November 29, 2023**

**Board  
Members  
Present:**

Mari Taylor, President  
Nina Hanson  
David Iseminger  
Vildan Kirby  
Paul Lund  
Ken D. Collins, Superintendent/Board Secretary

The Board of Directors of the Lake Stevens School District No. 4 met in a Special Meeting at the Educational Service Center. A Zoom option was available for this meeting. The purpose of the Special Meeting was to provide the elementary and secondary principals an opportunity to share their School Improvement Plans (SIPs). President Mari Taylor welcomed everyone and thanked them for being there. She stated there are a lot of amazing things happening and they wanted to recognize the incredible work that everyone is presenting in their School Improvement Plans. The new SIP format is super helpful and it shows that they put their heart into this work. She said please don't feel like you are on the hot seat but that you are keeping the Board informed. Superintendent Collins welcomed everyone to the meeting, which began at 9:00 a.m. He expressed appreciation for the work on the School Improvement Plans and said this is a journey refreshing the Foundation for Excellence and having it be a living document. He stated student achievement is at the forefront. This is that scale-up and how we use the Foundation for Excellence to increase student achievement for every student. Accountability was the work that Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning Steve Burleigh, Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning Mike Snow, and Cabinet hoped to achieve with these goals. They want this to be a relaxed conversation of practice and present the direction that they are going with these goals. Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning Mike Snow spoke about Teaching and Learning and the Cabinet work that has been put into the SIP template and School Improvement Plans and how there were many different layers to get where they are.

They have been using Google slide decks so the actual SIP template has given them healthy opportunities to embrace where they are as a district. It has never been stronger. The process that they started last spring by bringing together teams to make them a strong district and have systems aligned. SIP will get them there coherently. Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning Steve Burleigh walked everyone through an overview of the SIP template. They wanted to be intentional for the Foundation for Excellence to be in place in a cohesive way. Each goal starts with a goal from the Foundation for Excellence. They wanted to be consistent on every plan so everyone had a common target. He stated every building is a unique place. The School Improvement Plans will have action steps (what are buildings doing to achieve that goal), alignment to specific Foundation for Excellence strategies, and a progress monitoring plan.

District Goal #1: Each student will benefit from a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), a framework for improving outcomes in academics, social and emotional learning, and behavior through a flexible system of instruction. The Unified P -12 Goal: 80% of students will achieve at grade level, or above, through tier 1 and tier 2 classroom-based instruction by 2024-2025 in ELA, Math, and Science as measured by: the SBA and the WCAS. District Goal #2: Our students and staff will cultivate and experience safe, culturally-responsive, and sustaining environments of respect and rapport every day. The Unified P-12 Goal: All students will report feeling a strong Sense of Belonging in their classrooms and schools. All students will have regular attendance. District Goal #3: Continuous growth for each student and staff member. District Goal #4: Innovative and integrated approaches to learning. The Unified P-12 Goal(s): 100% of educators will engage effectively in Inquiry Processes via Collaborative Educator Teams (CET) with strong leader engagement.

Executive Director of Educational Technology & Assessment Mike Weatherbie spoke about trend data and how it looks across grade levels from year to year. Trend data reflects all students expected to test. The secondary and elementary administrators shared their School Improvement Plans including their goals with their action steps, how it is aligned to specific Foundation for Excellence strategies, their progress monitoring plans, and their assessment data. The principals presented and commented on items unique to their buildings.



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Director Iseminger thanked everyone for their presentations. The SIP format enables accountability with what they are doing and why all this is measured year after year so they can improve on what is needed. This framework is what they value in this district. Numbers are the manifestation of the job they are doing. He stated the great work that is happening shows in each of their presentations. Expectations will never change in Lake Stevens. It is a great celebration and they want to understand the aspirations and challenges so they can help. They appreciate all of their work. Director Hanson loved the thought of practicing dignity from the team to teachers to everyone else. Dignity is crucial. Director Lund stated as they look at the Foundation for Excellence and the SIP goals, they know it is a great journey. The Board wants to share their struggles and celebrations. He wanted everyone to know they were there to help with whatever they needed. Director Lund said the SIP template was well done. Director Kirby echoed Director Lund. Director Kirby said they need to be graceful towards their educators. President Taylor echoed everyone and told everyone to have a wonderful afternoon!

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Taylor adjourned the Special Meeting at approximately 3:42 p.m.

  
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President  
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Secretary