

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING
January 24, 2024

**Board
Members:**

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

**Student
Advisory
Council
Officers:**

Riley Boerger
Hayden LaCelle
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

SACo President Riley Boerger and Secretary MacKenzie Conniff were unable to attend.

AGENDA/MINUTES

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the January 24, 2024 agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved.

Director Hanson made a motion to approve the January 10, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved. Director Kirby abstained due to her absence from the January 10, 2024 meeting.

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

January is School Board Recognition Month and Superintendent Collins wanted to recognize their exceptional board members. Superintendent Collins stated that they have five elected volunteers who serve the Lake Stevens School District and three SACo student members who are remarkable individuals who donate their time to make sure the district runs as smoothly as possible.

They play a crucial role in creating a vision in establishing policies and budgets as they serve as a vital link between the community and the district. Superintendent Collins has been involved in and in awe of these folks for their passion for the community, in the case of Director Kirby the world. They have an unwavering dedication and focus on the students, staff, and district. They are the heart and soul of this community. Superintendent Collins couldn't thank them enough for all the work that they do. President Taylor stated it is a pleasure and privilege to be a part of this team. Director Hanson also thanked the SACo team and the work they do with the board. SACo Vice President Lacelle gave a shout-out to the School Board members for working so closely with SACo. He enjoys his position and loves to promote student voices from the LSSD students.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

Hillcrest Principal Katy Rudolf welcomed everyone to Hillcrest Elementary, home to the Hawks! She introduced Associate Principal Allison Porter and said they are excited to be the new administration at Hillcrest. They are having fun and thoroughly enjoying working with their students, families, and staff. The students and staff are split between two buildings; grades K, 1, 4, and 5 are in the main building and grades 2, and 3 are in Hillcrest West. They have a total of 774 students including 77 Special Education students, 90 Multi-Language Learners, 191 Intervention/LAP students, and 55 HiCap students. The staff consists of 88 which include 2.5 Special Education teachers, 1.5 SLP instructors, and 1.0 OT. They have 1.5 Multi-Language Learners staff, two Reading Specialists, and an MTSS Specialist. Hillcrest has Nine HiCap Clusters and 16 Multi-Language Learner Clusters. Principal Rudolph gathered feedback over the summer to create a plan for the year. The feedback included needing more camaraderie, time for staff data conversations, connecting their PBIS across the whole school, and supporting their equity work differently. The adjustments they have made are shifts to systems, PBIS, teaming and culture building, and analyzing data. Specific actions were PBIS Star Hawk, classroom and school-wide celebrations, glow light dance parties, school-wide bingo, and extra recess. The student leadership team in grades 3, 4, and 5 is also giving out purple Star Hawk tickets to students in the lunchroom and at recess so they can double up on recognition. Their driven academics include grade-level data teams and shared leadership when crafting the Professional Development schedule. To create camaraderie and a fun environment student leadership is focused on Kindness Always, Team Building, and Student voice for celebrations.

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Equity includes Festival of Lights, Heritage Board, Behavior Data, and How to Help Students using the four functions of behavior. The Festival of Lights for the holidays was fun because all students were assessing where they fit and saying I celebrate this or I celebrate everything. On the Heritage Board, they encouraged all families to contribute so they can celebrate everyone's heritage. As a school, they want to hone in on school-wide equity.

Principal Rudolf talked about her goals and action items for increasing student success. Her goals include implementing school-wide celebrations to get kids excited about doing their best on assessments. To get to their goals they had Plory from iReady share helpful tips on how to do your best work. Principal Rudolf gave a winter assessment update. In the fall of 2023, overall, 269 total students were at grade level, and in the winter of 2024, 428 total students were at grade level which they had a goal of 320. They will have a pizza celebration for all of the students! Principal Rudolf presented a chart on the Winter Assessment Update for Reading and Math. It showed where each grade level is in reading and math.

Principal Rudolph and Associate Principal Porter took everyone for a fabulous walk through the halls at Hillcrest. Everyone had an opportunity to see CKLA Vocabulary & Sound Walls, student work, and flexible seating to help support different learning styles. Also, great things everyone saw were Learning Spaces K-5, Sensory Space, Heritage Board, Star Hawk Tickets, and the Sensory Walk. It was a fantastic tour. Principal Rudolph asked if anyone had any questions. Director Kirby loved the culture that they are creating at Hillcrest Elementary. She said kindness is so important. Director Lund stated he was impressed by what a great team Principal Rudolph and Associate Principal Porter are and said phenomenal leadership. SACo Vice President LaCelle said he loved how students are represented and have role models at Hillcrest. Director Hanson thanked them for their presentation.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Taylor called for community comments. City Council Member Kymm Shipman stated how much she enjoyed the school board meetings and how she enjoyed the school presentation. 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. 310991 to 311137 - \$993,298.08 (E:18/24)
2. Personnel Report: classified employment: Shannon Alessi, Sean Anderson, Trevin Bench, Linette Lowery, Jack Reeves, Nicole Roberts, Denise Warstler, and Genevieve Wilson, volunteer: Cassidy Chism, resignations: Morgan Bradford, Hannah Herkert, and Jennifer Morrison (E:19/24); the Co-curricular Report and Auxiliary, Student and Casual Labor Salary Schedule (E:20/24)
3. Other
 - a. Approval of the LSHS Choirs to travel to Anaheim, CA to perform May 22 – 26, 2024 at Disneyland (E:21/24)
 - b. Approval of the LSHS Key Club to attend DCON Pacific Northwest District Key Club Convention in Portland, OR March 8-10, 2024 (E:22/24)
 - c. Approval of a donation of 10 cases of gowns and 5 cases of masks to Contemporary Art & Design from the Everett Clinic (E:23/24)
 - d. Approval to surplus a 1994 Isuzu Box Van (E:24/24)
 - e. Approval of Surplus Equipment (E:25/24)

The motion was seconded by Director Lund. The motion was unanimously approved.

Director Lund made a motion to approve a new Policy No. 1415: Unmanned Aircraft Systems and Model Aircraft. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (E:26/24).

Director Kirby made a motion to approve changes to Policy No. 3025: Construction Financing. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (E:27/24).

Director Hanson made a motion to approve changes to Policy No. 3720: Federal Impact Funds. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (E:28/24).

Director Lund made a motion to approve changes to Policy No. 3090: Maintenance. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (E:29/24).

Director Kirby made a motion to approve changes to Policy No. 6007: Alternative Learning Experiences. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (E:30/24).

Director Kirby made a motion to approve Savvas *myPerspectives* English Language Arts curriculum: *The War That Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley, *Above World* by Jenn Reese, *Peak* by Roland Smith, and *Refuge* by Alan Gratz. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and unanimously approved. (E:31/24)

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the final acceptance of the public works projects. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and unanimously approved (E:32/24).

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

- Renovate restrooms in North Hall at Lake Stevens HS for HomeLink (BCN Construction)
- Convert former music classrooms for general education at Lake Stevens HS (JC Killin General Contractors)

Service Calls

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Executive Director of Student Interventions Sarah Danielson thanked everyone for considering the updates to the following policies. She spoke about Policy No. 6001: Previously titled Remediation Program with an updated title of Learning Assistance Program Policy No. 6006. This policy was last revised in 2004 and is outdated when it comes to current practices, regulations, and language. The new proposed policy is based on the WSSDA model policy 2108, which is classified as essential and was last updated in 2021 to be reflective of current Learning Assistance Program regulations.

Executive Director of Student Interventions Sarah Danielson spoke about a new Policy No. 6001: Family Engagement and its related procedures. As our Foundation for Excellence emphasizes the importance of partnerships with families, we found that their current

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policy, #6001.5, which is specific to Title IA regulations, did not fully capture the beliefs of Lake Stevens School District as written. This new policy and procedure being proposed intends to capture the philosophy of strong family engagement. There is not a model policy for general Family Engagement so this pulls from Dr. Collins' doctoral work as well as the procedures from the Title I Family Involvement model policy built on National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement in schools.

Executive Director of Student Interventions Sarah Danielson spoke about updates to Policy No. 6001.5: Title I Family Involvement and its related procedures. Ms. Danielson said this updated policy and related set of procedures will provide clarity as it would now be differentiated from the general Family Engagement policy, and be specific to Title I regulations.

President Taylor said she appreciated how clear and specific Executive Director Danielson was on the Title I policy changes because it illustrates their commitments.

Superintendent Collins spoke about a new Policy No. 5225: School-Based Threat Assessment. He stated it has been a law since 2021 and they have been doing threat assessments since 2012. He stated he looked at the WSSDA Model Policy and it didn't satisfy their needs. The LSSD has always had a two-tiered threat assessment. They have a school and district threat assessment. They took the WSSDA Model Policy #3225 and redid it to work for them. Director of Safety and Security Gregg Lineberry, Chief Academic Officer Gina Anderson, Executive Director of Business and Operations Teresa Main, and Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning Mike Snow assisted with this policy so they know the steps at the building and district level that need to be taken. Superintendent Collins said this captures what they do and have been doing for a long time. Director Lund asked for clarification on a couple of items. Superintendent Collins said they would take a look and make changes if needed. Director Lund thanked everyone for the time they had spent on the policy.

Executive Director of Operations Robb Stanton gave an update on the recommendations of the Community Facilities Needs Advisory Committee Recommendations in an earlier study session and asked if there were any questions or comments on the recommendations. Director Hanson thanked Executive Director of Operations Robb Stanton for his presentation.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Executive Director of Business and Operations Teresa Main introduced Dr. Wayne Robertson who gave information on the timeline and procedures for the Superintendent search. Dr. Robertson has been in public education for 40 years. He has been a Superintendent to districts the size of 400 FTE to 20,000 FTE. Dr. Wayne Robertson is very well respected and will lead them through the process. Dr. Robertson thanked everyone for being there and gave a shout-out to the school board for recognizing the work that they do and congratulated Superintendent Ken Collins on his retirement. Dr. Robertson spoke about the timeline for the superintendent search. Mark Vinn, retired Sedro Wooley Superintendent will be assisting Dr. Robertson with the process. The January timeline consists of posting the position on NWLA, WASA, WDDSA, and the WALAS website with the salary range and posting a description and leadership profile on the district website. In February the Focus group meetings will take place with stakeholders selected by the board and superintendent. Groups will consist of principals, associate principals, deans; district office staff; labor groups; board members; students; cabinet; elementary and secondary staff; SACo; and the community (mayor, fire chief, police chief, rotary). Then the consultants will present a Focus Group Report to the board during a board meeting. The next step is to create brochures and the position announcement will be finalized and recruitment will begin. Director Iseminger asked if the board would be able to see the brochure before being mailed out. Dr. Robertson answered yes, of course. The vacancy will be announced and emailed to 3500+ nationwide. In March there will be a mid-search report to the board and preparation for the interview phase will begin. The online survey will close in March. In April, all the applications will go to NWLA and they will bring forward the qualified candidates after they screen them. They will present a screening report to the board and preliminary interviews will be at an open board meeting. The final interviews will be over three days and then there will be an announcement of selection, an Executive Session, and an open meeting with a roll call vote. At the end of April, the contract will be approved as an agenda item and on July 1, 2024, the selected superintendent will report to work. Director Hanson asked how diverse is their search. Dr. Robertson stated they have a running list for diversity. Dr. Robertson said please let him know if there is anyone you would like them to reach out to. Director Iseminger said he would like the board to see a full list of applicants. Dr. Robertson said they would share it in a summary form.

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Dr. Robertson also stated that the district's compensation package is very competitive and this district has a great reputation. President Taylor thanked Dr. Robertson for sharing this information. She stated that the board is unique in that they are pretty involved and collaborative. Director Lund said this is going to be his first time through this and they want to make sure they fulfill their obligation. He said after listening to Dr. Robertson he feels much more comfortable.

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Lund said what a beautiful night it has been. He thanked everyone for their presentations and thanked Dr. Wayne Robertson for sharing information on the Superintendent search and he looks forward to working with him. He thanked SACo Vice President Hayden LaCelle for all he does and told him he was so happy he was on the SACo team. Director Iseminger thanked Principal Rudolph and Associate Principal Porter for the invite to come out and see all of the tangible efforts they are making at Hillcrest. He said he appreciated the School Board's Recognition. He stated this is a very gratifying position and the priorities, decisions, and the cultural climate they create they do as a board together. One of the most important things they do is to hire a new superintendent. He said they have a great superintendent in this community and hope we can find someone as great as Superintendent Collins. Thank you everyone for tonight. Director Kirby said thank you for all of the gifts. She feels privileged to serve on the board with the other members. She said this would be her first search for a new superintendent. She thanked Principal Rudolph and Associate Principal Porter for hosting the board meeting and said it was great to see the classrooms. She thanked everyone for the policy work and thanked Dr. Robertson for making her feel better by having a system for the superintendent search. Director Hanson said she is so excited but sad and doesn't know if the next superintendent will know as many people as Ken does. She thanked everyone for the policy updates and thanked Hillcrest for their great presentation and tour. SACo Vice President LaCelle wanted to thank the school board members and stated everyone on the board was awesome and they have made SACo what it is today. He said thank you to Hillcrest for a great night and that he loved the Heritage Board. President Taylor thanked Principal Rudolph and Associate Principal Porter for the fun walk around and for being able to feel how the students feel coming to school. It feels like you are reaching for a sense of belonging. Thank you for your amazing work. President Taylor stated she appreciated the School Board Recognition night. She said she recognizes the weight of the change in their school district and they take these decisions very seriously.

She thanked Dr. Robertson for understanding the magnitude of this superintendent search. President Taylor said she was grateful for all of them.


EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:31 p.m. President Taylor announced the Board would move into a 30-minute Executive Session to discuss qualifications of an applicant for public employment. President Taylor reconvened the Regular Meeting at 9:01 p.m. and adjourned the Regular Session. No action was taken during the Executive Session.



President



Secretary