

Regular Board Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
3/25/2024

Present: Director Waller, Director Adams, Director Sainsbury, Director Fleurkens, Tim Payne

**1. Closed Executive Session 5:00 - 6:00 pm**

RCW 42.30.110.h, review applicants for open board member position.

**2. Call to Order**

Director Waller called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. She noted that our Student Representatives to the Board were unable to attend tonight's meeting due to extra-curricular activities.

**3. Flag Salute**

Director Waller asked all present to stand for the flag salute.

**4. Reorganization of Board**

With Director Key stepping down from the board at February's meeting, the Vice President position has been vacated. Director Waller asked for any nominations for the Vice President position. Director Fleurkens made a motion to nominate Director Adams. Director Sainsbury seconded the motion. With no other nominations, Director Waller called for a vote. The vote was unanimous for Director Adams to assume the role of Vice President. Motion carried.

**5. Public Comments**

There were no individuals signed in to speak to the Board.

**6. Changes or Additions to the Agenda**

Director Sainsbury made a motion to approve adding Item 7.a.vii - Approve Career Preparation and Launch Grant for \$150,000. Director Fleurkens seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

## **7. Action Items**

### **a. Consent Agenda**

Director Adams made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Director Sainsbury seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

#### **i. Approve Minutes from 2/26/2024**

#### **ii. Hires**

1. Devan Silva, 6.5 Hr Temporary Para at Ephrata Middle School
2. Jady Leleman, 6.5 Hr Temporary Para at Columbia Ridge
3. Denali Sheneman, 3rd Grade Teacher at Grant
4. Jessica Jenkins, 6.5 Hr LifeSkills Para at EMS
5. Brian Olivera, EHS Assistant Boys Soccer Coach

#### **iii. Donations**

1. Tiger Boosters, \$5,000 to help purchase new windscreens for the high school tennis courts. The extracurricular budget is paying \$6,260 towards this project as well.

#### **iv. Approve Assistant Superintendent 2024/25 Contract**

#### **v. Second Reading Policy/Procedure**

2022 Electronic Resources

2121 Substance Abuse

2413 Equivalency Credit Opportunities

2415 Performance-Based Pathway for High School Graduation

5005 Employment Disclosures, Certification Requirements, Assurances and Approval

6550 Capitalization Threshold for Leases and Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements

#### **vi. Payroll & Accounts Payable**

#### **vii. Approve Career Preparation and Launch Grant - \$150,000**

Ephrata School District was recently awarded \$150,000 through the OSPI Career Preparation and Launch Grant. This grant is for school districts to purchase and install career and technical education equipment that expands career connected learning and work-integrated learning opportunities. Funding will support the Ephrata High School Health Sciences program as well as the Agriculture/Welding Program.

### **b. Accept Donation From the Friends of Carla Jo Pheasant**

Roger Cobb, Marilyn Willauer and Kathy Flannery, representing the Friends of Carla Jo Pheasant, presented to the Board several new library books for Grant and Parkway Intermediate Schools' libraries. Carla was passionate about her students and reading so the group felt that this was a wonderful way to honor her memory. Director Adams made a motion to accept the donation in Carla's memory and thanked the group for the books and honoring Carla's memory. Director Fleurkens seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**c. Resolution 2023-2024-5 Authorizing the Defeasance of a Portion of the District's Outstanding Unlimited Tax General Obligation Bonds**

Director Fleurkens made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-2024-5 Authorizing the Defeasance of a Portion of the District's Outstanding Unlimited Tax General Obligation Bonds. Director Sainsbury seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**d. Approval for Out of State Travel**

Sarah Vasquez and Scott Sandberg, CTE Director and CTE Coordinator, are requesting permission for out of state travel to take Ephrata Middle School 8th grade students to Silverwood for a Physics and Science Day. This is scheduled for May 23, 2024. This is a great opportunity for students to apply STEM concepts in a fun learning environment. Students can discuss topics of middle school CTE classes such as Transportation Science, Construction and Photojournalism and apply it to the competitive events: Logo Contest, Measurement contest, Egg Drop and Roller Coaster Contest. Total cost will be approximately \$10,000 including tickets and lunch and will be paid for with Ephrata Middle School CTE funds. Director Sainsbury made a motion to approve the Out of State Travel. Director Adams seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**e. Approve the Purchase of a AugmentedArc Reality Welding System**

Sarah Vasquez and Scott Sandberg, CTE Director and CTE Coordinator, are requesting the purchase of an AugmentedArc Reality Welding System. The AugmentedArc Reality Welding System provides highly realistic welding simulations for beginning to advance welding students. This purchase will provide tools and curriculum that will simulate multiple welding processes, blending real world and computer-generated images into a unique, augmented reality environment. All funding for the \$28,162 system comes from the OSPI Career Preparation and Launch Grant Program. There were three (3) quotes provided for the purchase. They are recommending the quote from A-L Compressed Gasses out of Moses Lake be accepted. The system will be purchased from A-L Compressed Gasses of Moses Lake. Director Fleurkens made a motion to approve the purchase from A-L Compressed Gasses for the AugmentedArc Reality Welding System. Director Adams seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**f. Approve the Perkins Reserve Grant - \$10,000**

Ephrata School District was recently awarded \$10,000 through the CTE Perkins Reserve Grant. This money will be used to purchase a Farmbot, \$5,000 for the middle school and support professional development for CTE staff. The farming robot can perform almost all-farming process. The robot will be used in the new EMS Greenhouse. Professional development includes conference registrations and certification costs. Director Sainsbury made a motion to accept the Perkins Reserve Grant of \$10,000. Director Fleurkens seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**g. Approve 2024-2025 Carl Perkins Grant**

The Ephrata School District Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee met on March 13th and approved the 2024-25 Perkins Grant Expenditures. Grant funds will be used to help with professional development, curriculum and equipment expenses in CTE in the 2024-25 school year. Director Adams made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Carl Perkins Grant. Director Sainsbury seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**h. Approve CTE 4 Year Plan**

The Ephrata School District Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee met on March 13th and approved the 2024-28 CTE 4-Year Plan. The plan focuses on several CTE criteria including facilities, instruction, long-range planning, and career guidance. Each year, the CTE department provides extra emphasis on one of the six program areas depending on the state program approval schedule. This year the area was Family and Consumer Sciences and next year it is Business and Marketing. Director Adams made a motion to approve the 2024-28 CTE 4-Year Plan. Director Fleurkens seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**i. Approve CTE Program Evaluations**

The Ephrata School District Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee met on March 13th and gathered feedback from members. The feedback included questions about each of the programs including facilities, program offerings, student leadership opportunities, equal access, professional development, and more in a Google Form. Most responses were "Very Good" or Excellent." The advisory committee commented on aging and small shop classrooms needing to be improved to provide a like industry experience and safe working environment. Representatives from the Columbia Basin Hospital met with teachers to plan guest speakers and job shadow opportunities for students in health science classes. Local business owners explained some of the trends they are seeing in the workforce when hiring employees, including students. Special emphasis was placed on the excellent job Mikki Johns is doing with her students at the ECEAP preschool. Director Sainsbury made a motion to approve the CTE Program Evaluations. Director Adams seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous,

motion carried.

**j. Approve E-Rate Purchase**

Sarah Vasquez, Technology Director, is requesting approval for the purchase of network equipment, including network analysis, switches and wireless access points with Wi-Fi 7 capabilities. The Ephrata School District will utilize E-Rate to make this purchase. E-Rate is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) program that helps schools and libraries secure access to affordable, discounted telecommunications systems. Based on the percentage of students that qualify for the National School Lunch Program, the Ephrata School District is eligible for an 80 percent discount on these expenses. While the original cost for this equipment totals \$273,606, Ephrata Schools will pay \$54,721 for this equipment. Director Sainsbury made a motion to approve the E-Rate Purchases requested by Sarah Vasquez for the District. Director Adams seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**k. Approve Purchase of Anatomage Table**

Sarah Vasquez and Scott Sandberg, CTE Director and CTE Coordinator, are requesting that the board approve the purchase of an advanced virtual dissection table for anatomy education. This life size table will allow Career and Technical Education (CTE) Health Science students access to ultra-high quality visualizations of realistic anatomical structures and the ability to perform virtual dissections. Approximately \$100,000 of the \$113,649 total expenditure, which includes the table and a four-year extended warranty, comes from the OSPI Career Preparation and Launch Grant Program. The remaining dollars will be funded through the district's CTE budget. Director Fleurkens made a motion to approve the purchase of the Anatomage Table. Director Sainsbury seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**8. Non-Action Items**

**a. Discussion of Revisions to Policy 6610 Video Surveillance**

Director Fleurkens would like to review Policy 6610 Surveillance Camera and how it pertains to audio recordings. Superintendent Payne said he would be happy to work with Director Fleurkens and Director Sainsbury to review the current policy and make any appropriate updates for a first reading in April or May.

**b. Budget Report**

Allison Razey, Finance Director, reviewed with the board the budget report, highlighting enrollment numbers to date.

**c. Legislative Update**

1. HB 1125 - Transportation Appropriations for the 2023-25 fiscal biennium - passed
2. HB 2494 - Increasing state funding for operating cost in schools (MSOCs) - passed House and Senate, at Governor's Desk
3. SB 5949 - Capital budget - passed Senate and House, at Governor's Desk
4. SB 5882 - Increasing prototypical school staffing to better meet student needs - passed
5. ESSB 5949 – Capital budget – Increase in SCAP School construction cost allocation from \$271.61/sq-ft to \$375/sq-ft
6. Discussed HB 2180 – Increasing special education funding enrollment cap and SB 5852 Special education funding enrollment cap

**d. Superintendent Report**

1. SB 5462 - We passed a resolution at the February board meeting stating that we wanted local control on this topic. Sharon Scellick shared with the board that we do not see much difference right now on our current policy on how adoption of materials is done in Ephrata. Our current social studies curriculum has culturally accurate information. We will continue to review and keep the Board up to date on information as it comes.

**9. Adjournment**

Director Waller adjourned the meeting at 7:13 pm.

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Anita Waller, Board President

Timothy A Payne, Secretary to the Board