

## BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on April 8, 2024.

### 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 Ken 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, and Director Nicole De Graff. Director Emilio Hernandez (excused absence).

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Dustin Reese, Brett Yancey, Martie Steigleder, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Taylor Madden, Whitney McKinley, Kristen Noor, Ansel Gerber, Joseph Gerber, Sahara Fisher, Colton Petersen, Maelette Brockman, Armando Garuiz, Kimberlee Pelster, Ame Beard, Sue Wright, Amberly Trang, Nicole Kinnison, Melissa St. Claire, Troy Barnhart, Moriah Shanahan, Eliah Montgomery, Melody Montgomery, Melody Montgomery, Jeff Mather, Lesa Haley, Andy Price, Heather Dillon, Wendy Clark, Janet Mitchell, Laura Farrelly, Kathy and Henry Smith, Danielle Smith, Jonathan Gault, Coleen O'Neil, Heather Costanza, and Sasha Chang.

### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Light asked for a motion to approve the April 8, 2024 agenda as presented.

**MOTION: Vice Chair Mason moved, seconded by Director De Graff, to approve the April 8, 2024 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 April 8, 2024 agenda as presented: Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff– Yes, Director Mason – Yes, and Chair Light – Yes.

**Motion passed, 4:0.**

### **3. PRESENTATIONS**

#### **A. Teacher Appreciation Week Proclamation**

The Board acknowledged and read the Teacher Appreciation proclamation. This year’s Teacher Appreciation Week was proclaimed to be May 6 - 10, 2024. The Board encouraged all community members to join in personally expressing appreciation to our teachers for their dedication and devotion to their work.

#### **Teacher Appreciation Week Proclamation**

**May 6 – 10, 2024**

**WHEREAS**, teachers mold future citizens through guidance and education; and

**WHEREAS**, teachers encounter students of widely differing backgrounds; and

**WHEREAS**, our country’s future depends upon providing quality education to all students; and

**WHEREAS**, teachers spend countless hours preparing lessons, evaluating progress, counseling and coaching students and performing community service; and

**WHEREAS**, our community recognizes and supports its teachers in educating the children of this community.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Springfield Board of Directors proclaims May 6 – 10, 2024 to be TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Springfield Board of Directors strongly encourages all members of our community to join with it in personally expressing appreciation to our teachers for their dedication and devotion to their work.

DATED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

#### **B. Student Board Representative Communication**

##### **A3**

Cameron Stratton

**Maelette (Mae) Brockman** shared:

- Both nights of the spring play had excellent attendance and A3 received many donations
- Students were encouraged to work on their video interviews and to complete any missing assignments over the spring break
- Mid-Year reviews recently wrapped up and seniors will use them as a draft for their senior presentations, while freshman through juniors use that time to share their progress with parents or guardians

##### **Gateways High School**

Alexis DeLuna

Danica Bolt

**Reported:**

- Students participated in advisory activities, such as a school-wide gimmick snowball fight for community building

- Prom will be held Saturday May 4th. The theme is “A Night in Paris”
- Cosmetology:
  - Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday students had the opportunity to perform a service on a model
  - Hair & barbering students were able to shampoo, cut and style client’s hair
  - Esthetic students were able to perform facials & waxing services, while nail students performed manicures and pedicures
  - Tuesdays and Thursdays’ students worked on theory and mannequins
  - In preparation for prom, all students are practicing up-styles, makeup and nails
  - Cosmetology students will offer free services for Brattain campus students on the morning of May 4th, for prom

### **Springfield High School**

ASB Vice-President, Sahara Fisher

**ASB President, Colton Petersen** shared:

- SHS Showcase will be held on April 17th. 6 - 8pm
- Prom will be hosted by the junior class on April 27th at Eugene’s Venue 252. The theme will be “A Night in Hollywood”
- A generous grant from the SHS Booster Club, enabled the junior class to purchase two spotlights and ten stanchions to use as props for decoration
- Spirit Week is scheduled for April 12th
- The family resource coordinator has been collecting formal and casual wear for any students in need
- Campaigning has begun for next year’s Student Body officers. Voting will take place on April 8th. Campaigning for Class Council will begin May 1st
- Leadership Students approved a new affinity group, Mind and Body Divergence Alliance, which will create a safe and supportive space for all students with mental, physical, and or invisible disabilities
- SHS was chosen to receive the Springfield Education Foundation (SEF) “Pamper a School Staff” party
- The National Honor Society (NHS) held an orientation on March 20th. The NHS has now expanded membership to sophomores
- The Avid Coordinator and freshman Avid elective teacher interviewed 8th grade students from Hamlin and Briggs, who had applied for the program
- April 12th is the Choir District Lead competition at South Eugene High School
- The spring show, “Toga, Toga, Toga” will be presented by the SHS acting ensemble on April 18 - 20th. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
- A Band Festival was held last week. They will continue practicing for the state competition, held in mid-May
- The track team and woodshop have partnered to create the medals to be given to participants of the upcoming Eugene Marathon
- The track team has an away-meet this Wednesday in Central Point. Softball won their game against Churchill High School last week and have been enjoying a winning streak

### **Thurston High School**

ASB Vice President, Eliana Sanchez

**ASB President, Abigail Warren** shared:

- Incoming freshman met with counselors and administrators this week
- Colt Night will be held on April 10th 6 - 8pm. The theme is “Plan Your Path”

- Class of 2024 and ASB invested in beautifying the campus, repairing the courtyard fountain in time for Colt Night
- The Gratitude rocks continue to be spotted around campus
- The Thurston pageant will be held on April 13th. There will be a staff versus student fundraiser basketball game. Proceeds will go towards helping babies in the NICUs
- The Mary Poppins cast and pit orchestra are preparing for the opening on April 25th
- The student directed play “Marion, or the True Tale of Robin Hood”, wrapped up auditions. A limited run of performances will occur the week prior to Memorial Day weekend
- March 1st and April 5th students were recognized with Honor Roll socials
- The theme for the upcoming prom will be, “A Night in New York”

## **Willamette Leadership Academy WLA**

**Alana Strand** shared:

- The Parent Student Association (PSA) has organized a fundraiser carnival, which will be held on Thursday, April 18th, an in-service day. The fundraiser is open to the public
- Alpha company organized a fundraiser jog-a-thon to be held on Wednesday. Funds raised will go towards this year’s WLA junior - senior prom
- This year’s prom theme is “A Starry Night”
- Two Hootenanny events have been held, these involve free time which rewards students for achieving a C or better in grades
- Nearing the end of the quarter, teachers are encouraging and giving students opportunities to make up assignments or to receive help

## **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.*

**Danielle Smith** spoke to the Board in February of 2023 and now again in April of 2024, on the topic of staff health conditions of those who currently work or those who had previously worked at Mount Vernon Elementary School and on the safety of the school building. Many staff members have been diagnosed with cancer and or other serious health conditions since the building was opened in 1997.

**Heather Dillon** thanked the Board for their call to action regarding concerns of cancer and autoimmune disorder diagnosis within the Mount Vernon Elementary School building. The Board was asked to keep the following pattern in mind, which emerged through research conducted by Dillon and her colleagues. Upon construction activity to the building, two to three years following, cancer and autoimmune disorders appeared. The District was notified of the first cancer group in 2008.

Mount Vernon Incident Timeline

Mount Vernon 1997 construction, between 2001 - 2008 the 1st cancer group emerged

Expansion of 2015 or 16 to 2017 - 1st cancer diagnosis of the 2nd cancer group

2020 - Last cancer diagnosis of the 2nd group Covid Shut-Down

Winter of 2021 return to school with mask mandates. Summer 2021 new HVAC system installed, September 2023 mask requirements lifted.

Only two colleagues of the cancer group returned to Mount Vernon and they received a second cancer diagnosis in the winter and spring of 2023. The Board was asked to not forget those who retired from Mount Vernon after 12 or more years and discovered they too had cancer and or a severe autoimmune disorder. One educator was diagnosed with a disease that is known to spread through the AC system. These groups request transparency, that any and all testing results be shared with all interested parties and that they be involved in all conversations regarding the matter.

**5. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Approve Consent Agenda**

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 1. March 11, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes                      |              |
| 2. Financial Statement, #23-24.041                           | Brett Yancey |
| 3. Personnel Report, Resolution #23-24.039                   | Dustin Reese |
| 4. Resolution for Financing Agreement, Resolution #23-24.042 | Brett Yancey |

**MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Vice Chair Mason 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 Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 4:0.**

**B. Approve Middle School Science & High School Math Materials, Resolution #23-24.040**

Whitney McKinley

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the request of: Carnegie Learning High School Math Solution, Finocchi, et al., 2022 for basal use in the High School Math program.

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the request of:

Title: Stile, Stile Education, 2023 for basal use in the Middle School Science program.

The instructional materials for Math were adopted in 2022, to be used in the classrooms by the fall of 2023. The materials must be adopted by the fall of 2025. Currently ahead of the deadline.

The instructional materials for Science were adopted in 2023, to be used in the classrooms by the fall of 2024. The materials must be adopted by the fall of 2027. Hoping to have the materials in the hands of the teachers by the fall of 2024.

Reason for seeking postponement:

\*Elementary: time to plan/develop cross-content integration using State approved literacy materials.

\*High School: additional time for current program to be reviewed, to have an opportunity to consider all options that meet the needs of course progression and current investment.

**MOTION: Director De Graff moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to approve the Middle School Science & High School Math Materials.**

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.

*Chair Light* expressed concern over too much screen time for students and had difficulty picturing the structural standpoint of that curriculum. He felt they must follow up or check back in at some point to see if the curriculum is achieving the desired results. Light noted there are a number of science teachers who do not necessarily agree with and are suggesting they take another look. Light stated he wanted to be very intentional as they move forward and also that they look at all of the information.

— *McKinley* replied they were the first to admit they have not done a good job of integrating the science standards at elementary. When looking at the language arts programs, the teachers were attracted to the science and social studies connection found in each of the units and Wonders. A subcommittee is working on reviewing the science connections in each of the units kindergarten through fifth grade. It is believed at the end of this work team, they will have integrated each of the grade level standards required for next generation science standards through this new process and it is the teachers who will build them. The program being brought forward has been improved and has integrated more of a “hands on” approach, feeding into the course progression at the high school level. Upon completion, there will be K12 standards and aligned programming at all three levels.

*Vice Chair Mason* asked what the key skills were that students are meant to build at that time and how do those tie into middle school.

— *McKinley* answered in terms of a K12 picture, they are looking at an alignment and integration of standards, not to align publishers across elementary, middle and high schools, as they look very different depending on the standards and practices for each level. There is a continuation of that standard progression at the high school level.

*Director Kohl* inquired as to whether there was a process of continuous evaluation to the materials being worked upon.

— *McKinley* responded, stating as a fidelity of implementation measure, adopted materials would have intermittent implementation at all levels. Teachers would look for supplemental materials to fill any gaps that may appear. Multiple years of students having access to grade level standards and consistency in that implementation are needed before they can look at whether something worked or did not work.

Director De Graff asked if they were not looking for a new publisher and were planning on staying with Wonders, then for what reason are they seeking postponement.

— *McKinley* replied, they want to ensure that each of the units are developed, that they follow the process, that teachers have an opportunity to build and or revise those pieces of those learning cycles, and then they would return to present the results to the Board.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve Middle School Science & High School Math Materials: Director Light – No, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 3:1.**

**C. Elementary and High School Science Adoption Postponement,  
Resolution #23-24.043**

Whitney McKinley

It is recommended the Board approve the Elementary and High School Science Adoption Postponement.

**MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Vice Chair Mason seconded the motion to approve the Elementary and High School Science Adoption Postponement.**

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

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve Elementary and High School Science Adoption Postponement: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 4:0.**

**D. OSAA Collective Sponsorship, Boys Tennis, Thurston High & Creswell High,  
Resolution #23-24.044**

David Collins

It is recommended the Board support the OSAA Collective Sponsorship Application for Boys Tennis between Thurston High School and Creswell High School.

**MOTION: Vice Chair Mason moved, Chair Light seconded the motion to support the OSAA Collective Sponsorship Application for Boys Tennis between Thurston High School and Creswell High School.**

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

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they support the OSAA Collective Sponsorship Application for Boys Tennis between Thurston High School and Creswell High School: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 4:0.**

## **6. Discussion**

### **A. Educational Equity Advisory Committee (EEAC) Update**

Taylor Madden

Taylor Madden introduced two members of the EEAC, Thurston High School's EEAC Representative Aliah Montgomery and Budget Representative Heather Costanza, both of whom shared EEAC discussions from this year with the Board.

#### EEAC Report

Since September the EEAC has met three times. Next meeting is April 18th.

Topics discussed:

Why the members joined the committee and what they were hoping to address. Looking at the student demographic. The Rights and Responsibility of Students Handbook, school lunches and services, start times and the effects on different age levels in the school district, and staff diversity on school campuses. Every Student Belongs Policy and the Bias Incident Response Administrative Role and Procedure, with the need to create more awareness on the topic. More common knowledge of location and accessibility of public information. The ESB Policy and the Bias Incident Procedure not available in Spanish. Ongoing staff training. Harmful language used in educational settings.

#### Results and Recommendations

- This next year the EEAC would like to meet more than quarterly, preferably on either a monthly or bi-monthly basis
- This winter training for instructional and operational faculty was provided on the Bias Incident Response Administrative Role and Procedure
- The K12 Equity and Inclusion Leadership team is currently working on developing some professional learning for staff in all buildings
- The development of the Online Reporting System is now available
- Bring the topic of harmful language in an educational setting to the SPS Student Voice Group to discuss and provide recommendations to their directors and administrators
- The next SPS Student Voice event is May 16th in the SPS boardroom

### **B. 2024-2025 Academic Calendar**

David Collins

The District began by reaching out to community members, specifically targeted for parents, guardians and students with a survey that occurred in February. Staff were surveyed. Feedback was requested, received and taken into consideration on topics such as grading schedules, parent teacher conference requirements, class time requirements, contractual staff obligations, summer learning programs, and incremental weather impacts. This resulted in various options being provided for the elementary, secondary and high school levels. The Board will approve the calendar at the May board meeting.

## **7. Reports and Information**

### **A. United Front**

Brian Richardson

Director of Communications Brian Richardson presented on the United Front trip to Washington DC. This year marked the 25th year for the District's involvement inside of



United Front. They were involved in ten different meetings with different groups and organizations, four of those meetings with the congressional delegations, and the Oregon Federal Affairs. Chair Light and Superintendent Hamilton also joined the traveling group.

- United Front shared gratitude for the recent award of federal funds, which helped to start the Cosmetology program and they distributed a handout featuring several success stories from the students involved
- Discussed their interest in establishing work-based learning experiences for students, while potentially assisting in organizations here locally, attract new workforce
- Shared their support and highlighted their commitment to their United Front partners
- Senator Wyden was specifically interested in the expansion of the CTE programs, and ones that could be tied to the semiconductor industry
- Met with several federal agencies and nonprofit organizations
- Heard about timelines for the final rules for the Child Nutrition and WIC programs. The Summer EBT program will arrive in the summer of 2024, providing \$120 per child for the summer, for students and households that qualify for free and reduced meals
- The Department of Education (ODE) centered around CTE, Title 2A funding, and the expansion of CTE at the local level
- The meetings included After School Alliance, National Endowment for the Arts, FEMA, and Trust for Public Land. Different funding opportunities and locations were discussed, as well as different grant options and examples to potentially model their own applications
- The collaboration with Willamalane Park and Recreation Districts, as well as Team Springfield as a whole, was of significant interest. Many shared their enthusiasm for the 1Pass program
- Hoping to meet with Advanced CTE in the next few weeks and plan to return to share those discussions with the Board

Chair Light commented that he is interested in seeing if they could apply for the Perkins grant to aid in funding the 21 district CTE programs, which all six agencies of the United Front support. Light would like more clarification on internship and job shadow, which have faced difficulties due to restrictions from the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BULI).

Superintendent Hamilton added that Trust for Public Lands (TPL), an organization in the United Front group, would support Willamalane in improving playground structures and access to those within the community. TPL also supports many initiatives and projects that allow access to communities and public spaces.

**B. Superintendent Communication**

Superintendent Hamilton

- The Huerta Chavez Celebration will be held on Thursday at Hamlin Middle School beginning at 4:30 p.m. and is expected to last several hours
- The State of the City will be held on April 17th at the Wildish Community Theater. RSVPs are required
- The Wildish Springfield Arts and Culture Awards will be held on April 20th at the Wildish Theater

Superintendent Hamilton thanked all, for their continued involvement within the community

**C. Board Communication and Comments**

Chair Light gave a “shout out” to Two Rivers dos Rios and Yolanda Elementary, as well as Briggs Middle School. He noted that staff and the principals are always amazing and thanked those buildings for giving him the opportunity to see some outstanding teaching and some engaged learning. Lastly, he reminded the Board that the next board meeting will be a work session.

Director Kohl shared that he had enjoyed touring Mount Vernon, Douglas Gardens and Agnes Stewart Elementary Schools.

Director Mason shared:

- The 2nd Annual Wildish Springfield Arts and Culture Awards will be held on April 20th at the Wildish Theater
- Encouraged everyone to check out the theater’s new website while purchasing their tickets for the awards
- Mariachi Del Sol will be among the live performances
- Many young artists, typically local students and community members will be honored

**8.** The Board will meet in **Executive Session** (non-public) pursuant to ORS 192.600(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

## **9. NEXT MEETINGS**

April 22, 2024 - Board Work Session at 5:30pm

May 2, 2024 - Budget Committee Meeting at 6:00pm

Chair Light thanked everyone for attending.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, Chair Light adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.

*(Minutes recorded & transcribed by Trenay Ryan, LCOG)*