



# Tumwater School District

Dr. Sean Dotson  
Superintendent

621 Linwood Avenue SW Tumwater, WA 98512-6847  
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Capital Projects:  
(360) 709-7005  
Financial Services:  
(360) 709-7010  
Human Resources:  
(360) 709-7020  
Payroll/Benefits:  
(360) 709-7029  
Student Learning:  
(360) 709-7030  
Special Services:  
(360) 709-7040

**Tumwater School District  
School Board Meeting Minutes**  
District Office & YouTube (Zoom for Public Comment)  
621 Linwood Ave. SW  
Tumwater, WA 98512  
August 26, 2021  
6:00 pm

Board Members Present: Melissa Beard (via Zoom), Laurie Sale, Casey Taylor, Scott Killough, Darby Kaikkonen, Sean Dotson (Secretary)

Casey Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and acknowledged that the Tumwater School District sits on the ancestral land of the Nisqually, Squaxin Island and Chehalis people, thanking the caretakers of the land who have lived on and continue to live on the land since time immemorial. He then asked Becky Parsons to lead in the flag salute.

**Public Comment Reminder:**

- Casey Taylor outlined how the Public Comment portion of the meeting works.

**Agenda Discussion/Approval:**

- Agenda Changes: Superintendent Sean Dotson shared that there were no changes to the previously published version of the agenda.

**Consent Agenda:**

- **Darby Kaikkonen/Laurie Sale, Motioned/Seconded (M/S) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously. The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:**

- Personnel Report:

<b>Employment:</b>				
Serena Harrah	Paraprofessional	BMS	Continuing, effective 2021-2022 school year	TAP
Jill Pierce	Paraprofessional	THE	One Year Only (2021-2022)	TAP
Krista Chugg	Paraprofessional	SS	One Year Only (2021-2022)	TAP
Stephen Walker	Paraprofessional	EOE	One Year Only (2021-2022)	TAP
Peter Kane	Paraprofessional	SS	One Year Only (2021-2022)	TAP
Jamison Hammett	Paraprofessional	EOE	One Year Only (2021-2022)	TAP
Amanda Watson	Paraprofessional	ECLC	One Year Only (2021-2022)	TAP
Rechelle Schimke	Teacher	Student Learning	0.5 FTE, Continuing (2021-2022)	TEA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MELISSA BEARD DARBY KAIKKONEN SCOTT KILLOUGH LAURIE SALE CASEY TAYLOR

*“Continuous Student Learning in a Caring, Engaging Environment”*

<b>Adjusted:</b>				
Jody Giuntoli	Paraprofessional	THS	From Continuing Paraprofessional at THS to One Year Only Paraprofessional at ECLC, 21-22 school year only	TAP
<b>Resignation:</b>				
Debra Branson	Office Professional 6	TMS	Effective August 31, 2021	TOPA
Reed McCause	Paraprofessional	BMS	Effective August 31, 2021	TAP
Tracy Parascand	Paraprofessional	BHHS	Effective August 31, 2021	TAP
Margaret Mickelson	Counselor	TMS	Requesting release from 2021-2022 contract, pending qualified replacement	TEA
Christine Spengler	Paraprofessional	PGS	Resigning 2.0 hours effective 2021-2022 school year	TAP
Amanda Strong	Teacher	THE	Requesting to be released from 2021/2022 contract effective September 1, 2021	TEA
<b>Retirement:</b>				
Tom Cundy	Bus Driver	Transportation	Effective August 31, 2021	PSE
<b>Leaves:</b>				
Claire Runge	SLP	Special Services	Intermittent LOA beginning September 13, 2021, intending to return to regular schedule on January 31, 2022	TEA
Katy Linich	Teacher	EOE	LOA starting September 8, 2021, returning November 29, 2021	TEA
Melissa Whitson	Teacher	PGS	LOA starting September 8, 2021, returning April 11, 2022	TEA
Brandon Frazier	Teacher	THS	Intermittent LOA starting September 27, 2021, through January 10, 2022	TEA
Jody Giuntoli	Paraprofessional	THS	LOA from THS position for 2021-2022 school year, returning 2022-2023	TAP

- Financial Services – Bus Trade-Ins
- Capital Projects-Acceptance of Contracts As Complete – THS PAC seating.
- Capital Projects-Contract Change Order – THS PAC addition and modernization.

## **Public Hearing**

- 2021/22 Budget Hearing: At 6:03 PM, the budget public hearing was entered. Jennifer Carrougher presented. No public comment was given. The budget public hearing ended at 6:09 PM.

### **Recognition/Pubic Comment Follow-Up**

- Public Comment Follow Up: Based on the public comment from the 8/12/21 meeting, the district's attorney would be speaking to current DOH requirements as a report to the board.

### **Public Comment**

- Agenda and Non-Agenda Items: Becky Powell stated that 4 people signed up to address the Board on two different topics. Tarah Kimbrough, Cortnee Williams and Dave Morris spoke about future COVID protocols. Katherine Saylor spoke about the Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion vacant position.

### **Reports to the Board**

- DOH Requirements Follow-Up Discussion: Lance Andree, Tumwater School District attorney from Porter, Foster, Rorick LLP, presented.

### **Action Items**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Policy 4311-School Safety and Security Services Program (NEW): Shawn Batstone presented on this topic.  
**Darby Kaikkonen/Scott Killough, (M/S) to approve Policy 4311-School Safety and Security Services Program as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Policy 3207-Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying: Shawn Batstone presented on this topic.  
**Laurie Sale/Darby Kaikkonen, (M/S) to approve Policy 3207-Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

Casey Taylor asked if we could make a motion to discuss a new policy to address vaccination status in our DOH quarantine guidance. Sean Dotson said that this type of discussion would need board approval to amend the agenda. Shawn Batstone suggested that a draft policy be brought to a public meeting to start the conversation and invite comment then. Casey agreed to this approach.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Policy 3241-Student Discipline: Shawn Batstone presented on this topic.  
**Scott Killough/Laurie Sale, (M/S) to approve Policy 3241-Student Discipline as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**
- Resolution 02-21-22, Budget Adoption 21-22 SY: Jennifer Carrougher presented on this topic.

**Darby Kaikkonen/Scott Killough, (M/S) to approve Resolution 02-21-22, Budget Adoption 21-22 SY as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

- Resolution 08-20-21, Capital Projects Budget Extension 20-21 SY: Jennifer Carrougher presented on this topic.  
**Laurie Sale/Darby Kaikkonen, (M/S) to approve Resolution 08-20-21, Capital Projects Budget Extension 20-21 SY as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Superintendent's Report**

- Superintendent's Report: Sean reviewed the current COVID-19 numbers in Thurston County. Sean discussed the district's health and safety protocols. He also reported about The Pillars of Success and the Equity Training coming up for staff at Tumwater U.

### **Board Member Comments**


- Darby Kaikkonen: Her guiding principal is based on the first paragraph of Policy 1000-Legal Status and Operations of school boards. She believes that pre-pandemic boards had very different perspectives. She shared that she was terrified that we were going to lose a child not to COVID but to mental health issues. The volume of public comment/casual conversations that they received from everyone to get kids back in school because kids were suffering was indescribable. She fully supported the opening of schools; full time in-person learning with teachers and peers. She shared that she won't take any action that threatens or compromises that fundamental right to a high-quality education for our number one constituent...our children.
- Scott Killough: Announced that he is a future grandfather to a girl! The Together! golf tournament was phenomenal. The growth of the tournament from two years ago was amazing and he had a great time. He prepared a statement regarding his position on students wearing masks in school. He is going to follow the science and medical community. The best way to slow or stop the spread is to wear a mask; especially when vaccinated and un-vaccinated people are mixing. He is always open to civil conversations.
- Casey Taylor: Thanks to the six individuals who provided policy and budget feedback on-line. He also thanked public comment speakers. The board will always do what's in the best interest of the kids, however their hands are severely tied by the governor. He agreed with Lance that this is a state level issue and the conversation needs to happen there. The emergency order that is still in effect limits the board's local control.
- Laurie Sale: Thanked everyone for sharing their opinions/stories. She also thanked district leaders for being present tonight and we are all here for the children. Her family moved to Tumwater from Olympia SD because it's an excellent district and they have always felt welcomed. Going forward, it important to remember that we are all in this together. If we don't stay together, our community will suffer. Please reach out to her if you have questions.


- Melissa Beard: Shared that her kiddo is prepared to go out into the world in part because of her excellent Tumwater education. She thanked staff because it's hard, but kids appreciate it.

With no further business coming before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Recorded by:  
Becky Powell

Signed this 9th day of September 2021.

  
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Board Member

  
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Board Secretary