

## BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on May 13, 2024.

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

#### A. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Kelly Mason called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### B. Land Acknowledgement

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 Vice Chair Kelly Mason, Director Ken Kohl, and Director Nicole De Graff. Director Emilio Hernandez: excused absence  
Absent: Board Chair Jonathon Light

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Dustin Reese, Brett Yancey, Martie Steigleder, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Debbie Carter, Laura Farrell, Ame Beard, Jane Nutell, Aspen Hickman, Holea Puzio, Brandi Starck, Joan Bolls, Morgan Reid, Kimberlee Pelster, Colleen O'Neill, Moriah Shanahan, Andy Price, Lee Colette, Emily Miller, Sasha Chang, EJ Rotherham, Colton Petersen, Eliana Sanchez, Alana Strand, Shelley Nurre, Lesa Haley, Violet Olszyk, L. Sue Wright, Alli Camp, Danielle Smith, Wendy Clark, Katie Carroll, Maelette Brockman, Jonathan Gault, Alexis DeLuna, and Jose da Silva.

### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice Chair Mason asked for a motion to approve the May 13, 2024 agenda with removal of Item A.5, the Superintendent letter.

**MOTION:** Director De Graff moved, seconded by Director Kohl, to approve the May 13, 2024 agenda with removal of Item A.5, the Superintendent letter.

Vice Chair Mason called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Mason asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the May 13, 2024 agenda with removal of Item A.5, the Superintendent letter: Director Hernandez – excused absence, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff– Yes, Director Mason – Yes, and Chair Light – absent.

**Motion passed, 3:0.**

### **3. PRESENTATIONS**

#### **A. Student Board Representative Introduction**

#### **A3**

Cameron Stratton

**Maelette (Mae) Brockman** shared:

- 4/12/24 - The monthly Art Walk and Student Craft Fair.
- 4/11/24 - The Jazz Appreciation Concert. Former teacher Torrey Newhart joined in as a special guest.
- 4/10/24 - The Internship Assembly. Students learned about community internship opportunities and requirements and credit assigned.
- 4/11/24 - Information Night. Ten potential families were provided with a presentation on A3 opportunities, a meet & greet with teachers and staff, and a tour of A3.
- 4/16/24 - The SHS Talent Show. Students and staff participated.
- Restorative Practices - Staff received training from local leaders in Restorative Circles, which will be the next practice level.
- Sources of Strength Campaign - Student-led activity that promoted Suicide Awareness
- 5/1/24 - Lei Day. Students learned about Hawaiian culture and constructed leis
- Staff Appreciation Week was held May 6th-10th. Students and parents joined in to celebrate the A3 staff

#### **Gateways High School**

Danica Bolt

**Alexis DeLuna** shared:

- 5/4/24 - “A Night in Paris” themed prom, from 8-11pm. Abby’s Closet generously provided several prom dresses in varied styles and sizes.
- An Awards Assembly was held to recognize many of the students who received awards for responsibility, integrity, self-respect, endurance, GPA, and attendance during quarter two.
- Cosmetology - In preparation for the salon opening on April 22nd, students have been working on theory and practice. The salon opens at 10am. and is currently booking for appointments. Walk-ins accepted (contingent upon availability).
- 4/30/24 - The due date for applications for next year’s program.

#### **Springfield High School**

ASB Vice-President, Sahara Fisher

**ASB President, Colton Petersen** shared:

- Spring Week ran from April 22nd-26th, featuring Game Days, Celebrity Day, a Staff versus Student basketball game, and a performance by Mariachi Del Sol. The assembly featured the Passing of the Axe ceremony, a tradition where current officers pass on their roles to newly elected officers.

- 4/27/24 - "A Night in Hollywood" themed prom was held at Venue 252.
- The Springfield Education Foundation (SEF) along with the SHS Design Program, as part of a community outreach requested a logo and branding design for the SEF 30th Anniversary Celebration. The winning logo was created by SHS Student Body Officer Finley Bodewitz.
- May 24th SHS will host a dual assembly at 9:20 a.m. and 10:40 a.m. Local African American artists and speakers for the Springfield History Museum's ILLUMINATION Project will be featured.
- Fine Arts - Mariachi Del Sol placed 2nd in State in the strings division.
  - Fire took 5th place in 5As State and the Symphonic Band represented SHS at State.
  - Theater will perform "The Curious Savage", May 16th-18th at 7pm. Tickets are \$8.
  - 5/3/24 -Track & Field, JV District meet. 5/9 and 5/11 - The Varsity District Meet, which resulted in a few student athletes qualifying for the upcoming State Meet.
  - The Boys Tennis Team has had 10 wins and 3 losses. Softball has vastly improved, having won 7 games this year.
- Construction of the new turf field has begun.
- AVID Freshman students visited the University of Oregon, while the juniors and sophomores visited the Clackamas Community College.
- 5/3/24 - The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test (ASVAB) was administered. (Requirement for those wishing to enlist in the military).
- Each of the four SHS students that interviewed with the Ford Family Foundation, received a scholarship valued at up to \$160,000. Senior Awards night will take place Wednesday, May 29th in the auditorium at 7pm.
- The Senior Graduation Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, June 7th at 7pm at Silky Field (weather permitting).

## **Thurston High School**

ASB President, Abigail Warren

**ASB Vice President, Eliana Sanchez** shared:

- The GPA Challenge continues. Students learned how to calculate GPA and the importance of it in high school and beyond.
- AVID students visited the three Oregon university campuses and learned more about choosing a college that is the "right fit" for them.
- Junior Night with students and parents, shared a preview of the college and career planning process for rising seniors.
- Seniors have been working on their FAFSAs and college scholarships. There have been many challenges with the FAFSA this year, resulting in the postponement of some student's plans. Juniors completed Oregon State testing. Students who pass the AP exam may earn college credit.
- The Sources of Strength Spring Campaign featured the sharing of encouraging messages and an invite of peers to check on their friends.
- The Student Campus and Climate Survey is open, in which students may provide feedback on the level of connection they feel to peers, staff, and their school.
- Student Voice is scheduled to give the keynote address at the Lane Integrated Guidance Student Leadership Summit. They will be sharing about the work being accomplished on campus to create a space where all students know they belong.

- The “Mary Poppins” spring musical closed last week. More than 50 students were involved in the production and performance.
- The student selected and directed play, “Marion, or the True Tale of Robin Hood” will open for a limited run of performances on the Thursday and Friday before Memorial Day weekend.
- The first THS Girls Flag Football team and Boys Volleyball was launched and had a great first season.
- Events:
  - May 18th, Prom, “A Night in New York” will be held at the DAC
  - June 8th, Senior Graduation at 3:00 p.m. to be held at Thurston Stadium

**Willamette Leadership Academy WLA**

**Alana Strand** shared:

- The carnival fundraiser event presented by the PSA held an auction, in which all of their student paintings were sold. In addition, there was also a silent auction, bingo, bowling, life-size Jenga and many other exciting games. The event was a huge success.
- The Jog-a-thon fundraiser was also a success, resulting in the raising of several thousands of dollars in flat donations alone.
- Prom will feature the theme “Starry Nights”.
- Juniors completed their State testing last week.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Vice Chair Mason shared: 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 2:00pm. Those who requested an opportunity to speak this evening were notified by the board secretary about their request.

Time permitting, the board may also hear public comment from individuals who signed up in person at the Administration Office before the meeting.

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.

*Springfield High School Student Aspen Hickman* spoke briefly on school bullying and asked how one would go about reporting such issues.

— The Board obtained Hickman’s email, with plans to follow up.

*Maple Elementary School Parent Violet Olszyk* explained that her three children would not be returning to the school this coming fall, due the philosophy of androgyny and available topic related reading materials being forced into the schools where they do not belong. Olszyk expressed appreciation for the past education her children had received from the staff at Maple Elementary, but stated that schools should be tackling the root issues of education instead of supporting philosophies which add to the confusion now taking place in every aspect of society.

## 5. ACTION ITEMS

### A. Approve Consent Agenda

1. April 8, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
2. April 22, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
3. Financial Statement
4. Personnel Report, Resolution #23-24.046
5. Superintendent Evaluation Letter

Brett Yancey  
Dustin Reese  
Vice Chair Mason

**MOTION:** Director Kohl moved, Director De Graff seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Vice Chair Mason called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Mason asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the Consent Agenda: Director Hernandez – excused absence, Chair Light – absent, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 3:0.**

### B. Approve 2024-2025 Academic Calendar, Resolution #23-24.047 David Collins

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar as presented.

**MOTION:** Director De Graff moved, Director Mason seconded the motion to approve the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar as presented.

Vice Chair Mason asked if there was any discussion.  
There was no further discussion.

Vice Chair Mason called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Mason asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar as presented: Director Hernandez - excused absence, Chair Light – absent, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 3:0.**

### C. Approve 2024-2025 Board Meeting Schedule, Resolution #23-24.048

Superintendent Hamilton

It is recommended the Board approve 2024-2025 Board Meeting Schedule as presented.

**MOTION:** Director Kohl moved, Director De Graff seconded the motion to approve the 2024-2025 Board Meeting Schedule as presented.

Vice Chair Mason asked if there was any discussion.  
There was no further discussion.

Vice Chair Mason 2024-2025 Board Meeting Schedule as presented: Director Hernandez – excused absence, Chair Light – absent, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes, and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 3:0.**

**D. OSBA Board Self-Assessment Survey (BSAS),  
Resolution #23-24.049**

Superintendent Hamilton

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the OSBA Board Self-Assessment implementation, as presented.

**MOTION:** Director De Graff moved, Director Mason seconded the motion to approve the OSBA Board Self-Assessment implementation, as presented.

Vice Chair Mason asked if there was any discussion.  
There was no further discussion.

Vice Chair Mason called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Mason asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the OSBA Board Self-Assessment implementation, as presented.:  
Director Hernandez – excused absence, Director Light – absent, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 3:0.**

**7:45 p.m. ————— Board Recess ————— 7:50 p.m.**

**6. DISCUSSION**

**A. City Tax Exemption, Katie Carroll, Housing Analyst, City of Springfield  
Brett Yancey**

Development and Public Works Department Housing Analyst Katie Carroll presented on the Housing Diversity Tax Exemption, also known as the Multiple Unit Property Tax Exemption (MUPTEx). This is an application based program, which incentivizes the development of new multiple unit housing in transit served areas and in core areas. The main purpose is to incentivize residential development and to exempt taxes on the full value of approved:

- New residential improvements
- New residential parking
- New commercial space that has been a mixed-use building and found to be a public benefit

Once the ten-year tax exemptions expire, the taxing school district will begin to receive revenue from those.

State Requirements:

- Cities must identify areas where these would be available and must meet a minimum of two to three different public benefits.
- Permanent housing and projects that provide a public benefit qualify to:
  - Incentivize development of transit-served areas
  - Hotels, motels, and short-term rentals do not qualify
- Must provide a variety of affordable housing types within the community
  - Have the ability to incentivize growth
  - Add valuable improvements to the tax rolls over time
- Applications proposing a public benefit will be evaluated by the Springfield City Council and decided upon as to whether or not the proposal qualifies as such.

The City of Springfield does not have enough housing. There is also a lack of diversity in the types of housing it has to meet the community's needs. Lack of housing means increased competition and a higher demand, resulting in high prices, which makes it unaffordable for people to move into or remain within the community.

Board members briefly discussed topics such as tax collections prior to the expiration of tax exemptions, density allowances, tax considerations regarding building conversions, and existing projects approved for programs.

**B. Regular Academic Updates Proposal**

Ken Kohl

Director Kohl directed the Board to the State produced, At A Glance Reports presented once per year. He noted that Springfield was below the state average in many of the benchmarks and metrics used within the report and stated it would be prudent for the Board to have more frequent reporting available to them in an effort to close the gap from below average to average and beyond.

Superintendent Hamilton added that the State report is produced from a compilation of multiple reports that the Springfield School District submits to them in addition to what the State generates and compiles. Director Kohl and he have had lengthy discussions on how they might stage sharing information with the Board as it is available rather than having to wait for the State report to be released in the fall of the following school year.

*Vice Chair Mason* asked if there was new information available on a regular basis and how much staff time would be needed to prepare these reports.

— *Superintendent Hamilton* answered that there were some areas such as, a few fall sports, literacy and numeracy, regular attenders, students on track with credits. The reports would take a considerable amount of time to compile and produce, but the current conversation helped them to know the Board's interest and priority in having the information needed to make an informed decision.

*Director De Graff* commented that she would be interested in receiving that information during a work session, possibly every quarter.

Superintendent Hamilton and Director Kohl will work together to create a plan, which they will then bring forward to the Board.

## 7. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

### A. Mt. Vernon Report

Brett Yancey

In June of 2019 the retiring principal of Mount Vernon Elementary notified (via letter) the District of health concerns at the school. Being a potential workplace issue, the District reached out for support to PACE (insurance) and SAIF (worker's compensation) for student and staff support.

- The regional director of SAIF and their industrial hygienist determined it would not be considered a workers compensation claim.
  - The District was referred to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA).
- 8/2019: The District contacted OHA's Cancer Registry sector for referral and follow-up and shared the radon and lead testing results and building construction certificates with them.
  - OHA determined there was no cause to recommend additional testing and/or investigation.
- 9/2019: At the District and Mt. Vernon staff meeting, details of those conversations and the follow-up were shared, as well as resources for additional information. Communication was issued to Mt. Vernon families & staff sharing information.
- 2020 - 2021: The Pandemic closed all school buildings.
  - Under the Healthy and Safe Schools Plan the District continued testing for radon, lead in the paint and in the drinking water, and integrated pest management.
  - There were no concerns raised through the results. Those results were posted to the District website and made available to staff and to the public.
- 2/2023: Concerns of additional cases of cancer diagnosis were forwarded to OHA for update, support and guidance.
  - OHA recommended no further action. The District continues compliance with the Healthy and Safe Schools Plan.
- 12/2023: The District contacts PBS Environmental for an estimate on additional testing.
- 3/25/2023: PBS Environmental provided a quote.
- 4/1/2024: The District signed a contract (\$13,550).

### Environmental Testing

Samples from a large scope of work were collected by PBS Environmental (Eugene, OR) and independently tested by NVL Laboratories, Inc. (Seattle, WA).

### 5/3/2023 Testing Results:

- Pesticides and Herbicides: Non-detectable
- PCBs and Asbestos: Non-detectable
- Fungal Particulates (mold):
  - "mold detected at normal concentrations"
  - "There is no concern of mold in the air samples collected"

The "official" recommendation by OHA is not to pursue any specific environmental testing beyond what is required by law. OHA's developing report will be posted on the OHA website, as well as shared with the Lane County Health Department and the Springfield Public Schools.

### B. Superintendent Communication

Superintendent Hamilton

#### Community Events:

- The Birzeit Chavez Celebration had been held at Hamlin Middle School.
- Mayor VanGordon's rescheduled State of the City Address was a great community event and Mariachi Del Sol performed at the opening.



- The Springfield Arts and Culture Awards (SACA) celebrated the students and the arts and culture within the community.
- He had the privilege of welcoming students to the District's first Latino Student Union Summit last Thursday.
- Teacher Appreciation Week wrapped up last Friday.
- The High School Student Voice Gathering will be held later this week for the first time since before the Pandemic.
- The Student Leadership Summit will soon be held at the Lane Events Center.

### C. Board Communication and Comments

Vice Chair Mason

- Future Agenda Item: Cell Phones in Schools Jonathan Light  
Due to the absence of Chair Light this item was held over to the next scheduled board meeting
- Board Committee Reports:

*Vice Chair Mason* shared that not only will students participate in the Student Leadership Summit, but they are actually the leaders in planning and developing what the summit will look like. The Wildish Theater was host to the second annual Springfield Arts and Culture Awards Ceremony, during which an A3 student won the first annual Dan Eagan scholarship. The scholarship offers a \$1,000 award to a school of their choice.

*Director Kohl* shared that during their recent Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) meeting they approved the supplemental budget, something of which was a new experience for him. He had recently visited Hamlin Middle and Yolanda and Paige Elementary schools and enjoyed speaking with the staff and students.

*Director De Graff* shared that through the Springfield Education Foundation (SEF) she had recently visited A3 and was able to see their progress made on the greenhouse, horticultural classes, gardening, planter boxes, and tree planting. Using funds received from the SEF, students have been beautifying the campus. The SEF grant writing has been completed. A summer celebration is in the works for June 22nd. She has enjoyed visiting the schools and also attending the track meets, especially those between Thurston and Springfield.

## 8. NEXT MEETINGS

- June 10, 2024 Business Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- June 24, 2024 Work Session at 5:30 p.m.

Vice Chair Mason thanked everyone for attending.

## 9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board will meet in **Executive Session** (non-public) pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

Having no other business, Vice Chair Mason adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

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