

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on August 12, 2024.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Vice Chair Nicole De Graff called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:03 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 Kelly Mason - Excused Absence, Board Vice Chair Nicole De Graff, Director Ken Kohl, and Director Jonathan Light.

District staff and community members identified included, David Collins, Dustin Reese, Brett Yancey, Martie Steigleder, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Manny Plascencia, Patty Morrison, Jerami Campbell, Jody Barnhart, Amber Mitchell, Violet Olszyk, Kimberlee Pelster, Megan Moreland, Sasha Chang, Todd Mann, Keith Manring, Troy Barnhart, Ame Beard, Debbie Carter, Andy Price, Shelley Nurre, Jose da Silva, Elizabeth Johnson, Tom Bakka, Mindy LaRue, and Joyce Johnson.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice Chair De Graff asked for a motion to approve the August 12, 2024 agenda as presented.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, seconded by Director Light, to approve the August 12, 2024 agenda as presented.

Vice Chair De Graff called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair De Graff asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the August 12, 2024 agenda as presented; Director Kohl – Yes, Vice Chair De Graff - Yes, Chair Mason – Yes and Director Light - Yes .

Motion passed, 3:0.

3. PRESENTATION

A. Introduction of New Administrators

David Collins

Collins introduced Elementary Director, Joyce Johnson who introduced the following new elementary staff:

- Patty Morrison - Riverbend Elementary Principal
- Manny Plascencia - Yolanda Elementary Assistant Principal

Collins introduced High School Director, Mindy LaRue who introduced the following new secondary administrative staff:

- Betsy Johnson - Springfield High Assistant Principal

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chair De Graff 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.

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— Springfield resident and employee of Summit Bank, Megan Moreland invited the Board to partner with Summit Bank. Moreland listed several benefits to the community if Springfield School District chose to bank locally.

— Springfield resident and volunteer Soccer Coach, Todd Mann shared his thoughts on the board vacancy. Mann encouraged the Board to approach the vacancy with a sense of empowerment, purpose, and urgency.

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Consent Agenda

1. June 10, 2024 Budget Hearing Minutes
2. June 24, 2024 Board Work Session Minutes
3. Personnel Report, Resolution #24-25.001 Dustin Reese
4. 2022-2023 Oregon English Language Learner Report David Collins

MOTION: Director Light moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

Motion passed, 3:0.

B. Declare Board Vacancy

Vice Chair De Graff

It is recommended that the Board of Directors declare a vacancy for Position 2, effectively immediately, and direct the Superintendent or his designee to initiate the process for filling the vacancy, including posting of the vacancy and the procedures for appointing a new member.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director Light seconded the motion to declare a vacancy for Position 2, effectively immediately, and direct the Superintendent or his designee to initiate the process for filling the vacancy, including posting of the vacancy and the procedures for appointing a new member.

Vice Chair De Graff asked if there was any discussion.
There was none.

Vice Chair De Graff called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair De Graff asked each Board member to indicate if they declare a vacancy for Position 2, effectively immediately, and direct the Superintendent or his designee to initiate the process for filling the vacancy, including posting of the vacancy and the procedures for appointing a new member: Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes and Vice Chair De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 3:0.

The Board announced that they had received a resignation letter from Dr. Emilio Hernandez. They extended their heartfelt gratitude to him for his dedicated service and commitment to Springfield.

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6. Discussion

A. Board Vacancy, Process and Timeline

Brian Richardson

Richardson explained three proposals for filling a board vacancy, each with different timelines. The Board after discussion, noted that their main concern was in having enough time to do due diligence with the candidates.

The Board agreed upon proposal one, with the understanding that if there were a large number of applicants, they would have the flexibility to extend the date by one week in order to review the applications.

Chosen Board Vacancy Timeline

- 8/12 - The Board accepts the resignation from E. Hernandez and declares the vacancy
- 8/13 - A news release is sent to the media and application information is shared publicly
- 8/13th - 23rd - Applications will be received by the Board Secretary and interview questions will be revised
- 8/23 - Deadline for applications to be received. Applicants will receive information on the interview process. Interviews will be scheduled with select candidates
- 8/23rd - 26th - Board members will review applications
- 8/26 - The Board will conduct interviews and vote to select the candidate
- 9/9 - The Board will administer the oath of office

B. School Board Representation – Agencies & Civic Organizations Vice Chair De Graff
Vice Chair De Graff on behalf of Chair Mason, inquired of the Board as to whether any wished to remain on the committees they were currently serving on or if they had interest in serving on any other committees. After some contemplation, each Board member will inform Chair Mason of their decision.

Vice Chair De Graff announced that she would like to continue serving on the Springfield Education Foundation (SEF).

Director Kohl announced that he would like to continue serving on the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) board and also had signed up to serve on one of their subcommittees.

7. Reports and Information

A. OSBA Summer Conference Highlights

Director Kohl stated the highlight for him was:

- A presentation on utilizing AI for academic progress, specifically in aiding special needs students to be more interactive. Director Light commented that he had attended a lecture on Aviation, presented by Joseph Charter. Some districts of Joseph Public Schools became charters in a program that has provided financial advantages. Light and De Graff were interested in having a future discussion regarding the possible use of a similar program in Springfield.
- Enjoyed the presentation on AI, given by the Tiger/Tualatin School District, which provided clarification on what AI is and is not, as well as what it is capable of accomplishing.

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Vice Chair De Graff expressed:

- She had appreciated the engaging and educational Aviation presentation.
- Enjoyed meeting with the Lane County Regional Board members.

B. OSBA Annual Convention, November 8-9, 2024 – Portland

Dustin Reese offered the following reminder:

- The OSBA Annual Convention on Friday November 8th and Saturday November 9th, 2024 at the Portland Marriott.
- Board members are to let Martie know, by August 28th, if they are planning on attending.

C. Board Communication and Comments

Vice Chair De Graff

- Board Committee Reports

Vice Chair De Graff shared:

- “Save the date” for the annual fundraiser, “Night of Eleven Thousand (11,000) Stars”, to be held on October 19, 2024.
- Attended the Spark program. It was a very positive experience, in which she observed the children reading, learned the program structure, and looks forward to hearing more on the program’s future success.

Director Kohl did not share.

Director Light did not share.

8. NEXT MEETINGS

August 26, 2024 – Board Work Session TBD

September 9, 2024 – Board Business Meeting at 7:00 PM

Vice Chair De Graff thanked everyone for attending.

9. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Vice Chair De Graff adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

(Minutes recorded by Trenay Ryan, LCOG)