

## **BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No.19 Board of Education was held on October 14, 2024.

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

Board Chair Kelly Mason called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Director Light 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, Board Vice Chair Nicole De Graff, Director Ken Kohl, Director Light and Director Heather Quaas-Annsa.

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Dustin Reese, Brett Yancey, Martie Steigleder, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Mindy LeRoux, Dennis Minium, Jody Barnhart, Troy Barnhart, Emily Timosheusky, Lacey Macdonald, Carla Smith, Kristen Noor, Antonio Huerta, Patricia Gutierrez, Mariko Plescia, June Fothergill, Judy Price, Zac Stratton, Brian Watson, Johanis Tadeo, Alex Aguilar, Heide Kost, Kimberlee Pelster, Jose da Silva, Jonathan Gault, Marion Malcolm, Melissa Cruz, Caresse Fernonda, Sahara Fisher, Midori Rakestraw, Gunny Osteen, Joan Bolls, Lesa Haley, Elaine Van Gordon, Robin Erickson, Clarixa Milly Paz Gaspar, Reyna Gaspar, Kuit Rojas, Said Ali Cardenas-Luna, Alexis De Luna, Melissa Kruse, Tasi Clancy, Sara Thornton, Katie Dawson, Josh Donaldson, Fredrick Kruse, Joel Martin, Allie Camp, Eliana Sanchez, and Cameron Stratton

### **Board Comments: National Indigenous People's Day**

October 14, 2024

On behalf of Springfield Public School District and the Board, Chair Mason read a prepared statement in honor of all Indigenous people.

*We would like to formally recognize that today, October 14, is Indigenous People's Day, a state and federally-recognized holiday that honors Native American people and celebrates their histories and cultures. This day serves as a reminder of the rich history and cultural traditions of the indigenous people, the first people, of the land that we now call the United States of America and the State of Oregon.*

## **2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Chair Mason asked for a motion to approve the October 14, 2024 agenda as presented.

**MOTION:** Director Light moved, seconded by Director Kohl, to approve the October 14, 2024 agenda as presented.

Chair Mason called for a roll call vote. Chair Mason asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the October 14, 2024 agenda as presented: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff– Yes, Chair Mason – Yes and Director Light – Yes.

**Motion passed, 5:0.**

## **3. PRESENTATIONS**

### **A. Introduction of the Student Board Representatives**

#### **A3**

##### ***Cameron Stratton shared:***

- A3 hosted the downtown Springfield Art Walk this month by offering five free art classes.
- September 20th Peace Rally - Students held a peace rally to celebrate International Peace Day. The rally was part of an all-school unit focused on learning about the 1960's.
- A3 teacher and peace advocate Scott Crowell won the Nobel Peace Laureate Project award on September 21st at the Nobel Peace Park-Celebration event.
- September 24th - In collaboration with the Springfield Public Library, A3 celebrated Banned Book Week by having a read-out. Students took turns reading pages from the book "The Perks of Being a Wallflower".
- The annual Headwaters all-school activity was held at the Wildish Theatre.
- October 15th - Testing Day
- October 23rd - Fall Dance, 6pm - 9pm.
- October 23rd and 24th - Student Led Conferences
- October 28th - November 1st - Spirit Week Dress Up

#### **Gateways High School**

##### ***Alexis DeLuna shared:***

- September kicked off with team-building activities and an acknowledgment of Hispanic Heritage month.
- Night school classes will begin soon.
- Cosmetology advanced-level senior students have been busy with many clients. Willamalane seniors received free services, which will become a quarterly tradition.

## **Springfield High School**

### ***ASB President, Sahara Fisher shared:***

ASB Vice-President, Midori Rakestraw

- Freshman Orientation Day included College and Career classes and activities.
- September 14th - Cross Country hosted their 2nd annual Springfield Legacy Run/Walk in memory of Shana Thomas Barr. The event raised \$1,473 in support of future track and field athletes in need of supplies.
- Early action deadline for colleges and universities is fast approaching. Seniors have been busy visiting the College and Careers Center to receive help with their applications.
- The Sources of Strength team encouraged students to lean into their resources and support groups, especially when in need.
- October 10th - Best of SHS Pep Rally. Friends and family enjoyed the SHS Miller community.
- October 11th - The Homecoming Football game with the student section theme being "Pink-Out".
- October 12th - The Homecoming Dance, themed "Celestial Serenade".
- October 19th - The SHS Mariachi, Jazz Band and Cheer will perform at the Night of 11,000 Stars.
- The Theatre program is preparing for the showing of the play, "Hanging By Our Fingernails", to be shown October 24th - 26th.
- October 26th - The Booster Club will host a Trunk or Treat in the student parking lot of SHS.

## **Thurston High School**

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

ASB Vice President, Kenya Liberatore

- New Colts were welcomed to campus on Freshman Day, on the first day of school.
- Senior Beyond High School Planning Night was attended by over 80 students and families.
- October 9th - Scholarship and Financial Aid Night.
- October 15th - College and Career Readiness Day.
- October 16th - Band Concert and October 30th - Choir Concert
- Classes competed for the Colt Cup at the first all-school assembly of the year. The freshman class won the cup.
- The Hello Bash Dance, themed "On Island Time" was held in the main courtyard for students to say goodbye to summer.
- The student-run resource center Thirst and Thrift, is open and providing food, hygienic products, and school supplies.
- The Music and Art Peace Academy (MAPAS) group held their first meeting for latin(e) and indigenous students to learn about their heritage and culture.
- October 25th - Homecoming football game, themed "USA".
- Cross Country and THS Carson B. broke the 44 year-old school record at the Harrier Classic. The boys team placed 9th as a team out of 44 teams represented.
- Rehearsals are being held for the fall plays, "One Stoplight Town". Showings will be November 7th and 8th, and November 14th - 16th.

**Willamette Leadership Academy WLA** — was not in attendance for presentations.

Cayden Finney

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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.

Guy Lee student parent Melissa Kruse, expresses concern about recent staffing changes and the impact on the dual immersion program. The Board was encouraged to advocate for additional FTEs.

Director of Union de ACTA VISTAs Kuitlahuak Lopez Rojas, discussed the importance of cultural identity and the need for proper community input in land acknowledgements. He highlighted the impact of colonization on indigenous communities and the need for meaningful recognition and support.

Lane County Director of the Regional Health Equity coalition Antonio Huerta, emphasized the need for inclusivity in the education system, particularly for Spanish-speaking families. He expressed concerns about the lack of consistency in services provided to Spanish-speaking families across different settings, particularly in schools. Huerta highlighted the low participation of families at a recent Guy Lee event and urged the Board to prioritize the dual immersion program in future budgets.

Clarixa Milly Paz Gaspar emphasized the importance of transparency and community input in land acknowledgments and the dual immersion program. She urged the Board to prioritize the dual immersion program in future budgets and ensure it reaches a broader student base.

June Fothergill advocated for a Native American culture and history curriculum.

## 5. ACTION ITEMS

### A. Approve Consent Agenda

1. September 9, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
2. September 23, 2024 Work Session Minutes
3. Financial Statement, Resolution #24-25.006 Brett Yancey
4. 2023-24 Financial Statement, Resolution #24-25.007 Brett Yancey
5. Personnel Report, Resolution #24-25.008 Dustin Reese
6. Lane ESD Transit Dollar Request 2025-2026,  
Resolution #24-25.009 Superintendent Hamilton

Chair Mason asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for October 14, 2024 as presented.

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

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

**Motion passed, 5:0.**

### B. Approve Out of State Travel, Thurston High School, Boys Baseball, Resolution #24-25.010

David Collins

It is recommended the Board approve Thurston High School Baseball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Coach Bob National Invitational tournament. Dates of travel will be March 22-29, 2025. The baseball team raised funds so there is no cost to the district for the trip.

**MOTION:** Director De Graff moved, Director Quaas-Annsa seconded the motion to approve Thurston High School Baseball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Coach Bob National Invitational tournament. Dates of travel will be March 22-29, 2025.

Chair Mason asked if there was any discussion.  
There was no further discussion on the topic.

Chair Mason called for a roll call vote. Chair Mason asked each Board member to indicate if they approve Thurston High School Baseball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Coach Bob National Invitational tournament. Dates of travel will be March 22-29, 2025: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Chair Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 5:0.**

**C. Approve Out of State Travel, Thurston High School, Cheer & Stunt,  
Resolution #24-25.011**

David Collins

It is recommended the Board approve Thurston High School Cheer & Stunt Team's request to travel to Las Vegas, Nevada to participate in the Jamz School Cheer Nationals. Dates of travel will be January 23-26, 2025.

**MOTION:** Director De Graff moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to approve the Thurston High School Cheer & Stunt Team's request to travel to Las Vegas, Nevada to participate in the Jamz School Cheer Nationals. Dates of travel will be January 23-26, 2025.

Chair Mason asked if there was any discussion.  
There was no further discussion on the topic.

Chair Mason called for a roll call vote. Chair Mason asked each Board member to indicate if they approve Thurston High School Cheer & Stunt Team's request to travel to Las Vegas, Nevada to participate in the Jamz School Cheer Nationals. Dates of travel will be January 23-26, 2025: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Chair Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 5:0.**

**D. Approve Out of State Travel, Springfield High School, Girls Basketball,  
Resolution #24-25.014**

David Collins

It is recommended the Board approve Springfield High School Girls' Basketball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Nike Tournament of Champions. Dates of travel will be December 17-22, 2024. The basketball team raised funds so there is no cost to the district for the trip.

**MOTION:** Director Kohl moved, Director De Graff seconded the motion to approve Springfield High School Girls' Basketball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Nike Tournament of Champions. Dates of travel will be December 17-22, 2024.

Chair Mason asked if there was any discussion.

Chair Mason asked how the team would make up the four days of missed school.

Thurston School Principal Jose da Silva answered that the teachers and students work together to ensure every aspect of their academics are in good standing.

Chair Mason called for a roll call vote. Chair Mason asked each Board member to indicate if they approve Springfield High School Girls' Basketball Team's request to travel to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the Nike Tournament of Champions. Dates of travel will be December 17-22, 2024: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Chair Mason – Yes and Director De Graff – Yes.

**Motion passed, 5:0.**



## **B. HB 2009 Enterprise Zone (City of Springfield)**

Allie Camp

Springfield's Economic Development Manager Allie Camp explained that the tax exemption applies to new investments, with standard exemptions lasting three years and extended exemptions lasting five years. The City of Springfield's exemption is a little over eight acres, totals over \$1.6 million and is one of the largest. The school district will collect a fee in years four and five of the extended exemption and will be reported as local revenue. The State's total revenue totals \$2.6 billion. The cost of collecting the funds and how to handle unpaid assessments will need to be determined by the district. The Enterprise Zone program is meant to incentivize retention, expansion, and attract companies to Springfield. The goal is to promote bigger investments with long-term taxable value on employment sites.

The Board asked clarifying questions and discussed such topics as:

- From whom the property taxes would be collected, whether it be from the property owners or the businesses located upon the properties.
- Alignment with neighboring school districts on the fee rate for the Enterprise Zone program.
- To provide a proposal to the school board on the Enterprise Zone program and fee collection next month.
- Determine administrative costs and process for the school district to collect the Enterprise Zone fee from businesses.
- Tax abatements in relation to authorized event investments.
- Investigation of normal property tax rates for community businesses to understand the impact of the Enterprise Zone exemptions.
- The variability of property taxes and the impact of new investments on tax rates.
- The collection timeline with the option of a future rate change, applying to only new applications after a rate change.

## **7. Reports and Information**

### **A. 2023-2024 Division 22 Assurances Report**

David Collins

Dave Collins provided an overview of the Division 22 report, highlighting the importance of compliance with dyslexia training, instructional materials adoption, and updating state compliance reports. The district is working closely with the State of Oregon, specifically Susan Payne from ODE, on the adoption of instructional materials. ODE has approved a corrective action plan, in which the Board will discuss the timeline, as well as the adoption process during the January board meeting. All adopted materials should be in place by fall of 2025.

The Board asked clarifying questions and discussed such topics as:

- The need for a comprehensive report on adoption cycles for each curricular area, including when the next adoption is scheduled. D. Collins confirmed there is a document identifying adoption years and postponement periods.
- The length of a typical adoption cycle generally being that of seven years unless changed by ODE.
- The importance of student attendance, noting that missing two days a month can impact 234 days over 13 years.
- The importance of ensuring adequate instructional time for a well-rounded curriculum.
- The Family Resource Liaisons was praised for ensuring student attendance.

## **B. Superintendent Communication**

Superintendent Hamilton

Superintendent Hamilton shared:

- Updates on the Black Student Union and Latina Student Union summits were highlighted, with acknowledgment of the leadership of Xavier Taylor and Spencer in helping to organize the summits and arrange for powerful models to speak.
- The communications team received praise for promoting positive district activities.
- The first Native American student summit, held at Hamlin Middle School, featured a nationally recognized, award-winning performing artist Supaman, an Apsaalooke rapper, fancy war dancer and activist.
- Highlights from an outdoor high school science team event at Dorris Ranch, focusing on biology field studies and bat conservation. Around 600 students participated.
- Positive feedback has been received from all over the state of Oregon regarding the district's use of goats. Other school districts have expressed interest in replicating the program within their own districts.
- A reminder to the Board about the upcoming Oregon School Board Association (OSBA) regional roundtable and the Springfield Education Foundation (SEF) gala.

## **C. Board Communication and Comments**

Chair Mason

Chair Mason shared that she was thankful for the full house that evening and looked forward to the upcoming OSBA conference along with her fellow board members, as well as the next board meeting on October 28th.

Director Kohl did not have anything to share.

Vice Chair De Graff shared that she was able to see the artist Supaman perform and felt that his main focus was on resilience and love. She praised the SHIFT program and the welcoming environment provided by Dawn.

Director Light shared positive experiences from attending both Thurston High and Springfield High football games. He was looking forward to visiting four different schools during the current National School Lunch Week.

Director Quaas-Annsa did not have anything to share.

## **8. NEXT MEETINGS**

October 28, 2024, Board Work Session at 5:30pm

November 12, 2024, Board business Meeting at 7:00pm

Chair Mason thanked everyone for attending.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, Chair Mason adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

*(Minutes recorded by Trenay Ryan, LCOG)*