

**RITZVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT #160-67 and LIND SCHOOL DISTRICT #158
JOINT BOARD MEETING
September 25, 2023**

The meeting of the Board of Directors of Ritzville School District #160-67 and Lind School District #158 was held in the Lind-Ritzville Middle School Cafeteria on September 25, 2023. The following members were in attendance:

Lind School Board Members:	Adam Labes, Chairman	Greg Schmunk
	Jani Melcher	Jim Weidemann
	Kevin Starring	
Ritzville School Board Members:	Reid Phillips, Chairman	Scott Carruth
	Greg Galbreath	Tia Kubik
	Erin Repp (arrived 10 mins late)	

Lind Chairman Labes called the Lind School Board meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Lind Chairman Labes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lind Director Melcher moved to approve the August 28, 2023 Regular Board Meeting minutes. Director Weidemann seconded the motion. A voice vote was heard with all present members voting aye. The motion carried.

Lind Director Weideman moved to approve the agenda. Lind Director Schmunk seconded the motion. A voice vote was heard with all present members voting aye. The motion carried.

Lind Director Schmunk moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: General Fund Accounts Payable - \$187,216.49; Transportation Cooperative Accounts Payable - \$96,662.82; Associated Student Body Fund Accounts Payable - \$3,383.28; Payroll for September 29, 2023 - \$372,101.70; Accept Recommendation of LRHS Boys JV Basketball Coach - Alan Field. Accept Recommendation of LRMS Volleyball Assistant Coach - Ann-Marie Saetre. Accept Recommendation of LRMS Boys Basketball Head Coach - John Galbreath. Non-Substantive Revisions Based On HB 1207: 2162 – Education of Students with Disabilities Under 504 3122 – Excused and Unexcused Absences 3225 – School-Based Threat Assessment 3241 – Student Discipline. Approval of the LRCS Strategic Plan. Lind Director Starring seconded the motion. A voice vote was heard with all present members voting aye. The motion carried.

Ritzville Chairman Phillips called the Ritzville School Board meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

Ritzville Director Carruth moved to approve the August 28, 2023 Regular Board Meeting minutes. Director Galbreath seconded the motion. A voice vote was heard with all present members voting aye. The motion carried.

Ritzville Director Kubik moved to approve the agenda. Ritzville Director Carruth seconded the motion. A voice vote was heard with all present members voting aye. The motion carried.

Ritzville Director Galbreath moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: General Fund Accounts Payable - \$288,975.67 & \$4,294.61; Transportation Cooperative Accounts Payable -\$96,662.82; Associated Student Body Fund Accounts Payable - \$10,345.35; Payroll for September 29, 2023 - \$408,275.47; Accept Recommendation of LRHS Boys JV Basketball Coach - Alan Field. Accept Recommendation of LRMS Volleyball Assistant Coach - Ann-Marie Saetre. Accept Recommendation of LRMS Boys Basketball Head Coach - John Galbreath. Non-Substantive Revisions Based On HB 1207: 2162 – Education of Students with Disabilities Under 504 3122 – Excused and Unexcused Absences 3225 – School-Based Threat Assessment 3241 – Student Discipline. Approval of the LRCS Strategic Plan. Ritzville Director Kubik seconded the motion. A voice vote was heard with all present members voting aye. The motion carried.

Joint Items

Legislative Update

Ritzville Director Carruth shared that he attended the WSSDA General Assembly, where they continued to make changes to WSSDA's priorities for the legislative session.

Reports to the Board

Students & School Programs

Student Representative Report

Student Representative Kemper Smith gave an update on homecoming dress-up days and that the volleyball and football teams are both undefeated. The student section at volleyball games have been very involved and have dress up themes for each game. Upcoming events include the Career Fair on October 19th.

Principals' Report

Principal reports from RGS Principal Cindy Deska, LES Principal Sarah Dinkins, LRMS Principal Don Walker and LRHS Principal Kevin Terris were distributed to the Board of Directors in the board packets this month. Each report gave a snapshot of the activities in their building during the month of September.

LRMS/LRHS CTE Teacher Lori Sanderson gave an update on the twelve LRHS students that will be attending the FFA National Convention in Indianapolis. She shared that three teams, including Agronomy, Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Livestock Evaluation will be representing not only Lind-Ritzville High School, but the Lind and Ritzville communities and Washington State at the convention. The group is requesting funding support from both districts, as has been done in the past to help with travel costs, estimated to be \$22,200. She shared that the group has

received a \$3000 grant from WA FFA Foundation and \$2500 from National FFA CHS grant. In addition, Lind-Ritzville FFA Alumni will be providing participants with a daily meal allowance of \$150 per person.

Superintendent's Report

Athletic Director Dustan Arlt reported on fall sports and shared the number of participants and coaches for each sport. Also gave an update that the new speakers at Gilson Gym should be installed soon. He shared the camera in the LRMS gym should be operational for the next MS volleyball game.

Enrollment

Superintendent Vanderholm reported enrollment numbers for the cooperative. Lind budgeted for 199 TK-12 students with September count at 189. Ritzville budgeted for 330 TK-12 students with September count at 379. LR Academy budgeted for 8 with September count at 22 students.

Facilities/Grounds

Superintendent Vanderhom gave an update on the middle school football fields, there are many bare spots that will need to be re-seeded before it can be used. Maintenance/grounds are in the process of cleaning out leftover surplus items from storage areas.

Safety & Wellness

Superintendent Don Vanderholm spoke about the importance of having safety drills early and often. Buildings have their safety drills planned out for the remainder of the school year.

Mr. Vanderholm spoke about the CLEAR program (Collaborative Learning for Educational Achievement and Resilience) that partners with education systems to implement systemic changes that focus on creating a safe, predictable, and consistent environment that serves as a resource for educators and students. CLEAR is returning to Lind Elementary and will also be working with Ritzville Grade School staff this year.

Mr. Vanderholm reported that the ESD101 emailed area superintendents with a public service announcement from the FBI. The information was about violent online groups that are targeting children 8-17 years old with threats and blackmail. Information was emailed to LRCS families.

Other items discussed were Learning Walks in each building have been interesting and revealed some excellent examples of higher level thinking and engagement. Also, there have been many successful school and community events. Great turnout at contests, The Wheatland Communities Fair, parade in Ritzville, grandparent lunches and other evening events.

Public Comment

After Lind Chairman Labes read the rules and regulations for public comment, Jessica Quinn, a parent of a middle school student, spoke to the boards regarding where the policies and

procedures are to ensure students are offered something they are comfortable with. This was in regards to suicide prevention presentation by middle school staff member.

The following Lind-Ritzville Middle School parents and students: Vernon Shepard, Merrick Shepard, Rebecca Gordon, Parker Gordon, Katie Bates all spoke about their concerns and perceptions on bullying by the staff at Lind-Ritzville Middle School. They believe that the administration is aware of these concerns and no action has been taken.

David Lobe spoke, giving his support to Vernon Shepard's statements.

Policy Review & Emerging Issues

After the second reading, Lind Director Weidemann moved for Approval of Policy 2230 - Transition to Kindergarten Program. Lind Director Starring seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all present members voting Aye. The motion carried.

After the second reading, Ritzville Director Carruth moved for Approval of Policy 2230 - Transition to Kindergarten Program. Ritzville Director Kubik seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all present members voting Aye. The motion carried.

After the second reading, Lind Director Melcher moved for Approval of Policy 2190 - Highly Capable Programs. Lind Director Schmunk seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all present members voting Aye. The motion carried.

After the second reading, Ritzville Director Galbreath moved for Approval of Policy 2190 - Highly Capable Programs. Ritzville Director Repp seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all present members voting Aye. The motion carried.

There was a first reading of Policy 3207 & 3207P - Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying of Students.

Policy Review 3211 & 3211P - Gender Inclusive Schools

Superintendent Vanderholm spoke about Policy and Procedure 3211, the district will conform to the OSPI guidelines. School districts that do not follow the law could be open to a Civil Liberties lawsuit.

Financial Reports

Financial reports are reviewed at the finance meetings, held at 6:00 P.M. prior to the regular meeting. There were no further questions. Superintendent Vanderholm proposed to change the 6:00 PM Finance Meeting to a board study session. Business manager Kris Robbins will prepare a short financial report to share during the board meeting.

Other Reports – Nothing to report

Board Member Reports

Superintendent Vanderholm followed up on the WSSDA led board workshop and training that was held on September 16. The board worked on a Lind-Ritzville Cooperative Schools Board Complaints/Concerns-Communication (CCC) Protocol Based on Policy 4220 & 4220P.

There being no further business, the Lind and Ritzville School Board meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M. .

James J. Weidner 10/23/23
Chairman/Date

Greg Ballbreath
Chairman/Date

Am Vanderholm
Secretary to the Board

