Inspiring Excellence

LAKE STEVENS
School District

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING
March 12, 2025

Board Members:
Mari Taylor, President
Nina Hanson
David Iseminger
Vildan Kirby
Paul Lund
Mary Templeton, Superintendent/Board Secretary

Student Advisory Council Officers:
Riley Boerger
Aashisri Bendalam
Yostina Mosa

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors met in an Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. regarding Mid-point Superintendent Evaluation and Real Estate. There were no decisions made during the Executive Session.

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors met in a Regular Session at the Educational Service Center. A Zoom option was available for this meeting that President Taylor called to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mari Taylor, David Iseminger, Paul Lund, Vildan Kirby, Dr. Mary Templeton and SACo member Yostina Mosa. Director Hanson, SACo members Riley Boerger and Aashisri Bendalam were unable to attend.

AGENDA/MINUTES

Director Lund made a motion to approve the March 12, 2025 Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and unanimously approved. Director Kirby made a motion to approve the February 26, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Lake Stevens Middle School Principal Lisa Sanchez and Associate Principal Jamie Sinning introduced the Lake Stevens Middle School Students of the Month for February: Sage Linn, Eleni Wildes, Lilly Brubeck and Ibrahima Ndiaye.

North Lake Middle School Principal Brad Ables and Associate Principal Kelly Goodmansen introduced the North Lake Middle School Students of the Month for February: Allie Weaver, Kevin Woo, Aurora Miksch and Claire Wu.

Cavelero Principal Dr. Sellers and Dean of Students Kyle Strand introduced the Cavelero Mid High School Students of the Month for February: Nuri Delos Reyes, Sydnee Garrett, Emanuel Alvarado-Morales and Autumn Swobody. Sydnee Garrett was unable to attend.

Lake Stevens High School Principal Leslie Ivelia and Associate Principal Alex Johns introduced the Lake Stevens High School Students of the Month for February: Kloe Cha, Mirasol Chigovanyika, Jessica Sood, Jonas Wright, Sean Morgan and Julian Wilson.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources John Balmer introduced the APPLE Award Recipients for the month of February: Jayme Taylor, Jozi Henry, Michelle VanWinkle, Randi Garito and Regina Cassady. Regina Cassady was unable to attend.

A break was taken approximately from 7:25 p.m. to 7:35 p.m. President Taylor welcomed everyone back.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

Food and Nutrition Service Manager Mollie Langum provided an update on the LSSD Food Service Program. She highlighted the Summer Meal Program, Winter Kitchen theme, Free Meal Legislation, School Meals Served, the Central Kitchen opportunity, and efforts to enhance the School Meal Experience.

In summer 2024, the program served 3,016 meals, including 76 three per day adult purchased meals. This program is for any child or teen 18 years old and younger. In June the daily average of meals served was 141, 105 in July and 98 in August. Photos showcased healthy meal options and the welcoming environment at the ELC facility. Ms. Langum thanked Building Coordinatior Matt Wyant for being so gracious and sharing the building. The department also received generous donations from LS Farmers Market, Grocery Outlet, Stevens Creek Garden, and Half Price Books. This winter, the kitchens promoted a theme of "kindness" which included the quote "Kindness is like snow – It beautifies everything it covers."

Ms. Langum shared data on the impact of Free Meal Legislation in LSSD, including meal participation percentages for breakfast, lunch, and overall totals. Twenty-six new schools recently have been added. A total of 212 schools currently are eligible.

She also discussed plans for a Central Kitchen, which will expand capacity, improve meal quality, and support future growth. The vision includes collaborating with the Secondary Innovation Center and serving as the primary hub for receiving and distributing meals. Planned improvements will enhance the student meal experience at Elementary 8, Glenwood, and Skyline with updated kitchen equipment, better flow for meal lines, increased lunchroom capacity, and sound-absorbing materials.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Taylor opened the floor for community comments. Hearing none, President Taylor closed this portion of the meeting.

DECISION ITEMS

Consent Agenda:

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the "Consent Agenda" items:

1. Approval of the February 28, 2025 Warrant Nos. 316085 to 316267 - $1,271,427.89 manual warrants drawn on the General, Capital Projects & ASB Fund(s) (E:40/25). Approval of the March 14 Comp & Retail Tax Warrants Nos. 242500016 to 242500017 - $929.47 (E:41/25).
2. Personnel Report: Classified Employment: Blake Ashby PSE CMHS Temp Para, Trevor Baumann PSE Various Field Tech II, Elizabeth Brent Non-Rep NLMS Student Mental Health Specialist, Michelle Caudler PSE HLC 1:1 Paraeducator, Katrina grams-Rau PSE ELC Temp DD Pre Para, Christine Kruse PSE STC Temp Resource Room Para, Shaun Lewis PSE SUN General Support Para; Resignations: Mae Huber PSE ELC 2/24/2025, Bailee Larson PSE-OP HLC 2/27/2025, Michelle Mcdermott Certificated STC 6/23/2025, Karen Towey Certificated .4FTE CMHS 6/23/2025, April Vessel PSE SKY 2/21/2025, Bailey Larson Retirements: Pamela Greear Certified HLC 6/23/2025, Linda Mauer Certified MTP 6/23/2025, Miriam Tencate Exec. Director SpEd ESC 6/30/2025 (E:42/25) Approval of the Co-curricular Report (E:43/25)
   Approval of the February 28, 2025 Payroll Warrant Nos. 316028 to 316082 - $13,007,225.72 (E:44/25)
   Approval of the acceptance of a donation from North Lake Middle School PTSA to North Lake MS ASB in the amount of $1,000.00 (E:45/25).
   Approval of the acceptance of a donation from North Lake Middle School PTSA from a fundraiser and given as a grant by Evan Griswold in the amount of $500.00 to the Wellness Department (E:46/25).

The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved.

Director Kirby motioned to approve the LSSD students of attend the DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC) in Orlando, FL from April 24-30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved(E:47/25).

Director Lund motioned to approve the adoption of a new Policy No. 4161: Civility in the Workplace. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (E:48/25).

Director Iseminger motioned to approve the Final Acceptance of the Public Works Projects. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved. (E:49/25).

INFORMATION

Assistant Superintendent of Business Teresa Main and Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Dr. John Balmer presented information on Enrollment and Staffing. Assistant Superintendent Main discussed Student FTE and Student Headcount. Assistant Superintendent Main also spoke about Lake Stevens School District Enrollment Patterns – AAFTE. This included Elementary, Middle School, Mid High and High School. She presented a graph on Elementary and Secondary Trends from 2016 through 2026. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Dr. John Balmer spoke about 2025/26 Basic Ed Classroom Staffing. He also presented information on Enrollment and Staffing FTE Comparison Basic Education Classroom Teachers only.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Superintendent Templeton highlighted that it is Education Support Professionals Week, reminding everyone to recognize the nearly 1,700 dedicated individuals who work for the Lake Stevens School District - the largest employer in the area by far. She emphasized that the district takes that responsibility seriously and deeply values every member of the team. "At Lake Stevens School District, we're committed to Inspiring Excellence, and we couldn't do that without the incredible support of our classified staff," she said. Superintendent Templeton acknowledged the hardworking office professionals, bus drivers, custodians, maintenance crews, nutrition services staff, paraeducators, and grounds teams, expressing gratitude for all they do to support and strengthen our district.

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Lund shared how delightful it is to hear from the students and to see their families. He was especially moved by the love between them and impressed by the students' ability to express their care for others and their desire to make a difference. He said it was a beautiful night, with informative and robust reports. Director Lund also thanked Dr. Templeton for the earlier Executive Session and expressed appreciation for her outstanding leadership.

Director Iseminger congratulated the APPLE Award recipients and Students of the Month, noting how wonderful it is to celebrate them and hear their gratitude for their teachers, families, and the community. He thanked everyone for their reports, calling them a true reflection of what makes Lake Stevens exceptional. He spoke about the critical role infrastructure plays, even if it's not always top of mind for people when it comes to funding. He expressed his appreciation that the community understands the importance of these investments. He closed by thanking everyone once again for their thoughtful presentations.

Director Kirby congratulated the Students of the Month and APPLE Award recipients. She also thanked Food and Nutrition Supervisor Mollie Langum for her presentation, adding that she wishes the state could provide meals for every student. Director Kirby expressed her gratitude to Dr. Templeton for the Executive Session and shared how fortunate they are to have her as their leader.

SACo Secretary Yostina Mosa congratulated everyone and thanked Assistant Superintendent of Business Teresa Main and Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Dr. Balmer for their clear and informative enrollment presentation. She also thanked Ms. Langum for her presentation, sharing how much she loved the summer lunch program and appreciated the generous support and donations from the community.

President Taylor expressed her gratitude to everyone for an incredible evening, offering a special and heartfelt thank you to the Classified Staff. She also shared her appreciation with Executive Director of Communications Jayme Taylor, praising her outstanding work, dedication to the Bond efforts, her role in the community, and the integrity she brings to all she does. President Taylor extended thanks to the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Dr. John Balmer for introducing the new *Civility in the Workplace* policy, adding that she hopes they can all lead by example and help foster a culture of respect and kindness.

ADJOURNMENT

With no objections from the other directors, President Taylor adjourned the Regular Session at 8:31 p.m.

President

Secretary