Inspiring Excellence

LAKE STEVENS
School District

Lake Stevens School District |12309 22nd St. NE | Lake Stevens, WA 98258-9500
425-335-1500 (office) | 425-335-1549 (fax)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING
March 26, 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 a Regular Session at Lake Stevens Middle School. 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, Paul Lund, Vildan Kirby, Nina Hanson, Dr. Mary Templeton and SACo members Riley Boerger, Aashisri Bendalam and Yostina Mosa. Director David Iseminger was unable to attend.

AGENDA/MINUTES

Director Lund made a motion to approve the March 26, 2025 Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved. Director Kirby made a motion to approve the March 12, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved. Director Hanson abstained due to her being unable to attend the March 12 meeting.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

Lake Stevens Middle School Principal Lisa Sanchez shared an update on LSMS, highlighting their focus on continuous academic growth and building a strong learning culture through positive relationships and engaging instruction.

She introduced staff members Beth Miller, Diane Brennan, Bethany Bauer, Tricia Thorkildsen, and Zullaylee Ascherl-Ramos, who spoke about their commitments. They emphasized strengthening Tier 1 instruction using LSSD strategies, enhancing Collaborative Educator teams, and working toward equitable outcomes for all students through effective use of Student Growth Goals.

LSMS SIP goals include increasing the percentage of 6th graders meeting Level 3 or higher on the ELA SBA from 56% in spring 2024 to 61% in spring 2025, and 7th graders from 61% to 65%. Additionally, 80% of students are expected to meet standard on science unit assessments. Students not meeting standard on the Fall CER writing assessment will focus on improving reasoning skills. LSMS is also prioritizing progress for multilingual learners, aiming to improve their English learner progress rate from 1 to 2 on the Washington School Improvement Framework.

They shared how they are integrating Speaking and Listening skills into science instruction. For example, articles are converted into podcasts to help students build listening, vocabulary, and comprehension skills. They also provided examples of how students practice scientific discourse and use academic vocabulary in class discussions.

In addition, students have access to leveled reading materials tailored to their abilities, ensuring they can engage with the scientific content. They use the TAPPP strategy to support literacy development, guiding students to identify the Title, Author, a Summary (Preview), make Predictions about the content, and determine the Purpose by identifying evidence to support their claims.

Claim, Evidence & Reasoning Writing include improving CER writing skills by organizing ideas, using scientific texts, SIMs & other resources to prove evidence that supports the claim, making connections and articulating a reasoning. In Vocabulary doodle notes, picture comparison & gallery walks to enhance memory, focus, and engagement are used.

Before the unit they introduce and "preload" vocabulary words and definitions. They use a concept map that shows how the words are connected using pictures and vocab labels. In the middle of the unit, vocabulary activities center around building context with the science topics connecting to learning. At the end of the unit there are opportunities for students to practice applying knowledge using vocabulary.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Taylor opened the floor for community comments. Twenty-eight individuals provided public comment, including current and former students, parents, community members, coaches and colleagues. They spoke in support of Andy Knutson and expressed concerns about the non-renewal of his coaching contract. Speakers shared personal stories about the positive impact Mr. Knutson has had on their lives in athletics, academics and personal development, and many urged the board to reconsider the decision. Hearing no other comments, President Taylor closed this portion of the meeting.

DECISION ITEMS

Consent Agenda:

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

Approval of the March 28, 2025 Warrant Nos. 316268 to 316431 - $1,024,939.27 manual warrants drawn on the General, Capital Projects & ASB Fund(s) (E:50/25). Personnel Report: Classified Employment: Ami Galloway PSE-LS GLW Temp Resource Room Para, Rebecca Loran PSE-LS GLW Temp GenEd Para, Lisa Ryan PSE-LS GLW 1:1 Para; Resignations: Barry West Bus Driver Transportation 3/06/2025; Retirements: Cindy Allred Certificated HLC 6/30/2025, Jennifer McPhee Classified HML 8/4/2025, Nguyen Trung Classified MTP 6/18/2025 (E:51/25); Approval of the Co-curricular Report (E:52/25) Approval of the acceptance of a donation from Stevens Creek PTA to Stevens Creek Elementary in the amount of $840.00 (E:53/25). Approval of the acceptance of a donation from Stevens Creek PTA to Stevens Creek Elementary in the amount of $2,250.00 (E:54/25). Approval of the acceptance of a Student Services Grant from NASSP National Association of Secondary School Principals to NHS student Sahib Malhi for his "Little Lights Project" in the amount of $1,000.00 (E:55/25).

The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and unanimously approved.

Director Lund motioned to approve the Final Acceptance of the Public Works Project. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and unanimously approved (E:56/25).

The Operations Department has reviewed the work of the contractors listed below on the following public work projects for adherence to contract documents and specifications.

Projects

Clean filters in the pool at Lake Stevens HS (Aquatic Specialty Services)

Service Calls

Correct over temperatures at Lake Stevens HS (3Wire)
Repair failed temperature gauge at North Lake MS (3Wire)
Monthly pool maintenance (January) at Lake Stevens HS (Aquatic Specialty Services)
Monthly pool maintenance (February) at Lake Stevens HS (Aquatic Specialty Services)
Fix intercom issues at Stevens Creek ES (Dimensional Communications)
Repair dishwasher at the Early Learning Center (Hobart)
Address fire alarm trouble at North Lake MS (Pye Barker)

All items on the construction punch list have been completed and all the necessary paperwork to accept the projects has been received.

Director Kirby motioned for the conditional approval of the use the General Contractor/Construction Manager (GC/CM) delivery method for the Secondary Innovative Learning Center/Central Kitchen/Mt. Pilchuck Gymnasium project. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved (E:57/25). Director Hanson motioned the approval to award a public work contract for boiler room upgrades at Lake Stevens High School. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved (E:58/25). Director Lund motioned to approve the public work contract for LED lighting at Lake Stevens High School. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved (E:59/25). Director Kirby motioned to approve to award contracts for architectural, engineering and construction-related services for capital construction projects. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved (E:60/25).

INFORMATION

Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations Teresa Main introduced DA Davidson representatives David Trageser and Cory Plager and they reviewed the financing and timing of the sales for the 2025 Bond Schedule. In February 2025, the voters approved a $314 million bond proposal for constructing Elementary No. 8, repair/replace/expand Glenwood and Skyline Elementary Schools as well as Lake Stevens Middle school. It also includes constructing a new secondary innovative learning center and make district-wide safety, health, security, educational, athletic and infrastructure improvements. The document they presented is a preliminary schedule of events in order to sell the bonds. This is a coordinated effort of many parties and this schedule will keep them on track. Their plan is to sell the bonds in four sales. They can build the projects listed in the bond campaign; addressing growth and overcrowding, replacing aging facilities, enhancing safety and security and supporting student well-being and success.

Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations Teresa Main introduced Lee Marchisio (Foster Garvey, PC) to present the first reading of the 2025 Bond Delegation Resolution No. 9-25 that will be on the April 30 Board agenda for consideration of adoption. The Delegation Resolution authorizes the issuance, sale and delivery of the district's unlimited tax general obligation bonds to pay the costs of carrying out certain capital improvements approved by the voters on February 11, 2025. The Delegation Resolution also appoints the Secretary to the Board and the District's Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations (each of them acting alone) to accept bond maturity amounts, interest rates and other final terms and conditions of the bonds within certain limited parameters described in Exhibit A of the resolution.

Adoption of the Delegation Resolution will provide flexibility for the District to price the bonds at a future date without further Board action. They can build the projects listed in the bond campaign; addressing growth and overcrowding, replacing aging facilities, enhancing safety and security and supporting student well-being and success.

Executive Director of School Planning and Construction, Robb Stanton, presented an update on the 2025 Building Condition Assessments. He began by outlining the Asset Preservation Program (APP), which ensures that school districts maintain their facilities before requesting state matching funds. The APP applies to buildings accepted by the Board after 1993, including Highland, the North Lake Auxiliary Gym, Cavelero, Stevens Creek, and the new building at Lake Stevens High School.

Mr. Stanton explained that Building Condition Assessments for APP buildings are conducted annually by district staff and every six years by a certified assessor. This year's assessment was completed by the Facilities Department.

He also shared information on Building Condition Scores, Standards, and the assessment process. He concluded with a focus on improvement efforts, highlighting the Maintenance Department's Repair and Replace work, as well as upcoming projects funded by the 2025 Bond, which includes the modernization of Skyline, Glenwood, Lake Stevens Middle School, and the development of a Secondary Innovative Learning Center for the Transitions program.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Superintendent Templeton shared an important reminder, asking, "Did you know that we need substitute teachers?" She announced that, since she holds a teaching certification, she will be subbing at Lake Stevens High School on Friday and is eagerly looking forward to the experience.

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Lund expressed gratitude to Principal Sanchez and her team for their building report and for hosting the school board meeting. He described the field trip as enlightening and appreciated the community's presence, highlighting the heartfelt support for coaches and teachers.

Director Hanson thanked the community for sharing their heartfelt perspectives, emphasizing the impact of their input. She commended the incredible work on the bond and the updates on building condition assessments. She also expressed appreciation for the community's continued support.

Director Kirby wholeheartedly agreed with Dr. Hanson and Mr. Lund, expressing gratitude for a wonderful evening.

President Taylor thanked everyone for attending and shared her appreciation for Math Day at LSMS, noting that her grandkids enjoyed it so much they didn't want to leave. She also expressed gratitude for the great work on the bond and the thoughtful community comments.

ADJOURNMENT

With no objections from the other directors, President Taylor adjourned the Regular Session at 9:14 p.m.

President

Secretary