

OKANOGAN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Okanogan School District
March 24, 2025
Regular School Board Minutes
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1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- a) Chair Rae Jean Kelley called the March Regular Board meeting to order at 6:00p.m. School Board members present: Rae Jean Kelley, Heather Fisher, Ryan Lafferty, Luke McKee and Terri Mail via zoom(joined the meeting at 6:50 pm) with Steve Quick, Superintendent, and about 28 audience members present. The meeting took place at the Virginia Grainger Elementary Library.

2) APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES, CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO MARCH AGENDA

- a) The Board approved the February Regular Board Meeting Minutes with the addition of Policy 3205 and 3205P Sexual Harassment of Students Prohibited as Item 8.
McKee/Lafferty/passed/4 for/0 against

3) PUBLIC COMMENT

Dennis O'Connor, Hayden Swartzel, and Gracie Huberty addressed the board regarding Policy 2410P - High School Graduation Requirements. They expressed their preference for maintaining the traditional graduation ceremony and advocated for each club to have the opportunity to wear their own stoles and cords at graduation.

Jane Cline attended the meeting to inform the Board that the senior class of 2021 had expressed a desire to name the cook shack at Camp Progress after her late husband, Ken Cline, who dedicated 27 years to cooking for the camp. She had been previously told that the Board voted against the proposal; however, board member Rae Jean Kelley apologized, stating this was the first she had heard of the matter. Kelley suggested that a committee could potentially be formed to discuss the naming of the cook shack.

4) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Nick Fletcher, Middle School CTE Science and STEM teacher, along with students Chloe Knapp, Gabe Cruz, and Logan Grooms, presented to the Board about their project-based learning experiences. They highlighted the many hands-on projects they have been working on, emphasizing the value of interactive and experiential learning in their curriculum.

Ben Cate, Middle School PNW teacher, shared with the Board his use of the Since Time Memorial curriculum and his strong interest in its content. He also informed the Board about an upcoming Missoula Floods Project field trip, which will provide students with an opportunity to explore the historical and geological significance of the floods.

Markie Carpenter, Native American Director, spoke to the Board about the Nature Immersion Program, noting its significant growth this year. She highlighted how students

are actively engaged in various land-based learning activities that connect them with nature and cultural traditions.

Casey Ball, Gear Up Advisor, provided an update on how the Gear Up program is supporting students by offering resources for post-secondary education options and extended academic support. She also announced that the school will be hosting Career Demo Day on May 30th, an event designed to expose students to various career pathways through hands-on demonstrations.

Dorinda Belcher, Middle School Principal, addressed the Board regarding Camp Progress and the grant the school has received to support outdoor education. She also noted that the state has recognized the importance of outdoor learning, further reinforcing the value of programs like Camp Progress in enhancing student engagement and education beyond the classroom.

Mr. Quick informed the Board that over the past month, he has been actively working to share information about the upcoming bond. His efforts have included distributing flyers, speaking on the radio, conducting building tours, and meeting with various community groups to provide details and answer questions regarding the bond proposal.

5) APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the Consent Agenda, which consisted of the following:

- a) Hired Rebecca Hawley, Head Middle School Track Coach; Parker Jones, Assistant Boys Soccer Coach; Jordan Lesamiz, Assistant High School Track Coach; Victoria Settle, Para Educator Long Term Substitute.
- b) Resignations from Trinity Fletcher, General Education Para Educator; Heidi Weston, 2nd Grade Teacher.
March warrants (258705 through 258756 totaling \$235,311.55, 258758 through 258759 totaling \$2,696.84 and 258760 through 258809 totaling \$141,717.49)
- c) March payroll totaling \$1,424,248.87.
- d) March enrollment totaling 1028.48

There were no objections from the Board regarding the consent agenda, the Board approved the consent agenda. McKee/Fisher/passed/4 for/0 against

6) SECOND READ AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES

- b) 3110 QUALIFICATION OF ATTENDANCE AND PLACEMENT
- c) 6801 CAPITAL ASSETS/THEFT-SENSITIVE ASSETS
- d) 6801P CAPITAL ASSETS/THEFT SENSITIVE ASSETS PROCEDURE

After a brief discussion, Ryan Lafferty made a motion to approve Policies 3110 Qualification of Attendance and Placement, 6801 Capital Assets/Theft-Sensitive Assets and 6801P Capital Assets/Theft-Sensitive Assets Procedure. **Lafferty/McKee/passed/5 for/0 against.**

7) APPROVE POLICY 3205 SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF STUDENTS

- a) After a brief explanation from Mr. Quick, Luke McKee made a motion to approve Policy 3205 Sexual Harassment of Students. **McKee/Lafferty/passed/5 for/0 against**
- b) Policy 3205P was reviewed by the Board.

8) APPROVE POLICY 2410 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- a) After a brief explanation Ryan Lafferty made a motion to approve Policy 2410 High School Graduation Requirements. **Lafferty/Fisher/passed/5 for/0 against.**

9) APPROVE OKSD SURPLUS

- a) Luke McKee made a motion to approve the OKSD Surplus. **McKee/Fisher/passed/5 for/0 against.**

10) FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a) Klancy Allen, Business Manager, informed the Board that we are halfway through the year with Revenues at 45% and expenditures at 51%. She informed the Board that revenues are usually lagging this time of year, but the district is doing well with the budget.

11) DISCUSSION

- a) Policy 2410P High School Graduation Requirements
The Board engaged in a productive discussion about maintaining a traditional graduation ceremony while also working toward greater inclusivity for all clubs. Members emphasized the importance of recognizing student achievements through stoles and cords while ensuring the graduating class presents a unified appearance. After deliberation to amend the language in the graduation policy, with the exception of Item A and Item C, which will remain unchanged until the 2026 graduation year. The revised procedure will be revised and reviewed again at the April board meeting before implementing.

12) ADJOURNMENT

- a) There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Board Chair Rae Jean Kelley adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Steve Quick
Superintendent/Secretary

Rae Jean Kelley
Okanogan School Board Chair