

LIBERTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
May 28, 2025
EJH Library

CALL TO ORDER: Board Chair Stephanie Stout called the meeting of the Liberty School District Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m. The flag salute was given, and a quorum was declared. Others present were board members Chad Cornmesser, Mark Bullock, Chad Denny and Superintendent Jerrad Jeske.

AGENDA REVIEW: Addition of Sydnee Preedy to the consent agenda was noted.

SALUTE TO LIBERTY:

- Jerrad Jeske: Recognized all the staff for receiving the state's outstanding achievement awards for high graduation rates and English-Language Arts scores. Although this award is recognized at the high school, the contributions come all the way from the elementary as well.
- He also saluted the two Liberty students selected as State FFA Officer's: Katy Belles – President and Gus Suksdorf – Vice President.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: The following were a part of Jerrad Jeske's report:

- Transportation Inspection went exceptionally well: zero buses pulled from service (compared to 3 last year), and only 4 unsatisfactory items (down from 14 last year). Huge thanks to Jenny Janson for staying on top of things and making sure Marc addressed everything ahead of time—great teamwork!
- Fiber Optic Upgrade this summer, a fiber optic line will be installed alongside the high school. This will allow us to transition from our current satellite internet connection to a hard-wired fiber optic connection. The upgrade should significantly improve Internet stability and offer the potential for increased speeds.
- Inspection of the wastewater treatment plant will take place this summer. The projected cost for pumping and inspection is approximately \$12,000. This includes a structural evaluation and recommendations for refurbishment. Our engineer believes extending the life of the existing plant may be more cost-effective than replacement. For context, a replacement epoxy-coated steel package from Fluidyn would cost \$435,000 just to be delivered—this does not include engineering, site prep, installation, or removal of the old system.
- We received our bid for vape detectors in the high school. This would be for the installation of 6 sensors. Total cost is \$19,652.58. We will continue to reach out to find other bids, but at least this gives us a quote for filing out grants' applications.
- Insurance premiums are projected to increase by approximately 9%. While not ideal, it's lower than expected. We're hopeful that MSOC (Materials, Supplies & Operating Costs) revenue will help offset the increase.
- The Accountability Audit will cover the period from September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2024. The audit will evaluate how public resources are managed, used, and safeguarded to ensure protection from misuse or misappropriation. Focus areas include:
 - Accounts Payable – Credit Cards
 - Use of Restricted Funds – Professional Learning & Enrichment Activities
 - Compliance with Supplemental Contracts
 - Open Public Meetings – Compliance with Meeting Minutes and Executive Session Requirements
 - Financial Condition – Signs of Financial Distress
 - Apportionment – Certification Compliance
- The audit will cost us \$19,000.
- The Booster Club has generously donated two new adjustable basketball hoops for the elementary school. Dupree is scheduled to install them on the last day of school, with the goal of having them ready for our youth basketball camp.

ELEM/JUNIOR HIGH REPORT: The following were a part of Alex Saywers' report, presented by Kyle Dodge:

- During the week of May 5-9th, we celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week and Nurse Ali on School Nurse Appreciation Day on the 7th. Big thank you to all of our teachers and Nurse Ali for all they do for our students!
- On May 9th, we hosted our Spring Family Maple Bar Day, and we served about 740 plus maple bars out to a long line of families. I heard a lot of positive feedback from parents about this event and how much they appreciate our staff.
- We held our TK open house on Tuesday, May 13th, and we had a great turnout for this event.
- We had the Mobius Science Team come out for our very own TK-5th grade STEAM Day at Liberty on Friday, May 16th. Big thanks to the Logan family for sponsoring this event for our students.
- On May 20th, we held our 6th grade orientation for parents.
- On the 22nd, we held our first TK Assembly and taught them our assembly expectations and worked to teach them the Lancer Fight song.
- We held the Fun Run on May 23rd and had an excellent turnout from our families. Special thanks to Mr. Davis and our parent volunteers for setting this up.
- Tomorrow, we will host our second K-4 STEAM night on May 29th.
- Next week, we will continue our tradition of having a K-2 track meet and a 3-5 track meet on Thursday.
- We are working on finalizing the handbook and calendar for the next meeting. We met on May 20th to go over the handbook and make small changes. A draft of the handbook and calendar will be ready for the next meeting.
- We put out a survey to staff to help us select Professional Development for next year.
- Today, we had our final awards assembly focusing on Perseverance, and we will hold our JH quarter 4 awards assembly on the last day of school. We also had TK join us for this one!
- Our 8th-grade promotion is coming up on Thursday, June 5th at 7:00 pm. 8th graders will also go to Silverwood on June 9th.
- We will also have our Field Day on June 9th, along with a ton of field trips this week and next week.
- I am excited to finish the school year strong with all of these positive events for kids.

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT: The following were a part of Aaron Fletcher's report, presented by Kyle Dodge:

- Graduation preparation is coming together, 38 students are on track to graduate. Valedictorian Mitchell Hanegan, and Salutatorian Karley Tiegs.
- Graduation is June 7th, at 1:00 p.m.
- Incoming freshman orientation, parent meeting was held yesterday at the high school. This was a great opportunity for new parents in our high school to learn about the differences between high school and junior high.
- Finals schedules are set: Senior finals will be this week. All other finals will take place June 3rd -6th.
- Assessments are completed.
- Congratulations to our FFA teams who performed very well at the State competition held Pullman. CCM team won state, on to nationals in October.
- Katy Belles won FBLA state for Impromptu Speaking, Parle team finished 3rd, qualifying for Nationals.
- Students performed well at the Jr. Show in Spokane.
- Mr. Pendon and the band performed in the Lilac Torchlight Parade, earning the Gold Medal. They will also be participating in the Fairfield Flag Day parade coming up in June.
- Handbook committee reviewing changes for next year, changes will be presented at the June board meeting.
- Dual Credit update:
 - Business classes articulated with SCC: Financial Success, Information Technology, Intro Marketing, Intro Business.
 - College in the High School: Pre-Calculus and Calculus, hope to keep English 101 and English 170.

LIBERTY ATHLETICS REPORT: The following were a part of Kyle Dodge's report:

- Junior High Athletics: went really well and all three spring sports finished well.
- HS Spring Sports:

- Softball just finished their season with a great State tournament. 3 athletes on the All-League team, and Tessa Sams was Coach of the Year.
- Baseball finished their season playing Newport in the District tournament.
- Track had 9 track athletes qualify for the State Meet in Yakima, and they will leave on the 29th.
- Starting our end of the year reports with the WIAA and setting up Final Forms for next Year.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

- Various individuals raised concerns about 8th grade participation in High School Boys Basketball.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Chad Denny made a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Approval of regular board meeting minutes from April 28, 2025
- Accounts payable vouchers for May 2025:
 - General Fund check # 117857-117906 for \$122,900.06
 - General Fund Comp Tax # 202400063 for \$55.83
 - Capital Projects check # 117907-117909 for \$26,861.03
 - ASB Fund check # 117910-117914 for \$8,199.83
- Payroll for May 2025 and check # 117840-117856 for \$704,090.44
- Void check # 117661, for \$531.36, Reissue # 117839 – Max Schafer; Void check # 117839 and # 117744, for \$531.36 each – Max Schafer, Void check # 117375, for \$44.22, Reissue # 117915 – Treyton Parrish
- Personnel Action:
 - Resignations: Morgan Pendon – HS Band Teacher
 - Appointments: Treyton (Rocco) Parrish – HS Volleyball Coach, Katherine Hatch – HS Volleyball Coach, Heidi White – HS Math Teacher, Sydnee Preedy – HS English/History

Chad Cornmesser seconded the motion, and it passed all-in-favor.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Discussed the change of board meetings to Wednesdays through the remainder of the school year.

ACTION ITEMS:

A. 2025-26 Certificated Contracts & Classified Assignments

Chad Cornmesser made a motion to approve 2025-26 Certificated Contracts & Classified Assignments, Chad Denny seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Approval of summer programs

Chad Cornmesser made a motion to approve summer programs, Chad Denny seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA: Wednesday, June 25th, 2025 - 7:00 PM

- A. Review and approve 2025-2026 board meeting dates
- B. Approval of 2025-2026 EJH Handbook
- C. Approval of 2025-2026 HS Handbook
- D. Admin. Contracts

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:20 p.m. Stephanie Stout announced the board would enter into executive session to discuss personnel as allowed by RCW 42.30.110 (g) for 30 minutes.

The board exited the executive session at 8:50 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.