



Board of Directors

Kevin Lewis, President
Bill Gaines, Vice President
Erin Markquart, Member
Johanneke Smith, Member
Tom Watson, Member

Our Promise

We will **know**, **value**, and **support** every student, helping them **graduate ready** to pursue a **promising future**.

June 11, 2025 - Study Session Minutes

Central Office Board Room
1202 Wood Ave
Sumner, WA 98390

Call to Order

School board President Kevin Lewis called the June 11, 2025 board study session for the Board of Directors at Sumner-Bonney Lake School District No. 320 to order at 6:00pm.

Strong Minds and Kind Hearts Project

Dr. Laurie Dent and Dr. Gene Sharratt presented the Strong Mind and Kind Hearts project to the Board of Directors. The project aligns with the district's strategic goal to increase engagement, improve mental health, strengthen school safety and promote unity and belonging. Dr. Dent proposed that the board consider launching a "Strong Minds, Kind Hearts Project" for the upcoming 2025-26 school year. It is aimed to unite our school communities around a shared commitment to kindness, compassion and belonging as part of the district's operational system.

Dr. Dent shared that Strong Minds, Kind Hearts would be a board-led project that celebrates and promotes kindness in all its forms (word, actions, service and daily interactions) and engage students, staff, families and community partners. She also shared those acts of kindness could be promoted and recognized within the district through monthly district themes, school-based or district-based challenges, community partnerships to amplify the kindness projects and community activities.

Should the board decide to move forward with this project, proposed next steps and timeline would include the board taking action at the July board meeting, assembling a planning team, creating materials and launching a back-to-school event. There would also be monthly student board reports to share what's happening in buildings and measure the impact of the project.

Board Discussion

Director Bill Gaines shared insight from the Character Strong campaign and mentioned he would support the proposed campaign as long as there is tangible effort or the introduction of this campaign wouldn't interfere with what is already happening along these lines in the schools.



Director Kevin Lewis shared the importance of tracking the success of the program and even how to thread the proposed campaign with what is already happening in the schools.

The board expressed their support to staff for the hard work behind the scenes to make sure students graduated.

Director JB Smith shared her pride in the community and families that participated in such a public event.

Director Kevin Lewis shared his intention to recognize each student and mention something to put them at ease.

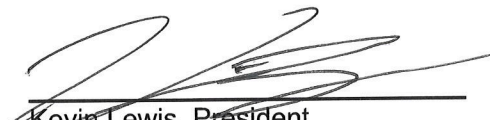
Dr. Laurie Dent shared her appreciation to David Coutts and his team for setting up tents for those who attended the Eli Hill Elementary graduation.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm

Attest



Laurie Dent, Secretary
Board of Directors



Kevin Lewis, President
Board of Directors