

# Yelm Community Schools, District No. 2

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## MINUTES

*of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors*

**Thursday, September 25, 2025**

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Debbie Edwards, Bill Hauss, Denise Hendrickson, Frank King, Casey Shaw

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Hannah Hiiva, Sofie Miera, Rebecca Rankin, Kailey Slevin, Cali Stein, Ayden Williams

### **ADMINISTRATION PRESENT**

Holly Ackerman, Jeff Adams, Mark Bowden, Dee Dee Buckingham, Lisa Cadero-Sith, Jennifer Carrougher, Chris Clark, Curtis Cleveringa, Charles Cook, Lisa Crowell, Craig Curry, Kurt Fourre, Becky Fowler, Jodi Jarmin, Teri Melone, Starla Watson, Chris Woods

### **CALLED TO ORDER**

President Denise Hendrickson called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

### **SWEARING IN OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD**

Superintendent Chris Woods administered the oath of office to the Junior School Board Representatives: Rebecca Rankin, Cali Stein, and Ayden Williams.

### **AUDIENCE**

#### **OSPI/ESD Binding Conditions Presentation**

The Board received a presentation from T.J. Kelly, Chief Financial Officer with OSPI, regarding *School District Binding Conditions and Financial Oversight*. The presentation outlined the state's process for supporting districts facing financial difficulty, including the stages of oversight: **Binding Conditions, Financial Oversight, and Enhanced Financial Oversight**.

Key factors impacting district finances statewide include declining enrollment, inflationary pressures, reliance on one-time revenue sources, loss of significant funding streams, and lack of long-term financial planning.

Yelm School District was placed on **binding conditions** on September 3, 2024, after submitting a 2024–25 budget with a negative fund balance of **(\$1,312,549)**. As part of the binding conditions agreement, the district established financial goals for improving the fund balance:

- 2024–25: (\$1,312,549)
- 2025–26: \$900,000
- 2026–27: \$2,700,000

The purpose of state oversight is to assist the district in restoring financial health within two school years, while maintaining local control and decision-making authority.

Resources such as the **Financial Health Checklist** were shared to help boards and communities monitor fiscal stability.

### **Superintendent's Comments**

Superintendent Chris Woods presented the Strategic Plan video.

**Community Comments**

Frank Hudik and Heather Hadfield presented comments.

**Board Recognition**

Board President Denise Hendrickson expressed gratitude to the members of the Rotary Club of Yelm for all they do to support the staff and students.

**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**

August 14, 2025 – Regular Board Meeting  
 August 22, 2025 – Special Board Meeting  
 August 28, 2025 – Regular Board Meeting  
*M/Debbie Edwards; S/Bill Hauss; Motion carried unanimously.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTS – APPROVED**

<b>New Hires</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Kristine Bassett	RMS Coach Head Track	9/3/2025
Tasha Johnson	YHS Advisor 11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9/15/2025 Split Stipend
Hichem Ouchefoune	Transportation Bus Driver	9/8/2025
Christian Kerrigan	RMS Coach Asst. Track	9/3/2025
Kayla Richter	YHS Advisor 11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9/15/2025 Split Stipend
Arely Rocha	OSS Para Instructional ML	9/15/2025
Alexandra Roe	YMS Para SPED Program Student Specific	9/9/2025
Monica Allen	YMS Coach Asst. Fastpitch	9/15/2025
<b>LEAVE OF ABSENCE</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Jacqueline Hawkins	RMS Coach Head Fastpitch	9/4/2025
<b>RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Sierra Guzman	Food Service Cafeteria Worker	9/3/2025 Resignation
Teresa Frye	SW SPED Program Self	9/5/2025 Resignation
Melanie La Madeleine	RMS Coach Asst. Track	9/10/2025 Resignation
Jill Thomforde	MP Para Instructional	8/28/2025 Resignation
<b>STAFFING CHANGES</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>From/To</b>	<b>Date</b>
Amber Coggeshall	SPED Program LRC to Site House	9/3/2025
Robert Hill	YMS to RMS Coach	9/15/2025
Laurie Shackelford	SPED Program LRC to Student Specific	9/3/2025
Dylon Easley	Custodial YHS to RMS	8/4/2025
Cortney Walton	Coach Asst. to Head Fastpitch	9/15/2025
<b>REQUESTS FOR WAIVERS FOR TEACHING OUT OF ENDORSEMENT</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Location/Out of Endorsement Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>
Ginger Meier	PR SPED	9/3/2025 Long Term Substitute
Shilah De Luna	FS English Language	9/3/2025 Long Term Emergency Substitute
Ashlie Hutzell	PR PE	9/3/2025 Long Term Emergency Substitute

<b>STIPENDS/SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS</b>
\$343,804.50

*M/Debbie Edwards; S/Frank King; Motion carried unanimously.*

**ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS – APPROVED**

Mt. Rainier Clock Repair, YHS Girls Soccer .....	\$100.00
Christensen’s, YHS Girls Soccer.....	\$100.00
Skyline Chiropractic, YHS Girls Soccer.....	\$100.00
Capital City Marathon YHS Cross Country.....	\$1,500.00
YHS Connects Booster, YHS Football .....	\$1,912.00

*M/Bill Hauss; S/Casey Shaw; Motion carried unanimously.*

**OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRAVEL - APPROVED**

YHS FFA will attend District Leadership Camp at the CISPUS Learning Center from Oct 3-4, 2025, with 30 students and 5 chaperones.

*M/Bill Hauss; S/Casey Shaw; Motion carried unanimously.*

**VOUCHERS AND PAYROLL - APPROVED**

A. General Fund	# 70152716 - 70152865	\$1,270,160.07
B. ASB Fund	# 70409947 - 70409959	\$33,099.69
C. Capital Projects Fund	# 70501834 - 70501844	\$821,619.35
D. Comp Tax	# 112300021 – 11230021	\$1,848.66
E. August Payroll		\$6,002,613.51

*M/Debbie Edwards; S/Frank King; Motion carried unanimously.*

**FACILITIES REPORT – APPROVED**

**Public Works:**

Project #	Amount	Vendor/Reason
40.24	\$43,760.42	Heath Northwest – Digital Reader Board Upgrades – YMS
101.24	\$21,886.01	Advanced Classroom Technologies – AV System Equipment & Installation – TRANS TI
101.24	\$4,927.50	LCO Company – Roof Leader Head Replacement – DO
104.24	\$5,568.08	Evergreen Fire & Security - Fire Alarm & Sprinkler Deficiency Corrections – YHS
114.24	\$11,478.34	Hermanson Co LLP - Condensing Unit Repair – MP
120.24	\$5,672.10	Cascade Alarm - Smoke Detector Replacements – MP
125.24	\$7,158.63	Wood & Link Fence – Fence Installation – PR
126.24	\$394.20	Evergreen Fire & Security - Alarm Panel Service Call – YHS
128.24	\$3,790.44	Intracommunication Network Sys - (3) Quad Drop Installation – TRANS TI
130.24	\$14,241.45	Lake Tapps Construction – Portable Restroom Conversion – PR
131.24	\$613.20	Washington Fire Protection LLC - RM138 Troubleshoot False Alarms – SW
132.24	\$606.48	Washington Fire Protection LLC - Burglar Alarm Trouble Signals Service Call – LK
133.24	\$602.25	Washington Fire Protection LLC - Elevator Shunt Trip Test – YHS
134.24	\$602.25	Washington Fire Protection LLC - Elevator Shunt Trip Test – YMS
135.24	\$613.20	Washington Fire Protection LLC - Troubleshoot Alarm Not able to Arm – YHS
138.24	\$4,951.45	Intracommunication Network Sys. - Preschool Drop Down IDF for fiber to Reader Board Sign – PR
141.24	\$306.60	Washington Fire Protection LLC – Fire Alarm Troubleshoot – YMS

144.24	\$563.16	Washington Fire Protection LLC - Monitor Module Replacement – LK
145.24	\$649.80	T & B Products DBA C 4 Products LC. - Main Entrance Door Handicap Button Service Call – PR
146.24	\$2,594.40	Puget Sound Surfaces LLC - Kitchen Floor Repairs – MK
147.24	\$2,375.15	Hermanson Co LLP - Freezer Condensing Unit Equipment Repair – RMS
148.24	\$750.02	Hermanson Co LLP - Office HVAC Units Not Cooling Service Call YMS
149.24	\$919.80	Washington Fire Protection LLC - Fire System Troubleshoot in Gym Smoke Beams – YHS
155.24	\$535.73	Hermanson Co LLP - Walk-in Fridge Temp Troubleshoot – YHS
156.24	\$779.32	Hermanson Co LLP - Second Condenser Fan Motor Replacement – RMS
157.24	\$750.02	Hermanson Co LLP - Walk-in Fridge Temp Troubleshoot – RMS

*M/Debbie Edwards; S/Bill Hauss; Motion carried unanimously.*

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

No report.

**STUDENT ENROLLMENT REPORT**

Sept 2025	5351 HC	5214.78 FTE (228.22 < 5443.00)
June 2025	5463 HC	5330.73 FTE (179.27 < 5510.00)
Sept 2024	5565 HC	

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Board members thanked all who attended the presentation. They encouraged community members to reach out to board members with questions. It was emphasized that many decisions are predetermined by the state, which dictates a lot of what districts can and cannot do. Board members noted that the current funding system is flawed, that levies are necessary, and cautioned that, ultimately, the district will not fully meet its needs and will continue to progress down the path of increased financial oversight.

**Student Representative Comments:**

Thanked community members for coming and welcomed the new student representatives.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

The Superintendent began by expressing appreciation to T.J. Kelly and Flip Herndon from OSPI and ESD, acknowledging their invaluable support and partnership. He thanked the board for their ongoing dedication and for continuing to come back.

He noted that several upcoming policies are mandated by law and must be adopted to avoid potential funding impacts. The Superintendent reiterated his commitment to open dialogue, stating he is available to meet with anyone at any time to discuss concerns.

He urged the community to engage in respectful, constructive conversations rather than posting reactive comments on social media, cautioning that such behavior only serves to deepen division. He affirmed that district staff care deeply about all students and closed by thanking everyone for attending the meeting and participating in the process.

**ADJOURNMENT** – 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

/S/Chris M. Woods  
Secretary to the Board

Approved by:

/S/Denise Hendrickson  
Board President