

Yelm Community Schools, District No. 2

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MINUTES

of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Thursday, September 11, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Kailey Slevin

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

DeeDee Buckingham, Lisa Cadero-Smith, Kurt Fourre, Starla Watson, Chris Woods

CALLED TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Denise Hendrickson called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

AUDIENCE

Superintendent's Comments

Provided a bargaining update:

YAEOP – will meet again on September 16

PSE – two meetings this past week and were very productive. More dates have been scheduled.

Bargaining updates and salary schedules for all employee groups are available on the district website under Departments/Services and Human Resources.

Community Comments

Comments were presented on an agenda item by Jessica Kelso.

NEW BUSINESS

INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTS – APPROVED

<u>NEW HIRES</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
Skylah Keeler	PR Para SPED Program 1:1 LRC	9/3/2025
Jennifer Moats	Transportation Bus Driver	9/3/2025
Angela Pirone	SW LPN	9/3/2025
Heather Smith	RMS Para SPED Program 1:1	9/3/2025

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

No Report

RESIGNATIONS / RETIREMENTS / TERMINATIONS

Christin Gordon	Transportation Bus Driver	Resignation 8/31/2025
Chrystyne Martin	SW Teacher Special Education SELF	Resignation 8/31/2025
Aly Prohim	YHS Coach Assnt. Soccer Boys	Resignation 8/29/2025
Thora McReynolds	Transportation Bus Driver	Resignation 9/17/2025
Candice Williams	YMS Para SPED Program 1:1 LRC	Resignation 8/31/2025

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

ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS - APPROVED

YHS Connects, to support programs that were cut due to the levy.....\$4,699.43
M/Frank King; S/Debbie Edwards; Motion carried unanimously.

LACKAMAS ELEMENTARY SPOTLIGHT

Lackamas Elementary Principal Starla Watson presented the 2025-26 School Improvement Plan, highlighting progress and priorities around Learning, Belonging, and Community.

- Learning: Focus on improving attendance, strengthening Tier I instruction, implementing MTSS and PLC structures, and increasing student engagement.
- Belonging: Continued work on building a culture of dignity, addressing student behavior, expanding student leadership opportunities, and recognizing student contributions.
- Community: Ongoing emphasis on inclusive two-way communication, family partnership in student learning, and shared ownership. A recent family belonging survey received 208 responses, with approximately 70% of comments positive; suggestions included enhancing parent-teacher communication.

The presentation emphasized collaboration between staff, families, and leadership to advance student success and maintain a strong sense of community.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Chief of Finance Jennifer Carrougher presented the 2025-26 enrollment. Budgeted enrollment was 5,410 FTE; actual enrollment came in at 229 FTE below budget, totaling 5,181. Historical enrollment trends were presented, showing a decline of 200 FTE from the prior year. A grade-level breakdown highlighted areas with lower-than-expected enrollment, particularly in kindergarten and several upper grades.

APPROVAL OF MINIMUM BASIC EDUCATION COMPLIANCE REPORT FOR 2025-26 – APPROVED

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

BOARD COMMENTS

The board members shared appreciation for:

- The Lackamas Elementary staff, thank you for hosting.
- Thank Jessica Kelso and the YHS Connects members for all your hard work and dedication to our students.
- Southworth Booster Club held a Boohoo Breakfast for parents of the parents of Kindergartners. It was a great event.

Student Representatives shared:

- They enjoyed the quotes on the presentation.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Chris Woods reported on:

- I am very proud of our staff across the district. People are excited and ready to move forward.
- Very excited about the work around the Strategic Plan

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
/S/Chris M. Woods
Secretary to the Board

Approved by:
/S/Denise Hendrickson
Board President