

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No.19 Board of Education was held on April 14, 2025.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Chair Nicole De Graff called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Director Kohl read the following Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that we are in the traditional homeland of the Kalapuya people, specifically the community that was known as Chifin, the area that we now call Springfield.

Kalapuya people, who have lived in this region since "[Time Immemorial](#)", were illegally dispossessed of their land and forcibly removed to what are now the Grand Ronde and Siletz reservations over several years, but most notably in treaties between 1851 and 1855.

The Kalapuya are now members of the [Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde](#) and the [Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians](#), and members of the Kalapuya still live, work, study, and thrive in this area, and continue to make important contributions here in Springfield, across the land we now refer to as Oregon, and around the globe.

This information is shared out of a responsibility to prevent the erasure of Native culture, heritage, and people and to ensure a quality contemporary education for future generations.

Attendance

Board Members attending the meeting included Board Chair Nicole De Graff, Director Ken Kohl, Director Jonathan Light and Vice Chair Heather Quaas-Annsa.

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Dustin Reese, Brett Yancey, Martie Steigleder, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Jonathan Gault, Kari Isham Skelton, B.J Rotherham, Alexis DeLuna, Mather, Cameron Stratton, Donna Earl, Leah Emmett, Troy Barnhart, Amber Langworthy, Tyna Julian, Lesa Haley, Sahara Fisher, Andy Price, Katie Dawson, Kimberlee Pelster, Joan Bolts, Daniel Pestle, Kimberly Weston, Patty Sandoz, Jody Barnhart, Calli Dean, Austin Allison, and Eliana Sanchez.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair De Graff asked for a motion to approve the April 14, 2025 agenda as presented.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, seconded by Director Quaas-Annsa, to approve the April 14, 2025 agenda as presented.

Chair De Graff called for a roll call vote. Chair De Graff asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the April 14, 2025 agenda as presented: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff– Yes, and Director Light – Yes.

Motion passed, 4:0.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Introduction of Student Board Representatives

A3

Cameron Stratton shared:

- The play A Midsummer Night's Dream was performed for the students and community
- Dr. Lake spoke to the Multicultural Student Union and student voice groups about privilege and community
- Recent awards and achievements, including the Skills USA Competition in Albany were acknowledged
- Dance Concert - April 25th

Gateways High School

Alexis DeLuna shared:

- Prom - April 19th, 8-10pm
- Prior to spring break the teachers had a fun secret Spirit Week of their own
- Cosmetology students provided free services to friends and family, as well as hosted Willamalane's seniors for free

Springfield High School

ASB President, Sahara Fisher shared:

ASB Vice-President, Midori Rakestraw

- The Interact Club donated \$300 in gift cards to families receiving food boxes before spring break
- The April 5th booster event raised funds for various clubs and groups through live auction and raffles
- LCC hosted the first CTE Signing Day, celebrating high school seniors planning to continue CTE education
- Six students were nominated for the Spring Arts and Cultural Awards, with Emilio Borland winning first place in visual art
- March - Pre-Spring Concert and Talent Show
- Fall of the House of Usher - April 17-19th

Thurston High School

ASB President, Eliana Sanchez shared:

ASB Vice President, Kennya Liberatore

- Twelfth Night -90s style by William Shakespeare. April 11-12th
- Illumination Tribal History and Culture of Thurston - April 21st
- Colt Cash Skate Party - May 6th

Willamette Leadership Academy WLA

Cayden Finney

Austin Allison shared:

- Friday, April 18th - Western-themed school dance
- Spring Carnival - May 9th, open to all
- Two Hootenannies to be held for all qualifying students

B. Certified Appreciation Proclamation

Chair De Graff read aloud the following proclamation;

WHEREAS, teachers mold future citizens through guidance and education; and

WHEREAS, teachers encounter students of widely differing backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, our country's future depends upon providing quality education to all students; and

WHEREAS, teachers spend countless hours preparing lessons, evaluating progress, counseling and coaching students and performing community service; and

WHEREAS, our community recognizes and supports its teachers in educating the children of this community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Springfield Board of Directors proclaims May 5 – 9, 2025 to be TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Springfield Board of Directors strongly encourages all members of our community to join with it in personally expressing appreciation to our teachers for their dedication and devotion to their work.

DATED this 14th day of April 2025.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair De Graff shared: *This is the portion of our agenda for public comment. The Board provides three ways for community members to share public comment: written public comment, in person oral public comment and virtual public comment. Written public comment is received via email. Public comment received via email for this evening has been reviewed by the Board and has also been posted on the District's website. The deadline for submitting a request for oral public comment was today 2:00pm. Those who requested an opportunity to speak this evening were notified by the board secretary about their request.*

Time permitting, the board may also hear public comment from individuals who signed up in person at the Administration Office before the meeting.

We encourage groups with a common purpose to designate a spokesperson. If your comments will be covered by a group spokesperson, please indicate so when your name is called. I want to remind those members of the public who have indicated a desire to make comments that our policy provides for a limitation of three (3) minutes per person.

The Board will not hear comments regarding any school personnel. We ask those speaking to refrain from using names and titles of school personnel. Any complaints regarding a particular employee must be processed through the procedure set forth in Board policy KL, which requires that complaints be submitted in writing to the Superintendent. This procedure must be followed before there is any Board involvement with such issues. A compliment involving a staff member should be sent to the superintendent, who will forward it to the employee, their supervisor and the Board.

Speakers are reminded that their public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.

Student parent Leah Emmett discussed the effectiveness of high-dose tutoring in improving literacy among older students, citing her own family's successful experience in using an explicit, systemic, structured literacy approach.

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Consent Agenda

1. February 24, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes
2. March 10, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
3. Financial Statement, Resolution #24-25.046
4. Personnel Report, Resolution #24-25.047

Brett Yancey
Dustin Reese

Chair De Graff asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for April 14, 2025 as presented.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director Quaas-Annsa seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Chair De Graff called for a roll call vote. Chair De Graff asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the Consent Agenda: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 4:0.

B. Appoint Budget Committee Member, Resolution #24-25.048

Chair De Graff

It is recommended that the Board of Directors appoint one (1) individual to serve as a member of the Springfield Public Schools Budget Committee, effective immediately through December 31, 2026: Position 4.

NOMINATION: Director Kohl nominated Patrick Walch to serve as a member of the Springfield Public School Budget Committee, effective immediately through December 31, 2026: Position 4.

Chair De Graff asked if there was any discussion.
There was none.

Superintendent Hamilton expressed appreciation to both candidates, who had taken the time to go through the interview process. Brett Yancey would follow up with Walch to share resources and information with him, preparing him to actively participate in the May Board meeting. In May Walch will take the Oath of Office and be officially sworn in.

Chair De Graff called for a roll call vote. Chair De Graff asked each Board member to indicate if they accept the Board of Directors appointment of Patrick Walch to serve as a member of the Springfield Public Schools Budget Committee, effective immediately through December 31, 2026: Position 4: Director – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director Mason – Yes, and Director De Graff – Yes.

Board majority in favor of, 4:0.

C. Approve Bus Financing Agreement, Resolution #24-25.049

Brett Yancey

It is recommended that the Board approve the resolution as presented (attached), authorizing the issuance and negotiated sale of full faith and credit note in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1,164,814, including the designation of authorized representatives and appointment of special counsel.

MOTION: Director Light moved, Director Quaas-Annsa seconded the motion to approve the resolution as presented (attached), authorizing the issuance and negotiated sale of full faith and credit note in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1,164,814, including the designation of authorized representatives and appointment of special counsel.

Chair De Graff asked if there was any discussion.

Director Kohl questioned the IRS amounts. Yancey briefly discussed the amounts specified in the IRS code.

Chair De Graff called for a roll call vote. Chair De Graff asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the resolution as presented (attached), authorizing the issuance and negotiated sale of full faith and credit note in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1,164,814, including the designation of authorized representatives and appointment of special counsel: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 4:0,

D. Adopt Academic Calendar 2025-2026, Resolution #24-25.050

David Collins

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the 2025-2026 academic calendar as presented.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director Light seconded the motion to approve the 2025-2026 academic calendar as presented.

Chair De Graff asked if there was any discussion.

Chair De Graff called for a roll call vote. Chair De Graff asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the 2025-2026 academic calendar as presented.: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 4:0.

E. Approve Integrated Guidance Application, Resolution #24-25.051

David Collins

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the Springfield Public Schools Integrated Applications Grant Agreements as presented.

MOTION: Director Quaas-Annsa moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to approve the Springfield Public Schools Integrated Applications Grant Agreements as presented.

Chair De Graff asked if there was any discussion.

Director Kohl pointed to specific areas of the application, requesting clarification. Kohl also asked about the Career and Technical Education (CTE) access disparities and gender representation in CTE programs.

Collins thanked him, noting those particular areas will require editing for corrections.

Collins reminded the Board that this was a quick summary, just an application to keep things moving forward, but upon completion of the process, if approved by the Board it would be submitted through the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) by April 30, 2025.

Detailed information on this topic will be linked to the District's website and available to the public.

Chair De Graff called for a roll call vote. Chair De Graff asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the Springfield Public Schools Integrated Applications Grant Agreements as presented: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, and Director De Graff – Yes.

Motion passed, 4:0.

7. Reports and Information

A. United Front Update

Brian Richardson

Director of Communications and Community Engagement Brian Richardson shared highlights of his recent United Front trip to Washington DC.

- The trip involved representatives from various local agencies advocating for the needs and projects of Lane County.
- The trip highlighted advocacy for federal funds, including Farm to School grants and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) reauthorization, and showcased local successes and partnerships.
- Key meetings included discussions with Oregon's congressional delegations, the White House Intergovernmental Affairs, the Department of Education, and the Department of Agriculture for Child Nutrition Services.
- The importance of collaboration and advocacy for federal funding and support of local initiatives was highlighted.
- The trip resulted in new strategies, tips, and ideas, as well as the opportunity to submit grant opportunities and congressionally directed spending requests.

B. Superintendent Communication

Superintendent Hamilton

Superintendent Hamilton:

- Thanked Chair De Graff and Brian Richardson for their efforts on the recent United Front trip. He highlighted the importance of face-to-face meetings with representatives and the subsequent benefits it produces.
- Attended the Wildish Community Theater Springfield Arts and Culture Awards, noting the event's growth and success. From a fundraising perspective, he added that it was wildly successful.
- Thanked Heather Quaas-Annsa for her contributions to the theater and the successful soccer event, emphasizing the importance of community support.
- Echoed the appreciation for teachers and encouraged everyone to carry that message forward.

C. Board Communication and Comments

Chair De Graff

Director De Graff:

- Discussed the value of the United Front trip, noting the visible coalition with the Springfield City Council and the innovative nature of their programs.
- Provided updates that included the Innovative Educator grants, the Grant Giving Tour, and various community events, such as the Summer Celebration on June 28th and the Night of 11,000 Stars on October 18th.

Director Quaas-Annsa:

- Added to Superintendent Hamilton's comment, that there were close to 300 in attendance at the soccer event.
- Encouraged families to sign up for the 1Pass lottery.
- Expressed appreciation for teachers, sharing a personal story about a favorite teacher who inspired her.

Director Light did not share.

Director Kohl did not share.

8. NEXT MEETINGS

April 28, 2025 - Board Special Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

May 8, 2025 — Budget Committee Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

May 12, 2025 – Board Business Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

May 15, 2025 – Budget Committee Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Chair De Graff thanked everyone for attending.

Board recess at 7:47 p.m. and returned for Executive Session.

The Springfield Public School Board meeting reconvened at 8:07 p.m. in Executive Session.

The Board will meet in **Executive Session** (non-public) pursuant to ORS 192.600(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to conduct, Chair De Graff adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

(Minutes recorded by Trenay Ryan, LCOG)