

## SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

A Special Meeting of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on November 3, 2025.

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Board Chair Jonathan Light called the Springfield Board of Education organizational meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

**A. Chair Light led the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**B. Director Kohl shared 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 in attendance included Board Chair Jonathan Light, Board Vice Chair Ken Kohl, Director De Graff, Director Quaas-Annsa and Director Amber Langworthy.

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, Brett Yancey, Dustin Reese, Martie Steigleder, Taylor Madden, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Rebecca Hansen-White, Jonathan Gault, and Rebekah Jacobson.

### 2. Adjourn into Executive Session ORS 192.660(2)(f)

Chair Light

The Board adjourned into Executive Session at 1:03 p.m.

The Board reconvened into a regular meeting session at 3:50 p.m.

### 3. Action Items

**A. Action on Information Discussed in Executive Session**

Director Quaas-Annsa

INCOMPLETE MOTION: Director Quaas-Annsa moved, seconded by Director De Graff to accept the findings of the investigation as presented, related to the complaints.

Director Kohl asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Director Kohl called for a roll call vote. The motion was not completed.

**MOTION: Director Langworthy moved, seconded by Director Quaas-Annsa to reopen the motion to accept the findings of the investigation for discussion.**

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion to reopen the motion to accept the findings of the investigation, for discussion: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – No, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 4:1.**

Director Langworthy expressed concerns about the investigation having been biased and leading, rather than impartial fact-finding.

**MOTION: Director Quaas-Annsa moved, seconded by Director De Graff to accept the findings of the investigation as presented, related to the complaints:**

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion to accept the findings of the investigation as presented, related to the complaints: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light declared *with comments and considerations* – Yes, Director Kohl, *declaring a conflict of interest* – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed unanimously, 5:0.**

**MOTION: Director Quaas-Annsa moved, seconded by Director De Graff for the Board to formally request the resignation of Director Jonathan Light as Board Chair.**

Vice Chair Kohl asked if there was any discussion.

Director Quaas-Annsa read aloud her personal statement:

*“Tonight, I am speaking not just as a board member, but as a parent, a community member, and someone who cares deeply about all of Springfield Public Schools’ students, our families, and our staff.*

*Our students only get one education. One chance at stability, one chance at a safe and supportive school environment. And instead of dedicating every ounce of our focus to them, we have spent too much time and energy dealing with conduct and conflict that should never happen at the Board leadership level of a school district.*

*I am frustrated. I am angry. And I am deeply disappointed that adults who should be modeling responsibility, integrity, and respect have instead created disruption and harm.*

*To our students: you deserve better. You deserve a board that puts you first-above egos, above personal agendas, above political games. We expect our young people to act with respect and honesty, and they have every right to expect that from us, too.*

*To our staff: I am sorry. You should not have to worry about being undermined, disrespected, or pulled into adult conflicts. You show up for students every single day, even when our leadership has made your work harder. You deserve to feel safe and supported.*

*To our families: you have every right to demand professionalism and stability. You trust us with your children. That trust has been damaged, and repairing it requires honesty-not silence.*

*I cannot share confidential details of ongoing processes. But I can say this clearly: accountability is not optional. Our policies, our laws, and our ethical obligations matter. When those standards are ignored, there must be consequences. Ignoring misconduct is not protecting students-accountability is.*

*Our students are watching us. Our community is watching us. And I refuse to be part of a culture where harmful behavior is tolerated just because it feels uncomfortable to address it.”*

Director De Graff read aloud her personal statement:

*“My service on this board has always been centered on students. Every policy decision I vote on is guided by a responsibility I feel to create safe and positive learning environments for them and how deeply I care about our district. Ethical work is foundational to me. I would rather focus on improving student outcomes than addressing adult misconduct, however, when public officials violate policy and erode community trust by distorting the facts; accountability is necessary, and I am going to vote for the strongest measures. An independent investigation recently substantiated or partially substantiated, multiple complaints involving board member Jonathan Light. The findings show clear violations of board policy, oath of office and operating agreements. These are not minor disagreements or political differences, because they actually show a breakdown in integrity and respect for the whole process. What makes this particularly troubling to me is that it follows a corrective action the board and I was part of, that took place in December of 2023, at that time Jonathan Light publicly promised to follow our board’s operating agreement, oath of office and governing policies, but his conduct since then has been repeatedly a pattern of violating those standards. A public official who selectively follows rules and undermines a process and accountability, cannot effectively serve the community. Jonathan’s repeated patterns are incompatible with the trust placed in any elected leader. When one board member behaves this way, it affects our entire district. It damages the credibility of the board and distracts from our mission, not to mention the potential legal risk he has exposed us to. It forces time and taxpayer money to be spent addressing misconduct, rather than improving student outcomes. So far, \$35,000 has been spent on these four complaints. The public should care deeply about this, because transparency and following policies and law are not optional for elected officials. They are what protects students and staff and families from decisions made in secrecy or based on personal interest. Every board member has sworn to uphold these principals, so when one fails to do so, it weakens the governance that supports our whole district. I am calling for Jonathan to step down from his leadership role immediately and I am calling for him to resign from the board. It is not personal or political. We need to restore public trust and model accountability. The public deserves leaders who keep their word and uphold ethical standards that are part of public service. Our students watch what we do. If we tolerate dishonesty or a disregard for the rules, we teach them that it only matters when someone wants to pick and choose. I think it is time to put our students first by taking action that restores faith in our board.”*

Director Kohl acknowledged the public’s right to issue a recall, but noted that the Board should stay within its bounds and not force a recall.

Chair Light shared that his goal while serving on the board over the past 20 years, had been to provide students with an outstanding education, emphasizing that a board needs adequate and timely information to succeed. Light noted that adequate and timely information was not made available so he did his homework.

Director Langworthy shared her experience of Jonathan Light's involvement with service and community work.

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion for the Board to formally request the resignation of Director Jonathan Light as Board Chair: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light declared a *possible conflict of interest* – No, Director Kohl – No, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - No.

**Motion failed, 2:3**

**MOTION: Director Quaas-Annsa moved, seconded by Director De Graff that the Board formally censure Director Light, to acknowledge that his conduct has fallen below the standards required of school board members.**

Vice Chair Kohl asked if there was any discussion.

Director De Graff emphasized the need for accountability and liability concerns.

Director Quaas-Annsa wished to use the Board's formal accountability mechanism to publicly acknowledge that Light's conduct was unacceptable.

Director Kohl noted that divulging confidential information was a concern of his and needed to be addressed.

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion for the Board to formally censure Director Light to acknowledge that his conduct has fallen below the standards required of school board members: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light, declared a *possible conflict of interest* – No, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passes, 4:1.**

**MOTION: Director Quaas-Annsa moved, seconded by Director De Graff that Director Light be removed from the position of Board Chair.**

Vice Chair Kohl asked if there was any discussion.

Director De Graff supported the motion, distancing herself and send a clear message citing mishandling of public complaints and use of authority, the type of behavior exposes the board to risk.

Director Quaas-Annsa emphasized that a board member's responsibility is to model professionalism, respect for procedure, and be responsible leaders, in which Light had demonstrated a pattern of behavior inconsistent with the responsibilities of the role. Reiterates

to have Director Light censured. The board must model professional conduct and policy compliance. Caused disruption and misused his position.

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion for Director Light to be removed from the position of Chair: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light declared a *possible conflict of interest* – No, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 4:1.**

**MOTION: Director Quaas-Annsa moved, seconded by Director Kohl that the Board formally require Director Light to reaffirm his commitment to the Board Member Oath of Office, Board Policy, and applicable state and federal laws.**

Vice Chair Kohl asked if there was any discussion.

Director Quaas-Annsa believed Light's actions showed a disregard for legal and procedural obligations, in which a formal reaffirmation establishes expectations moving forward.

Director De Graff expressed skepticism about the effectiveness of reaffirming policies and ethical standards for a long-serving board member.

Director Langworthy expressed frustration regarding the lack of explanation of the findings and suggested that both parties were responsible.

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion that the Board formally require Jonathan Light to reaffirm his commitment to the Board Member Oath of Office, Board Policy, and applicable state and federal laws: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light declared a *possible conflict of interest* – No, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 4:1.**

**MOTION: Director Quaas-Annsa moved, seconded by Director De Graff that the Board require Director Light to complete governance training focused on ethics, staff relations, and board responsibilities.**

Vice Chair Kohl asked if there was any discussion.

Director Quaas-Annsa emphasized that training is a corrective measure to prevent future violations and restore community trust. Director Lights conduct either shows a lack of understanding or refusal to follow established rules.

Director Langworthy expressing sadness over the situation.

Director De Graff expressed doubt regarding the effectiveness of training for a long-term board member.

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion that the Board require Director Light to complete governance training focused on ethics, staff relations, and board responsibilities: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light declared a *possible conflict of interest* – No, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 4:1.**

**MOTION: Director Quaas-Annsa moved, seconded by Director De Graff that the Board remind Director Light of their obligations under Board Policy GBMA Whistleblower and related Legal Protections for District Staff.**

Vice Chair Kohl asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion that the Board remind Director Light of their obligations under Board Policy GBMA Whistleblower and related Legal Protections for District Staff: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 5:0.**

**MOTION: Director De Graff moved, seconded by Director Kohl to delegate authority to Director Quaas-Annsa to draft a response to the complaint, based upon the Board’s discussion.**

Vice Chair Kohl asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion for the Board to delegate authority to Director Quaas-Annsa to draft a response to the complaint, based upon the Board’s discussion: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – No, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 4:1.**

**MOTION: Director Quaas-Annsa moved, seconded by Director De Graff for Director De Graff to facilitate the proceedings related to complaint number four.**

Vice Chair Kohl asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion for Director De Graff to facilitate the proceedings related to complaint number four: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – No, Director Kohl – No, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - No.

**Motion failed, 2:3.**

**MOTION: Director Kohl moved, seconded by Director Quaas-Annsa for Director Quaas-Annsa to facilitate the remainder of the dealings related to complaint number four.**

Vice Chair Kohl called for a roll call vote. Vice Chair Kohl asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion for Director Quaas-Annsa to facilitate the remainder of the proceedings related to complaint number four: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 5:0**

**MOTION: Director De Graff moved to censure board member Ken Kohl for his actions. Motion failed, due to lack of a second.**

**MOTION: Director De Graff moved, seconded by Director Langworthy to remove Ken Kohl from his leadership role.**

Director Quaas-Annsa asked if there was any discussion.

Director De Graff cited the need for strong corrective action.

Director Quaas-Annsa did not believe that Director Kohl knowingly violated policies, but that he should be removed from a leadership role.

Director Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Director Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion to remove Ken Kohl from his leadership role: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – No, Director Kohl declared a *conflict of interest*, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 3:1, with 1 abstention**

**MOTION: Director De Graff moved, seconded by Director Quaas-Annsa that the Board reaffirm that Director Kohl is expected to fully uphold the Board Members Oath of Office, including Board policies.**

Director Quaas-Annsa asked if there was any discussion.

Director De Graff noted the importance of board members having integrity and working through the process, while staying in their own lane.

Director Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Director Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion that the Board reaffirm that Director Kohl is expected to fully uphold the Board Members Oath of Office, including Board policies: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – No, Director Kohl - abstained, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 3:1, with 1 abstention**

**MOTION: Director De Graff moved, seconded by Director Quaas-Annsa that the Board require Director Kohl to complete comprehensive training for school board members.**

Director Quaas-Annsa asked if there was any discussion.

Director Quaas-Annsa emphasized the importance of training, and for all board members to be on the same page.

Director Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Director Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion that the Board require Director Kohl to complete comprehensive training for school board members: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – No, Director Kohl - abstained, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 3:1, with 1 abstention**

**MOTION: Director De Graff moved, seconded by Director Langworthy that the Board delegate authority to Director Quaas-Annsa to direct a response letter to the complaint, based upon the Board's decisions.**

Director Quaas-Annsa asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Director Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Director Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion that the Board delegate authority to Director Quaas-Annsa to direct a response letter to the complaint, based upon the Board's decisions: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl - Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Motion passed, 5:0.**

**NOMINATION: Director Kohl nominated Heather Quaas-Annsa to serve as Board Chair. Director Kohl moved, seconded by Director Langworthy**

Director Quaas-Annsa asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Director Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Director Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the nomination of Heather Quaas-Annsa to serve as Board Chair: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl - Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Nomination passed, 5:0.**

Heather Quaas-Annsa was elected to serve as Board Chair.

**NOMINATION: Director De Graff nominated herself, Nicole De Graff to serve as Board Vice Chair.**

Chair Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Chair Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the nomination of Nicole De Graff to serve as Board Vice Chair: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – No, Director Kohl - No, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy - No.

**Nomination failed, 2:3.**

**NOMINATION: Amber Langworthy nominated Director Langworthy to serve as Board Vice Chair.**

Chair Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Chair Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the nomination of Amber Langworthy to serve as Board Vice Chair: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl - Yes, Director De Graff – No, and Director Langworthy - Yes.

**Nomination passed, 4:1.**

**Amber Langworthy was elected to serve as Board Vice Chair.**

**4. NEXT MEETING:**

November 10, 2025 - Business Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Chair Quaas-Annsa adjourned the Special Meeting at 4:42 p.m.  
*(Minutes recorded, by Trenay Ryan, LCOG)*