

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No.19 Board of Education was held on January 12, 2026.

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

Board Chair Heather Quaas-Annsa called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Director Quaas-Annsa 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 p 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 Heather Quaas-Annsa, Director Ken Kohl, Director Nicole De Graff, Director Jonathan Light, and Vice Chair Amber Langworthy.

1. District staff and community members included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, Dustin Reese, Martie Steigleder, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Brett Yancey, Brian Megert, Dave Collins, Superintendent Tony Scurto, Attorney Rebekah Jacobson, Andy Price, Mindy LeRoux, Vanessa Truett, Kimberlee Pelster, Amber Mitchell, Brandi Starck, Ashley Drago, Jed Pageler, Shanna Rotherham, Al Capwell, Megan Knight, Josh Donaldson, Patty Sandoval, Scott Olds, Megan Beard, Joe Young, Michele Dijkstra, Maria Sayre-Heiss, Brandon Ferguson, Adriana Aguilar-Fietes, Luis Aguilar-Fietes, Steve Dustrude, Kendra Hurliman, Bethany Boardrow, Valerie Shuck, Karen Tunnell, Tim Eastland, Pauline Pham, Tod Hayes, Leah Price, Katie Ryan, Amy Lyons, Colin Lyons, Onalee Edwards, Kiana Johnson, Ari Dunham, CJ Huston, Casey Leonard, Moriah Shanahan, Danielle Smith, Kristen Noor, Cayden Finney, Dorrys Diaz,, Hon Hornung, Megan Defferding, Sarah Bosch, Julie Udy, Emily Miller, Bradley Norris, Deanna Jacobson, Roxanne Winston, Jill Smith, Robyn Hass, Courtney Steed, Tiffany Asumend, Sarah Halfstead, Kellen Steed, Paul Keppo, Cheri Demarest, Calli Dean, Brady Cottle, John Whisler, Scott Boyer, Lenora Davis, Soriano Marshall, Jill Plumb, Qynne McKibben, Adalynn Smith, Sarah Whisler, Miche Dreiling, R. Wegtra, Nikki Danner, Matt Danner, Leslie Watson, Carla Smith, Kirsten Woodward, Sheila Stapeley, Laura Vellies, Amy Donaldson, Amberly Trano, Eve Paris, Dawn Caird, Allison

Cunningham, Megan Ward, Kate Hughes, Tracey Lindsey, Madeline Vreim, Terrisa Cook, Lucy Rogers, Jacob Eden, Violet Lloyd, Leah Taylor, Tami D., Morgan Rees, Lisa Tardie, Tyler Kashaw, Delaney Crain, Jenny Cathey, Nathan Horwood, Chad Boardrow, Cindi Bowman, Dionne Hasforth, Ky Fireside, William Sherman, Sophie Rhisenberger, Rachel Spangnolo, Ame Beard, Lesa Haley, Daniel Pelster, Lacey McDonald, Melissa Blomquist, Dana Grant, Katie Dawson, Jose da Silva, Shelby Masterson, Rob Morgan, Kellie Chambers, Lisa Barrager, Laura Farrelly, Benjamin Bennett, Sergio Perez II, Patricia Gutierrez, Cody Rosenberg, Lelia Zsiga, Bryanna Jones, Kendall Holliday, Colin Lyons, Amy Eileen, Matt Brandt, Hunter Murphy, Olivia Wikstrom, Janell Wickstrom, Hallie Raube, Emma Puzio, Holly Revels, Monica Tapia, Tiffany McGehee, Mary Palmer, Meredith Wood, Annette Peters, Christine Soles, Gail Woodford, Kristyl Rogers, Aiden Hight, Cliff Schutte, Melanie Vetor, Wendy Simmons, Veronica Elsner, Kelsey Thompson, Amanda Ormsbee, Melissa Stalder, Janet Offerstedt, Natalie Nicholas, Ryan Herlands, Polly Kohl, Henry Looms, Gregory McCabe, Karla Alvarado, Melissa Kruse, Sean Gley, Fredrick Kruse, Cynthia Sleight, Amanda Barreau, Mathew Barreau, Sara Thornton, Athena Aguilar, JoJo Breslin, and Garrett Nelson.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Quaas-Annsa asked for a motion to approve the January 12, 2026 agenda as presented.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, seconded by Director Light, to approve the January 12, 2026 with the removal of Item 5.3.B School Board Recognition Proclamation and Item 6.B Board Development, as amended.

Director De Graff requested to pull Agenda Item 3.B, School Board Recognition Proclamation from the agenda.

Chair Quaas-Annsa requested to pull Agenda Item 6.B, Board Development from the agenda.

Chair Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Chair Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the January 12, 2026 agenda with the removal of Item 3.B School Board Recognition Proclamation and Item 6.B Board Development, as amended: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff– Yes, Director Light – Yes, and Director Langworthy – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Student Board Representative Communication

A3 - Bradley Norris shared highlights of the j-term activities, including the popular subjects of rock climbing and chocolatiering, the passing of the school's accreditation for Cognia, and the receipt of feedback from stakeholder groups, focusing on math data collection and professional development.

Gateways High School - Aiden Hight shared highlights from Spirit Week, Leadership class activities, making of the Publicology campaign video, and the cosmetology salon's availability.

Springfield High School - Lucy Rogers discussed SHS winter sports achievements and student leadership programs, college applications, Winterfest and dance.

Thurston High School - Hunter Murphy shared highlights from the MLK Day celebration, the Day of Joy, ASP Leadership elections, and Winter Wonderland event.

WLA - Dortys Diaz presented upcoming events such as a winter formal on December 30th, participation in the Oregon Battle of the Books, open enrollment, and a food drive for families.

B. School Board Recognition Proclamation

Agenda Item 3.B was pulled from the agenda

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

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, whether named or implied. 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.

The following community members shared their thoughts, largely pertaining to the proposed staffing reductions:

Sarah B - Community engagement in public education
Laura Farrelly - Proposed budget cuts
Pauline Pham - Proposed staffing reductions
Miche Dreiling - Proposed staffing reductions
Violet Lloyd - Transparency and accountability around proposed budget cuts
Mathew Brandt - Proposed budget cuts, levies for raising funds
Savanna Griffin - Absent (no-show)
Kai Fireside - Proposed staffing reductions
Joe Y. - Proposed staffing reductions

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Consent Agenda

1. December 8, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
2. Financial Statement, Resolution #25-26.030
3. Personnel Report, Resolution #25-26.031

Brett Yancey
Dustin Reese

Director Kohl requested to pull 5.A.1. December 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes.

Chair Quaas-Annsa asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for January 12, 2026 with the removal of 5.A.1. December 8, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Director Light moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda

Motion passed, 5:0

Director Kohl Director Kohl raised concerns about the reduction in the ending fund balance and are we expecting this to continue. He also shared concerns on discrepancy with various versions of meeting minutes, clarity on updates of the minutes.

Superintendent Hamilton stated that the minutes are a draft until they are approved, and once approved they are posted online as approved minutes.

Chair Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Chair Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the Consent Agenda for January 12, 2026 as amended: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0

B. Action on Reduction in Force, Resolution #25-26.032

Superintendent Hamilton

It is recommended WHEREAS, Springfield Public Schools has identified an estimated \$2.34 million budget deficit for the 2025–26 school year due to insufficient funding to sustain current licensed staffing levels; and WHEREAS, Springfield Public Schools is required to comply with ORS 342.934 and applicable collective bargaining agreements when making decisions related to reductions in force; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Springfield Public Schools Board of Directors authorizes the implementation of a reduction in force, effective January 30, 2026, in accordance with state law and collective bargaining agreements.

Brett Yancey shared a presentation with documentation of the timeline presented to the school board.

MOTION: Director De Graff moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion for Springfield Public Schools Board of Directors to authorize the implementation of a reduction in force, effective January 30, 2026, in accordance with state law and collective bargaining agreements.

Chair Quaas-Annsa asked if there was any discussion.

The Board discussed a proposed \$2.34 million budget deficit. The district operated within a 0% Cost-of-Living-Adjustment (COLA) and made staffing reductions through attrition and unfilled positions. Furlough days and delaying curriculum adoption were considered, but were deemed impractical. The proposed reduction in force would affect 27 certified FTEs, effective January 30, 2026. The need for sustainable funding solutions and the impact of lower enrollment was also discussed.

Board Break 8:31- 8:41 p.m.

Chair Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Chair Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they authorize the implementation of a reduction in force, effective January 30, 2026, in accordance with state law and collective bargaining agreements.: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – No, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy – No.

Motion passed, 3:2

C. Action on Information Discussed in Executive Session Chair Quaas-Annsa

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director Light seconded the motion to decline to hear the complaint reviewed in executive session and authorize the board chair to draft a response to the complainant, stating the same.

Chair Quaas-Annsa asked if there was any discussion.

There was no further discussion.

Chair Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Chair Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion to decline to hear the complaint reviewed in executive session and authorize the board chair to draft a response to the complainant, stating the same.: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – No, and Director Langworthy – Yes

Motion passed, 4:1.

D. Accept Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, Resolution #25-26.033

Brett Yancey

It is recommended that the Board of Directors accept the audited financial reports for 2024-2025 as presented by the firm of Clear Trail CPA's.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director De Graff seconded the motion to accept the audited financial reports for 2024-2025 as presented by the firm of Clear Trail CPA's.

Chair Quaas-Annsa asked if there was any discussion.

There was no further discussion.

Chair Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Chair Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to indicate if they accept the audited financial reports for 2024-2025 as presented by the firm of

Clear Trail CPA's: Director Quaas-Annsa –Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

E. Appoint EEAC Member to Budget Committee, Resolution #25-26.034

Brett Yancey

It is recommended that the Board of Directors appoint Patty Gutierrez, representing the District's Educational Equity Advisory Committee, to serve as a member of the Springfield Public Schools Budget Committee in position 3, effective January 12, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

MOTION: Chair Quaas-Annsa moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to appoint Patty Gutierrez, representing the District's Educational Equity Advisory Committee, to serve as a member of the Springfield Public Schools Budget Committee in position 3, effective January 12, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

Chair Quaas-Annsa asked if there was any discussion.

There was no further discussion.

Chair Quaas-Annsa called for a roll call vote. Chair Quaas-Annsa asked each Board member to appoint Patty Gutierrez, representing the District's Educational Equity Advisory Committee, to serve as a member of the Springfield Public Schools Budget Committee in position 3, effective January 12, 2026 through December 31, 2028: Director Quaas-Annsa – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy – Yes.

Motion passed, 5:0.

6. Discussion

A. 2025-27 Lane ESD Local Service Plan, Year Two

Superintendent Tony Scurto

Superintendent Scurto and Lane ESD board member Vanessa Truett were welcomed and introduced by Superintendent Hamilton.

Superintendent Scurto discussed his upcoming retirement and expressed gratitude for the collaboration and support from the community. Scurto highlighted the cooperation with Springfield School District on special education services, life skills classrooms, and career technical education programs. The importance of the local service plan and the need for board approval was explained.

- The plan includes coordination on running life skills classrooms, careers technical education programs, and emergency services
- Some programs are underlined due to funding uncertainty from federal and state grants
- The potential impact of grant funding on programs and the need for advocacy and contacting local representatives was discussed.

Truett shared through personal experience, the positive impact special education services have had on her own family.

B. Board Development

Chair Quaas-Annsa

Agenda Item 6.B was pulled from the agenda

7. Reports and Information

A. Superintendent Communication

There were no updates provided.

B. Board Communication and Comments

Chair Quaas-Annsa did not share any updates.

Director De Graff announced:

- Springfield Education Foundation (SEF) will host the Jazz, Bubbles and Books event on Sunday, January 18th.
- Applications are currently being accepted for grant funding through April 1, 2026.

Director Light did not share any updates.

Director Kohl did not share any updates.

Director Langworthy did not share any updates.

8. NEXT MEETING:

January 26, 2026 - Special Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Chair Quaas-Annsa thanked everyone for attending.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to conduct, Chair Quaas-Annsa adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

(Minutes recorded by Trenay Ryan, LCOG)