

OKANOGAN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Okanogan School District
January 26, 2026
Regular School Board Minutes
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1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Rae Jean Kelley called the January Regular Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. School Board members present: Rae Jean Kelley, Heather Fisher, Ryan Lafferty, Luke McKee, Terri Mail (via zoom) and 23 audience members present. The meeting took place at the Virginia Grainger Elementary Library.

2) OPEN IMPACT AID/TITLE VI INDIAN EDUCATION PUBLIC HEARING

The Impact Aid/ Title VI Indian Education Public Hearing opened at 5:30 p.m., there were no public comments made.

3) CLOSE HEARING

The Impact Aid/ Title VI Indian Education Public Hearing closed at 5:31 p.m.

4) APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBER FOR DISTRICT #3 AND OATH OF OFFICE

a) Luke McKee - District #3

Rae Jean Kelley administered the oath of office to Luke McKee, who was officially sworn in as the appointed Board Member for District #3.

5) ANNUAL ORGANIZATION

a) Rae Jean Kelley was nominated by Heather Fisher to fill the Board Chair position; roll call votes were as follows: McKee – Yes, Lafferty – Yes, Mail – Yes, Fisher – Yes and Kelley – Yes.

b) Heather Fisher was nominated by Ryan Lafferty to fill the Vice Chair position; roll call votes were as follows: McKee – Yes, Mail – Yes, Kelley – Yes, Fisher – Yes and Lafferty – Yes.

c) Terri Mail was nominated by Luke McKee to fill the WIAA Representative position; roll call votes were as follows: Lafferty – Yes, Kelley – Yes, Lafferty – Yes, Mail – Yes and McKee – Yes.

6) APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES, CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO JANUARY AGENDA

The Board approved the December Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as well as the January Regular Board Meeting Agenda with the addition of resignation from Bradon Maple, Life Skills Para Educator. **Fisher/Lafferty/passed/5 for/0 against**

7) PUBLIC COMMENT

Olivia Ramirez, a senior at Okanogan High School, addressed the Board regarding the decision made about the use of stoles and cords for graduation.

Dennis O'Connor addressed the Board regarding the procedures listed on the agenda and asked the Board to take a close look at those, especially the one about curriculum adoption.

Katie Beery, a teacher at Virginia Grainger Elementary, addressed the Board regarding the graduation requirement procedure and shared concerns.

8) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

The Board did not have any questions for the administrators regarding their written reports.

9) STAFF PRESENTATIONS

Markie Carpenter, Native American Director, presented information to the Board regarding the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Program. She shared that enrollment has increased this year due to expanded eligibility that now includes descendants. Mrs. Carpenter reviewed allowable costs covered through the JOM Program, which include items such as ASB cards, yearbooks, uniforms, band equipment, and curriculum and training for teachers.

Preschool Teacher Brittany Petersen was present and provided examples of how JOM-funded curriculum and training have been implemented in her classroom. Mrs. Carpenter concluded by thanking the JOM Parent Advisory Committee for their support and involvement, including Keelee Nicholson, Morgan Cosino, Katrina Cates, Corie Johnson,

Aubrei Cates, Qrsten Johnson, Remi Cosino, Shastina Gorr, and Aaron Andrews.

Superintendent Steve Quick shared with the Board that he recently spoke on the radio to provide the community with an update on facility upgrades and the progress being made across the district. He also informed the Board that the district will be moving away from using Apollo Solutions; however, projects to address lighting, roof, and HVAC improvements at Dawson Gym and the Vo-Ag building remain on schedule.

Mr. Quick noted that the district continues to closely monitor cash flows and is reviewing the possibility of budget reductions for the next school year as part of ongoing financial planning. He concluded by recognizing Larry Scroggins for passing yet another inspection and commended him for his exemplary work and continued dedication to the district.

A representative from the tribes North Star Initiative was briefly present at the meeting and provided the Board with a handout. She requested to be placed on the agenda for next month's Board meeting to provide additional information.

10) APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the Consent Agenda, which consisted of the following:

- a) Hired Craig Fingar, Middle School Girls C Team Basketball Coach
- b) Resignations from Ron Cate, High School History Teacher/Head Golf Coach; Traci Cate, General Education Para Educator; Becky Wilson, General Education Para Educator; Bradon Maple, Life Skills Para Educator.
- c) January warrants (259946 through 260002 totaling \$390,247.03, 260003 through 260003 totaling \$12.55, 260004 through 260004 totaling \$3,000.00 and 260036 through 260042 totaling \$47,692.86)
- d) January payroll totaling \$1,330,797.63.
- e) January Enrollment totaling 1000.01.

There were no objections from the Board regarding the consent agenda, the Board approved the consent agenda. Lafferty/McKee/passed/5 for/0 against

11) APPROVE THE 2025-2026 HIGHLY CAPABLE PLAN

After a brief explanation from Mr. Quick and Michelle Daling, Luke McKee made motion to approve the 2025-2026 Highly Capable Plan. **McKee/Fisher/passed/5 for/0 against**

12) APPROVE THE 2025-2026 HILLTOP SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

After a brief explanation from Mr. Quick, Ryan Lafferty made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Hilltop School Improvement Plan. **Lafferty/McKee/passed/5 for/0 against**

13) APPROVE CTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ISAIAH MARTIN AND LAURA MARTIN

After a brief explanation of these being Middle School CTE Advisory members, Heather Fisher made a motion to approve CTE Advisory Committee Members Isaiah Martin and Laura Martin. **Fisher/Lafferty/passed/5 for/0 against**

14) APPROVE RESOLUTION 03-01-25-26 DIRECTION REGARDING USE OF SMALL SCHOOL MODERNIZATION GRANT FUNDS FOR DAWSON GYMNASIUM AND VO-AG BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

After a brief discussion, Luke McKee made a motion to approve Resolution 03-01-25-26 Direction regarding small schools Modernization Grant funds for Dawson Gymnasium and Vo-Ag Building Improvements. **McKee/ Fisher/passed/5 for/0 against**

15) SECOND READ AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES...

- a) 1005 KEY FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD
- b) 1210 ANNUAL ORGANIZATION MEETING
- c) 1630 EVALUATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
- d) 1820 BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT
- e) 1821 STANDARDS FOR INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL DIRECTORS
- f) 2170 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
- g) 3425 ACCOMODATING STUDENTS WITH ADRENAL INSUFFICIENCY
- h) 5000 RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION OF STAFF
- i) 5004 INFECTION CONTROL PROGRAM – Replacing old policy 6512
- j) 6702 WELLNESS – Replacing old policy 6701

Ryan Lafferty made a motion to approve policies 1005, 1210, 1630, 1820, 1821, 2170, 3425, 5000, 5004 and 6702. **Lafferty/McKee/passed/5 for/0 against**

16) SECOND REVIEW OF PROCEDURES...

- a) 2020P COURSE DESIGN, SELECTION AND ADOPTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS PROCEDURE
- b) 2021P LIBRARY INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS PROCEDURE
- c) 2420P GRADING AND PROGRESS REPORTS
- d) 3416P MEDICATION AT SCHOOL
- e) 5004P INFECTION CONTROL PROGRAM
- f) 6702P WELLNESS

The Board does not generally make a motion to approve procedures but gives the Board an opportunity to review the procedures. The Board stated they had time to review them.

17) FIRST READ OF POLICIES...

- a) 2106 PROGRAM COMPLIANCE
- b) 2108 LEARNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
- c) 2140 COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL COUSELING PROGRAM
- d) 5010 DISCRIMINATION – FREE WORKPLACE
- e) 5011 PERSONNEL SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF DISTRICT STAFF PROHIBITED
- f) 6220 BID OR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS
- g) 6570 PROPERTY AND DATA MANAGEMENT
- h) 6910 CONSTRUCTION FINANCING
- i) 6920 CONSTRUCTION DESIGN

- j) 6955 MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES RECORDS
The Board reviewed the policies as presented.

18) FIRST REVIEW OF PROCEDURES...

- a) 5010P DISCRIMINATION-FREE WORKPLACE
b) 6920P CONSTRUCTION DESIGN
The Board reviewed the procedures as presented.

19) FINANCIAL REPORTS

Business Manager Klancy Allen informed the Board that the district continues to closely monitor its finances and is operating within current cash flows. She also informed the Board that the projected year-end fund balance remains within Board policy, though it is currently projected to be at the lower end of the established range.

20) DISCUSSION

Mr. Quick expressed his appreciation to the Board for their continued service and dedication, noting that January is Board Appreciation Month. He thanked Board members for their commitment and the time they devote to supporting the district and its students. Mr. Quick also informed the Board that the district's current attorney, Rockie Hansen, will be retiring. He explained that an RFP process was conducted, which resulted in the district selecting Stevens Clay Attorneys for legal services. In addition, the Board discussed Food Service operations and addressed a few concerns.

**21) EXECUTIVE SESSION... MID-TERM SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION –
RCW 42.30.110(1)g “To review the performance of a public employee.”**

The Board adjourned to executive session at 6:33 p.m. for the purpose of evaluating the Superintendent. Chair Rae Jean Kelley announced it would be about 30 minutes in executive session. After 30 minutes she came out to announce the Board would need 15 more minutes. The executive session concluded at 7:15 p.m. After returning from executive session, the Board reviewed the evaluation with the Superintendent.

22) RENEWAL AND EXTENSION OF SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT 2026-2029

After reviewing the evaluation, Heather Fisher made a motion to renew and extend the Superintendent contract 2026-2029. **Fisher/Lafferty/passed/5 for/0 against**

23) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Board Chair Rae Jean Kelley adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

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Steve Quick
Superintendent/Secretary

Rae Jean Kelley
Okanogan School Board Chair