Inspiring Excellence

LAKE STEVENS
School District

Lake Stevens School District |12309 22nd St. NE | Lake Stevens, WA 98258-9500
425-335-1500 (office) | 425-335-1549 (fax)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR AND WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
June 11, 2025

Board Members:
Mari Taylor, President
Nina Hanson
David Iseminger
Vildan Kirby
Paul Lund
Mary Templeton, Superintendent/Board Secretary

Student Advisory Council Officers:
Riley Boerger
Aashisri Bendalam
Yostina Mosa

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors met in a Work Session Meeting at the Educational Service Center. A Zoom option was available for this meeting that President Taylor called to order at 4:30 p.m. The Work Session was to discuss School Improvement Plans from each school. Each Principal presented their School Improvement Plan to the School Board and Superintendent, Dr. Templeton.

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors met in a Regular Session at the Educational Service Center. A Zoom option was available for this meeting that President Taylor called to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mari Taylor, Paul Lund, Vildan Kirby, David Iseminger, Nina Hanson, Dr. Mary Templeton and SACo members Aashisri Bendalam and Yostina Mosa. SACo President Riley Boerger was unable to attend.

AGENDA/MINUTES

Director Lund made a motion to approve the June 11, 2025 Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and unanimously approved. Director Kirby made a motion to approve the May 28, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved. President Taylor abstained due to being unable to attend the May 28, 2025 School Board Meeting.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS/ STAFF, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Lake Stevens Middle School Principal Lisa Sanchez and Associate Principal Jamie Sinning introduced the Lake Stevens Middle School Students of the Month for May: Eva Barney, Cora Psillos, Brian Pennon and Alex Rice. Brian Pennon was unable to attend. North Lake Middle School Principal Brad Ables and Associate Principal Kelly Goodmansen introduced the North Lake Middle School Students of the Month for May: Jolene Lake, Miles Tambou, Logan San Juan and Hailey Ubert. Cavelero Principal Dr. Sellers and Dean of Students Kyle Strand introduced the Cavelero Mid High School Students of the Month for May: Luke Augarten, McKinley Tilford, Isaebella Granados and Ariana Santos. Ariana Santos was unable to attend. Lake Stevens High School Principal Leslie Ivelia and LSHS Associate Principal/Athletic Director Jason Pearson introduced the Lake Stevens High School Students of the Month for May: Muhammed Ceesay, Brayden Slezak, Nina Alvarado-Ward, Jace De Guzman, Mahat Ainampudi and Kahlia Carswell. Kahlia Carswell was unable to attend. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources John Balmer introduced the APPLE Award Recipients for the month of May: Ashleigh Lankford, Christy Nichols, Donna Carruthers, Kari Fleischmann and Maria Daly. Christy Nichols was unable to attend.

break was taken approximately from 7:25 p.m. to 7:35 p.m. President Taylor welcomed everyone back.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

There were no reports of school buildings and programs.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Taylor opened the floor for community comments. Lake Stevens City Council Member Kymm Shipman expressed her gratitude and congratulations to everyone, noting that it has been a year of major transition. She praised Superintendent Templeton for her constant optimism and visible presence throughout the district, especially during a bond year. Council Member Shipman also thanked the team for making her feel welcome, including the Student Advisory Council. She concluded by saying, "Thank you for a job well done."

Hearing none others, President Taylor closed this portion of the meeting.

DECISION ITEMS

Consent Agenda:

Director Kirby made a motion to approve the "Consent Agenda" items:
Approval of the June 13, 2025 Comp & Retail Tax Warrant Numbered 000000002 - $2,266.45 manual warrants listed below drawn on the General & ASB Fund(s) (E:99/25). The sum of said payroll and/or vouchers and invoices amounting to $792,760.31 is covered by warrants numbered 317242 to 317410 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the General, Capital Projects & ASB Fund(s) (E:100/25). Personnel Report: Certified Employment: Sarah Helmus, 1.0 CMHS RR ELA Teacher, Jeff Jorgensen, 1.0 Admin. Executive Director of Special Services, Susan Lorow, 1.0, SUN, Associate Principal, Ashley McConkey, 1.0, SpEd., Occupational Therapist, Anise Prochnow, 1.0, SpEd, School Psychologist, Autumn Robinson, 1.0, SpEd School Psychologist, Tyler Stodola, 1.0 CMHS RR Math Teacher, Shannon Tarrach, 1.0 CMHS, Principal; Classified Employment: Patrick Milius PSE-OP HLM, Head OP, Tasha York, PSE-LS SKY 1:1 Pareducator; Resignations: Amelia Albrecht, Certificated, LSHS 6/20/25, Chad Coragiulo, Non-Rep, ESC, 6/27/25, William Hill, Cerificated, LSHS, 6/20/24, Allina Holmquist, Non-Rep, ESC, 7/18/25, Piper Smith PSE-Paraeducator CMHS, 8/31/25, Eric Solbakken, Certificated, LSHS, 6/20/25; Retirements: Shelley Anderson PSE- Paraeducator HLD, 8/31/25, Patti Bowers, PSE-Paraeducator, CMHS, 6/30/25, Melanie Hodapp, Certificated, ELC, 6/20/25, Kimberley Wise, PSE (E:101/25); Approval of the Co-Curricular Report (E:102/25); Superintendent Contract (E:103/25); Update to Teamsters Salary Schedule. (E:104/25); Approval of the May 30, 2025 Payroll $13,117,465.98 (E:105/25) Acceptance of a donation from Mt. Pilchuck PTA to Mt. Pilchuck Elementary in the amount of $1,691.00 for learning equipment. (E:106/25). Acceptance of a donation from an anonymous doner to LSSD Food Service for unpaid lunch balances (E:107/25); Approval of tech and other surplus items. (E:108/25) The acceptance of a donation from Iseminger Trust to LSHS Volleyball in the amount of $3,000.00 (E:109/25). The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved.

Director Lund motioned to approve the Final Acceptance of the Public Works Project. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved (E:110/25).

The Facilities and School Planning and Construction Departments have reviewed the work of the contractors listed below on the following public work projects for adherence to contract documents, specifications and public work requirements.

Projects

Service Calls

Service fire alarm panel at Sunnycrest ES (Red Hawk Fire)

All items on the construction punch list have been completed and all the necessary paperwork to accept the projects has been received.

Director Lund motioned to approve to award contract for flooring replacement at Highland Elementary. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and was unanimously approved (E:111/25).

Director Lund motioned to approve to award contracts to architectural, engineering and other construction-related services. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and was unanimously approved (E:112/25).

INFORMATION ITEMS

Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations, Teresa Main, provided a comprehensive update on the preliminary second review of the 2025 - 26 General Fund Budget. Her presentation included detailed information on levies and bonds, along with calendar-year collection data. She then offered a comparison of levy and LEA data on a school-year basis.

Teresa Main also shared the projected ending fund balance for 2024 - 25 and outlined key budgetary factors for 2025 - 26, such as total enrollment numbers, expenditure forecasts for materials, supplies, and other costs, as well as positive, negative, and undetermined budget factors.

She reviewed the latest inflation figures as of May 2025 and explained the proposed Prototypical Funding Model for the 2025 - 26 school year. The preliminary General Fund budget was then unpacked through a detailed review of revenue by source and expenditure allocations across programs, activities, and object categories.

To conclude, Assistant Superintendent Main presented a four-year preliminary outlook for the General Fund, providing the board with a forward-looking financial perspective.

Chief Academic Officer Gina Anderson provided an update on Construction Planning and Design Progress. She highlighted the district's response to community growth and emphasized the commitment to a forward-thinking vision for the schools of the future. Ms. Anderson reviewed the LSSD Mission and Vision Statements and shared the district's dedication to sourcing materials and services locally.

Executive Director of Educational Technology and Assessment Mike Weatherbie discussed the collaborative work happening with architects, project managers, and engineers to thoughtfully bring innovative ideas to life. He highlighted ongoing conversations around innovation, particularly regarding furniture and wall space. He emphasized the importance of flexible, collaborative learning environments - featuring adaptable furniture, easily accessible data, a variety of writable surfaces, interactive panels, and multiple areas for student and staff collaboration.

Mr. Weatherbie also stressed the need for flexibility in technology, including multiple connection points and power sources throughout the room to support a variety of configurations. He spoke about the ability to transform spaces, such as using movable walls to expand classrooms and create larger, more dynamic learning areas. Creating inclusive environments was also a focus, with an emphasis on clear visual displays, quality audio, and voice enhancement. These innovations support multiple learning pathways and reflect the district's commitment to adaptable, student-centered learning.

Executive Director of Communications Jayme Taylor highlighted the importance of strong stakeholder engagement. She shared that the district is hosting a table at the Farmer's Market to provide updates on construction projects and connect with the community. She also announced the launch of the district's first dedicated school construction website, designed to serve as a central hub for accurate, transparent information. Jayme outlined intentional steps being taken to engage staff, including group meetings to gather and share feedback, as well as an ongoing survey. QR codes are also being used to make access to information quick and convenient.

Executive Director of School Planning and Construction Robb Stanton shared an overview of major upcoming projects and partnerships. Highlights included the 2025 Capital Construction Campaign, construction of Elementary #8, and modernization efforts at Glenwood, Skyline, and Lake Stevens Middle School. Additional projects include the new Secondary Innovative Learning Center, Central Kitchen, Mt. Pilchuck and Hillcrest gym improvements, enhanced secure receptions and special education spaces, upgraded field lighting, and improved secure portables and perimeter safety measures.

Assistant Superintendent Main provided an update on the recent bond sale, and Chief Academic Office Gina Anderson concluded with a summary of the feedback gathered so far from students, staff, and caregivers.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Superintendent Mary Templeton invited everyone to attend the kickoff to the Farmers Market, calling it a wonderful community event. "I'd love the chance to chat with you and hear your thoughts."

She also reflected on the recent graduation, calling it a stunning and well-executed celebration. "The level of organization and care was truly impressive. I've attended many graduations, and I was so pleased that every student received their diploma on stage - something that often isn't done because of how complex it can be to manage. Principal Ivelia and team, thank you for your incredible work."

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Hanson shared that graduation was a wonderful event, and this senior class was truly phenomenal. She congratulated the Students of the Month and the APPLE Award winners, and said the presentations were fantastic. She thanked Ms. Main for making the budget easy to understand. She expressed that she will miss Executive Director of Special Education Miriam Tencate and Business Manager Allina Holmquist for all they have done for the district. She also thanked Gina and her team, adding that she loved the visual they presented.

Director Kirby congratulated the Class of 2025 and recognized both the Students of the Month and the APPLE Award recipients. She shared that two of the honored students expressed how their time at Lake Stevens High School helped them discover and embrace their true, authentic selves. She also thanked Miriam and Allina for their heartfelt letters, dedicated service to students, and all their hard work. "You will be missed," she said warmly.

Director Iseminger congratulated all of the graduates, calling it a first-class event - as it always is. Regarding the diplomas, he said, "That's the way we roll - we set high expectations and deliver on them." He described the ceremony as fun, well-run, and high-class, noting it reflects the quality of the entire community. He thanked staff for the School Improvement Plans, expressing appreciation for both the process and the thoughtful content. "I look forward to seeing those lofty goals continue to be met as we keep reaching for the stars," he said. He also congratulated the Students of the Month and APPLE Award recipients, and shared his gratitude for the presentations and all the dedicated work that makes the district "the best in the universe."

Director Lund thanked the team and gave a special thanks to Assistant Superintendent Teresa Main for making the budget information easy to understand. He also expressed his appreciation to Council Member Kymm Shipman for her thoughtful comments. He congratulated the Students of the Month and APPLE Award recipients, and noted how exciting it was to see three students interested in pursuing careers in nursing. He praised the School Improvement Plans, saying they were fantastic and appreciated the openness in sharing both successes and challenges. Reflecting on graduation, he acknowledged the hard work behind the event and thanked Leslie and her team for doing a spectacular job. He also highlighted the outstanding student speakers and said, "Last night was absolutely awesome!"

SACo Secretary Yostina Mosa once again praised Ms. Main for her intelligence and for making the budget presentations clear and easy to understand. She also shared that the construction planning and design update was very informative.

SACo Vice President Aashi Bendalam congratulated all the graduates, highlighting their accomplishments. She gave a special shout-out to Riley Boerger and Georgiy Lapin, noting they were outstanding SACo members and expressing gratitude for their contributions. She also congratulated fellow SACo member Muhammed for being named Student of the Month. Aashi praised Ms. Main for her impressive ability to present budget numbers clearly and effectively, and she commended the Construction and Planning Team for their great work. She closed by wishing everyone a good evening.

President Taylor shared that it was a lovely evening and expressed how amazing everyone is. She admitted she was initially hesitant when Lake Stevens first started handing out the actual individual diplomas at the ceremony but affirmed it was the right decision. She noted that this kind of action and innovation, that drives the district's School Improvement Plans and all of the amazing work this district does. She closed by saying she is incredibly grateful for everyone's efforts.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other objections from other directors, President Taylor adjourned the Regular Session at 9:12 p.m.

President

Secretary