

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF CUSICK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 59**

November 25, 2025 @ 5:00pm - Library

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Paul Edgren, Director, Area 1-via zoom
Anna Armstrong, Area 2
Mark Cutshall, Area 3-Absent
Tye Shanholtzer, Area 4
Jason Lyon, Area 5

ADMINISTRATIVE/STAFF:

Don Hawpe, Superintendent
Steve Bollinger, 6-12 Principal
Doug Theil, K-5 Principal
Greg Bollinger, Athletic Director
Heather Dauphin, Business Manager
Regina Williams, Recorder

PRESENT: Ryan Markel, Aubrey Markel, Richard Sandwick, Jack Biss

CALL TO ORDER at 5:00 pm. Pledge of Allegiance

I. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD

Letter from Panther Pride Collective
Letter from Eric Finley

II. COMMENTS

Richard Sandwick addressed the school board with concerns of a rumor that we might be losing a valuable staff member over delays to shop repairs and recommended we expedite whatever is needed to insure this valuable and needed program remains strong.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes from Board Meeting dated October 28, 2025 approved in **motion 2025/2026-35** by Director Lyon, seconded by Director Shanholtzer and carried 3-0.

IV. PROGRESS REPORTS

A. Heather Dauphin, Business Manager, Budget Status

- General Fund- \$2,083,618.52
- Capital Project- \$705,787.98
- Transportation- \$241,004.49
- ASB- \$96,522.55

B. Steve Bollinger, 6-12 Principal/ASB-Written Report

- As we head into the holiday we continue to push for attendance in the middle/High School. Students can win a prize for 100% attendance from the previous week. We are also working hard on our intervention programs. We are using renaissance learning to quickly test students for any holes in their learning, then pulling students with like holes in both ELA and Math to address this. We then test again to make sure we have addressed the learning deficit. It can be a quick process, but it can also take some time, depending on how quickly students grasp the knowledge. At the end of the day, if we can improve attendance we can improve and grow our students at a higher rate.
- Battle for the paddle is Jan 22nd at home. This is our annual rivalry game with Selkirk, and a fun night for everyone involved.
- Our Washington D.C. fundraiser went extremely well. I have heard multiple times how well our students did on auction night.

C. Doug Theil, K-5 Principal/SPED-Written Report

- The past few weeks has been very busy for both students, families, and teachers. Family Night was once again a great success with about 130 people showing. We served pizza and the students were able to play math games and win prizes. The Halloween parade was enjoyed by all and parties followed with plenty of food being served. We had over 75% of parent participation during conferences with the goal of always being 100%. The Veterans Day Assembly was well attended with nineteen (19) veterans attending. The veterans were very thankful to be invited and they all enjoyed the slide show. Next year, we plan to somehow honor soldiers who have died in the line of duty. I want to give a special thank you to the FFA for making and donating a wreath to the American Legion.

D. Greg Bollinger, Athletic Director-Written Report

❖ **High School Sports**

- **Boys Basketball:** Basketball practice started on 11/17/2025. There were 15 boys at the 1st practice. This is a good number to be able to have both Varsity and J.V. our two paid coaches are Raymond Ostlie and July Sorrell.
- **Girls Basketball:** Practice started on 11/17/2025. There were 14 girls at the 1st practice. This is really encouraging because in the 9 years I have been here we have yet to have a full JV team for the girls. I am hopeful that all of them will stick with it and we finally get a JV team.

❖ **JH Sports**

- **Girls Basketball:** the season is about over. We have had a good season this year. The varsity girls have won all games except one and it was a close game with a rematch coming. When talking with Candi about the growth that the girls are making it is exciting. She said that they are making great gains this year and have had to do things without some of the other players, as three 8th graders are playing up this year. It has been good for these girls to have to step up and figure it out. It will help them in the future.

E. Jack Biss Maintenance & Transportation Director: Written Report

- We had a propane leak in the science room that was leaking from one of the original Valves, so we replaced it.
- We applied for a few more grants to help with roof replacement on the Adam Wyke gym, finish replacement roof on the Jr./Sr. High school and one to put in secure vestibules at the Elementary and Jr./Sr. high, close in the walk from the kitchen to the shop/AG area and replace the fence around the playground.
- We are continuing to work with our construction management team on the engineering of the elementary heat, vestibules, security fencing, Adam Wyke gym roof, Jr./Sr. high school roof, replacement of water lines and propane lines to be scheduled for next summer.
- Evergreen came by at the request of the city and tested all the water mains around the School, and they also tested all the district buildings for leaks. The buildings tested no leaks. The water main that runs under Monumental and under the railroad tracks was determined to have a leak of about 270 gallons per day. The tester found a small leak which he stated he had found earlier for the city on a previous test between the main and the meter of 103 3rd that he thought wasn't big enough to cause the full leak. He stated that it would have to be fixed before any further testing could be done. As of 11/19/2025 Everett from the city has yet to respond about when they are going to repair the leak.
- The bus garage was broken into 10/26/2025 and numerous tools and the Buick Malibu was stolen. The person ransacked and vandalized numerous vehicles. He also drove the

Malibu through the gate. We have re-secured and reinforced the bus garage and purchased a safe to put keys in. We found the Malibu on 10/27 and it will be a total loss.

- We started a new work order help desk for maintenance, so the staff can report issues. It seems to be working well.
- We are working on getting the sprinklers blown out and the water line at the back of the school insulated and buried. We are also putting in a drain line to help drain some of the water coming out from under the school and the run off from the gym roof.
- We filed insurance claims for the water damage and the bus garage break-in.
- We currently have bus 2 and bus 4 down
- We have been getting ready for snow removal with all equipment up and running.
- Started the heating system up and working out issues.
- Staying busy with the numerous small projects and repairs.

F. Jaime Palmer, Home Pride and Kalispel Language Immersion Schools (KLIS) Director-Written Reports

❖ HomePride ALE student headcount stands at 110.

➤ November special events:

Students enjoyed a Pool & PE day at the Camas Wellness Center, sponsored by our generous Kalispel Tribe. Miss Kennedy also led the students in team sports and activities in the gym with her stellar coaching skills. On November 17, Students participated in an interactive presentation day for Native American history month at the North Spokane Library. First students listened to Spokane Tribe Salish speaker and Teacher, Devon Peone, tell the story of how Two Rivers came to be, according to Spokane' tradition, in the Salish language with captions. Next, the students enjoyed listening to fellow students, Kemp & Fyvall Pakootas-Peone, along with their mother Chenise, share about their ancestral Colville tribe, and its 12 bands. HomePride students gathered in a circle and passed around beaded moccasins, eagle feathers, 120-year-old trade beads, a ribbon skirt, and beaded barrettes. During this time, there were many questions and answers were given with cultural appropriation and historical context.

➤ Karlise Palmer then led students and parents in an engaging language lesson. Students learned how to *introduce themselves, * ask simple questions & respond

▪ Example:

*"Karli lu i skwests" (Karli is my name)

*greet someone

"Ah, Xest skwests" (hello, good morning)

* Lemlemts =thanks

*Une' = yes

*Ta= no

➤ Students then gave their own individual presentation on the tribe which they had chosen to learn about throughout the month of November. Students presented on the Kalispel, Chinook, 12 Bands of Colville, Sioux, Dakota, Coeur de Alene, Spokane', Chippewa, Wenatchee, and Quinault tribes. Refreshments were provided as teacher-parent-student Conferences followed.

❖ KLIS ALE student headcount stands at 47.

➤ With The change of seasons and autumn moving into the quietness of winter, it is the tradition of The People to embrace a quiet season. Drumming becomes quieter and less frequent within the cultural parameters of the classroom. KLIS staff have been leading students in more frequent stick games and circle time. These cultural practices foster ample meaningful conversation opportunities in the Salish language on a daily communication level, rather than simply reading from a text book. Circle time also provides a comfortable environment for reoccurring lessons and oral recitation of basic introductory sentences, acquisition of nouns, verbs, colors, adjectives, and pronouns in the Salish language.

G. Joshua Mason, Chief Security Office-Written Report

- October 22, I completed a safety assessment of the school campus with Response Ready Medical regarding first aid and stop the bleed kits.
- October 23, I attended the LEPC meeting in person and completed a general safety assessment of the campus with School Safety Coordinator Dan Corder, I was advised Cusick schools are well ahead of the curve in terms of safety planning and physical security.
- October 26, I responded to the initial report of a burglary in the transportation department. Following that incident, I worked with the Sheriff's Office for procurement of evidence, communications, and recovery of a stolen vehicle. That investigation is still ongoing.
- October 28, I chaperoned a field trip with the senior class and students attending the Washington DC trip through the Pend Oreille County Courts, Dispatch Center, Corrections Facility and Sheriff's Office.
- October 30, I met with Sheriff Glenn Blakeslee regarding proposed physical security upgrades of the facilities.
- November 4, I was interviewed by a student for an English class assignment.
- November 5, I completed an inventory of the emergency tote lists and updated new staff to the E3 roster.
- November 11, I met with a deputy at the transportation department to compare keys that had been recovered in regards to the recent burglary.
- November 14, I assisted with conflict resolution between several students.
- November 18, I assisted a student with locating and returned lost property.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Policy 6220-Bid or Request for Proposal Requirements- revision approved in **motion 2025/2026-36** b. Director Lyon, seconded by Director Shanholtzer and carried 3-0.
- B. School Improvement Plans
 - Elementary-approved in **motion 2025/2026-37** by Director Shanholtzer, seconded by Director Lyon and carried 3-0.
 - Secondary-approved in **motion 2025/2026-38** by Director Shanholtzer, seconded by Director Lyon and carried 3-0.
- C. Levy For/Against Committee
- D. Volunteers for HS Basketball-All volunteers must complete an application, with background check a month prior to practice beginning.
 - Tyler Edwards-Approved, employed as a coach
 - Louis Bluff-Approved, employed as a coach
 - Brittney Biss-Approved, employed as a teacher
 - Emma Lyon-Approved, employed as a paraeducator
 - Dylan Hendershot-pending application & background check
 - Roma Chantry-pending application & background check
 - Charles Thomas-pending application & background check
- E. School Security and Preparedness Infrastructure-Information
- F. Urgent Grant-Form Package 502 Elementary Gym Roof Replacement-\$458,803.00-Information
- G. 2026 Graduation-June 5, 2026 @8:30pm, Kalispel Pow Wow Grounds
- H. Elementary Christmas Concert-December 11, 2025 at 6:00pm

I. Christmas Breakfast December 5, 2026 at 8:00am

J. Christmas Party at the Kalispel Casino Restaurant, on December 5th, 2025. Dinner will begin at 5:00.

K. Donations:

- \$20,000 donation from the Kalispel Tribe towards the Agriculture greenhouse project. Donation accepted in **motion 2025/2026-39** by Director Lyon, seconded by Director Shanholtzer and carried 3-0.
- STCU and Coats 4 kids-Donation of Winter Jackets for our elementary students. Donation accepted in **motion 2025/2026-40** by Director Shanholtzer, seconded by Director Lyon and carried 3-0.

L. No December Meeting: Consent agenda for December: Payroll \$700,000.00, General Fund \$300,000.00, Transportation Fund \$200,000.00, ASB Fund \$25,000.00, Capital Project Fund \$100,000.00.

M. January Board Meeting – January 27, 2026 @ 5:00pm in the library

N. Executive Session-Called for qualifications of employment-for 20 minutes, beginning at 6:20, extended for 5 minutes at the close of the meeting, no decisions to be made.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- **Washington DC Trip update:** Mr. Markel thanked everyone for coming to the Auction. Discussed the finances for the trip including profits from the auction, additional funding sources include concessions for Home Basketball games and a parent group has been selling raffle tickets for a buffalo hunt compliments of the Kalispel Tribe. Drawing is to be held December 5th for the Hunt which takes place in January.
- **Snow sports:** Parents Meeting scheduled for December 1, 2025 at 5:00pm.

VII. **NOVEMBER CONSENT AGENDA** - There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board or a citizen in attendance requests that the item be removed from the consent agenda.

A. APPROVAL VOTE OF WARRANTS;

B. APPROVAL VOTE OF PAYROLL;

The November Consent Agenda was approved in **motion 2025/2026-41** by Director Shanholtzer, seconded by Director Lyon and carried 3-0.

VIII. **DECEMBER CONSENT AGENDA** - There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board or a citizen in attendance requests that the item be removed from the consent agenda.

A. APPROVAL VOTE OF WARRANTS;

B. APPROVAL VOTE OF PAYROLL;

The December Consent Agenda was approved in **motion 2025/2026-42** by Director Shanholtzer, seconded by Director Lyon and carried 3-0.

IV. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 in **motion 2025/2026-43** by Director Shanholtzer, seconded by Director Lyon, and carried 3-0.



Board Chairman



Secretary to Board/Superintendent

Regina Williams, Recorder

