SUMNER-BONNEY LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT

A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN.

Board of Directors
Kevin Lewis, President
Bill Gaines, Vice President
Erin Markquart, Member
Johanneke Smith, Member
Tom Watson, Member

Our Promise

We will **know**, **value**, and **support** every student, helping them **graduate ready** to pursue a **promising future**.

March 10, 2026 - Study Session Minutes

Lakeridge Middle School (Commons)
5909 Myers Road E.
Bonney Lake, WA 98391

Call to Order

School board President Kevin Lewis called the March 10, 2026 board study session for the Board of Directors at Sumner-Bonney Lake School District No. 320 to order at 5:00pm.

The study session recessed at 5:01pm as the board went into Executive Session (RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)) for fifty-five minutes to discuss potential litigation. No action was taken.

The board study session reconvened at 6:00pm.

The March study session opened with student performances from the Lakeridge Middle school band and choir.

Arts Program

Vice Principal Christine Anderson presented the Lakeridge Middle School Arts programs to the Board of Directors. The presentation included student performances that communicated the academic and social benefits of the Arts programs in middle school; benefits which include problem solving, collaboration, critical thinking, patience, sense of belonging and purpose to name a few. There are more than 2,000 middle school students participating in arts programs across the Sumner-Bonney Lake School District in the areas of choir, band, art and IPA (theater) which includes set design and lighting.

Students showcased their skills in a short video centered around how the arts programs in the district have helped them build friendships and make connections with other students.

The Art room, Band room and Choir rooms were opened for parents, board and attendees to engage with students and view their work in an interactive environment.

Christine shared highlights about the Lakeridge Middle School band, which performed at community festivals (i.e. Liberty Jazz Festival, Daffodil Parade and VMEA Regional Festival), the art students who participated at STEAM Night and STEAM fairs across the district where they earned several awards, including three superintendent awards. They also shared that the award-winning vocal ensemble received superior rating at the WMEA Valley Region Solo and Ensemble contest two years in a row. IPA students and drama club did popular performances (i.e. Frozen Jr., Shrek, Moana and Mary Poppins).

Board Discussion
Director Gaines shared how impressed he was with the programs and the skills he learned participating in the art project during the interactive portion of the study session. He also raised the issue of the district's partnership with the City of Bonney Lake and inquired about more information on how students and their families are served through parks and rec. Dr. Laurie Dent has been asked to work with the city to gain information that will assist the board with understanding what the current partnership includes.

Director Smith also expressed interest in knowing how the partnership works and what opportunities are made available to all students because of the in-kind contributions. She raised the question of equity for students who have a desire to participate but do not have the resources. She was impressed with the activities at the study session and appreciated the teachers who lead our students.

Director Lewis shared concern regarding how the privatization of the program would limit exposure for students and is interested in exploring how the district navigates the expense for those who cannot afford the insurance?

Dr. Laurie Dent will work with Jason Sullivan to bring information on the kind of support teachers/coaches will need if they have to secure private liability insurance for their Summer camps to the board in May. The current agreement expires at the end of August.

Director Tom appreciated interacting with the students and learning about student impact and shared concern over losing the connection as students will not be able to participate because of lack of funding.

Adjourned at 7:19pm

Attest

Laurie Dent, Secretary
Board of Directors

Kevin Lewis, President
Board of Directors