

LIBERTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
March 25, 2026
EJH Library

CALL TO ORDER: Board Chair Stephanie Stout called the meeting of the Liberty School District Board of Directors to order at 6:00 p.m. The flag salute was given, and a quorum was declared. Others present were board members Mark Bullock, Jeremy Engle and Superintendent Jerrad Jeske.

AGENDA REVIEW: Additions to the consent agenda were noted.

SALUTE TO LIBERTY:

- Jerrad Jeske recognized: Connie Green for her generous contribution of a field drag for softball, the classified staff for their support of students and athletes, Liberty School District for earning the State Superintendent's Award for Educational Excellence, and boys basketball team being named State Academic Champions.
- Kyle Dodge gave kudos to Steve Braun and the FFA for hosting districts, as well as thanking athletic trainer Shawna Berberich for a long season wherein her advisership was appreciated even beyond Liberty.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: The following were a part of Jerrad Jeske's report:

- Enrollment remains steady at 575 students
- Early projections indicate next year's kindergarten class is expected to be approximately 39 students.
- Small Modernization Planning Grant: The district was awarded a \$48,000 planning grant through the Small Modernization Program. This is an important first step toward potentially securing up to \$6 million in funding to modernize our elementary/junior high building.
- The Industry Fair was a great success, with over 30 organizations. Special thanks to Mrs. McKenna for organizing this event. Her efforts made this valuable experience possible for our students.
- Bus Depreciation: The depreciation schedule for school buses has been extended from 13 years to 15 years. Gravel roads and longer routes make this more impactful to our district than most.
- Funding for TK has been reduced by approximately 35% so our total number of available slots may get eliminated or only those students who qualify for free and reduced will generate funding for the program. We will expect to know more in the next 2 weeks. Questions and possible options were discussed.
- Due to weather-related closures, the snow make-up day will be added to the end of the school year. The last day of school is now scheduled for Thursday, June 11.

ELEMENTARY/JUNIOR HIGH REPORT: The following were a part of Alex Saywers' report:

- The Read-a-Thon is wrapping up on Friday, and we will see our final Minutes tally.
- We celebrated our classified staff during the week of March 9-13th with lots of fun meals and gifts. Thank you to Mandy Spears and Leticia Clausen for helping to put that altogether and thank you to all classified staff for their work for our students and staff.
- Our Junior High students attended the Industry Fair on March 12th. Special thanks to Mrs. McKenna for inviting our students and putting this on. We had a wonderful turnout of business vendors who came out.
- On March 13th, our Junior High and High School students participated in the Honor Band and Choir concert at Gonzaga Prep at 7:00 PM. Congrats to all those students who were able to perform.
- We hosted Missoula Children's Theater this month, and we got to see all our students perform in the Beauty Lou and the Country Beast in two performances on March 20th. Over 60 students were able to participate in this event and 86 tried out.
- We hosted our Knowledge Bowl State Send-off on March 20th as well, and just like always, our students brought a tremendous amount of enthusiasm to the event!
- Yesterday, I had the pleasure of taking our Junior High ASB Representatives on a field trip to Chase Middle School for an AWSL Leadership Conference. We learned a lot and hope to bring the ideas back to support culture at Liberty.

- This Friday, we will have an “March Movie Madness” ASB Activity to reward our students who all have passing grades and fewer than three ZAPs
- On Wednesday, April 1st, we will have our 5-12th grade band and choir concert at 6:30 PM.
- We wrapped up Trimester 2 on March 12th in the Elementary and sent home report cards, and conferences are next week on Thursday. We are also wrapping up the 3rd quarter on Friday for Junior High.
- Next week, we will have our K-5 Awards Assemblies on Tuesday, and our Junior High Quarter 3 Awards Assembly on Friday, before Spring Break.
- Kindergarten Round-up is Friday, April 17th, and we have been getting lots of registrations in for TK and Kindergarten for next year. We will hold our TK Open House on Tuesday, May 12th.

*Jeremy Engle asked about hosting another theatre opportunity for our district, considering the tremendous interest shown in the Missoula Children’s Theatre. Discussion ensued about options.

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT: The following were a part of Aaron Fletcher’s report:

- Thank you to Mandy and Leticia for their contributions in putting on a great Classified Week.
- FFA District resulted in numerous teams qualifying for State. Members will represent Liberty May 13-16th in Pullman.
- Drivers Ed begins April 13th.
- Industry Fair was a huge success, thanks to Mrs. Mckenna. We had 145 Liberty students and around 500 students from other schools attend.
- We will be attending a Hiring Event at the Hub, coming up soon.
- Mr. Groom is waiting to hear back from SCC and SFCC, on college credits for 2 new business classes we will offer next year.
- ASB elections will be taking place in April.
- Mr. Terry and the honor band performed at the Martin Woolson Theater on March 13th.
- Band will also compete at Mead High school, and then the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival April 24th.
- The Liberty concert will be in Lancer Gym on April 1st.
- Spokane Scholars Banquet is April 20th, where 6 students will be recognized.
- 3rd quarter pride assembly is April 2nd.
- Senior Signing Day to recognize our seniors April 17th.
- Character traits and class visits are April 14th.
- We will begin smarter balance assessments in April.
- There will be 29 participants at State FBLA in Spokane April 22-24.
- The Junior Livestock Show is April 29-May 2.
- Knowledge Bowl finished 6th at State.
- The HS will be offering an acting class next year.

LIBERTY ATHLETICS REPORT: The following were a part of Kyle Dodge’s report:

- Junior High Spring Sports has started; Baseball has 23, Softball is at 22, and Track is at 31. We are still looking for assistant coaches.
- High School:
 - Softball and baseball are both playing very well.
 - Softball will travel to Medical Lake, and Baseball is at home against Medical Lake on Friday.
 - Track is at Valley Christian on Saturday.
- Fall sports schedules are almost done.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

CONSENT AGENDA: Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Approval of regular board meeting minutes from February 25, 2026
- General Fund check # 118694-118744 in the amount of \$182,386.18
- General Fund check # 118751 in the amount of \$5,000.00
- GEN Comp Tax check # 202500038 in the amount of \$167.43
- ASB Fund check # 118745-118750 in the amount of \$7,787.27
- Payroll for March 2026 TOTAL Checks # 118677-118693 in the amount of \$689,846.38

- Resignations: Tiffany Buys – JH Asst. Track & Field Coach, Randy Degenhart – Knowledge Bowl Advisor, Kristin Berry – JH/HS Science & HS Art Teacher
 - Appointments: Janet Greenburg – Paraeducator (remaining 25-26 SY)
- Mark Bullock seconded the motion, and it passed all-in-favor.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

- A. The purchasing of a van with wheelchair lift was discussed. It is now possible to receive depreciation on vans, but we cannot order until September 1st. More will be discussed at that time.

ACTION ITEMS:

A. Approval of policies and procedures: 1630 – Evaluation of the Superintendent, 2020P – Course Design Selection and Adoption of Instructional Materials, 2108 – Learning Assistance Program, 3416P – Medication at School, 3425 – Accommodating Students with Adrenal Insufficiency, 5011 – Sexual Harassment of District Staff Prohibited

Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve the policies and procedures, Mark Bullock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Approval of the 2026-2027 District Calendar

Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 District Calendar, Mark Bullock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Approve to surplus Game Plan Music Curriculum

Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve the surplus of the Game Plan Music Curriculum, Mark Bullock seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

D. Approval of overnight for FBLA State in Spokane, April 21-24

Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve the overnight for FBLA State in Spokane, April 21-24, Mark Bullock seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

E. Approve to surplus transportation items: compressor, spool of cable, canopy with toolboxes, seeder, hopper, aerator, roller, 12 ft culvert, pallet of assorted outdated automotive filters, and pallet of assorted outdated automotive parts

Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve the surplus transportation items, Mark Bullock seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 - 6:00 PM

- A. FFA overnight to Pullman WA, May 13-16
B. 26-27 Fall Coaches

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 6:39 p.m. Stephanie Stout announced the board would enter into executive session to discuss personnel as allowed by RCW 42.30.110 (g) for 30 minutes.

The board exited the executive session at 7:09 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Minutes not approved until signed at the next regular board meeting April 29, 2026.