



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**.

April 14, 2026 - Study Session Minutes
Sumner High School (JROTC Classroom)
1707 Main Street
Sumner, WA 98390

Call to Order

School board President Kevin Lewis called the April 14, 2026 board study session for the Board of Directors at Sumner-Bonney Lake School District No. 320 to order at 6:00pm.

Directors Erin Markquart and JB Smith were excused.

JROTC Program

Director of Career and College Readiness, Aaron Tomin, along with Major Joseph Haggerty (BLHS Air Force - JROTC Instructor), MSgt Gina Daddio (BLHS Air Force - JROTC Instructor), Col. Jeffrey Powell (SHS Army JROTC Instructor), CSM Anthony Martinez (SHS Army - JROTC Instructor), and multiple cadets from both programs will present the JROTC Program to the Board of Directors.

Aaron shared that the JROTC program has been operating in the Sumner-Bonney Lake School District for three years. Anthony Martinez shared the program overview, which is a preparation of students for their future through community service and leadership development. The program offers students an opportunity to gain skills in aerospace science, leadership communication, fitness, and drill teams. The programs are currently experiencing a steady state enrollment but work is in place to increase enrollment through participation in the colorguard, robotics, fitness and academy teams that compete at the state and even global level. Service projects include food drives, flood mitigation with sand bagging and lahar drill participation.

Major Hagerty shared current course offerings, requiring 40%/40%/20% focus in the curriculum where they learn leadership through action and high-performance teams that foster pride and



proven outcomes. Col Jeff Powell (SHS) founded the program and shared the integration of leadership at each level and team building that is student led effort. Communication is critical in the program and a skill that teachers help them build. Physical fitness is two days/week and they take the cadet challenge each year.

Most public facing activity is the color guard, which was built and later expected. They have an official patch design that represents the school and district. Cadet Mgr Olson shared highlights about the cadets. The vision is developed and run by students with leadership opportunities. Projects like Beautify Bonney Lake and Daffodile parade that strengthen their community engagement as well as competitive events (local and state-wide).

Panel discussion that included cadets and student squad leaders. Students share how they joined to gain leadership experience and practical skills received through hands-on engagements. Students shared certification in CPR, AED, Survival skills and food handlers. As evidence of their investment in the program many return because of the community they've built which has helped many gain confidence. Many students desire to continue a career in the military to become future leaders.

After a brief overview of their program, students showcased their skills through various demonstrations in drone flying, robotics, rifle drill, archery and colorguard demonstration. They are hopeful that enrollment will increase to 100 students. Field trips include places like JBLM, robotic trips that include museum visits and JCLC where they stay with the national guard where they practice repelling off 30ft towers. The leadership trait admired most about their teachers is honest feedback to encourage and build confidence, mental stability and dedication.

Board Discussion

Directors Tom Watson and Bill Gaines shared how impressed they were with student presentations and what they learned on student connection and constant engagement.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.

Attest

Laurie Dent, Secretary
Board of Directors

Kevin Lewis, President
Board of Directors