

LIBERTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
June 24, 2026

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, Aly Moles and Superintendent Jerrad Jeske.

AGENDA REVIEW: The addition of a General Fund check was noted.

SALUTE TO LIBERTY:

- Jerrad Jeske:
 - Congratulated the Class of 2026.
 - Recognized the retirees: Barb Cressey, Kristin Berry, Melissa Doubet, and Shannon Martensen for their many years of dedicated service to the Liberty School District.
 - Recognized Chad Denny's resignation and thanked him for his many years as a Board of Directors

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

- High School Graduation was held on Saturday, June 6. It was another outstanding ceremony and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of our seniors. Thank you Mr. Fletcher
- The 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony took place on June 9. Thank you to Mr. Sawyers and Mrs. Clements for their efforts in organizing a memorable event for our students and families.
- HE thanked the Board for hosting the end-of-year staff BBQ.
- Just completed and submitted our second Small Modernization Grant application this month, seeking an additional \$6 million in state funding. While funding would likely be several years away, our primary goal was to place Liberty back on the state's funding list and position the district for future modernization opportunities.
- The school year ended with 574.39 students, demonstrating stable enrollment throughout the year. We began the year with 567.
- The current student lunch price is \$3.75. Recommending a \$0.10 increase for the 2026-27 school year. Despite recent adjustments, the district continues to lose approximately \$0.50 per meal served.
- New Hires starting in 26-27:
 - Justice Brown – 5th Grade Teacher
 - Marina Cobbs – 5th Grade Teacher (One-Year Contract)
 - Melissa Pendell – Transitional Kindergarten Teacher (One-Year Contract)
 - Logan Posey – High School Special Education Teacher
- Staff Reassignments:
 - Megan Becker (formerly Brown) – Choir Teacher
 - Tanya Kanenwisher – Junior High Science
 - Cami Canning – 2nd Grade
 - Haley Marsh – 1st Grade
- Following the loss of three drivers for the upcoming school year, Transportation Director Jenny Janson has worked extensively to redesign routes and adjust pickup locations to maintain service while minimizing student ride times for the upcoming year.
- The Washington State Patrol completed its annual bus inspections this month. All deficiencies have been corrected, re-inspected, and approved. Our fleet is fully operational and ready for the upcoming school year.
- We had a 10,000-gallon water leak this last week. Looks like someone drove over one of our sprinkler boxes and broke our irrigation system. Just a reminder why we can't have vehicles on the fields.
- In addition to annual cleaning, painting, moving, and preventative maintenance work, the following projects are planned or underway:

- Fiber Optic Project – Awaiting E-Rate funding approval for trenching and installation of fiber optic cable between the elementary school and high school.
- Sound Panels – Installation in the new gym.
- Elementary Fence Project – Construction is substantially complete; we are currently awaiting installation of the gates.
- Baseball Field Improvements – Field leveling and surface improvements.
- Football Field Light Pole – Realignment and anchoring of a light pole.
- Elementary Cooling Tower Motor – Installation of a new motor.
- Gym Floor Refinishing Schedule:
 - Elementary Gym – July 22
 - High School Gym – July 29
- This is a levy year for the district. One of our major priorities during the coming year will be the successful renewal of the Educational Programs and Operations Levy. Additional information will be sent out to the community as we move through the levy process.

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 May 27, 2026
- General Fund check # 118927-119003 in the amount of \$177,352.75
- General Fund check # 119028 in the amount of \$26,970.95
- GEN Comp Tax check # 20250049 in the amount of \$154.68
- Capital Projects Fund check # 119004-119005 in the amount of \$3,307.68
- ASB Fund check # 119006-119011 in the amount of \$4,402.63
- Payroll for June 2026 TOTAL Checks # 119012-119027 in the amount of \$729,518.58
- Resignations: Jawuan Nave – JH Head Football Coach & JH Head Basketball Coach, Shannon Martensen – Bus Driver, Chad Denny – Board Director, District 2
- Appointments: Justice Brown – 5th Grade Teacher, Marina Cobbs – 5th Grade Teacher (one-year), Melissa Pendell – TK Teacher

Aly Moles seconded the motion, and it passed all-in-favor.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. The time for the Budget Hearing on Wednesday, July 29th was discussed and confirmed for 5:30 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS:

A. Review and approve 2026-27 board meeting dates

After review, Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve the 2026-27 board meeting dates, Mark Bullock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Approve 2026-2027 EJH Handbook

Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 EJH Handbook, Aly Moles seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Approve 2026-2027 HS Handbook

Aly Moles made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 HS Handbook, Jeremy Engle seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

D. Approve the 2026-2027 Highly Capable Program

Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Highly Capable Program, Mark Bullock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

E. Approve the baseball field leveling project

After discussion of bids were presented, Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve a budget of \$85,000 for the baseball field leveling project, Aly Moles seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

F. Approve the installation of sound panels in new HS gym

After discussion of bids were presented, Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve a budget of \$55,000 for the installation of sound panels in the new HS gym, Mark Bullock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

G. Approve to surplus the gym equipment (medicine balls, kettlebells, and weights)

Jeremy Engle made a motion to approve the surplus of gym equipment, Mark Bullock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

H. Approve to surplus vehicles: 1999 Dodge Stratus, 2004 Dodge Neon, and 1995 Chevy CK2500

Aly Moles made a motion to approve the surplus of vehicles, Mark Bullock second and the motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 – 5:30 PM

A. Budget Hearing

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 6:46 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 7:16 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

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