

LIBERTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 362
BUDGET HEARING AND REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 29, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: Board Chair Stephanie Stout called the meeting of the Liberty School District Board of Directors to order at 5:30 p.m. The flag salute was given, and a quorum was declared. Others present were board members Mark Bullock, Aly Moles and Superintendent Jerrad Jeske.

BUDGET HEARING: The public hearing for the adoption of the 2026-27 school year budget began at 5:30 p.m. Dana Crider prepared the 26-27 budget proposal based on a projected enrollment of 560. An overview of the five budget funds—Bond, Transportation Vehicle, Associated Student Body, Capital Projects, and General—was given. Anticipated revenues and expenditure amounts were shared along with fund summaries. Staffing and budget goals were reviewed. The four-year budget projection and four-year enrollment projection, as well as the 26-27 MSOC disclosure were shared. Discussion was held, and questions were answered. At 6:04 p.m., the Budget Hearing was closed.

CALL TO ORDER: Board Chair Stephanie Stout called the regular school board meeting of the Liberty School District Board of Directors to order at 6:22 p.m.

AGENDA REVIEW: No changes to the agenda were noted.

SALUTE TO LIBERTY:

- Jerrad Jeske thanked the outstanding maintenance staff, and especially Randy Knigge, who continues to volunteer two full days each week to help maintain our school grounds. His dedication and commitment to Liberty are greatly appreciated.
- Jerrad also recognized Melissa Doubet in that, although she recently retired, she has graciously returned to help train our newest bus driver. Melissa is filling in for Jeff Nearing while he attends the state Bus Driver Trainer certification program. Upon Jeff's return, he will assume the role of Liberty's new Bus Driver Trainer.

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

- Fiber Optic Project: No updates at this time. The project continues to be delayed due to the E-Rate (Grant monies) funding process and is not expected to be completed this summer.
- Sound Panels: Arrived yesterday, as soon as the floors in the new gym are dry we will begin that project.
- Elementary Fence Project: Completed, with gates installed.
- Baseball Field Improvements: Nearly complete. The contractor is scheduled to return next week to finish the remaining items.
- Football Field Light Pole: Still working on a date for that.
- Elementary Cooling Tower: A new motor was installed this week along with some modifications and the tower has been running great.
- Gym Floor Refinishing: Both the old gym and elementary gym floors have been refinished and look good. HS new gym started today.
- Timber Playground: Connie utilized leftover sod from another project to improve the appearance of the timber playground area.
- Old Gym: Steve has completed painting the entire old gym, including all doors, giving the facility a fresh new look.
- Electrician came by and fixed some receptacles that needed fixed. We added one in the elementary kitchen for the milk carton which was previously used by an extension cord.
- Tru Green came out today and applied the first of 3 applications over the course of the year on both of our football fields
- Allied fire came out and fixed our fire panel yesterday in the elementary which has been giving us issues this past year.

- Melissa Doubet has begun training a new applicant to become a Liberty bus driver. We appreciate her willingness to assist during this transition and help prepare another qualified driver for our transportation team.
- To date, I have received applications from two candidates for the vacant Board Director position. During our previous board appointment process, interviews began at 5:00 p.m., with the second interview scheduled for 5:30 p.m. If that format continues to work for the Board, I recommend using the same schedule. We can finalize the interview timeline during tonight's meeting.
- Liberty School District has once again been recognized by the Washington State Department of Ecology for operating one of the top-performing wastewater treatment plants in the state. This recognition reflects the outstanding work and attention to detail of our maintenance team in operating and maintaining this important system.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

CONSENT AGENDA: Aly Moles made a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- *Approval of regular board meeting minutes from June 24, 2026
- *General Fund Check #119029 in the amount of \$15,432.00
- *General Fund Check #119030 in the amount of \$48,000.00
- *General Fund Check #119045-119092 in the amount of \$230,085.42
- *General Fund Comp Tax Check #202500058 in the amount of \$2,982.26
- *Capital Fund Check #119093-119094 in the amount of \$909.36
- *Payroll for July 2026 and Check #119031-119044 in the amount of \$673,116.52
- *VOID: Check #118440 for \$632.78 – Trophies Unlimited (duplicate payment) - ASB

Mark Bullock seconded the motion, and it passed all-in-favor.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. The First Reading of the following policies and procedures we discussed:
 - 2020P - Course Design, Selection, and Adoption of Instructional Materials
 - 2161 & 2161P – Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students
 - 2230 – Transition to Kindergarten Program
 - 2410 & 2410P – High School Graduation Requirements
 - 3115 & 3115P – Students Experiencing Homelessness: Enrollment Rights and Services
 - 3120 – Enrollment
 - 3122 & 3122P – Excused and Unexcused Absences
 - 3124 & 3124P – Removal/Release of Students During School Hours
 - 3246 & 3246P – Restraint, Isolation and Other Uses of Reasonable Force
 - 5401 & 5401P – Sick Leave
 - 6100 – Revenues from Local, State, and Federal Sources
 - 6220P – Bid or Request for Proposal Requirements

ACTION ITEMS:

- A. **Approval of Resolution No. 25-26/02 the adoption of the 2026-2027 Budget**
Aly Moles made a motion to approve Resolution No. 25-26/02 the adoption of the 2026-2027 Budget, Mark Bullock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- B. **Student meal price increase of \$0.10 to \$3.85**
Aly Moles made a motion to approve the Student meal price increase of \$0.10 to \$3.85, Mark Bullock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- C. **Approve to retire procedure 6100P - Revenues from Local, State, and Federal Sources**
Aly Moles made a motion to approve to retire procedure 6100P - Revenues from Local, State, and Federal Sources, Mark Bullock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

D. Approve to surplus 7/8 Science curriculum

Aly Moles made a motion to approve to surplus 7/8 Science curriculum, Mark Bullock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA: Wednesday, August 26, 2026 – 6:00 PM

A. Out of endorsement approvals.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 6:38 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 7:08p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Minutes not approved until signed at the next regular board meeting August 26th, 2026.