

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A Business Meeting of the Springfield School District No.19 Board of Education was held on April 13, 2026.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Chair Jonathan Light called the Springfield Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Director Light read the following Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that we are in the traditional homeland of the Kalapuya people, specifically the community that was known as Chifin, the area that we now call Springfield.

Kalapuya people, who have lived in this region since "[Time Immemorial](#)", were illegally dispossessed of their land and forcibly removed to what are now the Grand Ronde and Siletz reservations over several years, but most notably in treaties between 1851 and 1855.

The Kalapuya are now members of the [Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde](#) and the [Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians](#), and members of the Kalapuya still live, work, study, and thrive in this area, and continue to make important contributions here in Springfield, across the land we now refer to as Oregon, and around the globe.

This information is shared out of a responsibility to prevent the erasure of Native culture, heritage, and people and to ensure a quality contemporary education for future generations.

Attendance

Board Members attending the meeting included Board Chair Jonathan Light, Director Ken Kohl, Director Nicole De Graff, Director Bob Brew and Director Amber Langworthy.

District staff and community members identified included Acting Superintendent Jodi O'Mara, Brett Yancey, Dustin Reese, Martie Steigleder, Jeff Fuller, Whitney McKinlay, Mindy LeRoux, Brian Megert, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Bradley Norris, Aiden Hight, Hunter Murphy, Dortys Diaz, Lucy Rogers, Megan Knight, Patty Sandoz, Armando Garcia, Ingrid Nordstrom, Mika Brandt, Jonathan Gault, Brian Watson, John Osgood, Lesa Haley, Rachel McConaghie, Kari Isham, Maya Brandt, Matt Brandt, Loretta Hatter, Kristyl Rogers, Cliff Schutte, Gretchen Wackler, Jose da Silva, Jacob Eden, Josh Donaldson, Kimberly Weston, Gail Woodford, Katie Dawson, Bob Morgan, Diana Morgan, Larry Lewin, Melissa Stalder, and Andy Price.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Light asked for a motion to approve the April 13, 2026, agenda as presented.

Director Kohl requested to pull Agenda Consent Item 5. A.3 March 9, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes and Item 5. A.4 Financial Statement, Resolution for discussion.

Director Langworthy requested to pull Agenda Consent Item 5. A.5, Personnel Report Resolution for discussion.

Chair Light wished to add two agenda items to the agenda (to follow Agenda Item 6.B.) the Wildish Member Selection and the Agenda Topic Prioritization.

Director De Graff commented that she was “frustrated by the adult-centric focus, while the district faces serious challenges and found revisiting consent agenda items already discussed, to be frustrating”.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, seconded by Director Langworthy to approve the April 13, 2026, agenda as amended.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they supported the motion in favor of approving the April 13, 2026, agenda as amended: Director Brew – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff– No, Director Light – Yes, and Director Langworthy – Yes.

Motion passed, 4:1.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Student Board Representative Communication

A3 - Bradley Norris provided updates on Confluence, video reviews, and upcoming events like the Black Feather Ball prom and chocolatiering.

Brattain Campus - Aiden Hight shared updates on Gateway School Board Group activities, including prom planning, cosmetology student events, and applications for next year’s program.

Springfield High School - Lucy Rogers provided updates on SHS Springfield acting ensemble, athletics, and upcoming events like the multicultural dual assembly and prom.

Thurston High School - Hunter Murphy shared updates on off-campus lunch privileges, student clubs, and upcoming events.

WLA - Dortys Diaz provided updates on WLA cadet activities, including intramural competitions, fundraising, and state testing.

B. Certified Appreciation Proclamation

Acting Superintendent Jodi O'Mara read aloud the following certified appreciation proclamation:

“WHEREAS, teachers mold future citizens through guidance and education, and...

WHEREAS, teachers encounter students of wildly differing backgrounds, and...

WHEREAS, teachers spend countless hours preparing lessons, evaluating progress, counseling and coaching students and performing community service, and...

WHEREAS our community recognizes and supports its teachers in educating the children of the children of this community, and....

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Springfield Board of Directors proclaims May 4 - 8, 2026, to be certified Appreciation Week, and....

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Springfield Board of Directors strongly encourages all members of our community to join with it in personally expressing appreciation to our teachers and their dedication and devotion to their work, dated the 13th day of April 2026”.

C. Instructional Materials Adoption

Whitney McKinley & Jeff Fuller

Whitney McKinley and Jeff Fuller provided an update on the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) action plan, including the elementary independent science process and the request for a one-year postponement for elementary social science, allowing teachers additional time to understand new standards and materials. Everything under the high-quality instructional materials label includes multiple opportunities for staff, certified and classified, to have access to materials that allow them to personalize their learning for students.

Topic Highlights:

- The selection process of new materials and the recommendation for adoption.
- The current ODE seven-year adoption cycle, with consideration of possibly expanding that to ten years.
- Secondary social science adoption process, including new state standards and selection of materials.
- The review and narrowing of seven approved programs down to three, with a focus on physical materials and engagement activities, including the Cengage-National Geographic materials for high schools.
- The Teachers Curriculum Institute’s “History Alive” program was unanimously chosen by teachers for its engaging activities and focus on making history come alive for students.
- Community and staff feedback was solicited, with dates posted on the district website.
- The process included extensive teacher participation and alignment with state standards.
- Three different community review times have been listed on the website and six different dates set aside for the board to ask questions and details.

The board discussed costs, community and stakeholder input, the importance of personalized learning, and the need for comprehensive and flexible materials. The elementary science adoption was postponed for a year, and the cost per pupil for materials noted.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

This is the portion of our agenda for public comment. The board provides three ways for community members to share public comment: written public comment, in person oral public comment and virtual public comment. Written public comment is received via email. Public comment received via email for this evening has been reviewed by the Board and has also been posted on the district website. The deadline for submitting a request for oral public comment was today at 2:00 p.m. Those who requested an opportunity to speak this evening were notified by the board secretary about their request.

Time-permitting, the board may also hear public comment from individuals who signed up in person at the Administration Office before the meeting.

We encourage groups with a common purpose to designate a spokesperson. If your comments will be covered by a group spokesperson, please indicate so when your name

is called. I want to remind those members of the public who have indicated a desire to make comments that our policy provides for a limitation of three (3) minutes per person.

The Board will not hear comments regarding any school personnel, whether named or implied. Any complaints regarding a particular employee must be processed through the procedure set forth in Board policy KL, which requires that complaints be submitted in writing to the Superintendent. This procedure must be followed before there is any Board involvement with such issues. A compliment involving a staff member should be sent to the superintendent, who will forward it to the employee, their supervisor and the Board.

Speakers are reminded that their public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.

Megan Knight principal of Maple Elementary shared updates on science instruction, highlighting the use of Mystery Science kits and district-provided science units. Students engage in hands-on projects like building bird nests and spider walks and creating animal models. Science is integrated into literacy curriculum maps, enhancing both scientific understanding and literacy skills.

Louis Woodford criticized the district's budget cuts, suggesting administrative restructuring.

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Consent Agenda

1. March 2, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes
2. March 9, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes
3. March 9, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes
4. Financial Statement, Resolution #25-26.046
5. Personnel Report, Resolution #25-26.047

Brett Yancey
Dustin Reese

Chair Light asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for April 13, 2026, items 5. A.1 and 5. A.2 as amended.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Chair Light seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items 5. A.3 and 5.A.4 as amended.

Chair Light called for a vote.

Motion passed unanimously, 5;0.

Consent Agenda Item 5.A.3 March 9th Board Meeting Minutes:

Director Kohl requested that revisions be made to the March 9th Board Meeting Minutes, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Report language as follows:

"The board discussed the use of low-impact pesticides like Crossbow, and that the board would be provided documentation that Crossbow is approved for use on school grounds."

"Updated supporting documentation of district-approved chemicals will be provided to the board".

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, seconded by Director Brew to approve the March 9th Board Meeting Minutes as revised.

Chair Light called for a vote.

Motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

Consent Agenda Item 5.A.4 Financial Statement, Resolution #25-26.046

Director Kohl questioned the Investment Report, seeking clarification on the determination of the local government investment pool, including an explanation on how the maximum limit might be exceeded. He also emphasized the need to receive (Policy DFA) quarterly, as well as annual reports, including the annual comprehensive report.

Brett Yancey explained that the Oregon State Treasury as outlined in OR294.810 section 3, is determined by revised statute. As outlined in statute, there are two exceptions to exceeding the maximum limit; 1. It does not apply to pass-through funds or funds invested on behalf of another government unit. 2. Excess funds can be removed within 10 business days without penalties, with no limit on number of times it can be removed and redeposited.

Chair Light added, there had been prior interest in having training for the board on financial policies.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, seconded by Chair Light to approve Consent Agenda Item 5.A.4 Financial Statement, Resolution #25-26.046 as presented.

Chair Light called for a vote.

Motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

Consent Agenda Item 5.A.5 Personnel Report, Resolution #25-26.047

Director Langworthy asked about exit interviews for recent resignations and retirements.

Chair Light requested a copy of the exit interview template.

MOTION: Director Langworthy moved, seconded by Director Brew to approve Consent Agenda Item 5.A.5 Personnel Report, Resolution #25-26.047 as presented.

Chair Light called for a vote.

Motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

B. Action on Information Discussed in Executive Session

Chair Light

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, seconded by Chair Light to approve the motion to take Action on Information Discussed in Executive Session.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to indicate if they approve the motion to Take Action on Information Discussed in Executive Session: Director Brew – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – No, and Director Langworthy – Yes.

Motion passed, 4.1

C. Adopt Academic Calendar, #25-26.049

Whitney McKinley & Brian Megert

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar as presented.

MOTION: Chair Light moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to approve the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar as presented.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion. The board asked questions around holiday and break alignments, as well as alignment with Eugene's academic calendar.

Director Kohl inquired into the requirements necessary for future consideration, if they wished to lengthen the school year.

Brian Megert replied that first and foremost, it would have to be bargained, brought up during a foreign bargaining session scheduled for next year.

Chair Light called for the vote.

Motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

**D. Elementary Social Science Adoption Postponement,
Resolution #25-26.050**

Mindy LeRoux

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the request for a one-year postponement of the adoption and purchase of elementary social science instructional materials to allow teachers to complete a gap analysis. Social science standards are currently being taught through supplemental materials.

MOTION: Director Kohl moved, Director Brew seconded the motion to approve the request for a one-year postponement of the adoption and purchase of elementary social science instructional materials.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

Chair Light called for the vote.

Motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

D. Action on Interim Superintendent Search Firm

Acting Superintendent O'Mara

Acting Superintendent O'Mara reported on the selection of Grundmeyer Leader Services as the interim search firm for the superintendent position.

MOTION: Chair Light moved, Director Kohl seconded the motion to recommend that the Board of Directors take action on the Interim Superintendent Search Firm.

Chair Light asked if there was any discussion.

Director Kohl inquired into whether there was a timeline for executing the contract and requested a copy of the contract be provided to the board.

Mr. Yancey explained the process, noting that it was an aggressive timeline with an engaging process. Upon approval it becomes immediate, meeting the requirement of having a placement by June 30, for July 1st.

Mr. Yancey emphasized the board's commitment to a busy next three months and the importance of understanding the timeline and steps involved.

Chair Light called for a roll call vote. Chair Light asked each Board member to vote to take action on the Interim Superintendent Search Firm: Director Brew – Yes, Director Light – Yes, Director Kohl – Yes, Director De Graff – Yes, and Director Langworthy – Yes.

Motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

6. Discussion

A. Budget Committee Vacancy Process

Brett Yancey

Mr. Yancey explained the issue with having an unresponsive budget committee member and the steps necessary to address it. The Board discussed the Budget Committee vacancy process, emphasizing the need to document unresponsiveness, and follow Oregon budget law by posting the vacancy on the board agenda and formally declaring the seat vacant. The term of the unresponsive member expires on December 31, 2026.

The board decided to wait until the fall to open the position when there will be a total of three board positions expiring on December 31st.

B. Elementary Science & Secondary Social Science Adoption

Whitney McKinley & Jeff Fuller

Whitney McKinley and Jeff Fuller discussed the adoption of elementary science and secondary social science materials. The bundle was presented to the board for approval as an independent adoption to meet the division's science curriculum requirements. A complete description was provided of everything included in Wonders. McKinley explained the gap analysis conducted by teachers and the supplementary resources needed, especially in intermediate grades, noting the importance of seeing the curriculum to understand the gaps and supplementary needs. An invitation was extended to the board to view the curriculum maps and unit plans to understand the scope and sequence better.

The board agreed to proceed with the independent adoption of McGraw Hill Wonders, Discovery Education, and Mystery Science for elementary science, integrating components from each to fill gaps in current materials and the need for supplemental materials to meet all science standards. The adoption process involved extensive teacher review and feedback, with community sessions planned for further input. The board will vote on the adoption at the next meeting.

McKinley walked the board through the entire process of how the community, stakeholders, teachers, staff, and board members preview the curriculums and materials being discussed. She explained that flexible community sessions are scheduled for feedback, and the board will have access to detailed materials and teacher comments.

McKinley reassured the board that the process is designed to be efficient and effective, with the goal to ensure the adoption meets the needs of the division and addresses the gaps in K2 and supplementary needs in intermediate grades.

Jeff Fuller added that their aim was to fill the gap by finding those resources that encourage students to use a hands-on approach in learning science.

C. Wildish Representative Discussion and Selection

Chair Light shared the need of a selection of a board member to represent the district on the Wildish Theater board.

Chair Light asked if any board member was interested in serving on the Wildish Theater board.

Director Bob Brew volunteered to serve as board representative.

NOMINATION: Chair Light nominated Bob Brew, seconded by Director Kohl to approve Bob Brew as school district representative to the Wildish Theater board.

Chair Light called for a vote.

Nomination unanimously passed, 5:0.

Director Bob Brew was elected to serve as school district representative to the Wildish Theater board.

D. Agenda Topic Prioritization

Chair Light mentioned the prioritization list created by the board.

- The importance of understanding the district's strengths and areas of improvement was highlighted, including the need for detailed discussions on student performance, staff well-being, and facilities.
- Scheduling a retreat in August to develop district visions, strategies, and goals.
- The need for the board to create a vision for what students should achieve by the time they graduate was emphasized.

7. Reports and Information

A. Superintendent Communication

Acting Superintendent O'Mara

Acting Superintendent O'Mara provided updates that included 10 budget forums, school visits, and community engagement activities, such as community coffee chats.

B. Board Communication and Comments

Director De Graff discussed:

- Visiting the schools, highlighting those visits as crucial for board members in understanding the district's educational practices and challenges.

- Springfield Education Foundation (SEF) updates, including grant applications, school staff parties, and community events.

Director Kohl attended the informative community budget forums and appreciated the positive feedback received.

Director Langworthy requested the superintendent initiate the creation of a task force to examine a balanced elementary education, focusing on science, social studies, and social emotional learning.

Director DeGraff raised a point of order, stating board members cannot individually direct the superintendent and that requests should come from the board as a whole.

Chair Light clarified that board communication is individual but acknowledged the need for proper board direction. Light noted the board would take her thoughts under advisement.

Director Brew shared that he had attended the community budget forums and found them to be really interesting, and to hear the thoughts of the parents and community, as well as connecting with teachers, principals, and administrative staff.

Chair Light shared District 12 Band Festival highlights, thanking staff for organizing it. Appreciation for Acting Superintendent O'Mara's successful public interview and articulate representation of the district.

8. NEXT MEETING:

April 27, 2026 – Special Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Having concluded all business, Chair Light adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

(Minutes recorded by Trenay Ryan, LCOG)