SUMNER-BONNEY LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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.

July 28, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Central Office Board Room
1202 Wood Ave
Sumner, WA 98390

CALL TO ORDER

School Board President Kevin Lewis called the July 28, 2026 board meeting for the Sumner-Bonney Lake School District No. 320 to order at 6:00pm.

Director JB Smith was excused.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Tom Watson, seconded by Erin Markquart to approve the July 28, 2026 board meeting agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion was made by Bill Gaines, seconded by Tom Watson to approve the consent agenda items for the July 28, 2026 board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

1. June 16, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes
2. Voucher Certification
3. Personnel Recommendation
4. Kerri Hubler Donation
5. Proposed 2026-27 User Fees Changes
6. Board Consent Form - Interlocal Agreements
7. Board Consent Form - Contractual Agreements
8. Maintenance and Operations Consent Agenda
9. Curriculum Surplus Report
10. District Surplus Report (Non-technical Items)

RECOGNITION OF STAFF, STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY

Amy Montgomery, Principal at Mountain View Middle School introduced Chris to the board. Chris comes to us from the Federal Way school district.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

There were no superintendent comments

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
This is the time on the agenda for Board members to report on professional development they have completed (i.e., conferences, workshops, legislative issues, and other items of interest).

Board member comments included appreciation for donation and highlighting Dr. Dent's national communications award.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS
The Sumner-Bonney Lake School Board welcomes the public to its meetings. Individuals who wish to address the Board should sign up ONLINE no later than Monday at noon. Comments are restricted to three minutes.

There were no individuals registered for public comment.

BUSINESS MATTERS
2026-2027 Budget Hearing
The regular board meeting recessed at 6:08pm to hear Chief Financial Officer, Bryan Verley, presented the 2026-2027 school year budget; adoption of the budget will take place next month. The budget presentation highlighted significant financial pressures, including a 57% year-over-year increase in insurance costs and rising utility rates, which are outpacing revenue growth. While the district maintains a healthy fund balance, projections indicate that current trends are unsustainable, and adjustments will be necessary in the coming years to avoid a deficit.

Bryan reported that state programs saw minor increases (around 2.5%), while federal funding has remained flat. Flat federal funds create a challenge as salaries for federally-funded positions are increasing. The state cut funding for bus depreciation by extending the vehicle replacement cycle (e.g., from 8 to 10 years for a small bus), resulting in a 20% annual decrease for that line item. The most significant expenditure increase is insurance, which rose by 57% ($1.7 million) year-over-year and has increased over 300% in the last seven years. Utility costs are also rising sharply (14% year-over-year). Salaries and benefits constitute 82% of the total $226 million expenditure budget. The projected beginning fund balance is $39 million with revenues of $219 million and expenditures of $226 million, the district projects an $8.6 million decrease in the fund balance for the year, ending at approximately $31 million. The fund balance is crucial for maintaining a good debt service rating and providing a cushion against unexpected enrollment drops. The four-year projection, based on current trends (rising insurance/utility costs, salary increases vs. state funding), shows the district would be "broke" in four years. However, this is a projection, and the administration would make adjustments well before this happens by monitoring trends and planning for changes.

With no one registered for public comment on the budget, the regular board meeting reconvened at 6:28pm.

Resolution No. 30/25-26 Out-of-Endorsement Assignment Waiver
Motion was made by Tom Watson, seconded by Erin Markquart to adopt Resolution No. 30/25-26 for the Out-of-Endorsement Assignment Waiver. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report
Chief Financial Officer, Bryan Verley, provided the May budget status report to the Board of Directors for information.

Tehaleh Heights Elementary Expansion Schematic Design
Director of Capital Projects, Marina Tanay, presented the schematic designs for the Tehaleh Heights Elementary Expansion to the Board of Directors, which is on track for a Fall 2028 opening. The addition of the new wing will be seamless with the existing building and add four classrooms with a new internal staircase, restrooms, and storage. Site plan refinements include adding parking, two queuing lanes for drop-off, and a dedicated lane for parking access to improve traffic flow.

Resolution No. 31/25-26 Amendment to Tehaleh Heights Contract with Absher
Motion was made by Bill Gaines, seconded by Tom Watson to adopt Resolution No. 31/25-26 as presented by the Capital Projects Department authorizing the superintendent or designee to execute the contract amendment for preconstruction services in the amount of $53,330.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 32/25-26 Corrected New-in-Lieu of Modernization for Sumner High School Phase 2
Motion was made by Erin Markquart, seconded by Tom Watson to adopt Resolution No. 32/25-26 correcting Resolution No. 25/25-26 to accurately reflect the project's square footage breakdown for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). The motion passed unanimously.

The correction rectifies a clerical error in the final paragraph regarding the exact square footage allocation between demolished/replaced facilities and new construction. The total project square footage remains unchanged.

Resolution No. 33/25-26 Constructability Report and Implementation Plan for Sumner High School Phase 2
Motion was made by Tom Watson, seconded by Bill Gaines to adopt Resolution No. 33/25-26 accepting the Constructability Report and Implementation Plan as presented by the Capital Projects Department. The purpose of a constructability review per WAC 392-343-080 is to review the project documents by mechanical, electrical, structural, construction, and design professionals prior to a request for bids to identify potential claim or problem areas and deficiencies that may occur as a result of error, ambiguities, omissions, discrepancies, and conflicts in design documents. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 34/25-26 Intent to Construct for Sumner High School Phase 2
Motion was made by Tom Watson, seconded by Erin Markquart to adopt Resolution No. 34/25-26 certifying that the construction/modernization of Sumner High School Phase 2 will be completed for the purposes for which the state funding assistance is being provided. The resolution of intent to construct is a required component of the D-9 submittal.. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 35/25-26 Owner-Architect Agreement to Hutteball + Oremus for Sumner High School Phase 3
Motion was made by Bill Gaines, seconded by Tom Watson to adopt Resolution No. 35/25-26 authorizing the Superintendent to execute the Owner-Architect Agreement to engage Hutteball + Oremus to provide architectural services for the Sumner High School Phase 3 project. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 36/25-26 Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Amendment for Sumner High School Phase 2
Motion was made by Tom Watson, seconded by Erin Markquart to adopt Resolution No. 36/25-26 authorizing the Superintendent to execute the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Amendment between the District and Skanska for construction services related to the Sumner High School Phase 2 project. The motion passed unanimously.

Sumner-Bonney Lake School District Superintendent Contract
Motion was made by Tom Watson, seconded by Bill Gaines to approve Dr. Laurie Dent's 2026-2029 Superintendent Contract for the Sumner-Bonney Lake School District. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

POLICY MATTERS
One of the board's main responsibilities is to regularly review and update district policies/procedures. The policy committee, made up of two board members and district leaders, examine policies/procedures before they are presented to the entire board for first reading and eventually adoption. This two-step process ensures careful consideration before final decisions are made.

Board Policy
In accordance with Policy 1310: Adoption and Amendment of Policies and Bylaws, the following policy is included for **adoption.** The first reading took place at the June 16, 2026 board meeting.

Motion was made by Tom Watson, seconded by Erin Markquart to adopt board policy 5254 Staff Use of Social Media. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION
Public Records Transparency Update
General Counsel, Abigail Westbrook, provided a quarterly public records report to the Board. This is a summary report regarding new public records requests that have been filed with the Sumner-Bonney Lake School District over the last three months.

2026-27 Basic Education Compliance Survey
Assistant Superintendent, Kelly Denn submitted the district's annual application to OSPI for state basic education. This is a requirement based on WAC 180-16-195.

Change Order Report
Director of Capital Projects, Marina Tanay provided a monthly change order report to the Board of Directors.

BOARD DISCUSSION
There was no board discussion.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING
A Board Meeting has been scheduled for **Tuesday, August 18, 2026** and will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Central Office Board Room.

The board meeting recessed at 6:40pm to go into executive session for seventy-five minutes.

The executive session started at 6:45pm and ended at 8:00pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION
In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act provision for Executive Sessions, (RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)), the Sumner-Bonney Lake School District Board of Directors held an executive session for the purposes of discussing potential litigation. Action was not anticipated following the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT
With no further business the board meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm.

Attest:

_____ _____

Laurie Dent
Secretary Board of Directors

Kevin Lewis
President of Board of Directors