Inspiring Excellence
LAKE STEVENS
School District

Lake Stevens School District | 12309 22nd St. NE | Lake Stevens, WA 98258-9500
425-335-1500 (office) | 425-335-1549 (fax)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
August 12, 2026

Board Members: David Iseminger, President
Mari Taylor
Paul Lund
Brian Kesler
Mary Templeton, Superintendent/Board Secretary

Student Advisory Council Officers:

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors met in an Executive Session at the Educational Service Center from 5:00pm until 6:21pm. The Executive Session was to discuss negotiations and real estate. No decisions were made.

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors met in a Regular Session at the Educational Service Center. A Zoom option was available for this meeting that President Iseminger called to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: President David Iseminger, Director Mari Taylor, Director Paul Lund, Director Brian Kesler, and Superintendent Dr. Mary Templeton. Absent: Director Ryan Dickson

AGENDA/MINUTES

Director Kesler made a motion to approve the August 12, 2026 Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved. Director Lund made a motion to approve the July 8, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Kesler and unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

There was no recognition of students, staff, and community members at this time.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

There were no reports of school buildings and programs at this time.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Iseminger opened the floor for community comments. Hearing no further comments, President Iseminger closed this portion of the meeting.

DECISION ITEMS

Consent Agenda:

Director Kesler made a motion to approve the "Consent Agenda" items: Approval of the July 16, 2026 vouchers and invoices have been examined, audited, and allowed by the Board of Directors; that the sum of said payroll and/or vouchers and invoices amounting to $4,419.25 covered by warrant numbered 321642 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the Capital Projects Fund. Approval of the July 24, 2026 vouchers and invoices have been examined, audited, and allowed by the Board of Directors; that the sum of said payroll and/or vouchers and invoices amounting to $2,084.94 covered by ACH deposits numbered 9000024368 to 9000024384 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the General and ASB Funds. Approval of the July 24, 2026 vouchers and invoices have been examined, audited, and allowed by the Board of Directors; that the sum of said payroll and/or vouchers and invoices amounting to $4,670,789.06 covered by warrants numbered 321643 to 321728 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the General, Capital Projects & ASB Fund(s). Approval of the July 30, 2026 vouchers and invoices have been examined, audited, and allowed by the Board of Directors; that the sum of said payroll and/or vouchers and invoices amounting to $60,361.59 covered by warrant numbered 321778 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the Capital Projects Fund. Approval of the August 14, 2026 vouchers and invoices have been examined, audited, and allowed by the Board of Directors; that the sum of said vouchers amounting to $2,385,039.40 is covered by warrants numbered 321782 to 321888 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the General, Capital Projects, & ASB Fund(s). Approval of the August 14, 2026 vouchers and invoices have been examined, audited, and allowed by the Board of Directors; that the sum of said payroll and/or vouchers and invoices amounting to $1,437.18 covered by ACH numbers 9000025985 through 9000025994 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the General Fund. Approval of the July 24, 2026 vouchers and invoices have been examined, audited, and allowed by the Board of Directors; that the sum of said VOIDS amounting to $(9,049.50) is covered by warrant numbered 321610 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the General Fund. Approval of the August 14, 2026 vouchers and invoices have been examined, audited, and allowed by the Board of Directors; that the sum of said COMP & RETAIL TAX amounting to $(1,055.53) is covered by warrants numbered 000000017 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the General and ASB Fund(s). Approval of the July 2026 payroll has been examined, audited, and allowed by the Board of Directors; that the sum of said payroll and/or vouchers and invoices amounting to $13,750,116.01 is covered by warrants numbered 321729 to 321757 and 321779, ach numbers 9000022694 to 9000024319, 9000024366 to 9000024367 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the General Fund(s). Personnel Report: Certificated Employment: Danielle Barnes 5th Grade Teacher, Sarah Bracken School Psychologist, Anthony Channita Band Teacher, Sarah Gordon OT, Katharyn Heselwood SLP, Taryn Keller SLP-Non Continuing, Irina Kourilenko Associate Principal, Shannon Maxon 3rd Grade Teacher, Naomi Nelson School Psychologist, Stacy Ralph 5th Grade Teacher, David Roberson Science Teacher, Peter Schurke Associate Principal, Breanna Smith Science Teacher, Julie van Leemput Chemistry/Biology Teacher, Kevin Villars Interim Associate Principal, Michelle Weible BCBA, Malissa Weiland 5th Grade Teacher; Classified Employment: Jamie DiMarco Counseling Center – OP, Lindsey Fitch Assistant Supervisor, Svitlana Kanava Payroll Technician, Jacob Schmitt 8th Cross Country Coach; Volunteers: Kaden Chidester Coach – Track LSHS; Resignations: Natasha Dickson 6/16/26, Keosakxay Jenkins 6/30/26, Rachel Miller 8/4/26, Jessica Padilla 6/26/26, Laura Piercy 8/15/26, Tiffany Kon 6/16/26, Monika Tabor 8/30/26; Retirements: Kathleen Bradley 9/11/26, Richard Bradley 6/16/26, Kathy Day 6/16/26, Mary Beth Reichow 7/14/26, Jacueline Smith 6/16/26, Paulette Smith 6/16/26. Approval of Co-Curricular Report. Approval to surplus items: Asset # Asset Description Manufacturer Model Serial Number Quantity
N/A Student Seat/Desk Combo Tan Top Blue Chair 125
50668 Backpack Vacuum ProTeam 1
35602 Backpack Vacuum ProTeam 1
31222 Backpack Vacuum ProTeam 1
50675 Backpack Vacuum ProTeam 1
27227 Wet Carpet Vac Windsor Presto 1
27216 Wet Carpet Vac Windsor Presto 1
40605 Carpet Cleaner Rotary Jet 1
21813 Carpet Extractor 1
N/A Advance Aquaclean FLX/Adfinity 20ST Tennant 81108202 1
41844 Auto Scrubber Nobles Speed Scrub/ECH20 1
35594 Auto Scrubber Tennant 1
21182 Food Warmer Serv Lift 1
N/A Aqua Clean FTX Tennant 2058876 1
The motion was seconded by Director Taylor and unanimously approved.

Director Lund made a motion for approval of the update to Policy 5470 – Child Abuse and Neglect. The motion was seconded by Director Kesler. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Director Lund made a motion for approval of the update to Policy 1800 – Electronic Resources. The motion was seconded by Director Kesler. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Director Lund thanked staff for their work on the policies and emphasized the importance of reflecting District values, ensuring a safe environment for students and adults, and adapting to evolving electronic resources.

Director Taylor made a motion for approval of the update to Policy 4900 – Maintaining Professional Staff/Student Boundaries. The motion was seconded by Director Kesler. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Director Lund thanked staff for the previous discussion and for making the requested information easy to locate and review.

President Iseminger reiterated that the policy reflects the District's standards and expectations and thanked staff for their work.

Director Kesler made a motion for approval of the final acceptance of public works projects. The motion was seconded by Director Lund. The motion was unanimously approved.

Director Kesler made a motion for approval of Resolution No 19-26: Approval of the Educational Specifications for the Lake Stevens Middle School Modernization. The motion was seconded by Director Lund. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Director Lund praised the document and thanked staff for the significant work involved in developing it while maintaining the project schedule.

President Iseminger thanked staff for clearly explaining how the specifications inform the design and acknowledged the extensive work required to develop them.

Director Taylor made a motion for approval of Resolution No 20-26: Approval of interim GMP amendment number two, to the GC/CM contract for the Skyline NIL Replacement Project. The motion was seconded by Director Kesler. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Director Lund made a motion for approval of Resolution No 21-26: Authorization to sign purchase and sale agreement for real property adjacent to district properties on 123rd Ave NE. The motion was seconded by Director Kesler. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

President Iseminger noted the importance of maintaining the financial capacity to act when property becomes available for District needs and expressed appreciation for the District's strong fiscal management.

Director Taylor praised the team's flexibility and creativity in identifying how the property could benefit the District and acting on the opportunity.

President Iseminger added that consideration was also given to how the property could benefit the broader community.

Director Taylor made a motion for authorization to award contracts for professional services for 2025 Bond Projects. The motion was seconded by Director Kesler. The motion was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no reports of items for discussion at this time.

INFORMATION

Director of Finance Bill Swearingen and Director of Nutrition Services Mollie Langum presented a proposal to transition food service payments from MealTime to InTouch, providing families with a single payment platform while reducing transaction fees and helping address unpaid balances. Director Kesler asked what forms of payment families could use, including debit and EBT cards. Director Swearingen indicated debit and credit cards would be accepted but said he would need to confirm EBT eligibility, and Superintendent Dr. Mary Templeton agreed to follow up. President Iseminger asked whether existing meal balances would transfer to InTouch, and Director Langum confirmed they would, noting integration between the systems is already being tested. Director Kesler also asked whether the transition would require additional technology or equipment, and Director Swearingen responded that the necessary equipment is already in place and no additional costs are anticipated.

Director Lund expressed support for consolidating payments into one system and suggested creating a short video tutorial to help families with the transition; Director Langum agreed that multiple communication methods would be considered. Superintendent Dr. Templeton added that increased visibility of meal balances may reduce staff time currently spent contacting families about outstanding balances. Director Lund asked whether community members could donate through InTouch to assist families with unpaid balances, and Director Langum confirmed that a donation option already exists and could be promoted more broadly. Director Taylor cautioned that, as a public entity, the district has limitations regarding soliciting donations. President Iseminger shared that the current $20 minimum MealTime deposit can leave unnecessary funds in student accounts and noted that the proposed system would be more convenient; Director Langum responded that the district has processes in place to return positive balances to families when students graduate.

Assistant Superintendent Teresa Main presented a minor boundary revision between Glenwood and Skyline elementary schools related to a new housing development. She explained that, unlike a comprehensive boundary process, the adjustment affects a small undeveloped area where existing families were already transferring to Glenwood. The revision extends the Glenwood boundary to include the new development, allowing families to attend their preferred school, receive district transportation, and reduce the need for individual transfers and multiple bus routes. Ms. Main noted that affected families have been contacted and are supportive of the change, and district maps and transportation systems are being updated accordingly. Director Lund thanked Ms. Main and commented that the revision was another example of the district being student- and family-focused.

Finance Director Bill Swearingen presented the final review of the 2026–27 budget prior to adoption, noting only minor changes since the July presentation. He reported that the General Fund remains at the targeted 5% ending fund balance, with minor property tax and grant adjustments, and explained that expenditure capacity in the four-year forecast was reduced beginning in 2027–28 to maintain positive fund balances. Director Lund asked for clarification on how that adjustment was reflected in the forecast, and Director Swearingen explained the difference between the ending and beginning fund balances and the corresponding reduction in projected expenditures. President Iseminger asked about a property tax revenue reduction in the Debt Service Fund, and Director Swearingen clarified that it was approximately $11,000. President Iseminger also asked about increased transportation depreciation revenue, and Director Swearingen explained that the earlier figure had been a projection and was updated with a more accurate amount. Director Kesler expressed confidence in and appreciation for the district's finance staff and the reliability of the budget information, while Director Lund thanked Director Swearingen for his presentation. Superintendent Dr. Mary Templeton echoed Director Kesler's comments and noted that the district's finances receive additional oversight from OSPI, ESD 189, the state auditor, and the county, providing further assurance of the district's financial stability.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Mary Templeton highlighted the district's strong partnership with the City of Lake Stevens, reflecting on a recent community bus tour attended by district, city, state, and federal representatives. She emphasized the connection between a strong school district and a strong community and thanked the Board and district staff for continuing to build collaborative partnerships. Dr. Templeton also highlighted the tour's visit to the Elementary School 8 construction site and recognized the project team for its progress. She concluded by welcoming 28 new certificated staff members and commending their energy and commitment to collaboration, Professional Learning Communities, and the district's mission of creating hope and opportunity for every student.

SACo COMMENTS

No SACo Members Present.

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Kesler expressed appreciation for the presentations and the district's strong financial position, noting that the stable budget provides reassurance to the Board and community. He shared that when community members ask about his experience on the School Board, he is proud to report that the district is growing, building new schools, maintaining a secure budget, and providing a positive environment for students. He thanked district staff for their work and reflected that the district is ending the summer in a very positive place.

Director Taylor thanked staff for the extensive work represented on the evening's agenda, noting that much of the district's work is proactive rather than simply responding to immediate needs. She highlighted efforts to improve processes for families and thoughtfully address areas such as electronic resources and professional boundaries as examples of forward-thinking work with a broader impact on the district. Director Taylor expressed appreciation for staff's continued efforts and also congratulated Director Swearingen on his budget presentation.

Director Lund thanked staff for the work represented on the agenda and reflected on the recent city and legislative bus tour, highlighting the opportunity to strengthen relationships with city and legislative partners and praising the Cavelero robotics students for their presentation, confidence, and enthusiasm. He also commended the district's legislative communication materials for clearly presenting the district's accomplishments, needs, and funding challenges. Director Lund shared his experience attending the new teacher luncheon, where he spoke with several new educators about their experiences with Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). He highlighted their examples of collaboration to address student needs and expressed enthusiasm for the experience and perspectives they bring to Lake Stevens, noting their excitement to join the district and contribute to its continued success.

Dr. Mary Templeton recognized Dr. Monica Meadows for her work to ensure the district's hiring process reflects its values, including Professional Learning Communities and high professionalism. She noted that these efforts are helping the district attract and hire staff who are prepared to support and advance the district's mission.

President Iseminger reflected on the recent city and legislative bus tour and praised the Cavelero students for their confidence, professionalism, and ability to represent the district. Building on Director Taylor's comments, he noted that the district is seeing the benefits of work and decisions made years earlier while continuing to plan proactively for the future. He expressed appreciation for the district's culture of continuous growth and improvement and thanked staff for their contributions to making Lake Stevens a positive place to live, learn, and grow.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other objections from other directors, President Iseminger adjourned the Regular Session at 7:29 p.m.

President

Secretary