Inspiring Excellence
LAKE STEVENS
School District

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
WORK SESSION MINUTES
October 22, 2025

Board Members:
Mari Taylor, President
Nina Hanson
David Iseminger
Vildan Kirby
Paul Lund
Mary Templeton, Superintendent/Board Secretary

Student Advisory Council Officers:
Aashisri Bendalam
Afebia Aemere
Ginelle Sarpong

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors met in a Work Session at Sunnycrest Elementary. President Taylor called to order at 5:00 p.m. The discussion was Capital Projects Update. No decisions were made during this meeting.

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

ROLL CALL

Present: President Mari Taylor, Director Paul Lund, Director David Iseminger, Director Nina Hanson, Director Vildan Kirby, Superintendent Dr. Mary Templeton and SACo members Aashi Bendalam and Ginelle Sarpong.

The board members and SACo students introduced themselves to the audience, sharing how long they have served on the board. Board members also spoke about their professional roles and mentioned their children who currently attend or have graduated from Lake Stevens High School.

AGENDA/MINUTES

Director Lund made a motion to approve the October 22, 2025 Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Iseminger and unanimously approved. Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the October 8, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved. Director Hanson abstained due to being unable to attend the October 8, 2025 meeting.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

There were no recognition of students, staff, and community members.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS

Sunnycrest Elementary Associate Principal Susan Lorow presented information on their school improvement goals. The Sunnycrest ELA SBA goal is to increase the percentage of third, fourth, and fifth grade students meeting or exceeding standard from 60% to 70%. Their i-Ready goal is to increase the percentage of students at or above grade level in informational text from 61% to 71%.

For Math, the SBA goal is to increase the percentage of third, fourth, and fifth grade students meeting or exceeding standard from 55% to 65%. Their i-Ready goal is to raise the percentage of students at or above grade level in number and operations from 66% to 71%.

Principal Mikey Trexel spoke about Sunnycrest's Sense of Belonging goal is to increase the percentage of students with fewer than two office discipline referrals from 85% to 90%.

Principal Trexel outlined the school's action steps for ELA, Math, and Belonging & Culture Building.

- **ELA:** Focus on strong Tier 1 instruction, a 45-minute intervention block, PLC collaboration to effectively use dedicated staff during intervention, two data cycles with team release time, and access to the SIP TOSA for lesson modeling, team teaching, or classroom coverage to observe colleagues. Staff will also continue their Be GLAD work with Kristin Odegaard.

- **Math:** Focus on strong Tier 1 instruction, a 30-minute intervention block, PLC work to identify essential standards and develop common assessments, two data cycles with release time, teacher-led professional development in *Building Thinking Classrooms*, and access to the SIP TOSA for lesson modeling, team teaching, or classroom observations.

Action steps for Belonging & Culture Building include providing strong Tier 1 instruction around SOAR expectations, maintaining an intentional focus on kindness, and fostering purposeful collaboration through PLCs.

Principal Trexel and the Sunnycrest team are excited about implementing a block schedule that ensures every student has access to core instruction. The new schedule also provides PLCs the opportunity to collaborate with support staff to deliver high-quality intervention and enrichment. Their work will include an intentional focus on mathematics, professional development aimed at strengthening instructional strategies to increase student engagement, and empowering PLCs to collaboratively develop common assessments that drive data-informed discussions about instruction. Additionally, they look forward to continuing their partnership with Kristin Odegaard to enhance their ability to support the growing number of multilingual learners.

Skyline Principal Tori Thomas welcomed everyone for Skyline Explorers 180 Days of Opportunity. Principal Thomas introduced TOSA Kristen Smutz who shared the 2024 -2025 ELA and Math SBA scores along with SEL information.

Principal Thomas shared Skyline's 2025–2026 School Goals and highlighted their commitment to student growth and achievement. For English Language Arts (ELA), the goals include:

- 3rd grade SBA at 70%
  4th grade increasing by 19% to reach 70%
- 5th grade increasing by 14% to reach 90%
- i-Ready goals increasing from 39% (excluding kindergarten data) to 80% of students performing at or above grade level, with 100% meeting typical growth.

For Math, the goals include:

- 3rd grade SBA at 70%
- 4th grade increasing by 10% to reach 76%
- 5th grade increasing by 10% to reach 81%
- i-Ready results improving from 27% to 80% of students performing at or above grade level, with 100% meeting typical growth.

For Social-Emotional Learning (SEL), the goal is for 90% of students to meet Tier 1 schoolwide behavior expectations.
Principal Thomas also shared what their progress and end-of-year outcomes are expected to look like as they work toward these goals.
Associate Principal Crissi Johnson presented Skyline's First Semester Action Steps, which include:

- Tier 1 Strategies – implementing *Sentence Starters* and *Prove It* strategies aligned with GLAD.
- PLT Smart Goals – establishing progress monitoring plans for every grade level, Resource Room, and SLC.
- Consistent PBIS practices and strong Tier 1 instruction in social-emotional learning.
- Strengthening Professional Learning Teams (PLTs) across the school.
- Breaking Down Barriers – utilizing an intervention team within PLTs for grades K–5.

The school will also maintain a schoolwide focus on Math Fact Fluency and Flexibility, along with a continued emphasis on Oral Reading Fluency across all grade levels. Additionally, Skyline plans to extend before- and after-school learning opportunities by starting earlier and aligning timelines with intervention cycles.

Principal Thomas discussed first grade's overall and secondary goals. For i-Ready Reading, the goal is for 85% of students to perform at or above grade level, with the remaining 15% reaching grade level or above in phonemic awareness and phonics. For Math, the goal is for 85% of students to perform at or above grade level, with the remaining 15% reaching grade level or above in numbers and operations.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Taylor opened the floor for community comments. Thirty-one individuals spoke, including current and former students, parents, community members, coaches, and colleagues. They shared personal stories about the positive influence Mr. Knutson has had on their lives through athletics, academics, and personal development. President Taylor then asked if there were any additional comments, and Mr. Brian Kesler spoke about the importance of school safety. Hearing no further comments, President Taylor closed this portion of the meeting.

DECISION ITEMS

Consent Agenda:

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve the "Consent Agenda" items: Approval of the October 2025 Unclaimed Property sum of said payroll and/or vouchers and invoices amounting to $8,389.48 is covered by Wire Transfer Number 000000007 and manual warrants listed below drawn on the General & ASB Fund(s) (E:191/25). Approval of the October 2025 sum of said payroll and/or vouchers and invoices amounting to $2,960.09 is covered by warrants numbered 9000009329 through 9000009365 and manual warrants drawn on the General and ASB Fund(s) (E:192/25). Approval of the sum of said October 2025 payroll and/or vouchers that the sum of payroll and/or vouchers amounting to $2,624,435.30 is covered by warrants numbered 318681 to 318848 drawn on the General, Capital Projects & ASB Fund(s) (E:193/25). Approval of the sum of said October 2025 payroll and/or vouchers and invoices amounting to $880.59 is covered by warranted numbered 318849 and manual warrants listed below, drawn on the General Fund (E:194/25). Approval of the October 2025 VOIDS amounting to ($880.59) is covered by warrants numbered 318574 drawn on the General Fund (E:195/25). Approval of the October 2025 VOIDS Unclaimed Property that the sum of said VOIDS amounting to ($1,162,49) drawn on the General Fund (E:196/25). Personnel Report: Classified Employment: Supriva Dasary PSE-Lake GLW Para 1:1 Elem Support, Jodi Becker PSE Lake GLW para–Gen Support, Christina Courtier PSE-OP GLW Temp Attendance OP, Kaelynn Bradley PSE Lake HLD Para 1:1 Specialized Program; Resignations: Francisco Pacheco Classified ESC 10/09/2025 (E:197/25). Approval of the Co-Curricular Report (E:198/25). Approval of a donation from Stevens Creek Elementary PTA in the amount of $2,300.00 to Stevens Creek Elementary for the purchase of a large format printer & ink cartridges for the Make Space (E:199/25). Approval of a donation from LSHS Purple & Gold club in the amount of $1,200.00 to Journalism Club to assist with cost (E:200/25). Approval of a donation from Purple & Gold Club in the amount of $700.00 to Cavelero girls and boys tennis teams towards the purchase of a ball machine (E:201/25). The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved.

Director Kirby made a motion to approve Levy Resolution No. 17-25: Proposition No. 1 Replacement of Expiring Education Programs and Operations. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (R No. 17-25).

Director Lund made a motion to approve Levy Resolution No. 18-25: Proposition No. 2 Replacement of expiring Capital Levy for Instructional Technology Improvements. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (R No. 18-25).

Director Hanson made a motion to approve the Final Acceptance of the Public Works Projects. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved (E:202/25).

The Facilities and School Planning and Construction Departments have reviewed the work of the contractors listed below on the following public work projects for adherence to contract documents, specifications, and public work requirements.

Projects

Install basketball hoop at Cavelero MHS and repair playground equipment at Sunnycrest ES (NW Playground)

Service Calls

Service fire alarm panel at Hillcrest ES (Cosco Fire)
Service A/V unit at Lake Stevens HS (Dimensional Communications)
Replace window at Skyline ES (Glass by Lund)
Service walk-in cooler at Lake Stevens HS (Hoover)
Service walk-in refrigerator at North Lake MS (Hoover)
Service door operators at various schools (Western Entrance)

All items on the construction punch list have been completed and all the necessary paperwork to accept the projects has been received.

Director Lund made a motion to approve to solicit bids for portable relocations associated with capital projects. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved (E:203/25).

Director Iseminger made a motion to approve Levy Resolution No. 19-25: New-in-Lieu of Modernization Replacement Option for Skyline Elementary. The motion was seconded by Director Hanson and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (R No. 19-25).

Director Kirby made a motion to approve Levy Resolution No. 20-25: Avoiding Racial Imbalance with the New Elementary School Eight. The motion was seconded by Director Lund and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (R No. 20-25).

Director Hanson made a motion to approve Levy Resolution No. 21-25: Avoiding Racial Imbalance with the Skyline Elementary Modernization. The motion was seconded by Director Kirby and unanimously approved by a roll call vote (R No. 21-25).

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no discussion items at this time.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Safety, Security, and Health Specialist Greg Lineberry presented on Technical Safety, highlighting Construction Bond Security Projects that include access controls for portables, secure entries, vestibules, and perimeter enhancements. He reviewed responses to threats and explained that "Building Conditions" are standardized terms used to guide staff and students in taking appropriate safety actions. Mr. Lineberry demonstrated the Lockdown button located in office areas, which, when activated by police or staff during an emergency, automatically locks badge-access doors, announces lockdowns, alerts monitoring services, and triggers lockdowns at sister campuses. Staff are trained to evaluate and then lock down, leave, or defend as needed.

He also discussed monthly safety drills and Tabletop (T3) Exercises, which build from basic to advanced skills and allow staff to practice realistic scenarios not possible in traditional drills. Lockdown drills test all system components, including intercoms, access controls, and panic buttons. Additionally, the Raptor system will soon integrate with the Big Red Button and feature an Accountability Module that syncs daily with class rosters, as well as a Reunification component to support student and family safety during emergencies. Mr. Lineberry also discussed the district's partnership with local police, which includes shared access badges, camera access, and coordinated communication through radios, Easy Alert, the Raptor system, and the Tip Line. He also highlighted tools that support emergency access, such as intercoms and visual displays, as well as collaborative emergency response efforts.

Executive Director of Student Learning and Family Engagement, Sarah Danielson, presented information on Safety and Social Emotional Learning, emphasizing that creating safe campuses also means focusing on overall well-being. She shared that LSSD employs 22 counselors, four Mental Health Specialists, two Intervention Prevention Specialists, and three Family Engagement and Student Success Specialists. The district partners closely with families and community organizations such as the Lake Stevens Food Bank, Community Resource Center, Operation School Bell, Kids Closet, local shelters, and healthcare providers. LSSD's approach includes Tier 1 Social Emotional Learning through curriculum and morning meetings, as well as screening and response processes to support students in crisis.

Executive Director of Innovation and Educational Technology, Mike Weatherbie, presented on Cyber Safety and Security, outlining how LSSD safeguards students, staff, and data in a digital environment. He explained that firewalls, spam filters, and web-filtering tools block most threats, while multi-factor authentication, password policies, and limited administrative privileges maintain secure access. Daily and cloud-based backups enable quick recovery, and ongoing training fosters digital citizenship. Mr. Weatherbie emphasized that cybersecurity is a shared responsibility. LSSD's digital safety pillars include network protection, access control, data resilience, device and email security, and human awareness and education.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources John Balmer gave a PLC update. They have entered into a three-year contract with Solution Tree to implement the PLC process within our district and schools. The essence of this process is captured in the following ideas:

- The purpose of our district and schools is to ensure that all students learn at high levels.
- Helping all students learn at high levels requires a collaborative and collective effort.
- To assess the effectiveness in helping all students learn at high levels we must focus on results - the evidence of student learning. Results are used to improve professional practice and respond to students who need intervention or enrichment.

The overarching goal of our strategic plan is the creation of systemic conditions to ensure high levels of learning for all students. The PLC process will become the mechanism for adult and student learning within the district. The key to improved student learning is continuous job-embedded learning for educators. Focusing on the four critical questions of PLCs (What do we want students to know/do? How will we know if each student learns it? How will we respond when some students do not learn it? How will we extend learning for students demonstrating proficiency?

PLC work is a proven, research-based approach to adult and student learning in which educators work collaboratively in recurring cycles of collective inquiry and action research to achieve improved results for students. In this process, adults take responsibility for the learning of all students and commit to the learning of each student.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Superintendent Mary Templeton shared that she serves as the WASA Region 109 President and announced that a Legislative Forum will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2025, at the Everett School District. The purpose of the event is to connect with legislators, share who they are as educators, and discuss how they can best support their schools and region.

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Hanson said she was happy to be back in person. She thanked everyone for their community comments and shared her appreciation for the courage and passion shown by the students who spoke, adding that she is truly grateful for them.

Director Kirby thanked everyone for their presentations, noting how passionate the students are and what wonderful kids we have in our district. She also praised the district's amazing educators and expressed her appreciation to everyone for attending the board meeting.

Director Iseminger thanked Sunnycrest Elementary for hosting the board meeting. He said the presentations were excellent and full of valuable information, and he commended the great work across all areas. He also appreciated the community comments and the heartfelt manner in which they were shared.

Director Lund thanked the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources for his update and the PLC work session, noting that the district is fortunate to have his leadership. He said he appreciated the safety information shared and that the community comments were especially meaningful, as they highlighted the importance of relationships and the profound impact educators have on students' lives.

President Taylor thanked everyone for a wonderful evening, expressed her appreciation, and wished them all a good night.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other objections from other directors, President Taylor adjourned the Regular Session at 9:49 p.m.

President _____ Secretary _____