

MINUTES
SKAMANIA SCHOOL DISTRICT #2
School Board Meeting
October 18, 2021
6:30 - 8:30 PM
Via online/virtual meeting/Zoom

PRESENT: Board members: Angus Anderson, Beth DeSimone, Leslie Robb, Brenda Bush, Donald Collins

Superintendent/Board Secretary: Dr. Ralph Pruitt

Visitor via virtual meeting/zoom:
67 people were in attendance at the October 18th board meeting

1. REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD

Angus Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:32pm

- a. Flag salute
- b. Reading and approval of minutes

Minutes from the regular meeting on **September 20, 2021** board meeting were presented.

Revisions were suggested

Brenda Bush moved to accept the minutes with the revisions, Beth DeSimone seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes from the Board workshop on **September 27, 2021** board meeting were presented.

Leslie Robb moved to accept the minutes, Brenda Bush seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Action item 6.A.3 appointment of a new board member

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were provided by: Amy Leslies, Emily Hopple, Cheri Locke, Judy King, Nikki LaVoie, Maria Woodall, Pete McFarlane, Sheila McFarlane, Mel Locke, Martin LaFevers, Jordyn Caven, Adam Schaffer, Michelle Miller, Mike LaVoie, Erin Knittle, Jody Just, Andy Boyes, and Denisha Dilley.

4. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, STANDING COMMITTEES

a. Budget status

Angus gave a brief update on the status of our budget which included information about revenue and ending fund balance, transportation, etc. The budget status is looking good for this time.

Year End financials are being completed. Capital Projects Modernization grants are drawing down as expected. Apportionment flowing as expected, expenditures in maintenance are up but are related to Modernization grant, so not unexpected.

b. Bills and Payroll

"The following vouchers as audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims certified, as required by RCW 42.24.090, are approved for payment."

Capital Project Fund: Warrant number 184 through 187 totaling \$568,142.26

A motion was made by Leslie Robb to approve the Capital Projects checks, was seconded by Brenda Bush and the motion passed unanimously.

General Fund: Accounts payable warrant numbers 28963 through 28987 totaling 23,232.49

A motion was made by Leslie Robb to approve all accounts payable checks, was seconded by Brenda Bush and the motion passed unanimously.

Payroll and benefits (Payroll A/P) warrant numbers 28988 through 28996 totaling 97,923.08

A motion was made by Brenda Bush to approve payroll and benefits, was seconded by Beth DeSimone and the motion passed unanimously.

c. **Superintendent's report** included the following topics:

- Notified by Stevenson/Carson transportation they can no longer take care of our bus maintenance due to staffing shortages. We have contacted White Salmon to see if we can have a maintenance contract with their transportation department.
- Our food service program is up and running.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Timber harvest update - Travis Anderberg, HFI Consultants (tentative)
No update as of 10/18/2021

b. Modernization grant update from Construction Service Group, Keith Bloom
Keith shared an update including information about the bleachers that was ordered through KCDA. Decisions to purchase were made after evaluating different options based on quality, cost, and budget.

c. Health and safety Information

i. *OSPI BULLETIN NO. 078-21: District Employee Vaccination and Exemption Status Data Collection*

1. *Dr. Pruitt shared this bulletin which outlines the reporting requirements.*

ii. *Dr. Pruitt read the following statement regarding the status of the school's compliance with the Governor's proclamation.*

Vaccination mandate information

- 100% of Skamania School employees are in compliance with the state mandated vaccination requirements. All of our staff is either fully vaccinated or has an approved exemption.
- The state is requiring all K-12 public school employees to be either fully vaccinated or have a qualified medical or religious exemption by October 18.
- If a qualified exemption is granted, additional health and safety protocols must be put in place for those employees who qualify for a medical or religious exemption. At Skamania School, these protocols include wearing a KN95 mask not N95 mask and getting tested for COVID weekly. These protocols were created at the recommendation of and in consultation with Skamania County Public Health and Skamania School District for those with an approved exemption.

Dr. Pruitt read Dr. Kreiger's email that outlines the health department's strong recommendation regarding unvaccinated staff who have significant in-person interactions. The October 14, 2021 email is in the board packet.

- All staff at Skamania School, regardless of vaccination status, are required to complete a daily health attestation with temperature check upon arrival at the school, wear a mask (this can be a cloth, disposable or KN95 masks depending on employee preference and vaccination status), maintain social distance between themselves and others, frequently wash their hands and sanitize common touch areas throughout the building.

School districts work closely with the local department of health, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and Labor and Industries (L&I) to offer safe and reasonable accommodations to employees who have approved vaccine mandate exemptions for a qualified reason.

- Accommodations to the vaccine mandate may include additional and layered safety mitigation measures such as face shield plus a cloth face mask, a surgical-style mask, a hobby dust mask, a KN95 mask, or a KN90 mask.

Contingency Plans for Staff Shortages

- Skamania School, like many school districts, follows a contingency plan for when staff are out. Staff may miss school for a variety of reasons, including illness, vacation, quarantining, etc.
- The goal of the plan is to limit disruption to in-person education for students in the event that staff members are not at school for any reason. The plan includes:
 - Working with a substitute teacher pool to fill staffing needs.
 - Actively recruiting qualified substitute teachers to continue to add to our sub pool.
 - Working with OSPI and ESD112 to get staff emergency substitute certificates should they need to step into the teaching role.
 - Providing emergency subs supervision from more experienced certificated staff
 - Working with education partners to provide teaching assistance to support short-staffed classrooms.
- Many school districts like Skamania, and other industries around the country, are experiencing labor shortages right now due to the pandemic.

*iii. **Learn to Return program report** - Heather Whitman shared an update of the COVID testing program that will start soon.*

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Board member opening
 - i. Acceptance of board resignation - Position #5- Bob Holland

A motion was made by Beth DeSimone to approve the board director # 5 resignation of Bob Holland was seconded by Brenda Bush and the motion passed 8:14pm 10/18/2021.

- ii. Review and interview candidate for School Board - Position #5
 - 1. Donald Collins was interviewed by Angus Anderson.

A motion was made by Brenda Bush to approve the board director # 5 appointment of Donald Collins was seconded by Leslie Robb and the motion passed 3:1 10/18/2021 at 8:35pm .

Donald Collins was sworn in by Angus Anderson

- b. Social Emotional Learning - Chris Selcer - Counselor introduction (postponed to another meeting)
- c. Personnel
 - i. Resignations
 - 1. Para, office, health support - Crystal Holland
 - 2. Teacher - Tami Gilbert
 - ii. On leave
 - 1. Office manager - Amber Warren
 - 2. Teacher - Katie Chavarria
 - iii. Recommended to hire:
 - 1. Para, office, health and COVID support - Heather Gray
 - 2. Long term teacher substitute - Stephanie Ober
 - 3. Para, office, health - sub for office manager - Nicole Olsen-Yott
 - 4. Long term teacher substitute - Jessica Shumway

No motion was made or action taken due to an oversight.

A motion was made by _____ to approve the resignations, leaves, and recommended new hires listed above were seconded by _____ and the motion passed _____.

8. BOARD MEMBERS - OTHER TOPICS

- a. Community outreach update and discussion

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a. Review performance of public employees
- b. Meet with legal counsel to discuss potential litigation

The Board went into executive session: 8:45 PM

The Board returned to regular meeting: 10:24 PM

9. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

- a. The regular board meeting was adjourned by Angus at 10:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Board Chair,



Board Secretary,

