

**Skamania School District #2**  
**Scheduled Board Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**November 21, 2022**  
**6:30pm-8:30pm**  
**Skamania School Library**

Present: Angus Anderson, Donald Collins, Cynthia Dominik-Medlin, Lisa Young,  
Rowdy(Martin) LaFevers and Milt Dennison

Staff: Amber Warren, Katie Chavarria, Heather Whitman

**Call to Order**

Angus Anderson called the meeting to order at: 630pm

**Flag Salute**

**Changes to the agenda**

There were no changes to the agenda.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Consent Agenda**

- Approval of the October 24th Board meeting minutes
- Approval of bills and payroll

Rowdy Lafevers moved to approve the consent agenda, Cynthia Dominik Medline seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Unfinished Business**

- Maintenance Project Updates
  - Portable Classroom Options

Mr. Dennison gave an update on the portable roof for the Tk/K classroom and flooring situation in the storage portable. Mr. Dennison stated that the co-op will cover the cost of the repair of the flooring along with the cost of moving the items out and back once the repair is complete. The Tk/K classroom tarps are in place and in the correct direction. The East winds have not

affected the tarp so far. Once the repairs are complete in the storage portable, Head Start and Tk/K will transfer into those classrooms.

- Main Building HVAC

Lisa Young asked during the renovation if zonal heating was installed. It was stated that yes zonal heating is used. However, there are still several areas of the school that do not warm up. There was discussion of how the heat pump and heat strips work and what the cause may be on why the school does not have adequate heat supply in the building. There was additional discussion that was stated on how this problem could have been avoided in the first place, with the renovation. Mrs. Young stated that her husband, a retired engineer, is willing to come to the school to take a look at what the problem may be.

Septic system is working. Genesis did install a safety fence where the septic was installed due to a backfill issue. Genesis is going to come back to the school and fill in more dirt.

Transportation is running relatively smoothly. However, we are borrowing a White Salmon Valley School District bus, due to bus #3 having a check engine light and fuel filter light on. Bus #3 is back at Peterson and Skamania School will be following up with the mechanic this week.

- Facilities Lawsuit- Wahkiakum School District

- Discussions and Possible Action

Cynthia Dominik Medlin discussed with Mr. Dennison and the Skamania School Board that she doesn't see how we can give money to another district when our district is preparing for a levy. Mrs. Dominik-Medlin stated that she doesn't feel good about giving away money, when asking stakeholders for a levy. Mr. Collins stated that Mr. Freeman gave a very compelling argument and hopes that Mr. Freeman can obtain what he is asking for.

Donald Collins moved to have Skamania School's superintendent Milt Dennison call Mr. Freeman of Wahkiakum and let him know the Board's decision. Rowdy LaFevers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dennison agreed with the decision of the Board as it is what is best for Skamania School District.

### **New Business**

- Highly Capable Program Approval

- Discussion and Possible Action

Mrs. Chavarria gave an overview of the Highly Capable Program. This included how students are identified, and screened, which the process starts in second grade along with what the cost associated with the program might be.

Mrs. Dominik- Medlin stated that she went through the materials that Mrs. Chavarria provided extensively, and saw that there are many options to access these services.

Mrs. Chavarria shared that she is able to share more information as requested. Mrs. Chavarria also shared that students can be identified and screened at any time during the school year. For the 2023-2024 school year students will be screened in the early fall for the Highly Capable Program.

Donald Collins moved to approve the Highly Capable Program as presented by Mrs. Chavarria. Cynthia Dominik-Medlin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

A question was asked: how many students will qualify for the screening? There are twelve students that could be screened as of today, Mrs. Chavarria stated.

Mr. Collins asked: if there was a budget request at this time? Mrs. Chavarria stated that there isn't a request at this time.

- Enrichment Levy Overview and Approval of Levy Resolution- Chuck Hole

Charles Hole gave a presentation on what to prepare for with the upcoming levy. After the presentation, Mr. Collins asked what has worked in the past? It was shared that there was great feedback after a realignment of administrative structure and preparing a levy brochure. In the past it was best to levy with a lower tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation lower than Stevenson Carson School District. Just as Mt. Pleasant tries to levy less than neighboring Washougal School District. The vote for the levy will be held in February, with the Special Elections.

After much discussion the board has asked for additional time to review the materials for the levy before making any decisions.

Donald Collins moved to hold a Special Board meeting on November 30th, 2022. Lisa Young seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- Personnel

- Acceptance of Resignation 00

- Mireya Mariscal - Bus Driver in Training

Donald Collins moved to accept the resignation of Mireya Mariscal. Rowdy LaFevers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board wishes Ms. Mariscal the best of luck in her future endeavors.

## Reports

- Legislative Visit- Milt Dennison and Angus Anderson

Angus Anderson gave a brief statement on how the legislative visit went. Over twenty members showed at Skamania. ESD 112 hosted a luncheon for the legislators, and there will also be a press release coming out in the local papers. There was a power outage while the visit occurred due to a down tree on Highway 14. However, all recovered well and the visit was beneficial for the school district.

- Attendance Initiatives- Milt Dennison and Katie Chavarria
- Instruction Program Report- Katie Chavarria

Mr. Dennison and Mrs. Chavarria shared with the board about the new note going home to families after so many days of school are missed. The note will state the attendance facts and a brief statement regarding attendance.

School is being missed due to students and families having a struggle between illness, and reluctance from students who were perhaps home-schooled during the COVID pandemic getting back to a routine.

Half of the attendance issues are with new enrollment students, with many having parents leaving for work early in the morning.

- Superintendent's Report- Milt Dennison

Mr. Dennison stated that he has been in contact with Mt. Pleasant school Superintendent Cathy, and has recently found out that they will have a counselor one day a week. Mr. Dennison will be in contact with Mt. Pleasant again to see if the counselor may be interested in additional hours.

WAGAP the mobile food bank will start dispersing food into the community from the Skamania School far parking lot. WAGAP was originally dispersing food at the Skamania Store. However, due to safety concerns they have asked to come to the school to disperse the food. December will be the first month that WAGAP will begin this process at Skamania School.

There was also a statement regarding sick pay for classified staff. An addendum was made to correct the previous contracts for classified employees and their sick pay. The only change to the contracts is having the sick leave changed based on the employees FTE

- Budget status report- Chairman Angus Anderson

Due to it only being two months into the budget there wasn't too much to speak on regarding the budget. The district has spent more than it has received . However, this is normal for this

time of year. The district will start to see a difference after the first of the new year in the budget.

**Comments from Skamania Board of Directors**

Angus Anderson stated that he whole heartily feels that this is the best board he has ever been on. Mr. Anderson appreciates the questions that the board members ask, and then thanked the board for their service.

Mrs. Chavarria shared that the community is happy to see the board active within the community and at the school functions.

Lisa Young shared that much needs to be done for the Library, and looks forward to having a better understanding of what needs to be done.

**Upcoming Dates**

November 23rd-25th No School Thanksgiving Holiday

December 5th Holiday Concert at 7pm

December 19th Regular Scheduled Board Meeting at 6:30pm

**Adjournment**

Donald Collins moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm. Lisa Young seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm

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Board Chair, \_\_\_\_\_

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Board Secretary, \_\_\_\_\_