

Skamania School District #2
Regular Scheduled Board Meeting
Minutes
February 27, 2023
6:30pm-8:30pm
Skamania School Library

Angus Anderson, Donald Collins, Cynthia Dominik Medlin, Rowdy LaFevers, Lisa Young,
and Milt Dennison

Staff: Katie Chavarria, Amber Warren and Heather Whitman

Call to Order

Angus Anderson called the meeting to order at: 6:30pm

Flag Salute

Changes to the agenda

Two additions were made to the agenda additions as follows

- Open Meeting Law
- Oath of Office

These two additions will follow after Board Educational Equity Training

Public Comment

There was no public attendance

Consent Agenda

- Approval of the January 23, 2023 Board meeting minutes
- Approval of bills and payroll

Donald Collins moved to approve the consent agenda, Lisa Young seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

- Portable Classroom Updates

Mr. Dennison shared that the interior and exterior work for the portables have been completed. However, in the future Mr. Dennison shared that he would like to address the walkway to the portables as it is needing some repair. Mr. Dennison also spoke on how possibly next school

year that there may be some classroom location changes which would bring the younger grades into the main building and have the 6th-8th grade students move out to the portables. There was some discussion between board members asking if any member had a negative response to the proposed idea. All board members were in agreement that moving the younger students in would be a good idea to explore for next school year.

- Bus Status Report

Mr. Dennison shared that he and Amber met with a sales representative from Western Bus. If decided to purchase a new diesel bus an expected delivery date is 360-365 days out from the time of order. There are other options regarding transportation. One option is to repair bus #3 which is at Peterson. The estimated cost would be around \$7,500 to repair the motherboard. Once bus #3 is fixed, it would give two running diesel buses. Heather gave a brief update regarding the EV bus. In recent news Skamania School District was granted a \$100,000 grant from TransAlta to support the EV bus purchase which was awarded on February 15th 2023. The Board agrees that at the next meeting in March they will have a decision on whether to move forward with the EV purchase or not. The board discussed that they would like to pursue the repair on bus #3.

Donald Collins moved to pay the estimate for the repair on the motherboard with the expectation that a warranty will be guaranteed upon completion. Rowdy LaFevers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Donald Collins stated how much he appreciates the work that Amber and Heather have put into the transportation needs of Skamania.

- February Levy Election Updates

Skamania School Districts Levy passed. However the vote only passed by 7 votes. Mr. Dennison shared that he would like to do some research into why the margin was so small. It was discussed that there may have been several contributing factors, one of which may not be many registered voters, especially among parents of children in the district. It was also shared that Skamania School could host a registration drive to get more voters ready for the next election.

- Board Goals - Progress Report

The board goals were shared along with any progress that has been made so far this school year. There will be a final report on board goals at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

New Business

- Recommendation to approve additional day for school counselor- Beginning May 1, 2023

Mr. Dennison shared that there has been an amended contract brought to the meeting tonight for Tracey Stinchfield. The amended contract would provide Mrs. Stinchfield with a two day a week contract starting in May.

Lisa Young moved to accept the amended contract for Tracey Stinchfield which will give Mrs. Stinchfield two days a week at Skamania. Donald Collins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- Facility Improvement Projects
 - Walking/Jogging track- Possible Recommendation to Approve

It has been brought to the Board that there is an option to have a walking/jogging track put in along the perimeter of the fence line at Skamania School. There were questions asked how wide, long and how the specifics of how the process would be done with the installation of the track. The Board asked for additional specific information that could be brought to the next board meeting for approval.

- Acceptance of Playground/Outdoor grant from Wal-Mart

Donald Collins moved to accept the grant from Walmart , Rowdy Lafevers seconded the motion and the motion passed with the board expressing appreciation for Walmart the motion passed unanimously.

- Tk/K- Round-up Plans

A scheduled TK/K informational meeting is set for March 9th at 6:00pm. There will be registration paperwork ready for families to take home and review for the following school year. Signage has also been designed to attract families which will be placed outside the school and by the highway.

- Board Educational Equity Training

Angus Anderson shared there are additional trainings that need to be completed by all board members. In addition there was discussion of the required open meeting law training. Both Director Collins and LaFevers stated that they have completed the training. Certificates of such training will be prepared.

- Acceptance of Retirement Request

Donald Collins moved to accept the Retirement for Jeannette Hodapp effective August 30th. Lisa Young seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- Calendar Revision March 14th

Cynthia Dominik Medlin moved to accept the calendar revision for March 14th which will change the 14th from a half day to a full day, Lisa Young seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Reports

- Superintendent's Report- Milt Dennison

Mr. Dennison shared that snow days have been a challenge and hopes that the weather improves soon.

HVAC issues are still occurring. Mr. Dennison shared that he is currently working with the HVAC companies to get these issues resolved.

- Instructional Program Report - Katie Chavarria

Katie Chavarria gave an update regarding PD which covers restorative justice practices. Mrs. Chavarria also shared that world languages will soon be offered to 5th-8th grade students. There will be eight different languages offered to students. The parent and family engagement survey has been sent out and so far only 18 responses have been submitted. From the information received much of the feedback has expressed interest in parent input on school decision making. Along with interest in classes for parents which would focus on nutrition and stress management.

Katie Chavarria is also looking into options for after school programs and childcare.

- Budget status report- Chairman Angus Anderson

Budget status report general fund only. Mr. Anderson stated that we are just now seeing money come in from the state. The majority of funds will come in between March and April.

Comments from Skamania Board of Directors

Lisa Young is excited about having a Parent Engagement night and expresses how it shows openness from the school. Mrs. Young also shared that Parent Advisory Groups have been beneficial in communities.

Executive Session (RCW42.30.110)

- Personnel

Executive Session began at 8:25pm Angus Anderson stated that the Board will need 15 minutes.

Executive Session ended at 8:37 pm

Open session began at 8:37pm

Mr. Anderson shared that after discussing with the board and Mr. Dennison, the board and Mr. Dennison agreed that they would like to begin the process of setting up a contract of employment for next school year.

Upcoming Dates

March 2nd- Dr. Seuss Day 7:30am-8:30am

March 10th- Snow Make-up Day

March 20th- Regular Scheduled Board Meeting at 6:30pm

Spring Break April 3rd- April 7th

Adjournment

Donald Collins moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38pm, Rowdy LaFevers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm

Board Chair, _____

Board Secretary, _____