

Skamania School District #2
Regular Scheduled Board Meeting
Minutes

April 16, 2025

6:30 p.m - 8:30 p.m

Mrs. London's Classroom

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <http://meet.google.com/vxj-vadj-rmw>

In attendance:

Board Members: Donald Collins (Board Chair), Angus Anderson, Lisa Young, Martin "Rowdy" LaFevers, Cynthia Dominik Medlin

Staff: Milt Dennison - Superintendent, Katie Chavarria - Principal, Amber Warren- Office Manager

Call to Order - Regular Session

Donald Collins called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

- Meeting was recorded as per RCW 42.30.035
- The district made multiple attempts to record the meeting; however, technical difficulties with Google Meet disrupted the process. After being disconnected several times, the second half of the meeting was recorded using a sound recording app.

Flag Salute

Changes to the agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of the March 20th Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of the March 26th Special Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Bills and Payroll

Accounts payable general funds check numbers 30462 through 30484, totaling \$30,730.83

Accounts payable general funds check numbers 30495 through 30495, totaling \$1,955.83

Payroll and benefits check numbers 30485 through 30494, totaling \$124,109.35

Accounts payable capital projects check numbers 227 through 227, totaling \$9,888.97

Lisa Young made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Cynthia Dominik Medlin seconded and the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

Unfinished Business

- Policy 4310 - District Relationships with Law Enforcement and other Governmental Agencies - 2nd Reading - Adoption

Angus Anderson made a motion to adopt Policy 4310 as written. Lisa seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

- School Board Vacancy Update

Milt Dennison shared that the district has not yet received any applications to fill the vacancy. Donald asked Angus if he would be willing to remain in the position until a new candidate is found. Angus agreed to stay on temporarily but noted that he does not intend to run for another term. He also recommended that the district and board reach out to PTO members who reside within the district to gauge interest in the position.

New Business

- Job Description and Salary Range - Office Assistant

Milt shared the job description and salary recommendation for the office assistant position, explaining that it is the district's role to set the description and propose a salary, while the Board is responsible for approving both. Lisa expressed concerns regarding the title, job description, and proposed salary, suggesting that the title be changed to "secretary" to make it easier to collect comparable positions for salary benchmarking. After some discussion, Milt recommended approving the description and salary as presented, with the understanding that revisions can be considered for the next school year.

After some discussion, Angus made a motion to approve the job description and salary as presented. Rowdy seconded, and the motion passed with four in favor and one abstention from Lisa Young.

- Class Size Projections and Possible Caps

Milt shared that, with an anticipated increase in choice transfer requests, the district would like to discuss options with the Board regarding recommended class sizes for the various grade-level bands. He noted that it may be necessary to deny some boundary requests based on available space within specific grades. Milt also shared Policy 3141 – Nonresident Students. Katie led a discussion on recommended class size caps aligned with the projected grade-level configurations for next year. During the discussion, Donald expressed interest in developing a policy that prioritizes existing choice students and their siblings over new applicants in the future.

Reports

- Superintendent's Report- Milt Dennison

Milt provided a brief update on Federal Funds, noting that there is still little new information available at this time. He also shared that it appears the district will not be approved for the modernization grant this year. However, a company recently visited to present their RFQs and mentioned that, in their experience, districts that are not approved one year are often approved the following year. Additionally, Milt informed the Board to expect a budget extension for the ASB to be presented next month.

- Instructional Report - Katie Chavarria

The second round of after-school clubs is off to a great start, with 58 students participating and enjoying the activities. State testing is scheduled to begin on May 15 and will continue through the first week of June, with testing days spaced out to allow for rest and makeup days. In addition, students will soon be heading out on field trips to the Bonneville Dam and Sams Walker Trail, providing valuable opportunities to engage with the local environment and community.

Skamania School continues to offer tours for prospective students, with a waiting list now in place for choice transfers for the next school year. In the 7th and 8th grade classrooms, students are diving into classic literature, working on mapping and economic concepts in social studies, solving multi-step math problems involving real-world percentages, and exploring sustainable future food options in science.

- Budget status report- Chairman Donald Collins

Donald presented the budget report, starting with the General Funds, where we were budgeted to have a fund balance of \$262,578, but the actual balance stands at \$313,830.11. For Capital Projects, we were budgeted for \$28,350, and the current balance is \$28,344. The ASB began with a balance of \$2,440, and it has grown to \$2,633.86.. Finally, for Transportation, we were budgeted for \$135,788, and the actual balance is \$138,550.03, showing a positive outcome.

Comments from Skamania Board of Directors

Cynthia shared information about the upcoming memorial service for Karin Ditzler, who generously donated to enhance and expand the district's band program last school year. There was some discussion among the Board about meaningful ways the district might be able to honor her lasting contribution.

Executive Session (RCW 42.30.110)

Donald announced that the Board would enter executive session at 7:51 p.m. to discuss the performance review of an employee, with plans to return at 8:21 p.m. At 8:21 p.m., the Board briefly returned from executive session and requested an additional five minutes. The Board resumed regular session at 8:26 p.m.

Adjournment

Angus made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Cynthia seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Board Chair, _____

Board Secretary, _____