

Skamania School District #2
Regular Scheduled Board Meeting
Minutes
October 15, 2025 ~ 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Superintendent's Office
Google Meet joining link: <https://meet.google.com/vxj-vadj-rmw>

In attendance

Board Members: *Donald Collins, Cynthia Dominik Medlin, Lisa Young, Jeremy Silver Martin "Rowdy" LaFevers (arrived late)*

Staff: Katie Chavarria - Superintendent, Amber Warren- Office Manager

Call to Order

Donald Collins called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- Meeting was recorded as per RCW 42.30.035

Flag Salute

Changes to the agenda

Katie Chavarria announced a change to the agenda to add approval of the September 24th Board Workshop Minutes to the consent agenda and to remove the Executive Session, as it is not needed.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of the September 17th Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of the September 24th Board Workshop Minutes
- Approval of Bills and Payroll

General Funds Check numbers 30657 through 30678 totaling \$56,098.48

Payroll and Benefits check numbers 30679 through 30688, totaling \$147,228.76

Cynthia Dominik Medlin made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Lisa Young seconded the motion, and it passed with one abstention due to absence, with no further discussion.

Unfinished Business

- Policy 1400- Meeting Conduct Order of Business and Quorum
 - 2nd Reading and Adoption

Lisa made a motion to adopt Policy 1400 as written. Donald Collins seconded, and the motion passed with one abstention due to absence, with no further discussion.

Donald announced Rowdy LaFevers' arrival at 5:08 p.m.

- Levy Information/Update - Charles Hole

Charles Hole presented an overview of the upcoming levy, explaining that levy funds support district expenses not fully covered by state or federal sources. These include teacher and administrative salaries and benefits beyond state apportionment, food service costs, non-high payments to other districts, and maintenance and operations expenses. He reviewed the levy limit calculations, noting that the maximum amount is determined by the lesser of \$2.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value or a per-pupil funding cap. Based on projected assessed valuation and enrollment, the district's 2026 levy maximum is \$446,006, with an approved levy amount of \$280,000, resulting in an estimated rate of \$1.07 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

He also outlined the Board's responsibilities for adopting a levy proposition resolution, including declaring the need, setting the election date, defining the levy amount and duration, and preparing the ballot title. Additional requirements include securing OSPI approval for levy uses, meeting county election standards, and appointing "for" and "against" committee members for the local voters' pamphlet. Charles emphasized key variables affecting future levy projections—such as enrollment trends, CPI adjustments, assessed valuation growth, and possible legislative changes to per-pupil funding—which could influence future levy capacity and rates.

Donald moved to approve a levy increase of 22,500 annually for the next three years, resulting in a yearly step-up of 22,500 over the prior year. Jeremy Silver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with no further discussion.

- Engagement Letter Bond Counsel

Cynthia made a motion to accept the engagement letter from Pacifica Law Group for bond counsel services. Lisa seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with no further discussion.

New Business

- 2025-26 Board Goals

Lisa made a motion to adopt the Board Goals as written with one edit to change the word "on" to for in the second sentence of the first paragraph to read "High expectations *for* student achievement and success, along with setting goals, will support this vision. Rowdy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

- Board/Superintendent Working Agreement

Jeremy made a motion to approve the Board/Superintendent Working Agreement as written. Lisa seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

- District Report Card Comparison

Katie shared a copy of our state report card compared to the state totals and that we are performing quite well overall. The only area below the state average is in one aspect of science—specifically, consistent grade-level knowledge. We just adopted a brand-new science curriculum last year, so there hasn't been sufficient time to see measurable improvement yet.

- Personnel
 - Long Term Substitute - Michelle Miller

Donald made a motion to approve Michelle's contract. Rowdy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

Reports

- Superintendent's Report - Katie Chavarria

Katie shared that the attorney from Pacifica Law Group reached out requesting additional information regarding our HVAC situation. The documents have been sent, and the attorney will follow up once he has reviewed all the materials.

Katie also reported that some mold was removed from under the kitchen dishwasher and that plumbing work will be required, which may be costly. This topic will likely be addressed in a future meeting.

The new counselor, Katie Murphy, has started, and our invoices will be prorated to reflect any missed days. She also encouraged the board to vote for the State Board of Education representatives.

Additionally, Katie shared this week's issue of *The Pioneer*. We made the front page for achieving #1 in the state for the Prodigy Math Challenge, and there is also an article about the Community Bingo Night.

- Budget Status Report - Donald Collins

Donald provided an update on the budget status for September.

In the General Fund, the budgeted ending balance was \$46,149, while the actual balance is \$443,117.56. For Capital Projects, the annual budget was set at \$0, with an actual balance of \$58,114. In the Associated Student Body (ASB) Fund, the budgeted balance was \$0, with an

actual balance of \$357,768. For the Transportation Vehicle Fund, the budgeted balance was \$0, with an actual balance of \$1,835,272.40.

Overall, fund balances are in a stable position, and the district is satisfied with the financial status at this time.

Comments from Skamania Board of Directors

Donald requested to be excused from the meeting at 6:52 p.m. as he had another commitment. Lisa offered to finish the meeting.

Lisa provided a legislative update. She shared that WASA recently held its annual meeting to identify key legislative positions to present to the state legislature. Each school board was invited to submit ten district priorities. Due to time constraints, Lisa reviewed the 115 proposed items and submitted those most relevant to the district.

The priorities she identified include:

- Support for administrators in small schools
- Continued federal funding, particularly for Secure Rural Schools
- Full funding for basic education and MSOC
- State funding for mandated professional development
- Support for special education
- Technology funding
- Transition to kindergarten
- Transportation funding
- Universal free school meals

Lisa noted that while some items appeared to support small schools, closer review showed they would expand eligibility rather than increase funding. The submitted priorities are consistent with last year's positions and align with the state's current key advocacy areas—special education and transportation funding. Lisa expressed hope that these selections reflect the Board's priorities and committed to providing more time for Board input in future submissions.

Executive Session (RCW 42.30.110)

There was no need for an executive session

Upcoming Dates

- Community Connection Night
 - October 17th 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Fall Festival

- October 24th

- Fall Conferences
 - October 27th - 31st

Adjournment

Rowdy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. Cynthia seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Board Chair, _____

Board Secretary, _____