

Skamania School District #2
Regular Scheduled Board Meeting
Minutes
September 17, 2025 ~ 6:00-8:00 PM
Superintendent's Office
Google Meet joining link: <https://meet.google.com/vxj-vadj-rmw>

In attendance

Board Members: Donald Collins, Martin "Rowdy" LaFevers, Cynthia Dominik Medlin, Lisa Young

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

Donald noted that Jeremy Silver is not in attendance.

Flag Salute

Changes to the agenda

There were no changes made to the agenda

Public Comment

No members of the public were in attendance, and no public comments were received.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of the August 20th Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Bills and Payroll

Lisa Young made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Rowdy LaFevers seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

Unfinished Business

- Policy 3241 - Student Discipline
 - 2nd Reading and Adoption

Cynthia Dominik Medlin made a motion to adopt Policy 3241 as written. Lisa seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

- HVAC - Portable

Katie reported that due to fresh air exchange requirements, the only viable solution is to replace the existing unit in the storage portable at a cost of just over \$20,000. Given cooling weather and ongoing discussions about long-term options for the portables, she recommended holding

off until a broader capital improvements plan is established to determine whether this expenditure is the best use of funds.

Rowdy stated that he would like to know what other options are available. Cynthia asked if the district has checked with the PUD for possible rebates. Katie responded that this had not been considered and she will look into it.

The Board agreed to hold off on replacing the unit at this time, with the understanding that the matter can be revisited if the need becomes more dire.

New Business

- Policy 1400 - Meeting Conduct Order of Business and Quorum
 - 1st Reading

Katie presented Policy 1400 for the first reading. She noted that the primary change is updating the meeting schedule to Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., instead of Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

- 2025-26 Hi-Cap Program Plan Approval

Lisa made a motion to approve the Hi-Cap Program Plan for the 2025-26 school year, with an edit to change the third "and" in the second paragraph to "that," so the sentence reads: *"Skamania School District is committed to identifying and providing for the unique intellectual, social, and emotional development of all students that prepares them for college and career readiness."* Donald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

- HVAC Preventative Maintenance

Hunter Davisson, Inc. updated the preventative maintenance agreement for the 2025-26 school year. The cost increased significantly due to the addition of prevailing wages, the portable classroom units, and associated expenses. Although the cost is about double last year's, it remains lower than other quotes received, and the district is satisfied with the service provided. Rowdy made a motion to approve the proposal. Cynthia seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

- Walmart Grant - Holiday Help/Giving Tree Program

The district received a \$1,000 grant from Walmart. Lisa made a motion to accept the grant to support the Holiday Help and Giving Tree Program. Rowdy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

- Paraeducator Contract - Twyla Young

Katie recommended approval of a contract for Twyla, who has served the school in various capacities over the past several years, to continue as a General Education Paraeducator for the 2025-26 school year. Donald made a motion to approve the contract. Cynthia seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

- Levy Information/Update
 - Discussion - Type of Campaign

Katie shared updates on levy planning. She met with Chuck, the district's communications team, and also connected with Piper Sandler, an investment banking firm that provides levy guidance at no cost to districts. She described their presentation as very informative, noting that it included tools to calculate projected amounts, impacts on the district, and tax rate effects for the community. Katie will share these materials with the Board.

Chuck will attend the October meeting to review the numbers and support planning, as the Board will need to pass a levy resolution in November. This timeline allows for submission to bond counsel for drafting and to OSPI for approval prior to the December filing deadline. Katie asked Board members to come to the October meeting with a clear idea of the levy amount to propose for next year.

Reports

- Superintendent's Report - Katie Chavarria

Katie reported that the first month of school has been strong, with a current enrollment of 122 students. The first "Coffee Corner" was successful, with eight parents attending, and overall feedback indicates that students and parents are enjoying the school.

She shared that background documents regarding the HVAC installation and related issues have been sent to the attorney, and a letter should be available soon. The district met with Apollo and DES for an initial walkthrough, with a follow-up meeting scheduled for later this week to review their findings.

Katie noted that the cell phone policy approved last school year will be presented at the November board meeting for review, per the Board's request. She also shared that the Community Connection Night is scheduled and postcards will be mailed soon. Additionally, she provided a packet with materials to prepare for the upcoming Board Workshop next week.

- Budget Status Report - Donald Collins

Donald reported the following fund balances as of August:

- **General Fund:** Projected beginning balance was \$439,650; actual balance is \$449,046.97, slightly above projection and within budgeted expectations. This represents approximately 18% of the budget, close to the target of 20%, and is considered healthy.
- **Capital Projects Fund:** Projected beginning balance was \$10,100; actual balance is \$5,808.67, reflecting planned expenditures.
- **Associated Student Body (ASB) Fund:** Projected beginning balance was \$400; actual balance is \$3,576.36, showing strong fundraising results.

- **Transportation Fund:** Projected balance was \$183,866; actual balance is \$183,468.25, demonstrating 99% accuracy with the budget.

Overall, all funds are tracking as expected, and the district remains in a strong financial position.

Comments from Skamania Board of Directors

Lisa expressed her excitement that the first month of school is going well. She inquired whether teachers have the resources they need and if they are spending out of pocket. Katie responded that the district has implemented a “no questions asked” budget for teachers, with the option to request additional funds on a case-by-case basis, and she has not heard of any significant out-of-pocket spending. Lisa also asked about the music teacher’s piano, noting that the current instrument is dated; Katie will follow up with the teacher.

Rowdy shared feedback from the Back to School BBQ, noting that some families, including himself, wished it could have been held outdoors. Katie explained that the event was moved indoors due to yellow jacket concerns and challenges with moving the tables outside, but agreed that an outdoor option could be considered in the future.

Executive Session (RCW 42.30.110)

- Performance Review of an Employee

The Board entered executive session at 7:17 p.m. for a planned 10 minutes, with a return scheduled for 7:27 p.m. The session concluded early, and the Board reconvened in regular session at 7:24 p.m. As there were no members of the public in attendance, the meeting proceeded with regular session business.

Upcoming Dates

Fall Clubs Begin

- September 29th

Professional Development - No School

- October 10th

Community Connection

- October 17th 5:30-7:30

Adjournment

Cynthia made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Rowdy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Board Chair, _____

Board Secretary, _____