



LA CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 101 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

7:00 PM

HS Library and Zoom

Board Members Present: Eric Lindberg, Win Muffett, Craig Whited, Dorri Oldham (via Zoom)

Board Members Absent:

Superintendent: Peter Rosenkranz

Administrators: Matt Johnson, Greg Hall, Nancy Carner, Lauri Landerholm, Mike Nolan

Staff and Guests: Justine Stimmel, Myrna Leija, Teresa Holmes, Eunice Ingermanson, Luis Neira,

Nicole Andrell, Dolcie Niemi, Anna Stewart, Lisa Jones, Monty Winton, Laurie Winton, Buffy

Spargur, Phil Hogan, Lois Englund, Linda Fraser, Tom Strobehn, Jennifer Hall, Wendi Walts, Cecelia

Franks, Erin Smelser, Gail Wolz, Brittini Lasseigne, Ed Gorsegner, Emily Hancock, Trish

Huddleston, Kathy Bounds, Joseph Plaughter, Eric Mills, Sean Emerson, Gary Wilson, Sally Snyder,

Derek Shaffer, Sean Boyle, Marie Emerson, Tricia Davis, Bonnie Ruiz

Minutes taken by: Tammy Lichliter

PART 1.0 – CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Mr. Muffett called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., with the flag salute.

1.2 Welcomed guests

1.3 Corrections and Changes: Mr. Rosenkranz stated that a Budget Discussion needed to be added as a discussion item to the agenda it was added as 6.3A. Mr. Lindberg noted that a correction was needed on item 6.6 Selection of board director area 2 instead of 4.

1.4 Audience and Board Communication

Say something positive: Mr. Lindberg said that he has a thankful feeling and everyone has something to be thankful for. Mr. Whited said that the father daughter dance was fun, he had such a good time and thanked everyone that organized the dance as it turned out really well. Mr. Rosenkranz said that the board meeting is democracy in action. He encouraged everyone to read Michelle O’Neil’s board report. The reading group assistance that was organized due to a drop after covid is helping to get our reading scores back. He also encouraged everyone to read the library report to see the amazing things our librarians do with our kids every day. Mr. Muffett said that he is grateful for all of the families in this community. Mrs. Oldham echoed Mr. Whited’s comments about the Father Daughter Dance. She has children that attended each of the dances, she is glad to see these events happening again.

Public Input on Non Agenda Items:

Board Meeting Minutes 04/25/23

Mr. Muffett noted that there were a record number of speakers signed up to speak at tonight's meeting (32). There have never been more than 17. As the board chair, he has made the decision to shorten the speaking time per participant to 1 minute. If anyone has anything that they are not able to say, they can email it to the board. Mr. Muffett then gave a statement from the board regarding 3211P that was passed in January. He asked attendees to read the procedure as it recognizes the rights of all students. It instructs staff to honor student requests for name and pronoun changes. It is also pro-family. The board acknowledges the legal rights of parents. It seeks to collaborate with parents whenever possible. Students are the parent's kids. This is not a unique idea to La Center. People have the right to see about the upbringing of their own children. WSSDA is made up of all districts in Washington. At WSSDA's general assembly, they adopted a family statement. When parents are involved, students do better. Parents decide where their kids go to school and we involve parents every step of the way in the process. We call parents for all kinds of issues. If parents help, things go better. Parents are not dangerous, they seek to help their children every day and WSSDA also agrees with the District regarding family support. He noted that he reviewed some of district policies this past weekend and found at least 30 policies that require parent notification. Parent rights are listed in nearly every policy. We thank parents for their involvement in the schools. Great parents make for great students and great schools. We seek to do our best at all times, but are not perfect. We trust in parents, but some make mistakes. We will always do what is in the best interest of a parent raising their own child. Even if it is different from my own views, people are welcome to disagree, but parents possess these rights. It is not a radical position to honor that right. The district does not seek to raise anyone else's kids, and is not out to promote hate. Mr. Muffett added, he raised his kids the way he wanted, you have the right to raise yours the way you want.

The board then accepted public comment from the following with their topic of discussion noted:

Cecilia Franks – Student and staff safety in La Center/Separation of church and state

Eunice Ingermanson – Science/Biology/Making school a safe place for students

Erin Smelser - Student and Staff Safety in La Center/Student rights and safety is in your lane

Gail Wolz – Procedure 3211P/Overly simplistic to speak of male or female, should not be used as a weapon of contempt

Dolcie Niemi – Educators have ethical standards for keeping kids safe

Brittini Lasseigne – Student and staff safety in La Center/We all have differences/Support students

Buffy Spargur – Appreciation for the board/Pete/No one has right to think they are more capable than me of raising my child

Myrna Leija – Importance of parent rights in raising their children until the age of 18

James Clark – No one should be compelled to use someone else's preferred pronouns, it should be a choice

Ed Gorsenger – Importance of Family/Settled here because of LC's educational standards

Emily Hancock – Student mental health/School should be a safe space/3211P Takes away that refuge

Justine Stimmel – Importance of Family/Support for Pete/People upset are not from here

Trish Huddleston – Gratitude and is impressed with the board's pro-family stance/Parent rights

Mike – Support for the district's policy/Does not deny use of pronouns

Kathy Bounds – Is this helping kids?/Turn focus to curriculum and SEL Learning/Catch up on learning loss

Joseph Plaughter – Student and staff safety in La Center/Trust in parents is important, but not all parents are safe

Eric Mills – No forced use of pronouns/School should not hide things from parents

Sean Emerson – Minority suffer from gender dysphoria/Have the board's back

Board Meeting Minutes 04/25/23

Gary Wilson – Role and importance of parents/ RCW’s that protect against discrimination in schools/Nothing in RCW’s deny parent rights
Sally Snyder – School system is failing our children/Report scores are pathetic
Derek Shaffer – Kids can use pronouns/People will push for more until core family values are dismantled
Sean Boyle – Support for the board/Justifying logic to those not in our community is a waste/The board will do what’s best for all children
Terresa Holmes – Wishes the civil rights complaint would be withdrawn/ Supports the school board, Pete and families
Marie Emerson – Should not push smut towards our children/Teachers should not cross lines with our kids
Tricia Davis- Teachers and government should stay in their lane/Thanked board for their courage
Bonnie Ruiz – Thanked the board for honoring parents and respecting rights of free speech.

Mr. Muffett then commented that the law requires the district to send out report cards on how students are doing. Covid left every school with reading loss. The board received some valid criticism. Reading has been a focus for well over a year. Schools are accountable to parents. It is easier to report about complaints as it makes good news, but making sure our kids can read well for over a year has been the district’s mission. This is not a religious or political statement. We want kids to be able to read. We held an open public hearing regarding the civil rights complaint. The board investigated the policy and based on evidence and in our investigative opinion there was no civil rights violation. We are not fighting the OSPI investigation and are cooperating by providing all of the information that they have requested. The board is and will continue to be transparent. Whatever is found is found and the board is compelled to do what is right. It is ironic that some people call for violence by putting up flyers with a call to action and say they threw the superintendent for a loop. That is a message of aggression. It is also ironic that someone wants to use those words and then call for safety. The board is here to do the business of the district and will not be intimidated. We know from what is being said that we are doing the right thing.

PART 2.0 – CONSENT AGENDA –

Motion 22/23-34

made by Mr. Whited, seconded by Mr. Lindberg to approve the consent agenda with the removal of item 2.5C Request for Increased Cispus Fees pending more information:

2.1 Approval of Minutes

- A. [Minutes of Board/Admin Linkage held March 14, 2023](#)
- B. [Minutes of Board Meeting held March 28, 2023](#)
- C. [Minutes of Board Workshop held April 11, 2023](#)

2.2 Vouchers

- A. Payroll for this month not to exceed \$1,850,000.00
- B. [GF warrants #100865-100911 in the amt. of \\$129,339.58](#)
- C. [ASB warrants #11099-11107 in the amt. of \\$5,020.52](#)
- D. [CF warrant #2102 in the amt. of \\$2,132.50](#)
- E. [GF ACH warrants #222300279-22230296 in the amt. of \\$26,387.85](#)
- F. [ASB ACH warrants #222300274-222300278 in the amt. of \\$645.49](#)
- G. [GF warrants #100912-100953 in the amt. of \\$118,401.52](#)

- H. [ASB warrants #11108-1112 in the amt. of \\$3,148.22](#)
- I. [CF warrants #2103-2104 in the amt. of \\$14,266.21](#)
- J. [GF ACH warrants #222300298-222300321 in the amt. of \\$23,738.51](#)
- K. [ASB ACH warrant #222300297 in the amt. of \\$90.79](#)
- L. [BMO GEN warrants #100954-100956 in the amt. of \\$6,182.73](#)
- M. [BMO ASB warrants #11113-11114 in the amt. of \\$3,394.20](#)

2.3 Personnel

- A. Certified
 - 1. Kathy Bounds, retirement HS Teacher effective 8/31/23
- B. Classified
 - 1. Tom Rice, retirement, ES Custodian effective 6/30/23
 - 2. Matt Stimmel/Maintenance/Grounds, resignation effective 4/13/23
 - 3. Herm VanWeerdhuizen, resignation temporary Grounds/Maintenance effective 5/12/23
- C. Athletics, Extracurricular
 - 1. Herm VanWeerdhuizen, resignation HS Girls' Basketball Head Coach effective 3/10/23
 - 2. Daniel Boynton, resignation MS Asst. Football Coach effective 4/19/23
 - 3. Matt Cone, resignation HS Girls' Soccer Head Coach effective 3/23/23
- D. Non-Represented

2.4 Donations

- 1. Terry and Cindy Ham, \$100.00 to HS Boys' Soccer Program
- 2. Home Energy Group, \$400.00 to HS Boys' Soccer Program
- 3. Charles and Susan Roller, \$30.00 to HS Boys' Soccer Program

2.5 Other Items for Board Review

- A. Reports
 - 1. [Superintendent](#)
 - 2. [Elementary School](#)
 - 3. [Middle School](#)
 - 4. [High School](#)
 - 5. [Academy](#)
 - 6. [Director of Athletics and Extracurricular Activities](#)
 - 7. [Director of Student Services](#)
 - 8. [Director of Teaching and Learning](#)
 - 9. [Library](#)
 - 10. Enrollment Reports- [Head Count, FTE](#)
 - 11. [Monthly Financial Reports – Budget Status, Forecast 5](#)
- B. [Request for Increased MS PE fees beginning 23/24 School Year](#)
- C. ~~[Request for Increased Cispus fees beginning 23/24 School Year](#)~~
- D. [Request for Increased Lunch Prices beginning 23/24 School Year](#)

Motion Carried Unanimously

PART 3.0 – LINKAGE

None this month

Board Meeting Minutes 04/25/23

PART 4.0 – ASSURANCE OF ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE (Monitoring Reports)

Motion 22/23-35 made by Mr. Whited, seconded by Mr. Lindberg to approve EL-2 Monitoring Report as written:

4.1 [EL-2 Community Relations](#)

Motion Carried Unanimously

PART 5.0 – WRITTEN POLICY

Motion 22/23-36 made by Mr. Whited seconded by Mr. Lindberg to approve first reading of policy 4200 and procedure 4200P with minor punctuation corrections requested by Mrs. Oldham:

5.1 First Reading Policy [4200](#) Parent Access and Safe and Orderly Learning Environment. ([4200P](#) – Procedure name update only)

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion 22/23-37 made by Mr. Whited seconded by Mr. Lindberg to approve first reading of policy 3116 and procedure 3116P with minor corrections requested by Mr. Lindberg stated below:

5.2 First Reading Policy [3116](#)/Procedure [3116P](#) Students in Foster Care (Update DSHS references to DCYF on P.6 of the procedure)

Motion Carried Unanimously

PART 6.0 – OTHER ITEMS NEEDING BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

Item 6.1 was tabled to the May Board meeting pending more information on the opting in or out of sexual health questions and questions regarding gender for 6th grade students. For grades 8-12, gender questions are not optional, but the District is inquiring to see if those questions can be removed.

6.1 Healthy Youth Survey 2023 – Board approval of administration in fall 2023 for grades 6-12 (sexual health questions optional for grades 8-12, are not administered)

[Healthy Youth Survey Information Page](#)

Melissa Flatt spoke about the use of the data by La Center United as they use the information provided to apply for their grant. She said that all questions are optional and parents can opt their

students out if they don't want them to take the survey. She added that she doesn't think it would violate district policy as the questions are anonymous.

Josh Soske encouraged a conversation about the survey. He supports the survey and said it is anonymous and tells us what is going on with our students.

- 6.2 District Student Chromebook Leasing Plan – Nicole Andrell updated the board on the technology department's plan for leasing Chromebooks for students versus purchasing them.

Josh Soske commented that the state should be funding Chromebooks for kids. We need to work with the state legislature on this unfunded mandate.

Mr. Rosenkranz added that everyone should let their voices be heard by communicating with their representatives. The Board and District try to be good fiscal representatives when using tax dollars. Because of the growth in La Center, the tax rate from the levy has dropped and the district only collects \$1.31 per thousand of assessed value instead of \$1.50 per thousand. The district lives within our means. Please advocate with the legislature to fully fund education.

- 6.3A Addition of Budget Discussion – Nancy Carner gave the board an update on the progress being made on the 2023-2024 school year budget.

- 6.3B Future Agenda Items – Mr. Muffett would like there to be a district award for parent of the year at the ES, MS, and HS. He would like staff and principals to work on criteria for nominating parents that have gone above and beyond that volunteer to help other people's kids. He would like to discuss the criteria at next months meeting. Mr. Rosenkranz asked if he would like nominations as well. If they are ready, then Mr. Muffett said that would be great.

6.4 **Board Schedule**

Board Workshop May 9, 2023, 7:00 p.m., HS Library

Board Meeting May 23, 2023, 7:00 p.m., HS Commons

- 6.5 Board Interviews- The board interviewed 2 candidates for Board Director Area 2, Amanda Miller and Tonya Dow.

PART 7.0 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 7.1 The Board adjourned to executive session at 9:17 p.m., in the high school conference room under RCW 42.30.110 (1)(h) to evaluate the qualifications of the interviewed candidates for appointment to elective office. The executive session lasted 15 minutes.

RESUME PART 6.0 – OTHER ITEMS NEEDING BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

The board resumed the board meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Mr. Muffett thanked both candidates for being willing to serve on the board. He then asked the

board for a nomination.

Motion 22/23-38

made by Mr. Whited seconded by Mr. Lindberg to appoint Amanda Miller to Board Director Area 2. Mr. Muffett then called for a roll call vote:

6.6 Selection/Appointment of Board Director Area 2

Lindberg – Aye
Whited – Aye
Oldham – Aye
Muffett – Aye

Motion Carried Unanimously

Mrs. Miller will be sworn in at the May 23 Board meeting.

PART 8.0 – ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

8.1 Signing of Board Documents

8.2 Review [Quarterly Board Self-assessment March 2023](#)

Board Secretary- Peter Rosenkranz

Board Chair – Win Muffett

Board Member-Eric Lindberg

Board Member-Dorri Oldham

Board Member – Craig Whited

Board Member- Amanda Miller