

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Lopez Island School District #144
January 27th, 2021
School Library
6 pm
Board Meeting Minutes

[Meeting Link can be found on LISD Website](#)

Following the recommendation of the San Juan County Health Department and LISD school measures to control the coronavirus, public involvement in the meeting will be by computer or phone conference utilizing this link. Thank you for understanding the need for this measure.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE:

Board members present: Chair Poole, Vice Chair Guenther, C.Greacen, W.Stephenson.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm. Flag Salute led by Vice Chair Guenther.

II. NATIVE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Acknowledgment by Principal Martin as a way to honor the Native Peoples and the land where the school facilities are located

III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Add Item C. under Updates: Potential Athletic Seasons

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

A. Regular Board Meeting on December 16, 2020

*Motion made by member Greacen to approve the minutes, seconded by member Stephenson.
Unanimously approved.*

B. Special Board Meeting on December 21, 2021

Motion made by Greacen, seconded by member Guenther for minutes as circulated. Unanimously approved.

VI. BOARD ELECTIONS:

A. President

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- B. Vice President
- C. Legislative Representative

Motion made for a slate of electors by Guether. Seconded by Stephenson. Chair to be Jenny Poole, Vice Chair Del Guenther and Legislative Representative Chris Greacen. Unanimously approved.

VII. OATH OF OFFICE: SUPERINTENDENT

Oath swearing led by Vice Chair Guenther to swear in Superintendent Carl Bruner.

Chair Poole graciously welcomed Superintendent Bruner.

V. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Payroll for the month of January, 2021 totalling \$342,882.28
- B. Consideration to approve:
 - 1. Employment Contract (MR)
 - 2. Employment Contract (MF)
 - 3. Employment Contract (JB)
 - 4. Employment Contract (CB)
 - 5. Employment Contract (CW)
 - 6. Employment Contact (SJ)
 - 7. Personal Services Contract (PB)- HiCap
 - 8. Resignation (JN 1/31)
 - 9. Resignation (DM 2/28)
 - 10. Resignation (AS 3/30)
 - 11. Updated Agreement with Lopez Island Sewer District
 - 12. AP Warrant Log 115350-115378, totalling \$8,356.02
 - 13. AP Warrant Log 115350-115376, totalling \$55,153.93

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda made by Member Greacen, seconded by Vice Chair Guenther. Approved Unanimously.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT:

- A. Monthly Budget Status Report: December - Kara Moore, NWESD Business Manager
 - 1. General Fund Reserve update and status of ongoing budget projections
 - 2. Capital Projects
 - 3. Debt Service Fund
 - 4. ASB
 - 5. Transportation Vehicle Fund

Kara Moore screen shared the Budget Report for December that was included with the agenda. Board Member Greacen asked for clarification on Local Non-Tax Revenue category includes. K.Moore will

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follow up with the Board once she can look specifically at that account. Chair Poole followed up with questions about CTE funds and the difference from last year's totals. Board Member Stephenson asked about SPED spending. She observed that expenditures are running closely to the amount spent last year and wanted to know if costs would go above previous years once school returns to in-person learning? Supt. Bruner clarified that most funding is for staffing, who are still in place.

Vice Chair Guenther clarified that the Tech Levy & OSPI Grant funds are included in the Capital Projects accounting. K.Moore confirmed that is correct.

Board member Greacen asked if K.Moore felt expenditure & revenue activity was 'on track'. She confirmed yes.

VIII. UPDATES:

Interim Superintendent Bruner spoke to highlight the School Board in an effort to recognize the board in honor of the School Board Recognition Month.

On behalf of the LISD, he thanked all the board members for the work they do, largely behind the scenes, as 100% volunteers.

Principal Martin added appreciation for School Board members collectively and individually. She recognized the volunteer time donated for the kids of Lopez. They have welcomed her. She read a quote from Seth Godin about leadership.

Interim Supt. Bruner added the LEA has cards for board members, as well as the School District has sent recognition certificates.

Chair Pool took this opportunity to thank Board member Greacen for all of his hard work working to advocate for the District with the Legislator. Board member Greacen acknowledged others who have helped with this effort as well.

A. Lobo Pack

S.Olson joined to share that there are hopes to get kids together with changes made to re-open. She expressed concern for students' mental health.

B. Parent, Teacher, School Association (LIPTSA)

J.Bair joined to give an update on LIPTSA activities. They voted on a nominating committee to seek individuals interested in being on the board. They created an ad-hoc committee with LISD to determine LIPTSA's best approach for advocacy. A letter-writing and call-your-representatives campaign will be initiated. They will network with other schools to strengthen their position. Efforts are being made to plan a winter event to support students and staff. Scholarships for memberships are still available.

C. Potential Athletic Seasons

Vice Chair Guenther shared an update about athletic 'seasons' based on Covid Phases of reopening. Sport seasons are for 6 weeks. Season 1 Feb 22- Track & Golf; Season 2 Mar 29 (if in Phase 2) Volleyball & Soccer with restricted viewers; Season 3 May 3 - Basketball.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: (Information)

A. Lopez Education Association (LEA)

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J. Carter shared the LEA's thanks and appreciation for the Board Members and looks forward to continuing collaboration. She shared that a small gift and card was left for them.

B. Public School Employees (PSE)

J. Shaw thanked the School Board for their work. He hopes that they will continue to show the same care and responsibility in planning for reopening.

C. Associated Student Body (ASB)

M. Rabel said a prom is being considered, they are awaiting feedback regarding possibilities with Covid. They will consider alternatives if an in-person option is not possible. Some ASB members were able to help out with Yearbook requests.

D. Principals' Reports

1. Secondary Principal

Principal Martin shared the first meeting with a newly formed CTE (Career Technical Education) advisory committee. CTE includes Career Choices, Marine Biology, Woodshop, Health Careers and Sustainable Agriculture teaching staff. Professional development meetings have covered Differentiated Instruction to help staff in supporting students. Principal Martin is supporting Decatur as their principal. The Interim Superintendent, Elementary Principal and Principal Martin travelled to Decatur last week. She ended by welcoming the new staff on Lopez and Decatur.

2. Elementary Principal

Chair Poole welcomed Interim Principal Fordham. Fordham began by thanking those who have welcomed her. She has been setting routine meetings with the Elementary team. They have been working to identify students with needs, curriculum development and identifying needs. L. Swanson's 4th grade class is building a solar dehydrator to dry herbs from the garden. M. Ramsey has been socializing in zoom groups as well as focusing on translating all assignments in Spanish. SPED Teacher Nina, focusing on winter activities. Hamilton working on poetry. She appreciated the leadership of her coworkers, C. Bruner & M. Martin.

E. Superintendent's Report

Advice from CDC and San Juan DOH has been providing up-to-date information about Covid as new information is constantly being introduced. He has been working with a committee of staff to discuss reopening school.

Interim Superintendent Bruner shared a power-point presentation with information from the rebooted Reopening Committee. An internal team of leaders were brought together to review and discuss changes and the current position at this point. He explained that any plan will need to have the SJC DOH approval. At this point, they are in support of a K-6 Hybrid model of reopening. Each of the schools in the county have their own set of circumstances. Families are at different levels of comfort regarding reopening. Accommodations will have to be made for folks not comfortable returning. Capacity and staffing are issues to be considered. Transportation may or may not be

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provided based on the number of bus drivers and the availability of the available staff. Food Service lead J.Shaw has been involved. Increased custodial support will be needed upon reopening. Safety protocols are being designed by the school nurse K.Hattman. Not providing transportation raises issues around equity. The final weigh in will be by the school board.

Kindergarten teacher B.Goff is working with the Restart Committee to come up with new solutions for reopening. Early activities had been successful outside when the weather was good. Sustainable Agriculture classes have been occurring on campus outside. Chemistry and Weight Training classes had been in person, but were suspended due to new Covid research. Health Nurse K.Hattman has been working with the County's Department of Health to create an in-person plan for weight training classes. Additionally, student clubs have served an important function for students' social and emotional dynamics. Physically-distanced outside activities are being considered for clubs. Principal Martin has taken the lead on club efforts to support students.

Interim Superintendent Bruner shared a proposed timeline for reopening:

Phase 1: Kindergarten (in progress) - Feb 8th, 2021

Phase 2: 1st Grade- Feb 22nd, 2021

Phase 3: 2nd - 5th Grades- March 8th, 2021

Phase 4: 6th -12th Grades - April 21, 2021

Each phase will have to be adapted to accommodate the needs of each group.

Concerns include limiting numbers of students (8-10 students depending on space), cleaning, daily health check in stations, mandatory mask use and frequent handwashing, no sharing of supplies, ventilation HVAC system is being maintained and HEPA filters in classrooms, controlled movement as part of social distancing (arrows on the floor), grab & go lunches and avoiding lunch on campus.

Principal Fordham joined to share background information on Kindergarten restart in other school districts. She spoke to Orcas, San Juan and Fidalgo School Districts, regarding their restart plans. The proposed plan is to divide the students into two 'cohorts' a & b. One group would attend school in the morning and one in the afternoon for about 2 ½ hours. Focus is on social & emotional learning. Board member Stephenson asked if 100% participation is anticipated in the restart plan. Principal Fordham said that a Q&A and orientation will be offered to gain parent feedback.

Interim Superintendent Bruner and Principal Martin will be attending the Lopez Library's Town Square to get feedback from families. He emphasized the commitment to work with the staff groups.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Comments made during Public Comment will be noted by the Board Chair. No response, other than requests for clarifications, will be made by the Board. The Board will follow up as necessary at a later date. Due to time, we ask that all comments be limited to three minutes per individual or group.

Chair Board opened public comment with an announcement of comment time adjustment to three minutes per individual. She asked the commenters to maintain respectful and civil conduct. She expressed sadness

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over property damage incurred to school employees property and how that is unacceptable.

An individual from the public commented regarding concerns about the HVAC system and an issue two years ago involving chicken pox. This individual spoke directly to Dr. Frank James from the County Health regarding her concerns and asked the board to consider how a case of covid would be handled.

XI. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Update from the Citizens' Advisory Committee

B.Ledrew joined to give an update on the Citizen Advisory Committee. The committee's task to advise the board . Options reviewed for the future of the school giving budget shortfalls. To continue operation as a K-12 school, to convert to a K-8 as its own school district, join with another school, or become a charter school. Impacts on the community, students, spirit, culture and programs are all being considered. This is a forward thinking strategic analysis of the district. Stakeholders involved and data will be collected. A presentation to the board is planned for May 20201. Members include T.Cowan, J.Arnold, S.Adams, C.Rempel, C.Eurele, B.Ledrew, and Board member Greacen will be the liaison.

Chair Poole called for a motion to approve the Citizen Advisory Committee. Motion moved by board member Stephenson, seconded by Board member D. Guenther.

Greacen asked if he should be recused from voting as the liaison. He does not.

Unanimously approved.

XII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of donation : \$5000 received for "Missing Levy Funds" from Maneuela & Terrence Crowley

Chair Poole commended our community for their generous donations.

A motion to accept the donation received from the Crowley's board member Guenther with gratitude, seconded by board member Greacen. Unanimously approved.

B. Board of Directors Compensation Waiver

Historical precedent has been for board directors to waive payment. Board members wishing to waive compensation for this year will complete and sign waivers.

C. Policy 1400 - First reading

No questions or comments regarding this Policy.

D. Resolution 20/21-7 (Vaccine & Reopening)

Drafted with the assistance of Interim Superintendent Bruner to cover all staff, regardless of age, with vaccinations to keep our students and staff safe. The governor's plans restrict staff vaccinations based on age and Interim Superintendent Bruner feels strongly that vaccinations are critical to the moving forward with the restart plan. Board member Greacen read the Resolution aloud.

Motion to approve the Resolution 20/21-7 by board member Guenther, seconded by board member

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Stephenson.

Roll call vote:

Poole - Yes

Stephenson - Yes

Greacen - Yes

Guenther - Yes

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Settlement Letter

Vice Chair Guenther read an amended statement regarding the settlement regarding sexual harassment. The letter is posted on Lopezrocks.org as well as on the Lopez Island School District website.

XIV. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

Chair Poole announced that the board is looking to fill a vacant position.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No session taken.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Poole called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Board member Greacen moved, Vice Chair Guenther seconded. Motion unanimously approved. Chair Poole adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Attachments: Minutes 201216, Minutes 201221, Oath of Office Superintendent, Contract (MF), Contract (MR), Contract (CW), Contract (CB), Contract (JB), Contract (SJ), Contract (PB), Sewer District Reinstated Maintenance Agreement, Warrant Log 115350-115376, Warrant Log 115777-115378, Board Report 12/20, Compensation Waiver, Policy 1400, Resolution 20/21-7

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