



# LYNDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lynden School District #504

Ensure that all students graduate college, career, and citizenship ready.

## Board Meeting

### Minutes

08/10/2023

Lynden School District  
Board Room  
516 Main Street, Lynden, WA 98264

#### 1. Call to Order, Welcome & Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

*Meeting called to order by CJ Costanti at 7:00pm. Board of Directors in attendance were CJ Costanti, David Vis, and Ken Owsley. Director Tonya Hickman was also present via telephone. Director Cindy Petersen was absent and excused. Superintendent David VanderYacht was also in attendance.*

#### 2. Meeting Minutes

*David Vis motioned to approve the July 13, 2023, board meeting minutes. Seconded by Ken Owsley. Motion carried by voice vote.  
Board Vote: 4-0.*

#### 3. Consent Agenda

*23/24 General Fund- \$ 245,229.01; warrants 166702-166737 dated July 14, 2023.  
23/24 ASB Fund- \$155.87; warrants 166738-166739 dated July 14, 2023.  
22/23 General Fund- \$318,624.58 warrants 166740-166808 dated July 14, 2023.  
22/23 ASB Fund \$355.73; warrants 166809-166811 dated July 14, 2023.  
22/23 ACH General Fund- \$486.46; warrants 222300549-222300550 dated July 14, 2023.  
22/23 ACH- General Fund- \$2,068.76; warrants 222300551-222300552 dated July 14, 2023.  
23/24 General Fund- \$51,319.07; warrants 166831-166854 dated July 31, 2023.  
22/23 General Fund- \$354,254.12; warrants 166855-166898 dated July 31, 2023.  
22/23 Capital Projects Fund- \$32,743.67; warrants 166899-166901 dated July 31, 2023.  
22/23 ASB Fund- \$3,298.71; warrants 166902-166907 dated July 31, 2023.  
22/23 ACH General Fund- \$1,758.41; warrants 222300553-222300559 dated July 31, 2023.  
22/23 ACH ASB Fund- \$752.62; warrants 222300560-222300561 dated July 31, 2023.*



*Payroll Warrant #166812 in the amount of \$44.14 dated July 31, 2023.*  
*Payroll Direct Deposits in the amount of \$2,036,876.89 dated July 31, 2023.*  
*Payroll Taxes Transfers in the amount of \$676,858.88 dated July 31, 2023.*  
*Payroll Vendor DRS Transfer in the amount of \$627,332.44 dated July 31, 2023.*  
*Payroll Vendor Warrants 166813-166830 in the amount of \$643,453.78 dated July 31, 2023.*  
*Personnel Recommendations dated August 10, 2023.*

*Ken Owsley motioned to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by David Vis. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 4-0.*

#### **4. Reports**

*a. Superintendent-*

*Superintendent VanderYacht provided a report to the board as required by Board Policy 4218- Language Access. The report explained how the district provides accessible communication to all families within the district and how much money was spent during the 2022/2023 school year for translation services provided by Gateway Language Services and through the use of ParentSquare. The report also noted that the district provides formal training to bilingual staff who serve in the role of interpreter. No changes to the current policy are recommended at this time.*

*b. Teaching and Learning*

*c. Finance and Operations*

#### **5. Information from the Audience**

#### **6. Open Budget Hearing**

*Director of Finance, Ben Thomas, presented the final drafted budget for the 2023/2024 school year. The budget hearing included information on school funding & current events, enrollment information, revenue information, expenditure information, supplemental information, information on other funds, and a financial projection. Ben also provided the four-year budget summary and spoke of the importance of maximizing the use of resources to provide the best possible education for the students of Lynden School District.*

*Following his presentation, there was an opportunity for the public to ask questions.*

#### **7. Budget Hearing Adjourned**

*The Budget Hearing was adjourned at 7:52pm.*



## 8. Action Items

### Resolution #08-23- Adoption of the 23/24 Budget

*Following the budget hearing, Ken Owsley motioned to adopt Resolution #08-23 and adopt the 23/24 budget as presented which includes adoption of a 4-year budget plan summary, the 4-year enrollment projections, and the ASB budgets. Seconded by David Vis. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 4-0*

### Union Contract Ratifications

*The board was presented with a summary of information regarding the collective bargaining agreements for LCEA, PSE Transportation, and SEIU. Each summary included information on the terms of the agreements and a financial overview.*

*David Vis motioned to ratify the LCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by Ken Owsley. Motion carried by Voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 4-0*

*Ken Owsley motioned to ratify the PSE Transportation Collective Bargaining Agreement.*

*Seconded by David Vis. Motion carried by Voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 4-0*

*Ken Owsley motioned to ratify the SEIU Collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by David Vis. Motion carried by Voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 4-0*

### Approval of 23/24 Meal Prices

*The board was presented with meal prices for the 2023/2024 school year. It was explained that each year, the Director of Food Services must assess lunch prices via an OSPI process known as the USDA Paid Lunch Equipment Tool (PLE). The main purpose is to ensure that schools are charging an equitable price for the paying student lunch prices, coupled with Federal reimbursement to be balanced with the reimbursement given for Federal free meals and reduced meals served.*

*Ken Owsley motioned to approve the 23/24 meal prices as submitted. Seconded by David Vis.*

*Motioned carried by voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 4-0.*

## 9. Work Session

*Superintendent VanderYacht presented a Capital Facilities timeline to provide a background to the work that has been done by the Bond Planning Task Force (BPTF) which led up to their presentation tonight. He thanked the group for the thoughtful work that is culminating with tonight's presentation.*



# LYNDEN

## SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Ashley McClaran with OAC Services then presented the board with a summary of the work that was done by the BPTF and what steps they took to come to their recommendation. Topics of their meetings included reviewing existing conditions & finances, district programs & cost analysis, conducting school tours, reviewing possibilities & planning, and building a consensus & recommendation. The group also used a list of guiding principles which helped in their decision-making process and prioritization. The groups discussed space & design capacity, enrollment vs. capacity, facility condition concerns, welcoming & safe learning environments, and safety & security concerns- especially at Lynden High School since it is an open campus. They then discussed options for solutions to each of these concerns which included the use of the School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP). The group also analyzed tax impacts. The group identified \$187 million worth of needs. From there, they discussed priorities with the goal of maximizing costs. The group agreed that \$160 million was the preference for a bond amount, which includes the SCAP funding taken into account.*

*Replacement vs. renovation of LHS was discussed. Replacement was the choice to resolve safety concerns, lower maintenance costs, and to bypass the added costs of portables necessary to house students during a remodel. There is also the cost of delaying new construction, as a new high school will be needed eventually. Lynden High School pricing estimate is \$150,000,000 for replacement. That estimate is based on a professional third-party estimate done in May of 2023 and a comparison on Ferndale's new high school based on square footage, and then averaging the two estimates.*

*There was also discussion held regarding the upcoming expiration of the operation levy at the same time and how that may impact the passing of a bond.*

*Members of the Bond Planning Task Force that were in attendance then provided input on their recommendation and provided anecdotes, thoughts, and feedback on how their discussions concluded with this recommendation.*

*The group reiterated the need for community education regarding levies and bonds and making sure there is no misinformation being circulated throughout the community.*

*The Board thanked the Bond Planning Task Force for their thorough report.*

*There was no action taken at this meeting. Following this presentation, the board will be engaging with the broader community to move towards a decision regarding a potential funding resolution. Superintendent VanderYacht briefly explained the next steps in this process.*



## 10. Policy

### a. First Readings

*Policy 1210- Annual Organizational Meeting, Election of Officers*

*David Vis motioned to approve updated Policy 1210. Seconded by Ken Owsley. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 4-0*

*Policy 2163- Multi Tiered System of Support*

*Ken Owsley motioned to approve updated Policy 2163. Seconded by Tonya Hickman. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 4-0*

*Policy 2230- Transition to Kindergarten*

*No action taken at this meeting. Moved to second reading.*

*Policy 5051- Hiring Procedures for District Administrators*

*Discussion was held on whether to keep this district-only policy, or consider retiring it. There is an interest in cleaning up the language within the policy, but not retiring it. No action was taken. Moved to second reading.*

### b. Second Readings

*Policy 3144 and 4314-*

*These two policies were retired by WSSDA in August of 2020 and are no longer being reviewed by WSSDA to make sure they are up to date and in compliance with applicable laws. The language in both of these policies has been included in an update to Policy 3143, which was adopted by the board in October 2020.*

*Ken Owsley motioned to retire Policies 3144 and 4314. Seconded by David Vis. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 4-0*

## 11. Organization of the Board

*Following the approval of updated Policy 1210, discussion was held regarding the election of a board member to serve as the legislative representative for the remainder of the current term through January 2024. Ken Owsley motioned to elect Tonya Hickman as the legislative representative. Seconded by David Vis. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 4-0*

## 12. Information from Board Members



# LYNDEN

SCHOOL DISTRICT

**13. Adjourn Meeting to go into Closed Session**

*CJ Costanti motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:53pm.*

**14. Closed Session**

*Discussion was held regarding an update on collective bargaining.*

---

CJ Costanti, President

---

David VanderYacht, Superintendent