



Lynden School District #504

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

## **Board Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**05/15/2025**

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 Director Verburg at 6:30pm. Board members in attendance were Directors Verburg, Owsley, Brar, Martinez and Hickman. Superintendent David VanderYacht and Student Board Representatives Kyle Tucker & Ashley Acton were also in attendance.*

*Superintendent VanderYacht noted that this will be Kyle Tucker's last meeting. Kyle has served as a student board representative for two years. Superintendent VanderYacht expressed his thanks for Kyle's service to the district, and wished him well on his next chapter.*

#### **2. Approval of Agenda**

*Director Owsley made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Director Brar. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 5-0.*

#### **3. Meeting Minutes**

*Director Martinez motioned to approve the May 1, 2025, board meeting minutes. Seconded by Director Brar. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 5-0.*

#### **4. Consent Agenda**

*Personnel Recommendations dated May 15, 2025.*

*Interlocal Agreement- Bellingham, TVI 24.25*

*NWESD Contract- Threat Assessment 25.26*



*Director Owsley motioned to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Director Hickman.*

*Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Board Vote: 5-0*

**5. Information from the Audience**

*A citizen addressed the board in opposition of Resolution #06-25.*

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*A citizen addressed the board about the importance of standing up for what you believe in and being able to share diverse perspectives even when there is disagreement.*

*A community member addressed the board in support of seeking clarification on state vs. federal laws and in support of their continued actions.*

*A community member thanked the board for their actions in protecting women's sports.*



*A former student addressed the board in opposition of Resolution #06-25.*

*A citizen addressed the board in opposition of Resolution #06-25.*

*A citizen/staff member expressed appreciation to the board for their support of biological girls in sports.*

*A citizen expressed appreciation to the board for their support of biological girls in sports and asked that the board consider implementing procedures that allow only citizens of Lynden to address the board during public comment.*

*A community member thanked the board for addressing unfairness in girls' sports. She also thanked the board for considering a district safety district officer.*

*A citizen addressed the board in opposition of Resolution #06-25.*

## **6. Reports**

### **a. Superintendent**

#### *Annual Report- Career & Technical Education 4-Year Plan*

*CTE Coordinator, John Grubbs, presented the district's 4-Year CTE Plan. The program includes the 5 areas of agriculture, business, family & consumer sciences, health sciences, and skilled & technical sciences for grades 8-12.*

#### *Freshman Mentorship Program*

*Student Board Representatives Kyle Tucker & Ashley Acton gave an overview of the Freshman Mentorship Program that they have been working on that will launch in the fall with the start of the new school year. It will focus on supporting incoming freshmen to connect with upper classmen for their transition to LHS by offering guidance, friendship, and positive role models. They explained the application process, pairing process, meeting ideas, and timeline.*

#### *Capital Facilities Action Plan Update*

*Superintendent VanderYacht provided an update on the capital facilities action plan. A board workshop is scheduled during the June 12<sup>th</sup> board meeting to start discussing whether to move forward with another funding initiative.*

### **b. Teaching & Learning**

*None*



c. Finance and Operations

None

**7. Information from Board Directors & Student Representatives**

*Director Owsley applauded one of the attendees who spoke earlier in the evening. He also shared that he will be meeting with one of the students who shared his challenges with the district's internet filtering procedures at the April board meeting. He also has a meeting scheduled with district administrators regarding this topic.*

*Director Hickman expressed her thoughts regarding the board's recent actions regarding Resolution #06-25 and her desire to keep education as the first priority of the district.*

*Director Brar shared her thoughts on tonight's public comment and reiterated that the board has done a lot of research and work to make decisions that are best for students.*

*Director Martinez stated that he heard from tonight's audience that the board is not for them. He believes this is not true, but that the board is simply saying there is a biological difference between boys and girls. He further stated that the feeling of not belonging resonates with him as a member of a marginalized group. He wants to see all students succeed regardless of race/color/gender.*

*Director Verburg appreciated people showing up tonight to address the board. He commented on statements made tonight on 'outing' kids to parents and stated he disagrees with OSPI stepping between a parent and child. The student stories shared tonight are heartbreaking. We can do better, and we will keep working to do better so that all students feel like they belong.*

**8. Policy**

a. First Readings

Policy 1210- Annual Organizational Meeting

*Moved to second reading.*

Policy 2230- Transition to Kindergarten

*Moved to second reading.*

b. Second Readings

Policy 1400- Meeting Conduct, Order of Business, and Quorum

*Director Owsley motioned to approve updated Policy 1400- Meeting Conduct, Order of Business, and Quorum. Seconded by Director Brar.*



*Director Owsley motioned to add a sentence in third paragraph to say, "If a regularly scheduled meeting has to be cancelled for any reason, the board president will attempt to reschedule that board meeting in a timely fashion." Seconded by Director Brar.*

*Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Advisory Vote: 2-0; Board Vote: 5-0*

*Director Martinez motioned to change the language to indicate meetings will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays in June, and only one meeting in July on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday. Seconded by Director Brar.*

*Director Verburg motioned to postpone this policy until the next meeting. Seconded by Martinez. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Advisory Vote: 2-0; Board Vote: 5-0*

*Policy 6801- Capital Assets/Theft-Sensitive Assets*

*Director Owsley motioned to approve updated Policy 6801- Capital Assets/Theft-Sensitive Assets. Seconded by Director Brar. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Advisory Vote: 2-0; Board Vote: 5-0*

**9. Action Items**

*Approval of CTE 4-Year Plan*

*Following the presentation earlier in the evening, Director Hickman made a motion to approve the district's CTE 4-Year Plan. Seconded by Director Owsley. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Advisory Vote: 2-0; Board Vote: 5-0.*

*Resolution #09-25: WIAA Membership Renewal*

*Director Owsley made a motion to approve Resolution #09-25: WIAA Membership Renewal. Seconded by Director Hickman. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*Advisory Vote: 2-0; Board Vote: 4-1. Martinez opposed.*

*Superintendent Contract*

*Director Owsley made a motion to approve the superintendent contract for 2025-2028. Seconded by Director Brar. Motion carried by voice vote.*

*No advisory vote; Board Vote: 4-1. Martinez opposed.*

**10. Board Committee Reports**

*None at this meeting.*



LYNDEN  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**11. Adjourn**

*There being no further business, Director Verburg motioned to adjourn at 10:08pm.*

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Jim Verburg, President

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David VanderYacht, Superintendent