

ELMA SCHOOL DISTRICT #68

Regular Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

via Zoom Meetings

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88683814835>

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 06:00 PM

Call to Order

The Elma School District #68 Board of Directors met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 via Zoom Meetings. The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm by Board Chairperson Bernadette Bower.

Flag Salute

Board Chairperson Bernadette Bower led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jamie Bailey, Bernadette Bower, Ryan Cristelli, Stephanie Smith, and Jody Thompson.

STAFF PRESENT: Erin Walker, Kelly Rasanen, Liz Farrar, Marilyn Curl, Robert Beldin, Kari Eaton, Deanne Woita, Jessica Burgher, Melinda Tuttle, Rich Rasanen, Debi Ohashi, Anel Hoke, Ariel Finrock, Becki Spivey, Bobbi Smith, Caleb Bogar, Denis Boling, Farralee Walseth-Burnett, Jeff Monroe, Kathleen Stidham, Julie Crawford, Laura Nelson, Lisa Arnold, Lori Peterson, Maurrie Aukland, Melissa Crisp, Raquel Cruz, Suzanne Thietje, Stacey Rockey, Mark Keating, Greg Scroggins, Sunshine Perry, Rob Ohashi, Cheyenne Roberts, Ed Burgess, Kevin Acuff, Eric Smith, and Kendis Goldsmith.

GUESTS: Kari Sample, Lacey McMeekin, Mandie Mezzell, Shelley, Laura, Miley Seaberg, Nicole Olsen, Renee Volz, Samantha Schrotke, Jeff Lambert, Christi Murray, and other unnamed community members.

Letters

Rebecca Heelan Letter of Recommendation

Board Clerk Kendis Goldsmith read the following letter:

Dear Elma School Board:

On behalf of the interview committee (Jamie Bailey, Wendy Beldin, Jennifer Kuhns, Jeff Niemi, Rob Ohashi, Rich Rasanen, and Brandi Thomas), I recommend the hiring of Rebecca Heelan for the EHS Competitive Dance Drill Head Coach position. The committee is confident Rebecca is a great fit for the kids and program.

Rebecca is a 2017 Elma High School and 2018 South Puget Sound College graduate who is furthering her education at Saint Martin's University. Rebecca was a member of Winter Dance and Drill while at EHS. She was instrumental in its success and accolades it received at invitational, districts, and state. She brings a wealth of dance experience both personally and as an instructor. Rebecca began dance at the age of two and continues to study the art. She has been a dance instructor since 2012 and currently teaches students, ages 2 – 18, in Olympia. She comes highly recommended from former and current dance employers and fellow dance and drill coaches. Stephanie Wood and Mary Cecelia Piper, Co-owners and directors of Studio West Dance Academy, note Rebecca's strong work ethic, preparation, and exemplary ability to work with all ages levels. One former dance and cheer coach remarked, "I have seen Becca firsthand interact with her current students, and she exemplifies the role model of what a high school coach should." One of Rebecca's technical strengths is choreography, which is key to a team's success. Jamie Jo Hiles, EHS Fall Drill coach, has utilized Rebecca in having her teach the Fall Drill team during the summer. Coach Hiles stated, "Lastly, Becca is a beautiful dancer and choreographer. I know she will bring the most beautiful and complex routines to invitational and state competitions." A high bar certainly, but the committee believes Rebecca is up to task.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rob Ohashi

HS & MS Tutors Letter of Recommendation

Board Clerk Kendis Goldsmith read the following letter:

Dear Elma School Board:

The following persons have applied for the High School/Middle School Tutor position: Paige Hammer, Ezekiel Mueller, Kolton Morgan and Killian Acuff. All have been recommended for hire. They will serve as supervision and tutors for students who wish to come in to the schools during distance learning and/or modified instruction. Each of these candidates were prior Elma School District students and excelled academically. The position is temporary for the 2020/21 school year. Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely

Rich Rasanen and Sunshine Perry

Consent Agenda

Business

Personnel

Hires

Rebecca Heelan - HS Winter Dance Drill Coach

Paige Hammer - HS/MS Tutor

Ezekiel Mueller - HS/MS Tutor

Kolton Morgan - HS/MS Tutor

Killian Acuff - HS/MS Tutor

Retirements

Leave Requests

Resignations

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for December 16, 2020

Approval of Vouchers

GF Vouchers: #159160 - #159161 Totaling \$5,665.56

PPT Voucher: #159159 Totaling \$28.95

ASB Vouchers: #159088 - #159089 Totaling \$2,864.27

Payroll Vouchers: #159127 - #159156 Totaling \$1,684,862.05

GF Voucher: #159126 Totaling \$397.38

PPT Voucher: #159087 Totaling \$2,656.45

GF Vouchers: #159090 - #159125 Totaling \$118,702.72

GF Vouchers: #159162 - #159182 Totaling \$77,573.03

GF Voucher: #159183 Totaling \$44.84

Motion made by Jamie Bailey, second by Stephanie Smith to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously, motion carries.

Communications and Comments

ETO

EESP

ECOPA

ADMIN

Persons to be Heard

Good News

Superintendent Kevin Acuff thanked the Board for bringing back 3rd grade. They began school on Monday, January 11th.

Reports

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Acuff reported on reopening. Third grade was brought back on Monday. The tentative plan is for all other grades to return February 1st. The new guidance has a different case rate per 100,000 for high school versus K-8. In high risk, we can bring back young learners. We are currently a little under the high risk number of 350, but we do not know what will happen. He has asked the health department to remove the Stafford Creek prisoner cases from the case count so that we could have a better picture of the disease in our community, but that has not happened so far. He shared the case rate from the dashboard and reminded the Board that we have been using the gray line to determine numbers when considering a return to school. He also shared the Roadmap to Recovery, a

new web tool that the state is using to share Covid19 information. He reviewed the 4 metrics the county must be in to move to Phase 2.

Board Member Jody Thompson asked about the frequency of the Roadmap's update.

Superintendent Acuff clarified that it will be weekly. He also reminded everyone that the case numbers must be below 210 for the high school to return. The rest of the district will be able to return if the numbers are below 350. January 25th is the day that we will know if students will be returning on February 1st.

The superintendent had the principals share each school's status. Elma Elementary Principal Mark Keating thanked the Board for adding 3rd grade. He also shared that things were going very well. More students has made a positive difference in the building. He has met with 4th grade staff and will be meeting with 5th grade staff to discuss protocols and communication. They are ready to go to. They are still working on the dropoff and pickup situation knowing that by adding more students, there could be traffic issues on the main road.

Board Chairperson Bower asked if there were lots of happy faces.

Principal Keating shared that there were a lot of happy faces and it has also been interesting as both principals have been covering classes when needed.

Superintendent Acuff shared that all staff have been amazing getting kids to social distance and managing the dropoff and pickup.

Board Chairperson Bower thanked everyone for getting us to where we are with getting students back in the buildings.

Elma Middle School Principal Sunshine Perry shared that she and Elma High School Rich Rasanen have been working closely on their return plans. They visited a school this week. They are currently working out the social distancing and pathways for all of their building. They have finalized a bell schedule with both high schools. They are also implementing positive signage to welcome students back to the building. They are working on a virtual orientation for all students to introduce them to the building. They also working on an open house with details that are still being worked out.

Elma High School Principal Rich Rasanen shared the logistics of getting students back to school. By the end of next Friday, they will have a plan in place.

Superintendent Acuff shared that there will be 175 students at the middle school and 225 at the high school on a daily basis during hybrid instruction. Temperature checks, lunches, etc. have all taken extra planning.

Principal Rasanen reviewed the dropoff procedure for students in the morning, breakfast, passing time hallway directions, bathroom usage, etc.

Superintendent Acuff shared that the high school will be using plexiglas dividers at the lunch tables and the middle school will be using student desks in the lunch room to keep students safe during meals.

Board Member Thompson asked if they could have a walk through of the building.

Both principals are happy to have them walk through their buildings.

Superintendent Acuff thanked Maintenance/Custodial Supervisor Jeff Monroe and Transportation Supervisor Caleb Bogar for all of the additional work that they have had to do to make things as seamless as possible during a difficult time.

Student Representative Report

Work Study Session

Unfinished Business

New Business

1. Approval of Stream Team Community Service Opportunity

Elma High School CTE Teacher Ariel Finrock shared the opportunity that is happening in our area for students to plant trees. She is seeking approval for district provided transportation and permission to attend. She would invite FFA students and students in her class to attend.

Board Member Ryan Cristelli asked that she refer to Caleb Bogar on Covid19 guidelines for transporting students in CTE vans.

Motion made by Stephanie Smith, second by Jamie Bailey. Motion passed unanimously, motion carries.

2. Approval of EHS-EMS Activities & Athletic Handbook Update

Athletic Director Rob Ohashi reviewed the change in the handbook to include the change that was caused by HB1660.

Motion made by Ryan Cristelli, second by Jody Thompson. Motion passed unanimously, motion carries.

At this time, Superintendent Acuff asked the Athletic Director to update the Board on the new phases, sports season, and Pixellot.

Athletic Director Rob Ohashi shared that in Phase 1 that we are currently in, we are limited. Pods can be resumed for moderate risk sports, high risk sports are still on hold with the exception of individual training. When we get to Phase 2, we can have practices and competitions with 200 in attendance. He thanked Eric Smith and Jeff Monroe for their work on the Pixellot cameras and stated that they could be installed in the next 2-3 weeks. If we are able to have contests, we would be able to live stream them. WIAA is working with DOH to clarify some questions on new guidelines. There are not any schedules yet. Contests are limited to 70% of previous contests. Regional contests could take place and be considered a state championship.

Board Member Stephanie Smith asked for clarification on whether students could meet now.

Mr. Ohashi clarified that 500 square feet per person was for indoor activities under high risk sports, but moderate risks could be in pods of 6. High risk sports can practice in pods outdoors. The contact window has been extended to the day prior to the first day of the season.

Mr. Ohashi stated they the league is determining who would be able to attend the activities. He asked that the Board send any recommendations to him.

Board Member Jamie Bailey asked if this pertained to middle school sports as well.

Mr. Ohashi said that middle school has a league meeting tomorrow. He will know more after that. The goal is to offer as many opportunities to kids as possible.

Superintendent Acuff asked what the limit for spectators on indoor sports in Phase 2.

Mr. Ohashi responded that for a moderate activity is 25% of capacity of your venue or 200 whichever is less. There is a better chance of spectators at indoor facilities than outdoor. Basketball is considered a high risk activity and would not have contests in Phase 2. He also thanked Jeff Monroe and Bill Lammers for backboard lighting in the gym. Sideline chairs have come in for the gym and he is working on getting a sponsor for a scorer's table in the gym.

Board Chairperson Bower thanked Mr. Ohashi for all of his hard work.

3. Approval of Olympic Peninsula Consultants Contract for E-rate

Tech Director Eric Smith explained that this is a company name change. It is a company that we have been using.

We may not need to use this contract this year because there are not any scheduled projects this year.

Motion made by Jody Thompson, second by Jamie Bailey. Motion passed unanimously, motion carries.

Future Agenda Items

Curriculum Adoption Policy
Health Curriculum 6-12 Adoption
ELA Adoption Committee
Anti Racism Committee
Equestrian Team/Club Status
Student Representative
Executive Session

The meeting entered Executive Session for RCW 42.30.110(g) at 7:00pm for personnel for 15 minutes with no action to be taken. At 7:15pm, Board Chairperson Bower announced an additional 15 minutes. At 7:30pm, an additional 25 minutes were announced. At 7:55pm, an additional 15 minutes were announced. At 8:10pm, an additional 10 minutes were announced. Meeting reentered the Regular Meeting at 8:20pm.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.



Board Chairperson



Board Secretary

Date