

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 2, 2024

This entire meeting can viewed at: <https://vimeo.com/930347340?share=copy>

Call to Order

President Williams called the Regular Board Meeting of the Shoreline Board of Directors to order in the Board Room of the Administrative Offices at the Shoreline Center at 6:00 p.m. on April 2, 2024. This meeting was also available to the community via Zoom.

Roll Call

Emily Williams President; Sara Betnel, Vice President; Sarah Cohen, Director; Sylvia Gil, Director; Aiden Rouhani and Lily Fredericks (*attended remotely*), Shorecrest Student Representatives; and Esme Harkess and Mitchell Ichinkhorloo, Shorewood Student Representatives.

Absent: Meghan Jernigan, Director

Land Acknowledgement

President Williams provided a brief land acknowledgement.

Celebrations, Recognitions, Introductions and Gratitude

None

Agenda Review

None

Comments from the Community

President Williams read the instructions for the community comment process. The following individuals spoke in person and over Zoom in support of two Syre second grade teachers who shared lessons regarding the current Middle East conflict:

- 1) Michelle Harris, Parent of 2 Shoreline students – Doesn't want our district to become like many in the country who are allowing fear to dictate what is taught in our schools.
- 2) Azadeh Azarian, Syre Parent of 8-year old daughter – Public schools such as Syre should not be dictated to by biased parents; need to remain fair.
- 3) Erin, Teacher, Parent, Community Member – Concerned that certain topics are not being taught in our schools and that parent feedback is controlling how the District decides which topics to teach. Which children will benefit and which children will not?
- 4) Megan Marlo, Syre Parent of second grader, Teacher in Edmonds S.D. – Had the privilege last year of co-teaching an Ethnic Studies class—very powerful. Feels that children are never too young to learn about humanity and different perspectives of history.
- 5) Kristin, Syre Parent of second grader and kindergartner, Oncology nurse – Thrilled that her children are engaging in complicated topics and guided by teachers who understand that the complexities of our world cannot be met with silence or fear.
- 6) Kim, Parent of second grader, Physician's Assistant at Providence Urgent Care – Overwhelmed with the support her daughter has received this year from her Syre teacher; lessons are age-appropriate and necessary.

The following individuals spoke on other topics:

- 7) Amy McClellan, Parent, Community Member, Staff – Thanked the Board for their support of having texts through DIMC and the curriculum process that show the diversity and beauty of our country and

world and supporting humanity in a tense world. She also thanked the Board for supporting the Ethnic Studies resolution and the work behind it.

- 8) Erin Kirkpatrick, Highland Terrace Teacher and Parent – Has a class of 30 in a grades 4/5 split. Her colleagues have classes of 33. Impacts of large class sizes include: lack of physical space, increased noise, “not enough of me to support all the needs of 30 children all the time, little to no ability to work in small groups, more meetings, more demands on time”, to name a few.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

President Williams announced that the Board had an opportunity to ask questions on the consent agenda and have them answered prior to this meeting. The following consent agenda was presented for adoption:

- a. Approval of Minutes of the February 13, March 5 and March 19 Regular Board Meetings, and February 16 and February 26 Special Board Meetings
- b. Acceptance of Gifts, Grants, Donations
 - 1) Shorecrest High School - \$8,540.00 – Shorecrest Boosters– Winter Concession Disbursements
 - 2) Shorecrest High School - \$11,300.00 – Shorecrest Boosters – Winter Grants
 - 3) Shorewood High School - \$8,000.00 – Shoreline Foundation – College Write & Ready
- c. Approval of Agreement for Legal Services [Additional] with Porter Foster Rorick LLP
- d. Briarcrest Elementary School Modernization Project – Approval of Change Order #2 – Kassel & Associates, Inc.
- e. Brookside Elementary School Fire Alarm Replacement Project – Total Budget Authorization
- f. Warehouse Exterior Buildings Roof Restoration Project – Total Budget Authorization
- g. Clean Buildings Performance Standard Energy Benchmarking Project: 1) Project Authority, 2) Budget Authorization, and 3) Award of Contract to Hargis Engineers
- h. Approval of Extended Field Trips
- i. Approval of Personnel
 - 1) Certificated
 - 2) Classified
 - 3) Administrative
- j. Approval of Vouchers

MOTION NO. 22: Director Betnel moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, items 6a through 6j, which is attached hereto and becomes a part hereof. The motion was seconded by Director Cohen and carried unanimously.

As of April 2, 2024 , the Board, by a unanimous vote, approved for payment, those vouchers described as follows: Reconciliation of Warrants Issued March 8 and March 15, 2024 – General Fund Warrants #104736-104814, 232400595-232400606, 232400609, and 104832-104847, totaling \$340,354.84; and Student Body Fund Warrants #104815-104831, 232400607-232400608, and 104848-10487, totaling \$65,920.50; for a grand total of \$406,275.34.

Moment of Silence

As part of the consent agenda, the Board was asked to approve classified personnel items, which included the loss of two staff members who passed away the previous week. President Williams led a moment of silence on their behalf.

Cheryl Agne, whose career with Shoreline Schools spanned from 2018-2024, passed away on March 25, 2024. She worked as an extended care assistant at LFP, North City kindergarten overflow site and Meridian Park Elementary. Cheryl was a kind employee who enjoyed working with children.

Wyatt "Tonk" Tonkin, whose career as a coach for Shoreline Schools spanned from 1998-2024, passed away on March 26, 2024, at the age of 70. Wyatt had entered his 26th year as head baseball coach at Shorewood before his passing. He also helped coach the Shorewood football team for 17 years and had coached middle school football at both Einstein and Kellogg.

Reports and Presentations

February and March Enrollment Reports, 2023-2024 General Fund Year-End Projections as of February 2024, 2024-2025 Budget Outlook, and 2025-2026 Potential Budget Implications

Presenters:

Angela Von Essen, Assistant Superintendent, Business and Operations

Mark Spangenberg, Director of Finance and Business Services

Mr. Spangenberg began by sharing that there had been a significant drop in enrollment of 42.2 FTE students from February to March. This was primarily in the secondary grades, with Shorecrest experiencing the highest decline, 18.3 FTE. However, the current enrollment is still above the budgeted numbers. Bullet points regarding the enrollment included the following:

- Kindergarten enrollment has been declining since the COVID-19 pandemic
- Students attending Home Education Exchange and Running Start programs have increased
- Increased number of students who qualify for special education services
- Increased number of multilingual learners
- We have opened our schools for out-of-district transfer students where there is space available
- Students and families withdrawing from our schools are transferring to other schools or moving out of the area

The presenters reviewed thorough and comprehensive information through charts, graphs and narrative regarding the budget journey in 2022-2023, updates on revenues, expenditures and ending fund balance projections for 2023-2024, outlook for 2024-2025 and potential budget implications for 2025-2026. The full PowerPoint presentation can be viewed at: <https://app.eduportal.com/documents/view/895317>

In regard to the 2023-2024 Cash Flow Report shown on slide 44, Ms. Von Essen highlighted the projected June 2024 ending fund balance of \$495,190. June is a low apportionment month, and it is important to note that when it gets that low, if there was a large payment due that wasn't expected, e.g. surface water fees, we wouldn't have the funds to make that payment. Sometimes, school districts borrow money from other funds to make their payroll and accounts payable obligations. Mr. Spangenberg added that current rules state that school districts in binding conditions who have received a loan from OSPI must repay the loan in June. Again, June is one of the low cash points of the year. Officials are considering changing that so school districts can spread the repayment over July and August.

Ms. Von Essen also called attention to the expenditures on the Cash Flow Report which were budgeted at \$168,594,000, but are currently projected at \$172,324,529. Mr. Spangenberg is monitoring closely on a monthly basis, but potentially there might be a need for a budget extension before the end of this fiscal year.

Enrollment projections for 2024-2025 are based on a four-year average cohort. We anticipate 106 fewer students (using actual average enrollment as of December 2023). The plan is to budget for 9,056 full-time equivalent (FTE) students for 2024-2025, including Running Start. There could possibly be a change to the kindergarten numbers as we get closer to budget adoption. As a reminder, enrollment generates revenue; 100 students equals \$1,000,000.

Critical points of emphasis included:

- Shoreline and other districts in our area need additional revenues to improve their financial situation (fund balance).
- Voters approved the current 4-year levy in February 2022, so three of the four years are remaining (2023-2024, 2024-2025, and 2025-2026). The District is eligible to run the next levy in February 2026, but not collect the funds until March 2027. Shoreline will be able to increase its local levy support should voters approve the next levy.
- The legislature may provide additional state revenues over the next three years (2024 for 2024-2025), (2025 for 2025-2026), and (2026 for 2026-2027). This is always an unknown until after the close of each legislative session. Unfunded mandates are always possible and most likely will occur.
- Due to the time it will take for revenues to improve, reductions will be considered as necessary and feasible. If fund balance reaches \$0 or is negative, binding conditions will be imposed on us by the State. The ESD and OSPI will direct Shoreline’s financial decisions, but it does not come with new or additional revenues.

President Williams announced at 7:40 p.m. that the Board would be taking an eight-minute break. The Board reconvened at 7:48 p.m.

Board Requested Discussion and Future Topics

None

Action Items

WSSDA Position Proposals Review and Approval

Sara Betnel, School Board Vice President and Legislative Representative, presented.

Director Betnel reviewed the changes that had occurred since the last meeting when these position proposals were presented. The changes are due to feedback from our board members as well as colleagues across the state.

Regarding the new positions, one position around mental health supports is no longer in Shoreline’s submission because another district was submitting a very similar position; Director Betnel voiced the Board’s support for it as it was the other district’s only new position being submitted. In the Literacy (legislative) position, the word “screening” was added after curriculum. In the Disaggregated Data (permanent) position, it was originally written as data in the Washington State Report Card, but has now been replaced by the more robust Comprehensive Education Data and Research System (CEDARS).

Director Betnel also reviewed other proposed revisions in the areas of Federal Role, State Role, and Ample Funded Staffing Levels. The entire document can be viewed at:

<https://app.eduportal.com/documents/view/894903>

Student Rep Rouhani asked about previous discussions regarding changing permanent positions verbiage so that they began with “WSSDA believes”. Director Betnel explained that since these statements were in reference to laws rather than beliefs, it seemed more appropriate to use the word “acknowledges”.

MOTION NO. 23: Director Cohen moved that the Board approve the WSSDA position proposals as submitted. The motion was seconded by Director Gil and carried unanimously.

Reports and Communications – Board Members, Student Reps and Superintendent

Spring is a busy time of year! Student Reps Rouhani and Harkess provided comprehensive reports of current and upcoming activities at the two high schools. Student Rep Rouhani was asked by the Board for an update on how the feedback from Cookies for your Thoughts was being processed. Student Rep Fredericks had met with Principal Towe and the feedback was also shared with Superintendent Reyes. There is interest in using the data to provoke change and insightfulness in the community. They are in the process of determining which groups would be best for gathering the data. The next session was scheduled for April 5.

Student Rep Harkess spoke fondly of the positive influence Coach Wyatt Tonkin had on her as well as other students and staff over the years. She also shared a recent experience where students honored him by wearing spirit t-shirts. She also reported that she had met with Principal Dunbar in an effort to further student voice and possibly start something similar to the Cookies for your Thoughts activity at Shorecrest.

Director Betnel invited all to attend the upcoming Kellogg production of Newsies beginning April 11. Performances would be held at Shorecrest High School.

Superintendent Reyes thanked all the staff who have been opening their doors to her to share the budget presentation. She would also be sharing the budget presentation with secondary students at Einstein, Kellogg, Cascade K-8, Shorecrest and Shorewood. President Williams added that she was able to attend and enjoy one of the presentations at the Shoreline Chamber Luncheon.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment: 8:13 p.m.

Emily Williams, Board President

Attest: April 16, 2024

Dr. Susana Reyes, Secretary
Shoreline Board of Directors

All documents referenced in the minutes may be viewed in the Superintendent’s Office during normal business hours.