



Northwest Regional Education Service District

Welcome to this Public Meeting of the NWRESD Board of Directors

May 9, 2023 - 4:00-6:30 PM

Executive Session, Budget Committee Meeting & General Session

Scappoose School District Offices, 33589 SE High School Way, Scappoose, OR 97056

Agenda Item Times Are Estimates

Executive Session

CALL TO ORDER - [Executive Session Statement](#) - Chair Tomlin called this executive session to order at 4:01 pm

Board in attendance: (In Person) Karen Cunningham, Doug Dougherty, Tony Erickson, Christine Riley, (Virtual) Ross Tomlin, Diane Wilkinson, Ernest Stephens (Absent) Maureen Wolf, Yadira Martinez

Staff in attendance: Dan Goldman, Debbie Simons, Sherry Ely, David Williams, Valerie White, Stuart Long

[ORS 192.660\(2\)\(d\)](#): To conduct deliberations with persons you have designated to carry on labor negotiations.

ADJOURN - Chair Tomlin adjourned this executive session at 4:22 pm

Budget Committee Meeting

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Tomlin called this budget committee meeting to order at 4:30 pm

Board in attendance: (In Person) Karen Cunningham, Doug Dougherty, Tony Erickson, Christine Riley, (Virtual) Ross Tomlin, Diane Wilkinson, Ernest Stephens, Maureen Wolf, Yadira Martinez

Budget Committee in attendance: (In Person) Greg Kintz, Jon Graves, Sheila Roley, Jill Zurschmeide, Jessica O'Donnell (Virtual) Jaimie Rhodes, Clint Nelson, Jim Helmen (Absent) Alexander Flores

Staff in attendance: (In Person) Dan Goldman, Debbie Simons, Sherry Ely, David Williams, Valerie White, Stuart Long, Megan McCarter, Kelsey Cardwell, SZ Liwaru, Stacy Rager, Cathy Jensen, Tera VanDyke, Stephanie Karpouzes, Michael Cantino (Virtual) Damon Lorenz, Jessica Duffett, Kendra Hughes, Sarah Davis, Tina Meier-Nowell.

AGENDA REVIEW/REVISION - Superintendent Goldman reviewed the Budget Committee Agenda. Chair Tomlin did not request any changes.

ELECTION OF BUDGET COMMITTEE CHAIR - Chair Tomlin requested nominations for Budget Committee Chair. Director Dougherty nominated Director Cunningham. No other nominations were heard and Director Cunningham was elected unanimously.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NWRESD BUDGET COMMITTEE - CFO Ely recited the roles and responsibilities of the NWRESD Budget Committee.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Director Cunningham invited CFO Ely and Superintendent Goldman to present the budget to the NWRESD board of directors.

- *Overview of Budget Message* - Superintendent Goldman introduced the budget and discussed the fiscal health of the NWRESD, legislative process issues, district engagement, early learning investments, post-secondary partnerships, sub support for districts, NWRESD's strategic plan and congratulated our fiscal team for earning the GFOA Award for Excellence in Governmental Finance for the 15th consecutive year!
- *Proposed Budget Detail* - CFO Ely reviewed the budget document, how it supports our strategic plan and clarified anything which might raise questions. She also discussed ESSER funds and their use-by dates. CFO Ely detailed the general fund budget, federal and state grant revenue. She shared major changes by fund to inform the budget committee alongside the presented budget document.
- *Budget Committee Questions/Deliberation* - Several budget committee members asked clarifying questions about funding, unfilled positions and possible alternatives to contracting specialists for remote positions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Northwest Regional Education Service District Board of Directors appreciates community members sharing information during public comments. Members of the community wishing to address the Board must complete a [Public Comment Request](#) prior to the beginning of the board meeting. The Board requests comments be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Speakers will state their name and home address for the record. While the Board does not respond to public comment, following the meeting the Chair, Vice Chair, and Superintendent will together determine the appropriate level of response. Speakers may offer objective criticism of district operations or programs, but the Board will not hear complaints concerning specific district personnel.



BUDGET APPROVAL OR SCHEDULE ADDITIONAL MEETING, AS NEEDED - Budget Committee Chair Cunningham entertained a motion by Budget Committee Member Sheila Roley to approve the NWRESD budget for 2023-24. Director Riley seconded the motion. Budget Committee Chair Cunningham asked if there were any further questions, to which there was no response, and the motion was carried unanimously. Superintendent Goldman thanked CFO Sherry Ely for her support for the past two years as well as Tera VanDyke, Asst Director of Fiscal Operations, who does the lion's share of budget work for NWRESD as well as a number of our districts.

Proposed Motion: "I move to approve the Northwest Regional Education Service District budget as presented for 2023-24 as follows:

General Fund	\$ 69,105,674
Special Revenue Funds	124,602,111
Debt Service Fund	1,750,000
Capital Project Fund	17,509,000
Enterprise Funds	10,192,903
Trust and Agency Fund	53,554,175
Total All Funds	\$276,713,862

with a tax rate of \$0.1538 per \$1,000 of assessed value to be assessed in support of the General Fund."

ADJOURN BUDGET MEETING - Budget Committee Chair Cunningham thanked the board, budget committee and audience for their service and adjourned the budget meeting at 5:34 pm

General Session

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Tomlin called this general session to order at 5:44 pm

Board in attendance: (In Person) Karen Cunningham, Doug Dougherty, Tony Erickson, Christine Riley, (Virtual) Ross Tomlin, Diane Wilkinson, Ernest Stephens, Maureen Wolf, Yadira Martinez

Staff in attendance: (In Person) Dan Goldman, Debbie Simons, Sherry Ely, David Williams, Valerie White, Stuart Long, Megan McCarter, Kelsey Cardwell, SZ Liwaru, Stacy Rager, Cathy Jensen, Tera VanDyke, Stephanie Karpouzes, Michael Cantino (Virtual) Damon Lorenz, Jessica Duffett, Kendra Hughes, Sarah Davis, Tina Meier-Nowell.

Guests in attendance: (In Person) Pebbles Stone, Cedar Horton, Anastasia Rigby, Claire Catt (Virtual) John Peplinski, Miriam Meneses-Rios

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - Chair Tomlin led the board in the pledge of allegiance. Director Riley provided the land acknowledgement.

AGENDA REVIEW/REVISION - N/A

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Goldman began his report by thanking our licensed staff for their contributions to the students in our region. He went on to note that elected board members would be appointing board members to our business and social services positions tonight as well as two zoned positions at the June board meeting. Other announcements included were our financial audit is complete, including all districts in our region; the bond sale was a success and we are gearing up to build our new early learning center; our proposed budget is nearly complete; leading up to election day, many districts have contested races for board seats and a few have bonds up for a vote. Finally, Superintendent Goldman welcomed 4 new superintendents to our region as well as our own new Executive Director of Instruction, John Peplinski, whom he introduced to the board.

RECOGNITION AND GOOD NEWS

[Pebbles Stone of Monkey Tree Learning Center](#) and [Parent Navigators for the Early Learning Hub](#), Cedar Horton and Anastasia Rigby were introduced by Dorothy Spence and Stacy Rager. Additionally, Claire Catt with United Way joined Cedar and Anastasia to discuss the parent navigator program. These honorees assist families in Columbia County with finding or providing childcare resources. Board members asked questions of Pebbles, Cedar and Anastasia regarding their services.

CONSENT AGENDA - Chair Tomlin entertained a motion by Director Riley to accept the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Erickson and approved unanimously.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

[Accessible Educational Materials & Braille Demo](#) - Executive Director of K12 SpEd, Cathy Jensen, presented a demonstration of a braille embosser and printer for the board. They continued, giving an overview of the purpose of Special Education - to provide educational access to students experiencing disability. Michael Cantino, BVIS Technology Specialist, demonstrated accessible materials and tech for the board. They also discussed the struggles with transcribing textbooks which is time intensive and purchasing pre-transcribed textbooks can cost up to \$30,000-50,000 per book. Holding textbook companies accountable when contracting for curriculum purchases is crucial to ensure access to students with disabilities.

[First Read Policies: GCBDF/GDBDF](#) - Paid Family Leave Oregon draft policy. CHRO answered the board's questions about this new policy.

[Administrative Reports](#)

8. ACTION ITEMS

[Approve Resolution 23-008: Pride Month](#) - Liwaru presented resolution 23-008: Pride Month to the board of directors. They also noted that this resolution is a call to celebrate as well as a challenge to support 2SLGBTQIA+. Chair Tomlin entertained a motion by Director Riley to approve Resolution 23-008: Pride Month as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Dougherty and approved unanimously.

[Approve Educator Advancement Council Grant Application - Grow Your Own](#) - CHRO Simons presented the EAC Grow Your Own Grant as a plan to recruit recent high school graduates as instructional assistants and support and guide them into teaching programs. Chair Tomlin entertained a motion by Director Cunningham to approve the EAC Grow Your Own Grant as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Wilkinson and approved unanimously.

[Appoint NWRES D Board Member Position B - Social Service](#) - Superintendent Goldman introduced Miriam Meneses-Rios, applicant for Position B - Social Services. Chair Tomlin and Director Wilkinson asked questions about why she wants to be on the NWRES D Board of Directors as well as how she will translate her experience with juvenile justice to early learning services. Chair Tomlin entertained a motion by Director Riley to appoint Miriam Meneses-Rios to Position B: Social Services. The motion was seconded by Director Dougherty and approved unanimously.

[Appoint NWRES D Board Member Position C - Business](#) - Superintendent Goldman introduced current Director Stephens, applicant to continue his board service in Position C - Business. Chair Tomlin asked Director Stephens why he wishes to continue his service to the NWRES D Board. Chair Tomlin entertained a motion by Director Riley to appoint Ernest Stephens to Position C: Business. The motion was seconded by Director Erickson and approved unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS - Director Erickson discussed AI and encouraged the AEM presenting staff to make connections with Director Stephens, whose business uses AI, in introducing AI to NWRES D students. Director Erickson and his employee's experience with AI has been helpful.

10. ADJOURN - Chair Tomlin adjourned this general session at 7:11 pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

A speaker may complete a Public Comment Card and give it to the Board Secretary prior to the beginning of the meeting when held in-person. After being recognized by the Board Chair, the speaker will sit at the presenter's table and identify themselves with their full name and address, and stating their purpose in addressing the Board. A speaker may complete the [Public Comment Request](#) online at least one hour prior to the beginning of the meeting when held virtually. After being recognized by the Board Chair, the speaker will be invited to the virtual panel and identify themselves with their full name and address, and stating their purpose in addressing the Board. A group of visitors with a common purpose should designate a speaker for the group. Comments or statements by members of the public are limited to 3 minutes and should be brief and concise unless otherwise authorized by the Chair. Speakers may comment on a topic not on the published agenda, however, the Board - at its discretion - may require that the proposal, inquiry, or request be submitted in writing. The Board reserves the right to refer the matter to the administration for action or study and to report at a subsequent meeting.

Speakers may offer objective criticism of district operations or programs but the Board will not hear complaints concerning specific district personnel. Complaints against individuals must be addressed by following the steps in Policy KL ("Public Complaints") and Procedure KL-AR ("Complaint Form"). The Board appreciates community members sharing information during public comments. The Board will listen, but not comment, on information heard. Following the meeting, the chair, vice chair and superintendent will together determine the response. These procedures will be published on the back of every Board meeting agenda.