



NWRESD Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
October 17, 2023 - Virtual

*Executive Session & General Session*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** [Executive Session Statement](#)

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Dougherty called the Executive Session to order at 4:30 pm.

**Board:** Becky Tymchuk, Chris Riley, Doug Dougherty, Ernest Stephens, Maureen Wolf, Miriam Meneses-Rios, Ross Tomlin, Tony Erickson, Yadira Martinez

**Staff:** Dan Goldman, Debbie Simons, Jordan Ely, Stuart Long, Valerie White

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

ADJOURN - Chair Dougherty adjourned the Executive Session at 5:02 pm.

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**GENERAL SESSION**

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Dougherty called the general session to order at 5:05 pm.

**Board:** Becky Tymchuk, Chris Riley, Doug Dougherty, Miriam Meneses-Rios, Ross Tomlin, Tony Erickson, Yadira Martinez, Ernest Stephens, Maureen Wolf

**Staff:** Dan Goldman, Debbie Simons, Stuart Long, Valerie White

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT](#)

Director Stephens led the board in the pledge of allegiance and Director Tymchuk provided the land acknowledgement.

AGENDA REVIEW/REVISION. None

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Goldman noted the fall traditions happening in school districts all around our region. Parent connection events at SEL schools were well-attended and inspiring for families and staff. Prior year data assessments were also top of mind for districts as they were currently released via Oregon Schools Data Dashboard, which is a powerful tool, however, does not always reflect accurate information due to Oregon's state assessment opt out options for families. EI/ECSE current funding levels and hopes for securing more funds for the Early Learning department at the upcoming legislative session was also discussed by Superintendent Goldman. Continuing with legislative impacts on our agency, Superintendent Goldman discussed the Joint Task Force on Statewide Salary Schedules which will look at the pros and cons of a statewide schedule. Of note, director Stephens and our CHRO, Debbie Simons, are working with legislators on this task force. Superintendent Goldman updated the board on our licensed staff contract negotiations. Finally, upcoming NWRESD-led events were noted and board members were encouraged to attend if possible.

RECOGNITION AND GOOD NEWS

Tracey Goldner, Communications Director and Cathleen Jensen, Executive Director of K-12 SpEd introduced Regional Teacher of the Year, Carissa Martos and NWRESD Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing. Cathy expressed how proud she and Dan both are of Carissa and the passion that she brings to her position. A note from Carissa's supervisor, Laurie Harrison, noted Carissa's dedication to her students and community. Carissa Martos discussed her students and continuing education. Superintendent Goldman thanked Carissa for all her efforts on behalf of her students. Chair Dougherty asked if Carissa has been able to share her passionate advocacy outside of our region. Superintendent Goldman noted that RIS (Regional Inclusive Services), of which Carissa is involved with, has had flat funding for a number of years and noted that Carissa will be helping the NWRESD at the legislative level to help increase funding. Carissa talked about one of her student's address of the Oregon legislature last year and that she hopes that the legislature can hear from more students. Chair Dougherty thanked Carissa for her efforts.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Chair Dougherty recited our Public Comment Guidelines. Indigo Davis greeted the board and recited her home address. Ms. Davis addressed the board for approximately 3 minutes.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Dougherty entertained a motion by Director Tomlin to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Riley and approved unanimously.

## REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Akari Jensen, Northwest Outdoor Science School (NOSS) Principal, updated the board regarding outdoor school attendance numbers, including data regarding underserved student populations. Principal Jensen discussed NOSS' key strategies for the year which include: Focused supports for a diverse student populations such as providing printed resources in multiple languages for ELL students, 2SLGBTQIA+ inclusion practices, staffing camps with Equity and Inclusion Advocates, partnering with accessibility resources for campers who may need special equipment in order to attend NOSS with their peers or reaching out to specific affinity groups while recruiting student leaders to ensure the student leader program is reflective of the student population at NOSS. Finally, Principal Jensen discussed staff PD "Critical Orientations", NOSS' required training program for all NOSS staff, detailing NOSS' focus on "indigenuity" or the process of ensuring indigenous perspectives are honored in Outdoor School programming. Chair Dougherty shared that he has had the opportunity to visit outdoor school programs over the years and enjoyed seeing the rich education and students getting to know each other in a different environment. Superintendent Goldman asked Principal Jensen about the dynamic of creating safe spaces for 2SLGBTQIA+ students and staff and the flashpoint which that has created in our nation's current political climate. Principal Jensen detailed the guidance ODE provided which NOSS leaned on to ensure all students and staff are affirmed and supported regardless of pushback from districts.

Debbie Simons, CHRO discussed progress with our new employee orientation and onboarding processes as well as current hiring data. CHRO Simons then introduced NWRESDs new Talent Acquisition and Retention Administrator, Yolanda Coleman who shared that the way in which onboarding is offered to new staff has changed and that new staff now have the opportunity to self-select when they would like to complete onboarding. Additionally, all departments are represented in orientation of staff to ensure new staff have opportunities to ask questions of all departments including HR, payroll, technology, equity, etc. Equity and Family Partnerships have had an increased role in ensuring new staff have opportunities for deeper learning about our commitment to equity across the agency. HR office hours were discussed as another way for HR staff to meet regularly with any staff who have questions or concerns. Chair Dougherty noted the value in staff feeling heard and supported in this manner and applauded the HR department for their efforts. Director Erickson addressed the efforts of the HR department and offered his support. Director Meneses-Rios also commended the HR department in their efforts to offer continuing equity education for new and existing staff. Director Tomlin noted his appreciation for those efforts and even suggested he may borrow some of the tools noted for his organization.

Jerome Townsend, Director of Instruction, introduced the College and Career Readiness department's updates with regard to CTE programs. Jaimie Brady, Career & College Readiness Coach, detailed the CCR team's efforts to meet NWRESD strategic plan goals to serve all students, particularly those who have been historically marginalized and the data processes which are in place to help ensure this. One of the CCR team's projects for the year is the Junior Achievement Hillsboro Discovery Center which will have it's grand opening in early November. This facility brings financial and business training to middle school students throughout the region and will ensure students in our coastal and rural communities will have the opportunity to experience this invaluable program. Jaimie also shared the CCR teams use of the SchoolLinks Career & College Readiness Platform with districts and the support it offers schools and students with postsecondary planning. Finally, Jaimie presented information about CodeORCreate, a student event which offers attendees the opportunity to engage in a fun learning experience, and Career Guidance Collaboratives, working with districts to offer collaborative opportunities for high school educators to support the students in their districts. Director Tomlin acknowledged the struggle with transitioning students from high school to college and expressed appreciation for the CCR's efforts to mitigate that difficulty. Director Tymchuk also expressed her excitement that Junior Achievement will provide their services to more students.

Debbie Simons, CHRO presented the first read of policies BDC - Executive Sessions & GCBDA/GDBDA - Family Medical Leave. CHRO Simons explained the proposed changes to each policy. Administrative Reports - Superintendent Goldman noted that the NWRESD department administrative reports are chock full of information about what our staff and students have been up to and what they will be doing next.

#### ACTION ITEMS

[Resolution 23-015: National Native American Heritage Month](#) was introduced by Liwaru, our Director of Equity and Family Partnerships. Liwaru read Resolution 23-015 and noted the educational links on the last page. Director Riley noted how helpful those links are. Chair Dougherty acknowledged the work that is being done, particularly in his region, with regard to indigenous perspectives. Dougherty entertained a motion by Director Riley to adopt Resolution 23-015: National Native American Heritage Month as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Stephens and approved unanimously.

[September 2023 Financial Report](#) was presented by CFO Jordan Ely, who focused discussion on the general fund, special revenue fund and how the NWRES D's current basis of accounting can skew the report. CFO Ely noted that some parts of the report may look differently than prior years due to this change. Chair Dougherty entertained a motion by Director Tomlin to accept the September 2023 financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Stephens and approved unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS - Chair Dougherty encouraged board members and other board attendees to attend their local district board meetings. Chair Dougherty solicited comments from board members. There were none.

ADJOURN Chair Dougherty adjourned the meeting at 6:56 pm.