



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Ann Campbell, *President*; Darlene Stickel, *Vice President*; Steve Wrightson; LeAnne Bremer; Mark Hottowe; and Dr. Richard Graham.

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## CALL TO ORDER

The ESD 112 Board of Directors' Business meeting was called to order by Ann Campbell, *President*, at 3:02 p.m. on September 22, 2020 with a quorum of 6 members present.

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## INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME OF GUESTS

- Dr. Sara Paul, *Quest Academy Director*, was introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

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## REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- Early Head Start and ECEAP Program Monthly Report: Jodi Wall, *Executive Director for Early Care and Education*, reported the Department of Children, Youth and Family Services (DCYFS) provided funding to allow summer ECEAP support services. She noted ECEAP enrollment, however, was still struggling but in line with the state average of 50% enrollment. Enrollment in the Early Head Start home-based program was near capacity but additional slots remained open in the center-based program. ECE staff are providing child care services to 130 elementary school students in the Vancouver, Evergreen and Battle Ground school districts. Jodi shared that reopening plans for the ECEAP program will align with the plans in place at the school district where the program buildings reside. In-person services, following all COVID-19 safety requirements, will be offered to ECEAP children housed in ESD 112 owned buildings. Jodi also noted that the Hudson Bay Child Care Center had been closed for 14 days due to a COVID-19 exposure at the site.
- Specialized Student Services Program Report: Jeffrey Niess, *Executive Director for Specialized Student Services*, shared information about the structure of Specialized Student Services and the ESA. He then invited Dr. Sara Paul, *Quest Academy Director*, to update the board on the status of program operations and service since reopening the center in September.
- PPE Project Update: Gavin Hottman, *Chief Business Officer*, provided an update on the status of orders and deliveries of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to school districts in Washington State.
- Superintendent's Report: Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, briefed the board on the following:
  - A. Reopening Schools: Superintendent Merlino reported on the status of the reopening plans of school districts in the ESD 112 region.
  - B. Decreased Student Enrollment: School districts across the state are experiencing lower student enrollment than projected due to remote learning. The larger districts were averaging a drop of 5-7%. Students are being enrolled in alternate programs such as home schooling, private schools and online schools. The loss of funding, due to lower enrollment, has resulted in layoffs of nearly 2,500 bus drivers, paraeducators, food service and other support positions region-wide.
  - C. Unemployment Pool: Due to the high volume of layoffs, the unemployment pool anticipates it will need to increase rates in order to cover the cost of upcoming claims.

- D. State Budget: The state is anticipating a budget shortfall of nearly \$8.8 billion. A special session may be scheduled in November to address needed budget cuts.
  - E. AESD Legislative Platform: The Association of Educational Service Districts (AESD), which is a collaboration of the nine Washington State ESDs, will be focusing on three issues this legislative session. They will be requesting authority for ESD employees to access healthcare through PEBB; expansion of ESD authority to serve school districts and the community; and that no cuts be made to core funding.
  - F. Regional Committee Updates: There are four director position terms expiring on the Regional Committee on School District Reorganization. Two of the directors indicated they would like to continue and will be put before the board for approval in October. Two of the directors do not want to continue and those openings will be advertised in the upcoming weeks. Interviews with interested and qualified candidates will be held prior to the next meeting or after the November meeting.
- Board Vacancy Discussion: Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, presented the board with a letter-of-resignation from board member, Jennifer Hawks-Conright, submitted on September 17, 2020. Board members discussed the process for appointing a new member. Further discussion will occur at the October board meeting.

## PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

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- Motion passed to approve the consent agenda items including minutes of the ESD 112 Board of Directors' Meeting – August 25, 2020; ESD 112 Personnel Activity Report for September 2020, ESD 112 Expenditure Reports for August 2020; and Early Head Start Budget Status/Expenditure Reports for August 2020.
- Motion passed to approve the 2021 Early Head Start Home-Based Continuation Application, Grant No. 10CHIO11303, for Budget Period 1/1/2021-12/31/2021, as presented.
- Motion passed to accept the resignation of board member, Jennifer Hawks-Conright, effective September 17, 2020.

## PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

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- Correspondence
- AESD Executive Board Meeting: Steve Wrightson attended and commented on the event.

## CALENDAR

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- ESD 112 Back-to-School Event – Zoom – September 24, 2020 – 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
- WSSDA Regional Fall Meeting – Virtual – October 19, 2020 – 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
- ESD 112 Board of Directors' Business Meeting – Zoom – October 27, 2020 – 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- AESD Executive Board Meeting – Zoom – November 10, 2020 – 9:00 am – 10:30 am
- ESD 112 Board of Directors' Business Meeting – Zoom – November 24, 2020 – 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- AESA Annual Conference – Virtual – December 2-5, 2020
- ESD 112 Board of Directors' Business Meeting with ESD Connects – TBD – December 15, 2020 – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

## ADJOURNMENT

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The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.



For questions, please contact Wendy Niehaus, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, at (360) 952-3318 or email: [wendy.niehaus@esd112.org](mailto:wendy.niehaus@esd112.org). Approved minutes of the Board of Directors' meetings are kept in the ESD 112 Administration Offices and are public record.