



ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting December 9, 2025

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Heidi Rosenberg, President; Kevin Davis, Vice-President; Susan Barker; Mark Hottowe; and Darlene Stickel. Superintendent Present: Tim Merlino. Cabinet Members Present: Toni Brittain, Monique Dugaw, Makoa Jacobsen, Melissa Kreuder, Mike Nerland, Jeffrey Niess, and Jodi Wall. Guests: Melissa Burt, Cari Corbett, Tallah Hardesty, Chelsea Howard, Alissa Jolly, Abram Krebs, Laura Knox, Sara Moore, Kerry Pinney, Mary Richards, and Yolanda Rivera.

CALL TO ORDER

The ESD 112 Board of Directors Business meeting was called to order by Heidi Rosenberg, *President*, at 12:16 pm on December 9, 2025, with a quorum of five board members present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments: There were no members of the public present.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- ESD Connects Report and Recognition: Mike Nerland, *Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning*, introduced ESD Connects co-leads, Abram Krebs and Alissa Jolly, to share highlights of projects and events coordinated by ESD Connects over the last year. ESD Connects members were thanked for their efforts by the Board of Directors.
- Early Head Start & ECEAP Monthly Report: Jodi Wall, *Executive Director of Early Care & Education (ECE)*, shared highlights of this month's report, as well as an update on the new Nova program. Two children are now enrolled in the program with positive feedback from parents.
- Superintendent's Report: Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, briefed the board on the following:
 - Facilities Update: The agency is expected to close on the Vandercook Building in Longview on December 17, 2025. A meeting will be held with the Cowlitz County superintendents early next year to determine district program needs in order to develop new programs. The Quest Academy is now at capacity with thirty-two students.
 - Our Future, Our Schools: Monique Dugaw, *Executive Director of Communications & Public Relations*, shared an update on the regional public engagement project.
 - Communications Services: Superintendent Merlino and Monique Dugaw were asked to present to superintendents in the ESD 105 and ESD 171 regions earlier this school year regarding communications services. Since then, six districts in ESD 105 and three districts in ESD 171 have joined the communication cooperative, which now includes sixty districts in seven ESDs. The communications team also secured a contract from the AESD to help promote the new summer school programs funded by the Ballmer Foundation that will be piloted by ESD 105 and 121 this summer. ESD 112 districts will participate in the program beginning in the summer of 2027.

Statewide Accreditation: Mike Nerland, *Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning*, shared that volunteers are needed to serve on the statewide accreditation panel in Tumwater at ESD 113 on May 12-14, 2026. The Third Year Review Accreditation panel will be held on February 24, 2025, from 8:15 – 2:15 pm. Two board members, Darlene Stickel and Heidi Rosenberg, have volunteered to serve on the local panel. Five schools will participate this year from the ESD 112 region.

Technology Procurement Showcase: A technology showcase will be held at ESD 112 on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, from 11:30 am – 4:00 pm in the conference center. Board members are invited to visit before the board meeting on the same date, if interested. The event will feature live demonstrations and information on technology integration in schools.

January Regional Superintendents Meeting: The January Regional Superintendent Meeting will focus on improving math outcomes in the region.

State Budget: The Governor's budget will be released next week. The anticipated deficit over the next three years is in the four billion dollar range. ESDs are not considered a part of basic education and may see additional reductions.

- Employee Acknowledgements & Recognitions: Monique Dugaw, *Executive Director of Communications & Public Relations*, recognized Phoenix Dorsey, *College & Career Readiness Advisor*, for coordinating a multi-campus university tour for eleven students from Glenwood and Lyle School Districts. Sally Repman, *Child Care Aware Specialist*, was acknowledged by the ECE Birth to Five center directors for her outstanding support as a coach for the Child Care Aware program. Christopher Schumaker, Superintendent of Toutle Lake School District, sent his thanks for the two days of exceptional professional learning offered by Molly Daley, Effie Triol, Weslee Vann, and Teresa Vance.

PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

- **Motion passed:** To approve the consent agenda items including minutes from the ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – November 18, 2025, and Personnel Activity Reports for November 2025.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Correspondence: There was no correspondence this month.
- Board Participation in Events:
 - Darlene Stickel attended the AESD Executive Board Meeting in Renton on November 19, 2025.
 - Heidi Rosenberg and Darlene Stickel attend the AESA Conference in Colorado Springs, December 3-5, 2025.

CALENDAR

- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – January 27, 2026
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – February 24, 2026
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Retreat – TBD – March 23, 2026
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – March 24, 2026
- AESD Annual Conference – Suquamish, WA – April 15-17, 2026
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – April 28, 2026

- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – May 26, 2026
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – June 23, 2026
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – August 25, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:12 pm.



For questions, please contact Sara Moore, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, at (360) 952-3318 or email: sara.moore@esd112.org. Approved minutes of the Board of Directors' meetings are kept in the ESD 112 Administration Offices and are public record.