



ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting October 29, 2024

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Mark Hottowe, President; LeAnne Bremer, Vice-President; Susan Barker; Kevin Davis; Heidi Rosenberg, and Darlene Stickel. Superintendent Present: Tim Merlino. Cabinet Members Present: Marnie Allen, Monique Dugaw, Gavin Hottman, Jodi Wall, and Kathy Whitlock. Staff Members Present: Heidi Barnes, Justine Hanrahan, and Xander Hayes.

CALL TO ORDER

The ESD 112 Board of Directors Business meeting was called to order by Mark Hottowe, *President*, at 3:00 pm on October 29, 2024. A quorum of five members was present initially. LeAnne Bremer joined the meeting at 3:33 pm.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- Program Highlight: Communications & Public Relations: Monique Dugaw, *Executive Director of Communications & Public Relations*, provided an update on services offered by the Communications and Public Relations program throughout the state. She was joined by Heidi Barnes, *Director of Creative & Web Development*, Justine Hanrahan, *Communications Manager*, and Xander Hayes, *Video Coordinator*. The team shared that the COVID-19 pandemic helped to encourage close collaboration between communications professionals throughout the region. This work has continued post-pandemic and has expanded to include districts outside the region from ESD 105, 113, 114, and 189. There is 100% participation from the ESD 112 region in the communications consortium, which includes access to shared resources, collaboration opportunities – all with a focus on challenges districts are facing. Services to districts have also expanded to include web development, external school district communications, and social media support. The new social media pilot provides small districts with access to resources, templates, and updates to help them better reach their communities through social media.
- Early Head Start & ECEAP Monthly Report: Jodi Wall, *Executive Director of Early Care & Education*, shared highlights of this month's report including an update on nursing services provided to children enrolled in ESD 112 early learning programs. DCYF has approved transitioning additional part-day slots into thirty-three school day slots beginning December 1st, which is expected to increase enrollment to over 70%. Heidi Rosenberg, *Board Policy Council Liaison*, shared an update on the September Policy Council Meeting.
- First Reading of Revised and New Policies: Marnie Allen, *Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, and Insurance Programs*, reviewed proposed changes to ESD 112 policies and the new policies listed below.
 - Proposed Policy Revisions Reviewed: 3205, 3210, 3211, 5010, 5011, 5270
 - In proposed Policy 3211 - Gender Inclusive Programs, the board recommended that the word 'transgendered' be removed from the first paragraph. The recommended wording is: "To that end, the Board recognizes the importance of an inclusive approach toward students..."
 - New Proposed Policies Reviewed: 3124, 3225
 - Darlene Stickel commended the extensive work of ESD staff to review and propose updates to ESD 112 policies.

- Superintendent's Report: Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, briefed the board on the following:
 - Clark County Mental Health Grant Proposal: ESD 112 was encouraged to apply for mental health funding for local school districts but was not selected for funding.
 - WISM: OSPI staff recently completed a four-day audit of the Special Education ESA program which included visits to ten school districts. The ESA was commended for the level of service provided in rural schools. The final complete report and recommendations will be issued in ninety days.
 - Curae Center Update: The Curae Center has outgrown the current location in Camas School District and will be relocated to the ESD 112 campus after the beginning of the year.
 - Therapeutic Learning Program Enrollment: There are currently 74 students enrolled in the five therapeutic learning centers, which is an increase over last year's enrollment of 41 students.
 - PTA Presentation: Superintendent Merlino and Dan Steele, WASA, co-presented at the Washington State PTA conference regarding school funding issues in Washington State.
 - District School Board Trainings: Tim Merlino and Marnie Allen have received requests for training from La Center School District and Wishram School District.
 - ESD 112 Board Vacancy: The board discussed options for increasing the number of applicants for the board vacancy in District 5 and advertising efforts.
- Employee Acknowledgements & Recognitions: Monique Dugaw, *Executive Director of Communications & Public Relations*, recognized Aaron Pizani, *Technology Support Assistant*, for providing exceptional customer service in the conference center, and Mika Yoshida, *Communications Manager*, for exemplifying the Communication Team campaign – "The Answer is YES" with her excellent skills and can-do attitude.

PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

- **Motion passed:** to approve the consent agenda items including minutes from the ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – September 23, 2024, and Board of Directors Special Meeting – October 15, 2024; Personnel Activity Report for September 2024; Expenditure Reports for August & September 2024; and EHS Expenditure Reports for September 2024.
- **Motion passed:** To move the policies reviewed in the first reading to a second reading during the November board meeting.
- **Motion passed:** To approve the proposed new policies 3143, 3418, and 4200.
- **Motion passed:** To approve the proposed revisions to policies 3231, 3410, 3412, 3414, 3420, 3424, 2105, 3226, 3230, 3232, 3246, 3413, 3415, 3416.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

- Public Comments: There were no public comments.
- Correspondence: There was no board correspondence.
- Board Participation in Events: Heidi Rosenberg participated in the EHS/ECEAP Policy Council Meeting on October 17, 2024.

CALENDAR

- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – November 26, 2024
- AESA Conference – Orlando, Florida – December 4-6, 2024
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – Red Cross Building at Fort Vancouver – December 10, 2024
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – January 28, 2025
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – February 25, 2025
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Retreat – TBD – March 24, 2025
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – TBD – March 25, 2025
- AESD Conference – Spokane – April 16-18, 2025
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – April 22, 2025
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – May 27, 2025
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – June 24, 2025
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – August 26, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:41 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.