



## EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT 112

### COUNTIES

CLARK  
COWLITZ  
KLICKITAT  
PACIFIC  
SKAMANIA  
WAHKIAKUM

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SUSAN BARKER  
LEANNE BREMER  
KEVIN DAVIS  
MARK HOTTOWE  
MEL NETZHAMMER  
HEIDI ROSENBERG  
DARLENE STICKEL

### SUPERINTENDENT

TIM MERLINO

## ESD 112 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Tuesday February 25, 2025

ESD 112, 2500 NE 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, WA 98661

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The ESD 112 Board of Directors' Business Meeting was called to order by President, Heidi Rosenberg, at 3:00 pm on February 25, 2025, with a quorum of seven members present.

- 1.1 Roll call of members present: Heidi Rosenberg, *President*; LeAnne Bremer, *Vice-President*; Susan Barker; Darlene Stickel; Kevin Davis; Mark Hottowe and Mel Netzhammer.
- 1.2 Cabinet members present: Marnie Allen, *Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources & Insurance Programs*; Monique Dugaw, *Executive Director of Communications & Public Engagement*; Gavin Hottman, *Assistant Superintendent, Business Services*; Mike Nerland, *Assistant Superintendent, Teaching & Learning*; Jeffrey Niess, *Executive Director, Specialized Student Services*; and Kathy Whitlock, *Executive Director, Student & School Success*.
- 1.3 Guests Present: Effie Triol, Dax Logsdon, Jennifer Halleck, Tina Vessey and Rachel Lake.
- 1.4 Members of the Public Present: None.
- 1.5 Superintendent Present: Tim Merlino.

### 2. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF GUESTS

- 2.1 Introduction and Welcome of Guests
  - 2.1.1 Heidi Rosenberg, *President*, welcomed attendees and guests.

### 3. CONSENT AND AGENDA APPROVAL

- 3.1 Board Meeting Minutes
  - 3.1.1 ESD 112 Board of Directors' Meeting – January 28, 2025
- 3.2 Personnel and Finance Reports
  - 3.2.1 ESD Personnel Activity Report – January 2025
  - 3.2.2 Contract Report –February 2025
- 3.3 ESD Expenditure Reports
  - 3.3.1 ESD GF Budget Status Report – January 2025
  - 3.3.2 ESD GF Expenditure by Object Summary – January 2025
  - 3.3.3 CCF Budget Status Report – January 2025
  - 3.3.4 ESD GF Warrant Log – January 2025
  - 3.3.5 ESD Accounts Payable Check Register
  - 3.3.6 Amended Financials
- 3.4 Early Head Start Budget Status/Expenditure Reports – January 2025
  - 3.4.1 EHS Budget Status Report – January 2025

Vouchers are audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.180, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a listing made available to the board.

- 3.5 *ACTION:* A motion was made by Darlene Stickel and seconded by LeAnne Bremer to approve the consent agenda items listed above. **Motion passed.**
- 3.6 *ACTION:* A motion was made by Mel Netzhammer and seconded by Kevin Davis to approve the proposed EHS/ECEAP Board Policy Revisions to HR – Standards of Conduct, HR – Volunteers, and PMQI – Early Head Start Report to Health & Human Services Officials. **Motion passed.**

### 4. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- 4.1 Teacher of the Year: Effie Triol, *K-4 Literacy Coordinator*, introduced Rachel Lake, Ocean Beach School District, who is the ESD 112 Regional Teacher of the Year for 2024. Rachel shared her experiences as a music teacher in a small school district and expressed the importance of electives in all schools.
- 4.2 Program Highlight: Construction Services Group: Dax Logsdon, *Construction Services Group Director*, and Jennifer Halleck, *Associate Director of Construction Services, Operations & Programs*, shared an update with focus on tsunami and seismic updates for schools.

- 4.3 Early Head Start & ECEAP Monthly Report: Tina Vessey, *Compliance & Quality Assurance manager*, shared highlights of January's report and the 2024 Annual Report. Enrollment has increased and meets state requirements. Staffing remains an issue with job openings outnumbering incoming staff. Heidi Rosenberg, *Board Policy Council Liaison*, shared an update on the February Policy Council Meeting.
- 4.4 First Reading of Revised Policies: Marnie Allen, *Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, and Insurance Programs*, reviewed proposed changes to policies 3205 and 5011 which reverts the language to 2020 Title IX regulations in compliance with state and federal law.
- 4.5 Superintendent's Report: Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, briefed the board on the following:
  - 4.5.1 Levy and Bond Update: Superintendent Merlino shared an update on results for levies and bonds elections in the regions on February 11, 2025.
  - 4.5.2 Roosevelt School District Update: Tim Merlino and Mike Nerland, *Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning*, recently attended Roosevelt School District board meeting. There is interest in continuing superintendent services in the 25-26 school year.
  - 4.5.3 State Budget: A state budget shortfall is expected. The amount of the predicted shortfall continues to increase, which may impact some ESD programs. K-12 basic funding has been excluded from requests for proposed budget reductions from the Governor.
  - 4.5.4 Special Education ESA: Mabton and Index School Districts have expressed interest in joining the ESA.
  - 4.5.5 Federal Update: There have been no reductions to federally funded ESD programs. The board requested a discussion regarding sample WSSDA policy 4300 at the March business meeting.
  - 4.5.6 March Board Retreat: Superintendent Merlino reviewed the draft schedule for the board retreat scheduled for March 24, 2025.
  - 4.5.7 ESD 112 Annual Audit: Field work is expected to be completed in the next week.
  - 4.5.8 Proposed Budget Timeline: The proposed timeline for approval of next year's budget was reviewed.
  - 4.5.9 Promoting Public Schools: Superintendents have requested help from the ESD to create a communication program to promote public schools.
  - 4.5.10 Selection of AESD Award of Distinction Artwork: Board members reviewed entries in the Regional High School Art Show and selected a piece which will be presented to this year's AESD Award of Distinction recipient. Board members selected a photograph taken by Leonell Alpyorov from River Homelink.

- 4.6 Employee Acknowledgments & Recognitions: Monique Dugaw, *Executive Director of Communications & Public Relations*, recognized Jill Driver, *LBHS/JH Special Education Teacher*, for engaging her students in their own paths to success. Jill serves students in the Methow Valley School District.

## 5. PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS


- 5.1 Public Comments: There were no public comments.
- 5.2 Correspondence: There were two separate emails, one from Asha Riley and one from Shawn Batstone, commending Monique Dugaw and team on their work.
- 5.3 Board Participation in Events:
- 5.3.1 Mark Hottowe attended the ESD 112 Audit Risk Assessment meeting on January 29, 2025.
  - 5.3.2 Heidi Rosenberg, Mark Hottowe and Darlene Stickel attended the Audit Entrance Conference on February 10, 2025.
  - 5.3.3 Heidi Rosenberg attended the EHS/ECEAP Policy Council Meeting on February 20, 2025.
  - 5.3.4 Mark Hottowe, Susie Barker, Darlene Stickel and Kevin Davis served on Accreditation Panels on February 24 and 25, 2025.

## 6. CALENDAR ITEMS


- 6.1 ESD 112 Board of Directors Retreat – ESD 112 – March 24, 2025
- 6.2 ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – March 25, 2025
- 6.3 AESD Conference – Spokane – April 16-18, 2025
- 6.4 ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – April 22, 2025
- 6.5 ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – May 27, 2025
- 6.6 ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – June 24, 2025
- 6.7 ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – August 26, 2025

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

- 7.1 The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

  
Heidi L Rosenberg (Mar 26, 2025 22:06 PDT)

Heidi Rosenberg, President

  
Tim Merlino (Mar 29, 2025 07:45 PDT)

Tim Merlino, Superintendent