



EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT 112

COUNTIES

CLARK
COWLITZ
KLICKITAT
PACIFIC
SKAMANIA
WAHIAKUM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SUSAN BARKER
KEVIN DAVIS
JOHN DEEDER
MARK HOTTOWE
MEL NETZHAMMER
HEIDI ROSENBERG
DARLENE STICKEL

SUPERINTENDENT

TIM MERLINO

ESD 112 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 27, 2026

ESD 112, 2500 NE 65th 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 January 27, 2026, with a quorum of board members present.

- 1.1 Roll call of members present: Heidi Rosenberg, *President*; Susan Barker, Kevin Davis, John Deeder, Mark Hottowe, Mel Netzhammer, and Darlene Stickel.
- 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, Chief Financial Officer*; Jeffrey Niess, *Executive Director, Specialized Student Services*; Jodi Wall, *Executive Director, Early Care & Education* and Kathy Whitlock, *Executive Director, Student and School Success*.
- 1.3 Guests present: Heidi Barnes, Melissa Burt, Erin Lucich, Laura Martin, Yolanda Rivera., Justine Vazquez, and Mika Yoshida.
- 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. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

- 3.1 Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, administered the oath of office to John Deeder, Mark Hottowe, Mel Netzhammer, and Darlene Stickel. All were elected to office in November 2025.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- 4.1 Public Comments: There were no public comments.

5. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

- 5.1 Board Meeting Minutes
5.1.1 ESD 112 Board of Directors' Business Meeting – December 9, 2025
- 5.2 Personnel and Finance Reports
5.2.1 ESD Personnel Activity Report – December 2025
5.2.2 Contract Report – Dec 9, 2025 – Jan 27, 2026
- 5.3 ESD Expenditure Reports
5.3.1 ESD GF Budget Status Report – November 2025
5.3.2 ESD GF Budget Status Report – December 2025
5.3.3 ESD GF Expenditure by Object Summary – November 2025
5.3.4 ESD GF Expenditure by Object Summary – December 2025
5.3.5 ESD GF Warrant Log – November 2025
5.3.6 ESD GF Warrant Log – December 2025
5.3.7 ESD Accounts Payable Check Register
5.3.8 Amended Financials
- 5.4 Early Head Start Budget Status/Expenditure Reports – November & December 2025
5.4.1 EHS Budget Status Report – November 2025
5.4.2 EHS Budget Status Report – December 2025
5.4.3 EHS Credit Card Report – November 2025
5.4.4 EHS Credit Card Report – December 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.

- 5.5 *ACTION*: A motion was made by Susan Barker and seconded by Darlene Stickel to approve the consent agenda items listed above. **Motion passed.**

6. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- 6.1 Program Highlight: Communications & Public Engagement: Monique Dugaw, *Executive Director of Communications & Public Engagement*, and several members of the communications team provided an overview of communications services provided regionally and statewide. She was joined by Heidi Barnes, Melissa Burt, Justine Vazquez, Laura Martin, Mika Yoshida, and Yolanda Rivera. The team also shared an update on several special projects, including work with the AESD Ballmer Project, AESD communications, updates to the Core Issues with School Funding webpage, and the Our Future, Our Schools statewide project. The program also provides communications support for all ESD 112 programs.
- 6.2 Early Head Start & ECEAP Monthly Report: Jodi Wall, *Executive Director of Early Care & Education (ECE)*, shared highlights of this month's report. A new communications campaign has been launched, "[Growing Futures Together](#)", to share the successes of ECE programs and the positive impacts that high-quality early care and education brings to children and families in the community.
- 6.3 Superintendent's Report: Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, briefed the board on the following:
- 6.3.1 January is Board Appreciation Month: Board members were thanked for their service to ESD 112 programs and the community.
- 6.3.2 Federal SAMHSA Prevention Funding: The ESD was notified that two grants funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) would be eliminated but the notice was rescinded the next day. Funding for both grants is currently in place.
- 6.3.3 Annual Audit: Superintendent Merlino shared an update on the expected timeline for the annual audit.
- 6.3.4 Facilities Update: Gavin Hottman, *Chief Business Officer*, provided an update on current facilities projects.
- 6.3.5 Regional Math Improvement Initiative: Kathy Whitlock, *Executive Director of Student & School Success*, shared an update on the regional request for a shared approach to mathematics improvement. Molly Daley, *Mathematics Coordinator*, and Erin Lucich, *Director of School Improvement*, are developing a grid of services based on input from superintendents in the region.
- 6.3.6 Construction Services Group Update: Superintendent Merlino shared an update on new contracts awarded to the Construction Services Group.
- 6.3.7 AESD Award of Distinction: Nominations are open for this year's award of distinction.
- 6.3.8 AESD Annual Conference: This year's AESD Annual Conference will be held April 15-17, 2026, at the Clearwater Resort in Poulsbo, Washington.

6.3.9 2026 Third Year Accreditation: Darlene Stickel, Heidi Rosenberg, and John Deeder were thanked for volunteering to serve on the 2026 Third Year Accreditation Review panel. Districts will provide their presentations to the panel on February 24, 2026.

6.4 Employee Acknowledgments & Recognitions: Monique Dugaw, *Executive Director of Communications & Public Relations*, recognized Kristina Wambold, Don Wells, Justine Vasquez, and Melissa Burt.

7. PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

7.1 *ACTION*: A motion was made by Darlene Stickel and seconded by Susan Barker to approve Resolution R.25.10 – In the Matter of Approving a Conditional Certificate for a Special Education Assignment. **Motion passed.**

8. BOARD REORGANIZATION

8.1 ELECTIONS: Darlene Stickel made the following nominations, which were seconded by Mel Netzhammer:

8.1.1 Heidi Rosenberg to serve as President in 2026 and Kevin Davis to continue to serve as Vice-President in 2026. The board members voted unanimously in favor of electing Heidi Rosenberg as President and Kevin Davis as Vice-President for the upcoming year.

8.2 APPOINTMENTS: The following appointments for Board Representatives for 2026 were made:

8.2.1 Darlene Stickel to serve as the 2026 Board Representative to the AESD Executive Council.

8.2.2 Mark Hottowe and Mel Netzhammer will serve as the ESD 112 Legislative Representatives.

8.2.3 Heidi Rosenberg will serve as the ESD 112 Board Representative to the 2026 EHS/ECEAP Policy Council.

9. BOARD COMMENTS

9.1 Correspondence: Letter from Taholah School District thanking Tim Merlino, Gavin Hottman, Dax Logsdan, Jeff Strunk, Makoa Jacobsen, and Janet Cordes for their support of the Taholah School District Groundbreaking event.

9.2 Board Participation in Events:

9.2.1 Mel Netzhammer attended the WASA Legislative Conference in Seattle on January 9 & 10, 2026.

9.2.2 Heidi Rosenberg attended the EHS/ECEAP Policy Council Meeting on January 15, 2026.

10. CALENDAR ITEMS

- 10.1 ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – February 24, 2026
- 10.2 ESD 112 Board of Directors Retreat – ESD 112 – March 23, 2026
- 10.3 ESD 112 Board of Directors Meeting – ESD 112 – March 24, 2026
- 10.4 AESD Annual Conference – Suquamish, WA – April 15-17, 2026
- 10.5 ESD 112 Board of Directors Meeting – ESD 112 – April 28, 2026
- 10.6 ESD 112 Board of Directors Meeting – ESD 112 – May 26, 2026
- 10.7 ESD 112 Board of Directors Meeting – ESD 112 – June 23, 2026
- 10.8 ESD 112 Board of Directors Meeting – ESD 112 – August 25, 2026

11. ADJOURNMENT

- 11.1 The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Heidi L Rosenberg

[Heidi L Rosenberg \(Feb 25, 2026 22:24:16 PST\)](#)

Heidi Rosenberg, President

Tim Merlino, Superintendent