

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Lopez Island School District #144
October 23, 2019
Library Media Center
6:00 PM
Board Meeting MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE:

The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by Chairperson Holding. Present were Chairperson Holding, Directors Guenther, Greacen, Poole, and Steckler, Superintendent/Principal Auckland, Principal Budke, and ASB Representative Reese Hamilton. Streamed on Lopez Island Community Board Facebook page, <https://www.lopezislandschool.org/>.

II. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

*In front of delegation: Status update for ongoing sexual harassment allegation and update from for Safety Advisory Committee.
Add to Old Business Item b. Levy Lid update*

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (Action)

a. Regular Board Meeting of 9/25/19.

Change Lexy to Alexis Aydelotte (co-President in training).

*Executive Session extended to 9pm, completed at 9:26pm. No actions were taken out of executive session, meeting adjourned at 9:26. Director Seeckler moved and Director Greacen seconded. **The minutes were approved unanimously.***

IV. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: (Action)

a. General Fund: 1 14157-114207 -- \$128,442.75

i. Capital Projects: 114208-114215 \$727,742.60

ii. ASB: 114216-1 14216 -- \$1,300.00

iii. PPT: 1 14217-1 14217 \$1,500.00

b. General Fund: 1 14218-1 14219 \$4,062.00

c. Payroll for the month of October 2019, \$361,767.10.

d. Consideration to approve Leave of Absence Contract for Samuel Lockwood for \$14,004.15, through November 27th for SY 19/20.

*Director Guenther moved to adopt, Director Steckler seconded. No discussion, **the consent agenda was adopted unanimously.***

V. Agenda adjustment: UPDATE ON SEXUAL HARRASSMENT INVESTIGATION:

Director Guenther reporting: Step by step process similar to what any district would use in a case such as this. Investigator has interviewed about 30 people with 6 more scheduled. Investigator will submit a report to the district, expected to receive that report by the next board meeting on November 20. Director Greacen expressed appreciation to Director Guenther for his efforts during this process. Clarifying question from audience regarding similarity to other district investigations. Director Holding clarified that WSRMP is paying for the investigation as part of our benefits for paying premiums into the risk pool, which includes 80 districts - which is the same process we used in previous investigations (different investigator). Director Poole is requesting anyone who wants to add to the investigation should contact Director Guenther to be interviewed.

VI. Agenda adjustment: UPDATE FROM SAFETY REVIEW TEAM (SRT):

Jennell Kvistad reporting: Team is independent of the board and administration, not an official Safety Committee (complicated process to form). SRT is intended to take recent lockdown situation and make recommendations to

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improve process for that procedure. Secondary Teacher Richard Tetu is the coordinator. Team members include sherriff deputy, former fire chief, staff and community members. Director Greacen is on the team as a non-voting member. Comments have been collected from Oct 9th and 17th meetings. There is an online public input form as well on the district website. Next meeting is Thursday, Oct 24. Recommendations thus far:

1. Test robocall system.
2. Exercise current plan during drills.
3. Communicate current plan with staff, parents and community.
4. Look into emergency communication apps.
5. Investigate installation of door locks.

Earthquake drill conducted on Friday, Oct 18th. Added review with students prior to drill, robocall to families at end of day. District is sending two staff members to a training on texting messages through Robocall. District is currently testing speakers/intercom systems. Locks have been ordered with expedited shipping. SRT will be wrapping up this focus in the next few weeks but another committee of some kind may be formed for additional safety procedures review. Blog is located at tiny.cc/safetyreview. Suggestions and comments are welcome from any and all who would like to contribute.

VII. DELEGATIONS: This item permits an individual or group to address the Board without having to go through the procedure to get on the formal agenda. Due to time, we ask that all delegations please be limited to five minutes.

Board advises that any questions relating to the investigation that can legally be answered have been answered in distributed letters and in the FAQ on the District website.

- a. Parent reports behavior problems at school with their child. Shared that Sped Services were declined, 504 plan was implemented.
- b. Parent : Board can no longer claim negligence.
- c. Attorney representing plaintiffs in investigation. Disagrees that the district is using the correct investigative process that was outlined by Risk Management.
- d. Parent questions: how can the district afford to pay the teacher on admin leave and the sub?
- e. Parent spoke of board setting the vision and its responsibility in considering what is best for the students and community.
- f. Parent would like to express appreciation and gratitude to the board. Interview with investigator has been rescheduled.
- g. Student shared petition.
- h. Parent: reference to previous investigation.
- i. Parent would like to understand the board's definition of harassment, specific discriminatory harassment.
- j. Previous substitute step down because of confidentiality policy.
- k. Community Member: stated: "Lopez is a fishbowl. Lopez is getting to be an ugly." "Who would we get to replace the superintendent the way everyone is acting?"
- l. Parent question: how much money has been lost due to administration?
- m. Center Island Parent: son goes to Decatur school. Board is responsible for policies, budget, distributing to superintendent and then down. She hopes the board will be voted out.
- n. Parent commenting on how this should be about the children. The community is not role modeling well for the children.
- o. Community member: former school counselor/teacher/administrator/pastor - hear the youth feeling confused and hurt amidst stressed out teachers and failing friendships. Students need a safe place to talk together.
- p. Community Member: emphasizing that it really should be about the children. People are going to be passionate and come to the defense of the children.

Director Steckler wants to make sure it is known that the District has arranged counseling services for staff and students.

Director Poole expressed thanks the community for sharing and informing the board. Director Greacen echoes that sentiment, also expressed that the board includes parents and concerned community members.

- q. Parent: Thanked Director Holding for wanting to hear the public comments. Showed appreciation for Directors Greacen and Steckler. Admits that she often disagrees with the board and that's ok. Would like all community members to receive the same willingness to hear that she has received.

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RECESS COMMENCED AT 7:44 PM.
MEETING RESUMED AT 7:51 PM.

VIII. RECOGNITIONS & GRATITUDES:

- a. *Director Steckler - Expressed appreciation for Lopez student athletics. Recommends everyone attend a game. Has heard community cheer for our children for 48 years.*
- b. *Principal Budke - Gratitude for the Monday we reopened after lockdown for parents contributions of appreciation for staff including letters of individual gratitude. It was a highlight of a difficult time.*
- c. *Director Greacen - Gratitude to Richard Tetu for being the coordinator and for the team's efforts.*
- d. *Director Holding read a card from Kate Combs expressing thanks.*
- e. *Superintendent/Principal Auckland presented the award for Green Ribbon School status. One of 53 schools in the US. Director Holding expressed thanks to the community support of garden program through donations, volunteer work, and support of bond issue to provide energy efficient renovations.*

IX. FINANCIAL REPORT:

- a. **Monthly Budget Status Report- Nicole Courtney, Finance Manager.**
Mrs. Courtney is away at a conference. Superintendent/Principal Auckland distributed report of budget. District submitted year-end report to NCESD and Mrs. Courtney will give year-end report update at next month's meeting (November). Superintendent/Principal Auckland Requests questions be directed to NCESD for now. Director Guenther noted that headings are mistakenly switched for actual and budget remaining (titles are switched). BP asked if reserve funds are liquid or in what form? Director Holding explained the funds are held by SJC Treasurer.

X. TECH UPDATE:

Jesse Hammond reports: Tech forum tomorrow at 5pm in Media Center for parents, staff, community members, etc., will include open discussion of cell phone use. The forum will be live streamed on Community Tech Facebook page. Issues with secondary devices that have been distributed - turns out to be a bios update, will be covered by warranty. Working with Lenovo/Microsoft engineers to sort out problems.

XI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: (Info.)

- a. **Lopez Education Association – Director holding expressed appreciation for efforts in lockdown and sourcing of counseling assistance. Lorri Swanson expressed appreciation of parent appreciation as Principal Budke mentioned. Kathryn Kester thought more counseling should be offered to students and perhaps it's a lack of awareness. Reese Hamilton is willing to assist with bringing that information to students. LEA reports: requested training for staff on handling student comments on weapons/threat to schools and when to report. Administrators are looking into this and LEA will follow up. Superintendent Auckland stated that the NWESD has a police officer that will come to schools and provide training, we are working on getting that option scheduled.**
- b. **Public School Employees – The PSE Exec Committee has met in October and would like to thank members of school and community who have volunteered on the SRT. Exec Committee discussed numerous topics. Requests more counseling for staff, feelings of chaotic atmosphere. May need clarification in relation to counseling options presented to staff on October 18th in an email from Superintendent Auckland.**
- c. **Associated Student Body - Reese Hamilton reported that the ASB is organizing a Veterans Day assembly, any interested participants should contact mlyons@lopezislandschool.org (Matalika Lyons). ASB would like as many in attendance as possible. Date is Wednesday, November 6th or possibly 13th - Reese will confirm and provide info for website and Facebook. Homecoming dance went well, good turnout. Jeanna helped educate students in regards to a peer's death in the family using a former student's senior project based on her own father's death.**
- d. **Principals' Report – Secondary Principal Budke: Seeking LOA Teacher for Parent Partner, currently parents should stay in communication with Principal Budke. Secondary teachers have discussed support for a student who has lost a parent this past weekend. Sam Lockwood has been hired as LOA Social Studies Teacher, who joins us with over 50 years of experience. Sincere thank you to substitute teachers Mac Langford and Pat Chevara for their dedication to those students as well. Report cards will be uploaded next week. Assembly during pack at 1pm on Friday, October 25 - Astrophysicist Dr Lystrop. Pumpkin carving on Friday in MPR from 5-7pm. MS Dance on Friday**

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night at 7pm-10pm. Athletics - students are enjoying Volleyball. Home Soccer game tomorrow. ACT testing on Saturday morning.

e. Superintendent's Report - Brian Auckland:

- i. Decatur Island today - Thanks to resident Jeremy and Beth for the ride to and from. Participated in site council meeting. Director Holding states that board is committed to continued operation of Decatur School.
- ii. Island Superintendents Meeting this Friday, October 25th here on Lopez. Will be discussing safety among the districts. Ron Krebs, sheriff, will participate.
- iii. Full Accreditation status renewal for Lopez MS/HS 2019-2025 awarded by OSPI.
- iv. Director Holding asked about the visit of Martha Martin's recent visit – Principal Budke reports it went great, staff enjoyed her visit. Talked about habits of staff. Mrs. Martin worked with K-12 teachers. She will be participating via Skype in early December.
- v. Director Holding also asked about Health Room status/Nurse. Superintendent Auckland is working with NWESD on contract services options and advertisements are now on the school website, Lopez Rocks, multiple Craigslist locations and multiple newspaper/online listings.

XII. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Policy Update Status and Schedule.

Multi year process working with WSSDA on policy updates. Superintendent Auckland reports we have not adopted all of WSSDA's policies since not all apply. We are having technological issues with policies disappearing from website. Paper copies are located in the District Office. Director Holding would like the board to have a list of Table of Contents by next month's meeting.

b. Levy Lid update.

Director Greacen reports: Currently restricted to \$2500 per student. Have been meeting with Liz Lovelett, Deborah Lekanoff, Mary Klinefield and with neighboring school districts. October 30th at NWESD from 2-3pm, Liz Lovelett will be meeting with all the districts in San Juan County. Several ideas are being proposed to help balance the restriction for smaller and/or isolated schools. Community members are welcome to contact legislators in support of these solutions.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Resignation letter from Gabrielle Hall - resigned as nurse.

- i. *Director Steckler moved to accept resignation, Director Holding seconded. **The resignation was unanimously accepted.***

b. Safety Review Team Update

This item was discussed earlier in this agenda.

c. 2019 WSSDA Conference Attendance

Directors Poole and Greacen attending this conference in Bellevue on November 21st.

d. Approval of the Interlocal Agreement for Mental Health Services

*Agreement renewal with SJC to support counseling services for students. This renewal is a 2 year contract. Director Guenther moved to approve agreement, Director Greacen seconded. **The agreement was unanimously renewed.***

e. Overnight Field Trip Request for GSA to Links and Alliances

*Gay Straight Alliance recently formed, 9 kids participating. Funding and chaperones secured for trip. Director Steckler moved to approve, Director Greacen seconded. **The field trip was unanimously approved.***

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no communication items.

XIV. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

Director Guenther announced that on Saturday October 26th in Granite Falls there will be the Fall regional meeting of WSSDA at 11am. Main topic is school funding, and there is a \$25 registration fee. That fee, ferry and mileage would be covered by the District for board attendees.

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XV. REVIEW OF TASKS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

There were no tasks or assignments.

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: (no action will be taken in Executive Session).

There will be no executive session.

XVII. ACTION ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION: (no action will be taken in Executive Session).

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Director Steckler moved to adjourn, Director Greacen seconded. The adjournment was unanimously approved at 9:27pm.

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