

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
Lopez Island School District #144  
May 14, 2020  
6:00 p.m.  
**Special Board Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Link:**  
<https://zoom.us/j/92051405881>

**Following the recommendation of the San Juan County Health Department and LISD school measures to control the coronavirus, public involvement in the meeting will be by computer or phone conference utilizing this link. Thank you for understanding of the need for this measure.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE:**

*Called to order at 18:04pm. Attended by Board Chair John Holding and Budget Committee Members Bill LeDrew & Constance Euerle. Board Members Chris Greacen, Del Guenther, Jenny Poole & Carol Steckler, Secondary Principal Martha Martin and Superintendent Brian Auckland, along with various school staff and community members also in attendance remotely. Chair Holding explained how public comments will be taken on two important topics tonight, and expressed concern for a level of compassion & community from everyone in attendance.*

**II. DELEGATIONS: PART 1 – PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CONCLUSION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT INVESTIGATION, RESIGNATION OF DAVID SATHER, AND NEXT STEPS (LIMIT OF 2 MINUTES PER PERSON)**

*Chair Holding started with background information on the allegations, investigation, and recent conclusion.*

- 1. Mr Sather did not comply with 2017 letter of direction.*
- 2. The School District did respond appropriately to harassment complaints.*
- 3. Mr Sather submitted a resignation effective immediately, which was board approved at yesterday's meeting.*
- 4. Board Member Jenny Poole has been appointed chairperson of a taskforce dedicated to safety in the workplace.*
- 5. The District will release the investigative report when it is legally possible.*

*JN – Inquired as to date of DS's resignation, Chair Holding clarified it was May 11. Also asked if the Board and/or the Administration would like to say anything to the claimants (ok to answer at a later date). Expressed hope that our school can be united as a K-12 community.*

*SF – Asked about potential salary savings from DS's resignation and if it can be used to prevent RIF?*

*RT – Was DS paid a termination fee? Board Member Greacen answered no.*

*BS – Wanted to reiterate that it was not a third-party investigation. Expressed reservations in regards to the safety taskforce.*

*Public comments will also be heard at the regular Board meeting on May 27, 2020.*

**III. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. *Alisa Ball Resignation for .3FTE SpEd Teacher effective end of SY 19-20 Board member Steckler moves to approve, seconded by Board member Greacen. Board member Guenther expressed appreciation for Alisa's work in the SpEd department this year, Superintendent Auckland and Board members Greacen and Steckler agreed. Approved by unanimous vote.*

**Persons with disabilities please contact the district office at 468-2202 to make arrangements to participate in board meetings.**

Nondiscrimination: The Lopez Island School District prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, sex, marital status, genetic information, sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability, unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification, in all its employment procedures, training, programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Superintendent, 86 School Rd., Lopez Island, WA 98261, 360.468.2202.

- b. Resolution 19/20-8: Emergency Waiver of School Days and Instructional Hours - 1st Reading  
*Superintendent Auckland briefly explained resolution and plan for continued learning. Will be further discussed at next regular meeting (May 27).*
- c. Budget Committee Proposal Options & Decision  
*Chair Holding gave a recap of budget presentation from May 7 with new analyses of financial trends and another explanation of the levy lid/lack of levy lid relief. Fiscal Officer Trisha Schock from NCESD also spoke to answer some questions from the public.  
Bill LeDrew presented on behalf of the Budget Advisory Committee, including the committee members, process and next steps. Constance Euerle continued on behalf of the committee to present potential savings and revenue options with perceived impact rankings. Board member Greacen spoke from his perspective as a board member on the budget advisory committee. Trisha explained some pieces on the revenue side.*

*DM – PSE rep, concerned about losing insurance if there was a layoff early in the year. Nicole Courtney confirmed that would not happen as long as staff worked the minimum 630 hours. PSE will have full opener this summer to negotiate contract.*

*JC – LEA rep, spoke of funding sources. Asked about change from NCESD to NWESD, and what apportionment tools will be used. Trisha confirmed that the F203 is required by the state for budget reporting and is the actual revenue driver for apportionment. Introduced Chad Gray, WEA 4<sup>th</sup> Corner representative to speak on behalf of the LEA.*

*AF – Teacher, expressed thanks to the budget committee, administration and board. Concerned about opening the PP program to more students.*

*SO – Budget committee member, shared reduction range of \$370-\$390K. Suggests exploring revenues further so staff cuts become unnecessary.*

*JP – Teacher, expressed thanks for clarity and information shared tonight. Concerned about reduction in music program.*

*RP – Teacher, concerns about potential staff reductions.*

*GD – Teacher, concerns about potential staff reductions and how the school will sustain with these cuts.*

*SR – Parent & member of budget committee, spoke to collaborative process of the committee. Does not believe RIFs need to occur. Supports capping number of students in the PPP.*

*CR – Parent, appreciates that the budget shortfall may lead to reductions in staff and programs. Spoke to parents' and community responsibilities to take part in filling gaps in programs.*

*MS – Parent, acknowledges incredible work on all sides. Deep appreciation for K-2 teachers. Concerns about emotional needs of teachers.*

*JF – Parent & budget committee member, spoke to the complexities and unknowns of the situation, as well as the deliberation still to be done.*

*Board Member Steckler makes a motion to move the RIF amount to \$250,000. Motion seconded by Board member Greacen. Trisha and Nicole agreed that it could be doable, but we may end up dipping into the fund balance if some of the anticipated revenues do not come through. Superintendent Auckland also agrees it is reasonable. Motion is approved unanimously.*

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION Potential session to discuss personnel actions by the District (no action will be taken in Executive Session):

V. ACTION ITEMS, IF NEEDED, FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

*Board Member Steckler moves to adjourn, seconded by Board Member Greacen. Adjourned unanimously at 23:43.*

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