



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	June 26, 2025
Agenda Item:	Recognitions
Item Type:	Board Recognitions
Administrator:	Bret Champion
Objective:	New Medford School District Leaders, Appreciation for Superintendent Bret Champion, and Appreciation for Board Directors Jeff Kinsella and Cynthia Wright

Background: There are many outstanding students and staff in the Medford School District, and the Medford School District Board of Directors takes time in each regularly scheduled Board meeting to celebrate many of them. Students may be recognized for a variety of areas, including academics, athletics, arts, career and technical education, and music, or as nominated by school district staff. Staff members may also be nominated for exemplary contributions to the district.

Tonight, we celebrate:

New Medford School District Leaders

Dr. Todd Bloomquist, Teaching and Learning

Todd brings a wealth of experience in both public and private K–12 education and has served in a variety of roles, including High School English Teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal, and Director of Curriculum (including IT), Human Resources, Secondary Education, Student Services, and School Improvement. His career includes service in several school districts, including Spokane, Central Point, Medford, and Grants Pass.

Since 2014, Todd has also been an adjunct professor in the College of Education at Southern Oregon University, where he teaches in the administrative preparation program.

He last served as the Senior Program Officer at the Ford Family Foundation, where he gained valuable insight into how philanthropy can serve as a vital partner in advancing education.

We are excited to welcome Todd as Interim Senior Executive Director as an interim replacement for Jeanne Grazioli's position for the 2025–2026 school year.

Kara Sparks, Washington Elementary School

Kara became the principal of Washington Elementary School in April this year. Kara has been serving as Interim Principal for the previous few months, and during that time, she demonstrated outstanding leadership.

Before stepping into the Interim Principal role, Kara served as the Assistant Principal at McLoughlin Middle School for two and a half years. Additionally, she spent nearly a decade at Wilson Elementary, where she taught kindergarten and second grade, and also served as the Social Emotional Advocate. Kara is eager to continue her leadership journey alongside the dedicated staff at Washington Elementary, and we are excited she is a principal in MSD!

Appreciation for Superintendent Bret Champion

We extend our appreciation to Superintendent Dr. Bret Champion for his outstanding leadership since joining the Medford School District in July 2019. Bret has brought high energy, focus, and a student-centered approach to every aspect of his work. His ability to manage complex challenges, including a strong and steady pandemic response, has been instrumental in moving the district forward.

Through initiatives like the Coherency Map, curriculum audit, and district-designed ELA and Math curriculum, he has championed academic improvement while fostering a culture of collaboration and transparency. His commitment to communication, talent development, and community engagement has strengthened trust and relationships throughout the district.

We are especially grateful for Bret's ability to nurture, motivate, and strengthen leadership throughout the organization. His belief in empowering high-quality principals as Instructional Leaders continues to strengthen instructional practices districtwide.

Bret's leadership leaves a lasting and positive impact on our schools and community, and we thank him sincerely for his exceptional service and unwavering dedication.

Appreciation for Board Directors Jeff Kinsella and Cynthia Wright

Board Director Jeff Kinsella

We extend our appreciation to Director Jeff Kinsella for his dedicated service on the Medford School Board since July 1, 2017. Throughout his tenure, Director Kinsella has exemplified a deep passion for doing what he believes is best for all students—guided by both his commitment to the broader school community and his personal connection as a former teacher and parent. His belief in the power of meaningful relationships and student-centered decision-making has enriched our district and inspired those around him. We are profoundly grateful for his leadership, vision, and enduring impact on the lives of students and families across Medford.

Board Chair Cynthia Wright

We also want to thank Director Cynthia Wright for her dedicated service on the Medford School Board since July 1, 2017. A passionate advocate for student success, Director Wright has championed multiple

pathways to graduation and supported efforts to prepare all students for post-secondary education and training.

Her commitment to using evidence-based practices to improve student achievement, along with her deep appreciation for the work of our teachers, support staff, and administrators, has made a meaningful impact on our district. We are grateful for her leadership and lasting contributions.