

CORDOVA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING: June 10, 2026

Livestream recordings may be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/@cordovaschooldistrictmeetings>

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Time

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Agenda Items

00:02:23

CALL TO ORDER

President Kruithof called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm in the CHS Multipurpose Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Kruithof, Hoepfner, Merritt,
Members Unavailable: Trudeau, Towle (arrived at 7:25pm)
Quorum: Established 3-2

Staff Present: Tancrede, Moreno, Linville, Russin.
Staff Unavailable: Balint, Gonzalez, Ponte, Fastenau, Beckett.

Visitors: None

00:03:20

PRESENTATION/AWARDS:

Mr. Hoepfner presented Superintendent Russin with a recognition award from the Board to honor his eleven years in Cordova. The growth a long-term superintendent was able to initiate, projects looked forward to, and ultimately improve student achievement demonstrated by the two years in a row ranking to CHS by US World News report to be number one in the state of Alaska was quite a celebration. Mr. Hoepfner highlighted Mr. Russin's work done to develop his own staff, his ability to cover many positions, the time he took out and gave of himself over the years outside of the normal work week. Mr. Hoepfner noted that being a superintendent of a small district meant being charged with so many different things. Mr. Russin was thanked for getting the district through the pandemic and the Board appreciated the hard times he dealt with very appropriately. The Board expressed their appreciation for his leadership and wished him well in retirement. Mr. Russin noted it was the people and leadership around him that had been great and so supportive of his work as superintendent.

00:10:48

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Merritt, second by Hoepfner, to approve the agenda as presented.
No discussion.
Motion passed 3-0

00:11:08

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

00:11:18

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Merritt, second by Hoepfner, to approve the consent agenda.
Discussion was held and Mr. Hoepfner request moved teacher stipends from consent to become bundled New Business 7.
Modified Motion passed 3-0

00:13:55

REPORTS

None

00:14:08

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Updates provided on AASB, Site Councils, Safety-Facility, Curriculum, Policy, and Negotiations.

00:18:10

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Written reports received from Food Service Director; Maintenance Director; Budget/Finance Director; and Superintendent.

Mr. Moreno departed the meeting.

Ms. Towle joined the meeting at 7:25pm.

01:06:35

FINANCIAL REPORT

May 2026 report presented and discussion was held.

00:44:45

NEW BUSINESS

1. FY26 Budget Transfer of \$116,070 from General Fund to Capital Projects Curriculum Review/Adoption Cycle Fund Approval. **(ACTION)**. Motion by Merritt and second by Towle, to approve as presented. No discussion was needed.

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- Motion passed 4-0
2. FY27 Pre-paid Healthcare Expenditure of \$430,000 from the General Fund Approval. **(ACTION)**. Motion by Towle and second by Hoepfner, to approve as presented. No discussion was needed.
Motion passed 4-0
 3. FY27 District Budget Adoption. **(ACTION)**. Motion by Hoepfner and second by Towle, to approve as presented. Discussion held.
Motion passed 4-0
 4. Amplify Curriculum Resource Purchase of \$32,003.51 Approval. **(ACTION)**. Motion by Merritt and second by Towle, to approve as presented. Discussion held.
Motion passed 4-0
 5. Curriculum Adoption Recommendation Approval. **(ACTION)**. Motion by Towle and second by Merritt, to approve as presented. Discussion held.
Motion passed 4-0
 6. BP/AR 6151 Class Size New Board Policy and Administrative Regulation Recommendation (First Read). **(ACTION)**. Motion by Hoepfner and second by Merritt, to approve as presented. Discussion held.
Motion passed 4-0
 7. Stipend Program Reimbursement Requests--Kayti Ammerman, Rob Ammerman, Laura Bowman, Thomas Dahill, Oliver Brooks Fry, Emily Moody, Victoria Peterson, Marcela Wagner, and Lance Westing (from consent agenda items 2-10). **(ACTION)**. Motion by Hoepfner and second by Merritt, to approve as presented. Discussion held.
Motion passed 4-0

01:19:56 PENDING AGENDA

1. August 14 (Friday) & 15 (Saturday) AASB Fall Workshop in the College Building.
The Board would like to discuss and confirm the workshop agenda items. Mr. Russin suggested for Board members to email him their comments and he would work with the new superintendent to firm up planning for the AASB workshop.

01:24:46 AUDIENCE COMMENTS - None

01:24:47 BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

1. **Merritt** – Thanked Mr. Kruithof for inviting her to speak at the 6th grade promotion to represent the Board. She was so proud of the kids and wished them well in 7th grade. She appreciated the example of local control shown tonight with new state legislation released around target class sizes supported now by the Board's new board policy and administrative review to make daily decisions and support what would actually happen in our schools. She took a lot of pride on not waiting for the state to make a district do something and the Board was charging ahead to do the best for education regardless of what everyone else was doing. She felt those were great reminders of the big picture and the Board's role on the School Board to support education in our community. She thanked Mr. Russin for his many years of service.
2. **Towle** – Apologized for being late. Thanked Mr. Russin for his many years of service and wished him lots of free time to pursue his passions.
3. **Hoepfner** – Congratulated the principals and staff on another successful school year, with everything that had been accomplished with student achievement. Appreciated Mr. Russin's service to the district and his many years in Cordova.
4. **Kruithof** – He echoed everything other Board members had said tonight. Reminded members next Tuesday June 16th would be the retirement party.
5. **Russin** – Thanked each Board member during his time as superintendent that he had gotten to know. He told a story about 12 years ago a friend had said if he ever got a chance to go to Cordova, he should take it and apply for any position. He was grateful to that friend for telling him to explore opportunities in Cordova. Cordova was the only place he had applied to when leaving the upper Yukon and was glad the Board had agreed to hire him as superintendent back then, explaining it was a great transition from living in the bush to big city living to enjoy lower gas prices and have drinkable tap water. He thanked Cordova for being great to him and his family during the last eleven years and was eternally grateful for all the interactions had during that time. He was open to being roasted at his party.

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01:33:27

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Merritt, and no one opposed to adjourn.

Motion passed 4-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT

CLERK

Date

Date

DRAFT