

**Multnomah ESD Board of Directors'  
Board Regular Session Minutes  
Tuesday, December 16, 2025**

**2022-2028  
*Areas of Focus***

- #1 – Create a high quality learning environment for all**
- #2 – Operationalizing systems that engage and empower communities**
- #3 – Build a culturally responsive workforce**

**MESD Board Equity Lens- <https://www.multnomahesd.org/board-equity.html>**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Board Chair Katrina Doughty called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, in accordance with the agenda and public notice of the meeting.

**Board Members Present:**

Renee Anderson  
Jessica Arzate  
Danny Cage  
Katrina Doughty-Chair  
Susie Jones  
Denyse Peterson  
Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie-Vice-Chair

**Board Members Absent:**

**Administrative Staff Present:**

Dr. Paul Coakley, Superintendent  
Sascha Perrins, Assistant Superintendent  
Doana Anderson, Chief Financial Officer  
Angela Hubbs, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Bernadette Adeniran, Director of Human Resources  
Heather Severns, Board Secretary

**Guests:**

Christine Otto

**3. Land Acknowledgement & Educational Opportunity**

**Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie** delivered the land acknowledgement, recognizing the Indigenous tribes and bands who have stewarded the lands now known as Portland, including both federally recognized and unrecognized tribes. She also acknowledged International Migrants Day (December 18), affirming MESD's commitment to inclusive, welcoming spaces for all students and families.

#### **4. Public Comment**

No requests for public comment were received.

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#### **5. Reports to the Board**

##### **a. Union Reports**

- There was not a representative from MEA, they had nothing to report.
- There was not a representative from AFSCME.

##### **b. Superintendent's Report**

**Dr. Paul E. Coakley**, Superintendent, provided a year-end reflection focused on MESD's collective progress, challenges, and continued commitment to students and communities. He acknowledged the dedication of staff and board members amid evolving student needs, financial pressures, and shifting expectations, and emphasized the importance of remaining student-centered in all work.

Dr. Coakley noted that December serves as a natural point for reflection and shared that he conducts a personal annual review each year. He invited board members to reflect on their own experiences as he read the following seven guiding questions:

- 1. What did I change my mind about this year?**
- 2. What created energy for me this year?**
- 3. What drained energy for me this year?**
- 4. What were the “boat anchors” in my life?**
- 5. What did I not do because of fear?**
- 6. What were my greatest hits and my worst misses?**
- 7. What did I learn this year?**

Dr. Coakley emphasized that this reflective practice supports intentional leadership and growth. Looking ahead to 2026, he reaffirmed MESD's commitment to *Blueprint 28* as the guiding framework for providing equitable, high-quality services and supports for students. He expressed appreciation for the collaboration and leadership of the Board and staff and concluded with well wishes for rest, connection, and renewal during the season.

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## 6. Program Report

### Student Investment Account (SIA) Grant Agreement

**Presenter:** Christine Otto

**Christine Otto** presented an update on the Student Investment Account (SIA) Grant Agreement as part of the Integrated Guidance framework.

Ms. Otto reminded the Board that she previously presented MESD's Integrated Guidance application, including the SIA plan, in April of the prior year. She reported that MESD successfully received the grant for the current biennium, as anticipated, and noted that this presentation marked the step required for formal Board review and approval of the grant agreement.

She explained that Integrated Guidance funding includes both High School Success Funds and Student Investment Act funds, with the SIA grant carrying specific statutory requirements. One such requirement is Board approval of the grant agreement following public posting and availability for public comment. Ms. Otto noted that the agreement had been posted on the MESD website and included in the Board packet.

Ms. Otto highlighted key components of the grant agreement, including baseline accountability metrics required by the Oregon Department of Education, such as four-year cohort graduation and five-year cohort completion rates. She acknowledged that these measures are not well aligned with the realities of juvenile detention education settings but are nonetheless required by the grant. She further noted that local metrics were not required for SIA grantees this year.

She reviewed the funding allocations, reporting a total biennium amount of **\$538,197.81**, split across two fiscal years. Funds are allocated across six MESD-operated juvenile detention and youth correction facilities and are based on student population counts. She explained that Year Two funding is listed as "reserved" to allow for adjustments should student enrollment significantly change.

Ms. Otto clarified that the funded sites include three juvenile detention facilities—Donald E. Long (Multnomah County), Baker Creek (Yamhill County), and Ponderosa Creek (Linn County)—as well as three youth correction facilities: Riverside and Three Lakes High Schools (Albany) and Camp Florence (Florence). She noted that LTCT sites, including WinWatts, may qualify for SIA funding in future years but are not currently eligible.

Ms. Otto concluded by inviting questions from the Board.

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## 7. ACTION ITEMS

### a. Consent Agenda

1. Approve November 18, 2025 Board Regular Session meeting minutes
2. Resolution 25-054-Approval of December Personnel Recommendations
3. Resolution 25-053-Approval of Amended Board Policy  
GCBDC/GDBDC-Domestic Violence, Harassment, Sexual Assault or Stalking Leave
4. Resolution 25-055-Approval of Amended Board Policy IIBGA-Electronic Communications Systems
5. Resolution 25-056-Approval of Amended Board Policy GCBDD/GDBDD-Sick Time
6. Resolution 25-057-Approval of Board Policy GCBDF/GDBDF(Version 2)-Pail Family Medical Leave Insurance
7. Resolution 25-059-Approval of Amended Board Policy  
GCBP/GDPB-Resignation of Staff
8. Resolution 25-060-Approval of Amended Board Policy ACA-Americans with Disabilities Act
9. Resolution 25-052-Approval for Deletion of Board Policy GCP-Staff Contracts
10. Resolution 25-061-Approval for Deletion of Board Policy GCBDF/GDBDF (Version 1)

**Motion:** Director Denyse Peterson moved to approve the Consent Agenda.  
Director Renee Anderson seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** None

**Action:** The motion carried with Directors Anderson, Arzate, Cage, Doughty, Jones, Peterson, and Squiemphen-Yazzie voting aye.  
Motion passed 7-0.

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### b. Action Agenda

1. Resolution 25-058-Approval of SSA-SIA Grant Agreement

**Motion:** Director Susie Jones moved to approve the Consent Agenda.  
Director Denyse Peterson seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** None

**Action:** The motion carried with Directors Anderson, Arzate, Cage, Doughty, Jones, Peterson, and Squiemphen-Yazzie voting aye.  
Motion passed 7-0.

**b. Discussion Item: ORS 332.030 – Board Member Attendance & Duties**

Chair **Katrina Doughty** introduced a discussion regarding board member attendance and duties in accordance with **ORS 332.030**, MESD board attendance policy, and the Board's communications agreement. She explained that, as Chair, she is required to bring forward a discussion when potential violations of attendance requirements occur and to do so within the timeframe outlined in policy.

Chair Doughty clarified that the purpose of the discussion was to address the **duties of an elected board seat**, not the qualities or circumstances of any individual board member. She noted that the discussion was required to occur in public session, as it did not meet the statutory criteria for executive session, and that no specific outcome was required—only that the matter be presented to the Board for discussion.

Board members discussed the interpretation and alignment of MESD board attendance policy with Oregon statute, including:

- Definitions related to “ceasing to discharge the duties of office”
- The distinction between excused and unexcused absences
- The role of communication in determining whether absences meet statutory exceptions
- Differences in how attendance thresholds are described in policy versus statute
- The importance of ensuring representation for the community in elected board positions

Several board members expressed the need for greater clarity and alignment between MESD policy and the applicable Oregon Revised Statutes. There was consensus that the attendance policy would benefit from review to ensure it clearly reflects statutory language and intent.

No motion was made to declare a vacancy.

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**Motion to Refer Policy to Policy Committee**

**Motion:** Susie Jones

**Second:** Denyse Peterson

**Action:**

The Board voted to refer the board attendance policy to the Policy Committee for further review and alignment with ORS requirements.

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## **10. Board & Committee Reports**

- No additional committee updates were reported.
- Chair Doughty shared highlights from attendance at AESA, noting MESD's leadership presence and statewide/national recognition.

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## **11. Announcements**

- Board members were encouraged to review the activity calendar.
- Chair Doughty acknowledged the season and encouraged self-care.

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## **12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned with holiday well-wishes exchanged among board members.

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**ACTIVITY CALENDAR**-Directors were asked to notify leadership if they are unable to attend.

- a. December 22-January 2-Holiday Break-MESD Buildings closed
- b. January 8, 12:00 pm-Board Policy Committee mtg(Virtual via Zoom)
- c. January 8, 1:00 pm-Board Finance Committee mtg(Virtual via Zoom)
- d. January 19, MESD Buildings closed for Martin Luther King Day
- e. January 20, 6:00 p.m.-Board Regular Session meeting(Virtual Via Zoom)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2026.

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Heather Severns  
Executive Assistant/Board Secretary