



Work Session of the Board of Education

Thursday, November 6, 2025 5:45 PM

This meeting was held virtually.

Board members present: Lilia Caballero, Kendell Ferguson, Erik Johnsen, Sandra LaNier McHenry, Sunny Spicer, Michael Williams, and Angela Zbikowski

A video recording of the Board meeting can be found on the district website at [this link](#).

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM. Attendance was noted.

2. Agenda Adjustments and Approval

No objections were raised. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

3. Work Session Items

3.a. Student Transfer Report

Interim Superintendent Jeanne Grazioli and Senior Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Todd Bloomquist directed attention to the Student Transfer Report, noting the increase in student transfers out of the district compared to the previous year. The report also touched on the expansion of the homeschool connection program and the exploration of play-based programs that are offered in neighboring districts. Bloomquist indicated that according to Board Policy JECB, by February of each year, the Board is required to formally declare the number of student transfers allowed in and out of the district.

Board members asked several questions, including charter school enrollment numbers and the virtual charter school enrollment cap. Additionally, a board member suggested further analysis of the reasons behind the transfers, particularly regarding parental requests, and proposed expanding the homeschool program, especially given the current waiting list. They also suggested that engaging with Southern Oregon Education Service District could help address academic gaps and potentially increase district enrollment of homeschool students earlier.

3.b. Financial Stability Study Group

Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Brad Earl, shared plans for a new study group aimed at reviewing the district's financial and facility usage trends. The group will focus on understanding key factors such as state funding, enrollment trends, population shifts, city planning, and long-term facility needs. The district will gather updated demographic data and capture rate information, and engage with a range of stakeholders including parents, staff, realtors, city officials, and property developers. The study group will convene for approximately six meetings, with a target group of 9 to 12 participants, to ensure meaningful dialogue. The study group's insights will potentially help guide future district and Board decisions, particularly in terms of budgeting and facility planning.

Earl suggested that interested Board members help facilitate discussions and listen to input. Board directors inquired about the process for joining the study group, asking for qualification details, submission deadlines, and how the new housing development project on the city's east side might affect the district's considerations.

Board Director Erik Johnsen expressed interest in attending the meetings.

3.c. Board Communication Training Proposal

Board Director Erik Johnsen proposed that the Board participate in a 2 to 3 hour communication training, highlighting the benefits he has experienced in various organizations. He emphasized how such training promotes positive and constructive dialogue, strengthens team dynamics, and equips participants with the tools to collaborate effectively. Director Johnsen offered to cover the cost of the training, provided the Board commits to dedicating the necessary time.

The majority of the Board expressed interest in the proposal, and Director Johnsen will coordinate to find a time that works for everyone.

3.d. Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) Nominations

Board Chair Ferguson opened the floor for nominations for the OSBA Board of Directors if there was an interest.

Board Director Lilia Caballero nominated Board Director Sunny Spicer.

Voice vote: All Ayes

Director Spicer will move forward with submitting the required forms to OSBA by November 14.

3.e. School Board Policy (*first reading*) & Administrative Regulation (*for review*)

No questions were presented regarding administrative regulation IIA-AR(3) for review. Chair Ferguson moved on to draft policy BBG, directed attention to Step 3 and asked if there were any proposed changes.

The Board reviewed revisions to the proposed policy, focusing on the language in Step 3. A consensus was reached to revise the wording regarding the scheduling of a conference to specify that any decision would be made “at a future special meeting.” Regarding the language about board members’ responsiveness to requests, it was agreed to clarify that when a board member is “unresponsive to email and text requests,” the concerned board member will move to the next step in the process.

Additionally, the Board discussed the role of legal counsel in conflicts between board members. The language was revised to state that the “Board chair may call upon the district's general counsel to help retain an external legal advisor to investigate the nature of the allegations.”

At the next meeting, the Board will focus on revising Step 4 of the policy.

4. Consent Agenda

The following items were presented on the consent agenda:

- Staff Assignment Report
- Minutes from Previous Meetings

No objections were raised. The consent agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

5. Announcements

5.c. Superintendent Search Update

Chair Ferguson shared the Board evaluated search firm proposals, interviewed firms, and approved moving forward with McPherson & Jacobson to lead the superintendent search process. The Board will meet on November 13 virtually at 5:45 PM to begin outlining the search process with the consultant.

5.d. November 20 — Board Meeting at Oakdale Middle School - 5:45 PM

Chair Ferguson acknowledged the Board meeting scheduled for November 20.

6. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM.