

GRESHAM-BARLOW SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 JT.
Minutes of Budget Hearing

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

The Gresham-Barlow School District Board of Education conducted a budget hearing on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 in the council chambers of the Public Safety and Schools building, 1331 NW Eastman Pkwy, Gresham, OR 97030. A Zoom link was provided for virtual meeting attendance.

Board Members present:

Shawn Farrens, Mayra Gómez, Kris Howatt, David Ligatich, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann

Cabinet Members present:

John Koch, Interim Superintendent
Dr. Tracy Klinger, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Angela Freeman, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Sara Deboy, Executive Director of K-12 Schools
Carla Gay, Executive Director of Innovation and Partnerships
Athena Vadnais, Director of Communications and Community Engagement
Dennis Clague, Director of Finance

Opening Items

1. Call to Order (6:48 p.m.)

The meeting was called to order at 6:48 p.m. by the board chair, Kris Howatt.

2. Roll Call (6:48 p.m.)

All members of the board were in attendance at the meeting. Position 2, Zone 3 of the school board is currently vacant.

Open Budget Hearing

3. Budget Overview and Purpose for Hearing (6:49 p.m.)

Mr. Clague reviewed information included in the agenda. He explained that the purpose of the hearing was to receive public testimony and respond to questions concerning the budget and fiscal policy decisions reflected in the budget.

4. Budget Hearing and Public Testimony (6:50 p.m.)

Chair Howatt opened the hearing for public testimony at 6:50 p.m. Those from the public wishing to speak to the budget were invited to do so. One member of the public indicated they wanted to comment. Samantha McWilliams, a parent, volunteer, and substitute in the district, had several questions regarding the budget. They included the following:

- In what ways is the budget for 2025-26 supporting the implementation of the new safety plan/MTSS protocols?
- Why did the budget show an increase of 3 FTE in the Admin budget? (this question was brought up at the Budget Committee meeting).
- Are there any areas of the budget the board has considered reallocating to prevent cutting FTEs? One example is the savings of \$500,000 a year for turf fields, and she is wondering if the board has considered reducing some of those savings, and planning for a future bond. She feels the money is needed for other things now and turf fields could be funded with other things later.

Chair Howatt received the questions during the hearing, and shared that they would have discussion about the questions during the business meeting when they get to the budget adoption action item. She invited anyone else wishing to speak at the budget hearing to do so. Director Gómez shared this information in Spanish for those present.

Close Budget Hearing

5. Closure of Hearing (7:00 p.m.)

The hearing was closed at 7:00 p.m.

Closing Items

6. Announcements (7:00 p.m.)

A regular business meeting of the board followed the budget hearing.

June 4, 2025: Regular Board Business Meeting - 7 p.m.

Council Chambers

Public Safety and Schools Building

7. Adjourn (7:00 p.m.)

There being no further business, the budget hearing was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Sarah Avery

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
and Board of Directors

Note: These minutes were approved by the board on _____:sa