



**Multnomah ESD Board of Directors'
Board Regular Session Minutes
Tuesday, November 19, 2024**

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](#)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Board Chair Renee Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19th, 2024 in accordance with the agenda and Public notice of the meeting.

Board Members Present: Renee Anderson
Jessica Arzate
Danny Cage
Katrina Doughty
Denyse Peterson
Helen Ying

Board Members Absent: Samuel Henry

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Paul Coakley, Superintendent
Bernadette Adeniran, Director of Human Resources
Doana Anderson, Director of Business Services
Todd Greaves, Director of Student Services
Angela Hubbs, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Marifer Sager, Director of Strategic Communications and Public Affairs
Reiko Williams, Director of Regional Equity Initiatives and Partnerships

Guests: Nicole Jackson, Admin Assistant, subbing as Board Secretary



David Cramblett, Assistant Director of Technology Services,
assisting with technology for this meeting

2. **APPRECIATION/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY/LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**-Board Chair Renee Anderson read the proclamation proclaiming November to be Native American Heritage Month. As part of the proclamation, the Board strongly encourages staff and community to observe, recognize, and celebrate the cultural heritage and contributions of Native Americans to our country, our state, our city, and our schools. Chair Anderson then read the Educational Opportunity/Land Acknowledgement.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**-Jose Gamero-Georgeson, who currently serves on the David Douglas School Board, and is running unopposed for Position 19 on the OSBA Board, introduced himself to the Board.
4. **REPORTS TO THE BOARD**
 - a. Union Representative Reports
 - i. Heather Hanley, AFSCME President-There was not a representative from AFSCME in attendance.
 - ii. Phoenix Blickle & Jess Rohrbacher, MESDEA Co-Presidents-There was not a representative from MESDEA in attendance.
 - b. Superintendent's Report
 - i. Dr. Coakley expressed gratitude for the collective work supporting students and the community, emphasizing the importance of honoring diverse perspectives, especially Indigenous communities, during the season. Staff were encouraged to find rest, reflection, and connection.
 - ii. Three Lakes and Riverside High Schools hosted their first Family Night since 2019, featuring activities such as pumpkin painting, a photo booth, hands-on simulators, student project displays, and Bingo challenges. Families enjoyed refreshments, prizes, and Fab Lab creations. Principal Joy Koenig highlighted the



- event's success in building connections and celebrating student resilience, paving the way for future community celebrations.
- iii. The November episode of *Leaders Build Leaders* featured Superintendent Larry Didway of Clackamas ESD, who shared information about his leadership style, balancing work-life, building and sustaining infrastructure to support staff growth, and helping students develop the resilience and adaptability needed for the future.
 - iv. MESD partnered with Community Design Partners to host an Equitable Community Engagement Sprint in preparation for Integrated Guidance Applications this winter.
 - v. This month, we are launching a new attendance-focused network for district teams focusing on Everyday Matters initiatives.
 - vi. AI professional learning series have begun, including *Engaging Educators in the Age of AI* and *AI Innovation Forums*.
 - vii. Ongoing literacy, math, and paraeducator learning series, with a focus on early literacy and mental health.
 - viii. Program Presentation-Helensview High School-Presenter Dan Cohnsteadt
 1. Two therapeutic classrooms for students with higher needs and the Phoenix program for teen parents.
 2. Helensview G Focus Program supports hybrid learning for students unable to attend traditional classes.
 3. Draws students from 8–11 districts annually, with rolling admissions for approximately 200 students per year (135 served daily).
 4. Seven approved Career Technical Education (CTE) programs.
 5. Partnerships include Stars Mentoring (after-school support) and Alternative Basketball League in Portland.
 6. Dual credit courses with a PSU professor offering Writing 121 and rotating classes.
 7. 50% of students enrolled in CTE programs; 10% enrolled in dual credit courses.



8. Focus on college readiness through partnerships with PSU and summer dorm experiences at U of O and PSU.
9. Driver's education and forklift certifications are offered to enhance employability.
10. Demographics: 70% BIPOC students; staff are 60% BIPOC to reflect the student population.
11. Achievements: 31 graduates last year; 50% of graduates employed or in school; FAFSA completion rate of 4 in 5 seniors.
12. Emphasis on diverse role models for students.
13. Staffing includes 11.7 teachers, 2.65 administrators, and additional support staff, shared partially with other programs.
14. Professional development opportunities for non-licensed staff through programs like Educators Rising to achieve certification.
15. Native American cultural days and hands-on vocational activities.
16. Collaboration with local law enforcement to support incarcerated students.
17. College inquiry programs and TRIO support ensure students are prepared for higher education and career opportunities.
18. Helensview's commitment to diverse, equitable, and innovative learning experiences supports student resilience and future success.
19. Director Peterson asked about scholarship opportunities for graduates of Helensview. Principal Cohnstaedt shared the following:
 - a. 18 of 31 graduates received scholarships.
 - b. \$89,000 in FAFSA funding secured by 21 graduates.
 - c. 10 Portland Community College (PCC) Future Connect Scholars awarded \$20,000 each.
 - d. 6 Oregon Opportunity Grants awarded at \$14,000 each.
 - e. 8 PCC Foundation Scholarships totaling \$18,000.
 - f. 8 University of Oregon Uplift Scholarships awarded at \$48,000.
 - g. 6 PSU Inquiry for Justice Summer Program scholarships totaling \$24,000.



- h. 3 PSU Diversity Scholarships awarded at \$15,000.
- i. 13 students participated in PCC's Bridge Program, equivalent to \$13,000 in tuition.
- j. 5 students participated in career pathway programs.
- k. Several students visited multiple institutions including: Portland State University, Oregon State University, University of Oregon, Lewis & Clark College, Mt. Hood Community College, and Linfield University.
- l. Native American students visited Navajo Technical University, American Indian Institute of Art, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, and the University of New Mexico (Albuquerque) through an outreach program
- m. Director Doughty expressed gratitude for the passion and dedication evident in Helensview's leadership. She highlighted how this commitment is reflected in the students' experiences and echoed throughout the school community. Principal Cohnstaedt highlighted the stability of the staff, noting that only two new hires were made in the past year (one teacher and one aide).
- n. Director Ying highlighted the school's welcoming atmosphere, the dedication of its staff, and the strong connections between teachers and students, including alumni returning to express gratitude. Director Ying posed a question for clarification on how social science is embedded within other courses or addressed within the school's curriculum. Principal Cohnstaedt explained that social science instruction is embedded across multiple courses in activities:
 - i. Brian, a triple-certified teacher, leads social science lessons in the studio classes.
 - ii. Miller teaches driver's education and Portland State University's *Inquiry for Justice* course, focusing on critical thinking and respectful discourse.



- iii. Students explore modern challenges like identifying misinformation and understanding media literacy through engaging lessons, such as using AI tools to simulate scenarios (e.g., creating "fake news") to foster critical evaluation skills.
- iv. Emphasis on source citation, digital literacy, and constructing respectful debates is central to the curriculum.
- o. Chair Anderson shared that she attended last school year's graduation and was impressed with how many students received scholarships. She praised the opportunities provided by the *Educators Rising* program, enabling non-licensed staff to pursue full certification.
 - i. Principal Cohnstaedt briefly explained how Helensview has partnered with TSPC and BOLI to provide paid apprenticeships for staff to become teachers.
- p. Director Perterson thanked Dan, sharing a positive encounter with a graduate now enrolled at Portland Community College's Southeast Center.
- q. Principal Cohnstaedt extended an invitation to the annual Gratitude Feast, scheduled for Thursday from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. at Helensview.

5. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Consent Agenda
 - i. Approval of the October 15, 2024 Board Regular Session Minutes-Director Ying proposed that this item be postponed for the next meeting because the minutes were not attached.
 - ii. Resolution 24-055-Approval of Amended Board Policy EBB-Integrated Pest Management
 - iii. Resolution 24-056-Approval Amended Board Policy EBBB-Injury & Illness Reports



- iv. Resolution 24-057-Approval of Amended Board Policy EBC-Emergency Procedures Plan and First Aid
- v. Resolution 24-058-Approval of Amended Board Policy EBCA-Safety Threats
- vi. Resolution 24-059-Approval of Amended Board Policy EBCB-Emergency Procedure Drills and Instruction
- vii. Resolution 24-060-Approval of Amended Board Policy GCDA/GDDA-Criminal Records Checks and Fingerprinting
- viii. Resolution 24-061-Approval for deletion of old versions of Policies EBC/EBCA and GCDA/GDDA
- ix. Resolution 24-062-Approval of the November Personnel Recommendations
- x. Resolution 24-063-Approval of Amended Board Policy IGBAF-Special Education
- xi. Approval of Rivercrest Academy’s updated Institution ID.
- xii. Approval of Helensview School Therapeutic Classroom Institution ID.
- xiii. Approval of Helensview’s Online School Institution ID.

Motion: Director Ying moved to approve the Consent Agenda without 5.a.1. Director Doughty seconded the motion.

Discussion: none

Action: The motion carried with Directors Anderson, Arzate, Cage, Doughty, Peterson and Ying voting aye. Motion passed 6-0.

b. Action Agenda

- i. Resolution 24-064-Approval of Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budgeted Beginning Fund Balance Adjustment, Supplemental Budget Greater than 10% of Appropriation Adjustments and Transfers

Motion: Director Doughty moved to approve Resolution 24-064. Director Arzate seconded the motion.

Discussion: Doana Anderson presented the first of three supplemental budgets for the fiscal year to the Board. A redlined version of the resolution



was shared for clarity and discussion. A request was received from a component district for emergency aid. This request was added to the supplemental budget. Under ORS 334.370 and ORS Chapter 190, the ESD can create an Emergency Aid Fund to assist districts with unforeseen expenses not included in their original budgets. The proposal includes an increase in Other Uses of \$2,000,000 for potential emergency aid fund allocation. This is a new expenditure category that did not have appropriations in the adopted budget. This increase would be funded by Debt Sources, Beginning Fund Balance, Other Revenues, and a contingency transfer. The supplemental budget table was presented to the Board. A public comment period was opened following the presentation. There was no public comment.

Action: The motion carried with Directors Anderson, Arzate, Cage, Doughty, Peterson and Ying voting aye. Motion passed 6-0.

ii. Resolution 24-054-OSBA Board of Directors Election

Motion: Director Cage moved to vote for Katrina Doughty for Position 17 on the OSBA Board, and for Jose Gamero-Georgeson for Position 19 on the OSBA Board.
Director Arzate seconded the motion.

Discussion: none

Action: The motion carried with Directors Anderson, Arzate, Cage, Doughty, and Ying voting aye. Director Peterson abstained from voting. Motion passed 5-0.

iii. OSBA Resolution 1-Resolution to Amend the OSBA Dues Schedule



Motion: Director Arzate moved to approve OSBA Resolution 1.
Chair Anderson seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Doughty shared the rationale for the new dues schedule. Membership dues have not been updated since 1992–1993, resulting in reduced revenue contribution (now 8%, previously 20%). The proposed tiered increase ensures minimal impact for smaller districts and modest adjustments for larger contributors like PPS and ESDs. Aligns with national standards, where dues account for 20–40% of similar organizations’ revenue.

Action: The motion carried with Directors Anderson, Arzate, Cage, Doughty, and Ying voting aye. Director Peterson abstained from voting. Motion passed 5-0.

- iv. OSBA Resolution 2-Resolution to Amend Oregon School Boards Association’s Bylaws Relating to Composition of the Board of Directors

Motion: Director Cage moved to approve OSBA Resolution 2.
Director Ying seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Doughty shared the background of the Pride Caucus and its evolution from student advocacy, teacher identification of needs, and the challenges faced by LGBTQIA2S+ school board members. Examples of progress made by the advisory committee, including a map illustrating statewide representation and the demand for resources in rural areas were shared. The advisory committee, currently unfunded, has achieved statewide representation and seeks caucus status to secure funding and expand impact. Director Peterson inquired about the individuals represented on the map shown during the presentation, asking whether these individuals attended the workshop. Director Doughty clarified that the individuals represented on the map are members of the LGBTQIA2S+ Advisory Committee who actively support the Pride Caucus effort. While the map shows relative representation statewide, some areas have



multiple contributors, particularly from rural and coastal communities. The committee's work has been achieved without funding, highlighting the need for resources to expand the effort's reach and impact. Director Daughy clarified that the map predates the recent workshop and represents individuals explicitly added to the LGBTQIA2S+ Advisory Committee mailing list. These individuals support the advisory committee and future caucus at varying levels. Director Peterson asked if the Pride Caucus would impact the Color Caucus budget. Director Daughy explained that no creation of another caucus has resulted in an impact of existing caucus. Director Ying acknowledged the reduction of the Color Caucus funding and shared that discussions are ongoing with OSBA staff to restore the previous funding level and assured that efforts are underway to address the funding concerns. Chair Anderson asked if the Pride Caucus is going to allow students who identify to have more attention. Director Daughy explained that the Pride Caucus would indirectly benefit students by creating a stronger advocacy network.

Action: The motion carried with Directors Anderson, Arzate, Cage, Doughty, and Ying voting aye. Director Peterson abstained from voting. Motion passed 5-0.

v. OSBA Resolution 3-Resolution to Amend the OSBA Bylaws

Motion: Director Ying moved to approve OSBA Resolution 3. Director Cage seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Doughty explained this resolution primarily consists of semantic adjustments and that changes would reflect the outcomes of OSBA Resolution 1 and OSBA Resolution 2.

Action: The motion carried with Directors Anderson, Arzate, Cage, Doughty, and Ying voting aye. Director Peterson abstained from voting. Motion passed 5-0.



6. BOARD REPORTS

- a. Board Finance Committee-This committee did not meet. Director Arzate shared that financial reports were provided by Doana Anderson and the budget resolutions were addressed earlier in the meeting. Director Ying and Anderson thanked Doana for her work on the reports.
- b. Board Equity and Inclusion Committee-This committee did not meet
- c. Board Legislative Committee-This committee did not meet
- d. Board Policy Committee-No comments were made
- e. Superintendent Evaluation Committee-This committee did not meet
- f. OAESD-No comments were made
- g. OSBA- Director Ying gave a shoutout to Dr. Hubbs and Brad Parker for their participation in a workshop that the School Board Members of Color Caucus presented on new legislative requirements around inclusive curriculum including genocide, Holocaust, ethnic studies, and tribal history. Director Arzate shared that she heard great things about the presentation, emphasizing its significance and their own “FOMO” (fear of missing out) for not being present.

7. ACTIVITY CALENDAR

- a. December 5, 1:00 P.M.-Board Equity and Inclusion Committee meeting (Virtual via Zoom)
- b. December 11, 12:00 p.m.-Board Policy Committee meeting (Virtual via Zoom)
- c. December 12, 1:00 p.m.-Board Finance Committee meeting (Virtual via Zoom)
- d. December 17, 6:00 p.m.-Board Regular Session meeting (Virtual Via Zoom)

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. The next regular session meeting will be December 17, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.