



**Multnomah ESD Board of Directors'**  
**Board Regular Session Minutes**  
**Tuesday, April 15, 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](#)

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

Board Chair Renee Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. on Tuesday, April 15, 2025 in accordance with the agenda and Public notice of the meeting.

Board Members Present:

Renee Anderson  
Jessica Arzate  
Danny Cage  
Katrina Doughty  
Denyse Peterson  
Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie

Board Members Absent:

Helen Ying

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  
Sascha Perrins, Assistant Superintendent  
Marifer Sager, Director of Strategic Communications and Public Affairs  
Heather Severns, Executive Assistant and Board Secretary

Guests:

None



- 2. APPRECIATION/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY/LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**-Board member-Denyse Peterson presented a powerful educational piece on the historical and ongoing economic impacts of slavery, emphasizing the moral case for reparations and acknowledging the land and history of Indigenous tribes in Oregon.

<https://www.yesmagazine.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/74/74-JTF-8.5x11.pdf>

- 3. APPRECIATION**-Chair Anderson read two proclamations honoring teachers and school nurses for their dedication, highlighting their significant role in education and public health.

- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT**-There was no public comment

**5. REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

a. Union Representative Reports

- i. Heather Hanley, AFSCME President-Heather emphasized the importance of protecting jobs amid budget cuts and maintaining student services.
- ii. Phoenix Blickle & Jess Rohrbacher, MESDEA Co-Presidents-Representative Freya Kniaz expressed appreciation for staff resilience and continued advocacy for students despite budget challenges.

b. Superintendent's Report

i. Dr. Coakley's report

1. Program Updates

- a. Education Pathway Initiative renamed Multnomah Grow Your Own due to trademark concerns.
- b. Migrant Education Program(MEP)MESD to become the fiscal agent for the region as of July 1, 2025.

2. Knott Creek School Relocation-Lease ends September 30, 2025; students will transition to MESD facilities.

3. Budget Reductions

a. Addressing over \$5M shortfall

- i. Inadequate State School Funding



- ii. Reduced District selection of our services due to their shortfalls
    - iii. Cuts to the SSA Allocation Technical Assistance fund
    - iv. Efforts to keep our DSP and LSP as flat as possible for our component districts
    - v. Increasing PERS costs and insurance premium increases
  - b. Four-phase reduction communication plan underway. We are proactively engaging with impacted staff with options and support and advocating for stable educational funding at both the state and federal level. We promise to do our best to honor the contracts, create a respectful process for reduction in layoffs and for cuts.
    - i. Working with anyone who is impacted through the SSA Grant projection
    - ii. Communicating with people that are impacted by District Services selection
    - iii. Communicating with people that are impacted by Fund 6 analysis
    - iv. Anticipated updates from Federal and state sources that we receive. This will likely happen in the summer.
  - c. Principles include centering students, engaging component Districts, and minimizing cost increases.
- ii. Program Presentation-Native Youth & Family Support Program-Presented by Jeidah Dezurney. Dr. Coakley let the Board know that the Native Youth and Family Support program has done some amazing work engaging native youth across the region and the State. For the past 3 years the program was funded through a grant from the Native American Success Plan dollars for students and that was funded for the 1st 2 years. The funding was cut last year, however, due to the positive impact and the work of Jeidah Dezurney. We kept the program going at Mesd this year with no Grant funds through Fund 6, in hopes of getting good news from ODE we reapplied, we kept trying to advocate for the funds to return this school year. Unfortunately, the program will end on June 30th of this school year, which is just another highlight of the underfunding of K 12 systems



that directly, negatively impact students and families across the region and the State.

Jeidah DeZurney highlighted 3 years of impactful work, including tribal education, community building, and culturally affirming programming.

- iii. 2025-2027 Integrated Guidance presentation for JDEP/YCEP, presented by Christine Otto
  - 1. Christine Otto presented the 2025–27 integrated plan focused on academic remediation, career technical education, and transition support.
  - 2. Emphasized student engagement, local success metrics, and feedback from students and staff.

**Motion:** Director Danny Cage moved to approve the 2025-2027 Integrated Guidance Plan

Director Denyse Peterson seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** none

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

## 6. ACTION ITEMS

### a. Consent Agenda

- i. Approval of the March 18, 2025 Board Regular Session Minutes
- ii. Resolution 25-023-Approval of the April 2025 Personnel Recommendations

**Motion:** Director Katrina Doughty moved to approve the Consent Agenda  
Director Denyse Peterson seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** none

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



b. Action agenda

- i. Resolution 25-025-Resolution Affirming MESD's Commitment to Gender Expansive and Transgender Youth. Presented by Director Doughty, passed unanimously following a call for a unified vote by Director Arzate.

**Motion:** Director Jessica Arzate moved to approve Resolution 25-025  
Director Renee Anderson seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** none

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

- ii. Resolution 25-024-Approval of TAN Series 2025A Resolution(4.9M)-Presented by Doana Anderson, MESD CFO.

**Motion:** Director Jessica Arzate moved to approve Resolution 25-024  
Director Katrina Doughty seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** Clarifications made regarding interest earnings and cash flow projections.

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

## 7. BOARD REPORTS

- a. Board Finance Committee-There were no questions.
- b. Board Policy Committee-There were no questions.
- c. Superintendent Evaluation Committee-The committee will discuss this in Executive Session.
- d. OAESD-No comments were made
- e. OSBA- No comments were made



**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION**-To review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing. (ORS 192.660(2)(i)). Superintendent Coakley delivered his self-evaluation to the Board.

**9. APPROVAL OF THE SUPERINTENDENTS 2024-2025 EVALUATION**

**Motion:** Director Jessica Arzate moved to approve the Superintendent's Evaluation. Director Denyse Peterson seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** none

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

**10. ACTIVITY CALENDAR**

- a. May 5-9 Teacher, School Nurse Appreciation Week
- b. May 6-Teacher Appreciation Day
- c. May 7-School Nurse Appreciation Day
- d. May 7, 12:00 p.m.-Board Policy Committee meeting (Virtual via Zoom)
- e. May 8, 1:30 p.m.-Board Finance Committee meeting (Virtual via Zoom)
- f. May 13 AI Empowered EDU Conference
- g. May 20, 6:00 p.m.-TSCC Hearing-In person, MESD Boardroom
- h. May 20, 7:00 p.m.-Board Regular Session meeting-In person, MESD Boardroom

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m. The next regular session meeting will be April 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.