

**Lake Pend Oreille School District #84  
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting #759  
Ponderay Events Center, Ponderay, ID  
Tuesday, September 13, 2022**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair Geraldine Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. A quorum was established with Trustees Geraldine Lewis, Purley Decker, Jalon Peters and Tonya Sherman present. Trustee Lonnie Williams was absent. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Becky Meyer, Clerk of the Board Kelly Fisher, Teaching and Learning Directors Andra Murray and Casey McLaughlin, Chief Finance and Operations Officer Lisa Hals, Director of Services for Exceptional Children Dr. Joy Jansen, Facilities Director Matt Diel, Principals TJ Clary and Jackie Crossingham, Homeschool Academy Program Director Alissa McGonigal, Ponderay Planning Director Kayleigh Miller, staff and constituents.

**OPEN SESSION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Geraldine Lewis.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Action Item)**

*Trustee Decker made a motion to Approve the Agenda.* Trustee Peters seconded. Chair Lewis asked for comments. There being none, the vote was taken with Trustees Lewis, Decker, Peters and Sherman voting aye. Motion carried.

**INFORMATION ITEMS/REPORTS:**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was no one signed up for Public Comment.

**ADMINISTRATION**

Superintendent Report- Dr. Becky Meyer shared that we had our first week of school and it has been amazing. Dr. Meyer started with her transition plan encompassing five goals. She will be touching base on three of these goals this evening. Dr. Meyer reminded the Board and public about our community input forums. Dr. Meyer shared that we sent cards to over 17 thousand residents and the costs have increased. Only one post card will be sent out this year. We want a lot of input from the community and parents. This Monday we will be at Sandpoint Middle School in the cafeteria, Tuesday we will be at Clark Fork in the gym, and on Wednesday we will be at Sagle Elementary School in the gym/cafeteria. It will be really nice if people come. Dr. Meyer shared what the flyer looked like that was sent out.

Dr. Meyer shared a quick update on the District Safety Task Force. We continue to meet on Mondays and will move to once a month. She shared those items such as the raptor system, important numbers on staff badges, and staff training are all under way. Every school will be participating in a training on Move-Secure-Defend. We are currently working on reunification sites if there is an evacuation with plans A and B in place. We applied for an 85-thousand-dollar NRA grant for keyless entry for every building.

Dr. Meyer expressed that we are really working hard with a comprehensive and collaborative communication plan. We currently have staff, community and safety surveys out. She is starting a think tank with staff from the district. We need to think about strategic planning, covid dollars, post covid dollars and staffing. We will also have a CDI or Classified District Input team. This team will be meeting four times during the year.

Dr. Meyer updated the Board on our first week's enrollment. We ended the first week of school with 3,791 students. We ended last school year at 3,811 students. Dr. Meyer share that we ran into some unanticipated open enrollment issues. She updated the procedures and the reporting form. We approved 242 applications for open enrollments, denied 50, denied in district 40 and denied out of district 10. Dr. Meyer shared the details of where these applications were denied and where they were approved per school. Reasons for denial included overall

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district student enrollment, balancing class sizes, taxpayer locality, grandfathered returning unless additional resources or class sizes. Some unanticipated results of this policy were the lack of notice to families, the need to move staff, and class size disparity within the district. As we plan for the future with growth in the area, she wants to make sure that taxpayers in our district will allow for smaller class sizes and higher retention of quality teaching staff. The local taxpayers are paying our tax rate knowing the benefits they receive for paying this tax rate. There was some discussion by the Board on balancing class sizes. Dr. Meyer shared that we had to move staff due to very disparaging class size differences from one school to another. We had 32 first graders at one school and low teens at another. We did have to move teachers. Everyone is fine and happy now. It was very team player oriented and what was best for kids. It was incredible on how staff stepped up. We have our class sizes balanced at the elementary level now, especially the K-3 grade levels where reading is key. Dr. Meyer shared that Coeur d'Alene, Post Falls, Lakeland and St. Maries school districts all have closed borders for open enrollments from out of district. This is significant. If those four local districts have shut down that may increase our open enrollment denials from out of district as those families are not happy with their current districts. Dr. Meyer shared the changes to the policy and application that have been updated to reflect the new procedures. We have vetted these changes with administration, and we are open to suggestions. We realize the short notice does cause hardships for some families.

Dr. Meyer shared some first week magic. She shared that the leadership team went to every school in the district. To sum up the first week there was so many smiles of kids back with their teachers and in full sessions. The talk of COVID was out and over. People were excited to be learning and to be engaged with learning. She was highly impressed with all of the Teachers in the district. The compassion for kids and everyone is back together. We are looking forward to our bright future. Every child is a story yet to be told. When you talk to staff in this district they truly believe in this statement. Dr. Meyer shared pictures of the first week back with staff and students.

Home School Academy Introduction and Overview- Director of Teaching and Learning Andra Murray expressed that she has the honor of introducing HSA Program Coordinator and lead teacher Alissa McGonigal who has over 18 years in education in both public and private schools. She has a wealth of background experiences to share. Alissa McGonigal shared information about herself. She is very excited to be back in this community where she was raised. She has three kids and two crazy dogs.

McGonigal shared information about the Home School Academy which is a part time enrichment-based program serving homeschool children ages 6-14. This is the seventh year for this, and they have 84 students currently enrolled. Some courses they are offering this fall are horticulture, botany, knitting, mad scientist, forest Fridays, percussion and voice partnered with the Music Conservatory of Sandpoint, musical theater, costume set and design, martial arts, 3D arts, adventure seekers book club, and critical thinkers. They partner with other community organizations which they hope to make more robust this year. McGonigal shared photos with the Board. Kids come one to two days per week. There were some questions from the Board for clarification. There are three age level groups that rotate through instructors throughout the day. The average attendance per day is about 45 students. The Board thanked her for presenting to them. Dr. Meyer shared that the Board is allowed to stop by and see the program in action.

**BOARD**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Policy – Chair Lewis shared that these are first readings for these policies and there is no action. Dr. Meyer shared the revisions to policy 2340 Controversial Issues & Academic Freedom with the Board. The only change to this policy is on page two where the word teacher was changed to parent. This change was due to conflicting policies, and we needed to change the language to the parent who can provide the alternative assignment. This is the only change to this policy.

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Dr. Meyer shared that we recognize that people want to attend this school district. Families will have to apply if they want an out of zone and district. The contract for 3010 Open Enrollment has been updated as well. Clerk Fisher also linked in the open enrollment form so that the Board could see the procedures that were added.

Dr. Joy Jansen Director of Services for Exceptional Children discussed new policy 3345 Use of Restraint, Seclusion, and Aversive Techniques for Students. Trustee Sherman asked about aversive techniques under the definitions since the other two are defined. Clerk Fisher shared that this policy was reviewed by Dr. Jansen and her entire team. Dr. Jansen shared that in 2021 we formed our guidelines based off of what the Federal guidelines are. Dr. Jansen shared that she calls them guidelines outside of procedure as they outlined best practices. Last year alone we had 128 incidences of restrain and seclusion as these students can cause harm to themselves or others. Parents are involved on the front end of all of these discussions. If students are on an individual educational plan, parents go through the process we use with children in the classroom. Parents then provide us with a yes or no to the best practices used. These are last resorts in working with students. Some students are biters, pull hair and become even more physically violent. Dr. Jansen shared that this policy would cover all students. We have only had one student in her ten years here, who required restraint and seclusion from the general population of students.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. HR Report
- B. Payment of Bills

*Trustee Peters made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda.* Trustee Sherman seconded. Chair Lewis asked for comments. There being none, the vote was taken with Trustees Lewis, Decker, Peters and Sherman voting aye. Motion carried.

**BOARD**

CIP (Continuous Improvement Plans)- Superintendent Dr. Becky Meyer reminded the Board that this is one of their duties. This is a required state model and their templet. Dr. Meyer thanked Andra Murray who has done all of the work. Murray has developed this, so it has followed the students, tracking growth from year to year. One of the main goals this year is to close the learning gaps. Dr. Meyer reminded the Board that both Andra and Casey will come back with evidence and data to show growth with our students and measurements used. This templet does not allow you to use every grade level. She shared this templet is not as useful as they would like it to be. Chair Lewis shared that this is familiar as these are metrics that we look at every year.

*Trustee Decker made a motion to Approve the Continuous Improvement Plan as presented.* Trustee Peters seconded. Chair Lewis asked for comments. There being none, the vote was taken with Trustees Lewis, Decker, Peters and Sherman voting aye. Motion carried.

City of Ponderay Easement Proposal- Ponderay Planning Director and Project Manager Kayleigh Miller thanked the Board for allowing her to present to them this evening. She works to help establish green belts, easements, and drainage channels. They are seeking an easement across the east 20 feet of the two lots along Triangle Drive. The City of Ponderay owns the property to the north. She detailed the sites on maps presented to the Board and reasoning behind the request. This easement will allow the city to improve the channel of water that flows out to the storm drainage site. They would clear the area for the road and drainage area. This is their only approach to do this work properly with the apartment buildings to the North and the railroad tracks to the East. They have drafted a legal easement document for the Board to consider. There were questions from the Board for clarification. Dr. Meyer shared that CFO Hals and Facilities Director Matt Diel have reviewed these documents and walked the property with Ms. Miller. CFO Hals shared that she is not an attorney, but she would

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have our legal team review before we would give the easement to the city. Ms. Miller shared that this is the East 20 feet of an easement. Trustee Lewis expressed that not having the knowledge of what she is looking at makes it a little difficult. Trustee Peters asked if that easement is granted to the city that it would no longer be usable. Trustee Peters asked about page nine and that the entire green strip in the presentation was requested. He asked why they would need the entire strip. Ms. Miller shared that the entire strip is required due to the wetlands that are found behind the building. They are looking at taking the subsurface water and piping it out. There was further discussion by the board. Ms. Miller shared that the clearing is hoped to happen this year and the road to be constructed next year. Chair Lewis asked if we could have another set of eyes on the easement. Dr. Meyer shared that we could have our district's attorney look at this easement. The Board could give approval pending district attorney approval on this easement. Trustee Sherman expressed that she fully supports this.

*Trustee Sherman made a motion to Approve the City of Ponderay Easement Proposal pending legal approval.* Trustee Decker seconded. Chair Lewis asked for comments. Trustee Peters expressed that he is only one voice, but he doesn't see that the city needs the entire length. He knows that partnering with the city is important. There being no further comments, the vote was taken with Trustees Lewis, Decker, and Sherman voting aye. Trustee Peters voted no. Motion carried on a 3-1 vote.

Calendar Changes for 2022-2023- Dr. Meyer shared that there are two reasons the calendar is coming back to the Board. We would like to change the student led conferences to March 10th. All elementary school have requested this move for additional training they would like. On April 19th Lake Pend Oreille Alternative High School Principal would like to have an additional parent teacher conference which would be really important for them as it makes a lot of sense to have a check in with families two times a year.

*Trustee Peters made a motion to Approve the Calendar Changes for 2022-2023.* Trustee Decker seconded. Chair Lewis asked for comments. There being none, the vote was taken with Trustees Lewis, Decker, Peters and Sherman voting aye. Motion carried.

2nd Reading of Policy

Dr. Meyer reminded the Board that only policies are approved by the Board, not procedures. The policies requiring a vote this evening are 1200 Annual Organization Meeting and 4330 Spectator Conduct and Sportsmanship for Athletic and Co-Curricular Events. The other two, 4210P Community Use of School Facilities and 4330P Spectator Conduct and Sportsmanship for Athletic and Co-Curricular Events. are procedures.

*Trustee Peters made a motion to Approve the Revisions to 1200 Annual Organization Meeting.* Trustee Sherman seconded. Chair Lewis asked for comments. There being none, the vote was taken with Trustees Lewis, Decker, Peters and Sherman voting aye. Motion carried.

*Trustee Decker made a motion to Approve Policy 4330 Spectator Conduct and Sportsmanship for Athletic and Co-Curricular Events.* Trustee Sherman seconded. Chair Lewis asked for comments. Dr. Meyer reminded the Board that she has integrated parent and patron comments into the policy presented. Trustee Peters asked who makes the decision on who removes someone. Dr. Meyer shared that it is whoever the administrator is at the event. Trustee Peters expressed that he has a little fear from acquisitions and people being thin skinned in some cases. He does not want this becoming the potential of something coming to fruition without due process. Dr. Meyer shared the procedural steps that will be taken to actually ban someone from a sporting event. Dr. Meyer shared that we do have officials that refuse to sign up for games and officiate. This is concerning to Dr. Meyer, and she is trying to support administration. We have to have some levels of sportsmanship and collegiality with others. Chair Lewis expressed this gives follow through on what we would expect our community to emulate.

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There being no further questions or discussion, the vote was taken with Trustees Lewis, Decker, Peters and Sherman voting aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Peters shared that he was not seeing in procedure who would have the ability to remove someone from a game. Dr. Meyer expressed that she could add this language to the procedure.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS (No Action)**

Principals TJ Clary and Jackie Crossingham, Trustee Purley Decker, Andra Murray, Dr. Becky Meyer, Casey McLaughlin, Dr. Joy Jansen, and Matt Diel made announcements.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Trustee Peters made a motion to move into Executive Session as provided for in Idaho Code, Title 74, Section 206, Subsection 1 (b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student (f) to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement. Trustee Decker seconded. Chair Lewis asked for comments. There being none, Clerk Fisher took a roll call vote with*

Trustees voting as follows:

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Trustee Peters  | aye |
| Trustee Sherman | aye |
| Trustee Decker  | aye |
| Trustee Lewis   | aye |

Motion carried. The Board went into Executive Session at 6:17 PM. The Board discussed a legal matter from 6:20 to 6:24 PM and a personnel matter from, 6:24 to 6:28 PM. No final action or decision was made during Executive Session.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Chair Lewis reconvened into open session at 6:28 PM and asked for motions or discussion due to Executive Session.

*Trustee Decker made a motion to Rescind the Continuing/Renewable Contract for Employee A for Failure to Comply with State of Idaho Education Recertification Requirements. Trustee Peters seconded. Chair Lewis asked for comments. There being none, the vote was taken with Trustees Lewis, Decker, Peters and Sherman voting aye. Motion carried.*

No further motions were made due to executive session.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:29 PM.

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Attest: Kelly Fisher, Clerk

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Geraldine Lewis, Chair