

**MINUTES**  
**Pendleton School District 16R Board of Directors**  
**WORK SESSION**

December 2, 2025

8:00 a.m. | District Office | 107 NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Pendleton, OR 97801

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**Present:** Beth Harrison, Board Chair  
Ryan Lehnert  
Jill Pace  
Ryan DeGrofft  
Mason Murphy (arrived at 8:05 a.m.)  
Anne Keeler  
Patrick Gregg  
Michelle Jones, Director of Business Services  
Matt Yoshioka, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment  
Julie Smith, Director of Special Programs  
Ronda Thornburg, Executive Secretary  
Michelle Jensen, PhD, Superintendent  
Kevin Dinning, Director of Human Resources

**Absent:**

The meeting was in person and offered virtually.

**1. Opening and Call to Order** *Board Chair*

Chair Harrison welcomed everyone and called the work session to order at 8:00 a.m.

**1.1. Pledge of Allegiance**

The group stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1.2. Meeting Audio/Video Recorded**

Chair Harrison stated that this meeting is being audio and video recorded.

**2. OSBA Annual Convention Report** *Board Members*

Chair Harrison, Director Pace, Director Murphy, and Superintendent Jensen attended the Oregon School Board Association Annual Convention in Portland, OR. They each shared highlights, takeaways, and observations that stood out to them. It was a great time to connect with other districts, hear that similar issues are in other districts and realize that we are not an island by ourselves.

**3. At-A-Glance Report Cards** *Matt Yoshioka*

- 3.1. Pendleton School District
- 3.2. Pendleton Early Learning Center
- 3.3. McKay Creek Elementary School
- 3.4. Sherwood Heights Elementary School
- 3.5. Washington Elementary School
- 3.6. Sunridge Middle School
- 3.7. Pendleton High School
- 3.8. Hawthorne Alternative High School
- 3.9. Nixyaawii Community School

Mr. Yoshioka shared that there is a lot to celebrate, especially around attendance when viewing the Pendleton School District state report card. He provided a one-page handout highlighting successes and focus areas for the district. Director Gregg appreciated Mr. Yoshioka answering all the board's questions.

4. **Legislative/Fiscal Update** *Michelle Jensen, Michelle Jones*

The Board Update: State Revenue Forecast & K-12 Advocacy Priorities is intended to provide information and clarification in response to an ask from a board member heading into the 2026 Legislative Session. Statewide education leaders, including COSA, have identified three important messages for districts for upcoming budget conversations: 1) The forecast is positive, but we must remain vigilant. 2) The state is forecasting additional unbudgeted costs. 3) One more key forecast is ahead – and we must be prepared to adjust. The next and final forecast for this biennium will be released on February 4, 2026, and will be used to finalize the budget for the 2026 session. Mrs. Jones

5. **Review Agenda – December 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting** *Board Chair*

The December regular board meeting will be at Washington Elementary School gym.

6. **Public Comment** *Board Chair*

No comments.

7. **Information**

7.1. **Winter Programs**

<b>PELC</b>	12/11/2025	Bees, Coyotes, Owls - 8:45 a.m. Bears, Beavers, Otters - 9:30 a.m. Foxes, Raccoons, Squirrels - 10:15 a.m.
<b>McKay</b>	12/12/2025	Grades 1 & 3 - 12:00 p.m. Grade 2 - 1:00 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 - 1:40 p.m.
<b>Sherwood</b>	12/16/2025	Grades 1, 2 & 3 - 9:30 a.m. Grades 4 & 5 - 10:15 a.m.
<b>Washington</b>	12/18/2025	Grade 1 - 9:00 a.m. Grades 2 & 3 - 12:30 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 - 1:30 p.m.
<b>Sunridge</b>	12/9/2025 12/10/2025 12/12/2025	Choir Concert - 7:00 p.m. Instrumental Concert - 7:00 p.m. 6th Grade Concert - 10:00 a.m. in Gym
<b>PHS</b>	12/16/2025 12/17/2025	Instrumental Concert - 7:00 p.m. in PHS Auditorium Choral Concert - 7:00 p.m. in PHS Auditorium

Chair Harrison noted that PHS switched the instrumental and choral concert dates.

8. **School Visit Reports** *Board Chair*

Adopt-A-School Assignments:

PELC – Ryan Lehnert

McKay – Patrick Gregg

Sherwood – Ryan DeGrofft

Washington – Mason Murphy

SMS – Jill Pace

PHS/HHS – Anne Keeler

All Schools – Beth Harrison

Chair Harrison visited several schools, including Friendsgiving at the PELC.

Director Murphy thanked Michelle Jones for all the work she does on the budget.

Director Keeler appreciated the way conferences were set up at SMS.

9. **Adjournment** *Board Chair*

With no further business brought forward for the good of the order, the meeting adjourned at 9:01 a.m.

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Beth Harrison, Board Chair

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Michelle Jensen, PhD, Superintendent

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Ronda Thornburg, Executive Secretary

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Date