



ESD 112 Board of Directors' Meeting August 29, 2023

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Mark Hottowe, President; LeAnne Bremer; Susan Barker; Kevin Davis; Nancy Miller; Heidi Rosenberg; and Darlene Stickel. Cabinet Members Present: Monique Dugaw, Gavin Hottman, Mike Nerland, Jeffrey Niess, Jodi Wall, and Kathy Whitlock. Guests Present: Melissa Kreuder and Jenny Kosaki.

CALL TO ORDER

The ESD 112 Board of Directors Business meeting was called to order by Mark Hottowe, *President*, at 3:00 pm on August 29, 2023. A quorum of seven members was present.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- Program Highlight & Center Tour: Specialized Transportation Cooperative: Jenny Kosaki, *Director of Specialized Transportation*, shared an update on the ESD 112 Specialized Transportation Cooperative. The ESD 112 Transportation Center has been open for three years and houses 45 buses and 3 safe cars. Twenty-eight additional buses are located in Longview, Woodland, and Brush Prairie. The cooperative employs seventy-three bus drivers and seven office staff who run operations. There is now a mechanic on staff to service buses and vehicles. During the 2022-23 SY, the cooperative served 1,115 total students and ran 1,345,014 miles on bus runs. Jenny Kosaki provided a short tour of the transportation center after her presentation.
- Early Head Start & ECEAP Program Monthly Report: Jodi Wall, *Executive Director of Early Care & Education*, reviewed highlights of the monthly report including an update on students served this summer and an overview of funding received to support mental health needs. This funding includes Complex Needs funding and funding for the ECLIPSE program. This is the third year of Complex Needs funding which the ESD has used to hire specialists who work with teachers to strengthen foundational social-emotional learning practices and to work with staff and families any time we are supporting a child who has a higher level of need. This is the first year of ECLIPSE funding which is a set of services in addition to Early ECEAP and ECEAP, for children and families with a history of trauma who would benefit from therapeutic treatment and interventions in the classroom and in the family's home. Jodi also shared that the ESD was notified that the Children's Village, which has served as a subcontractor for the ECEAP program for several years, is not renewing its contract for the year. The 57 ECEAP slots served by Children's Village will be moved to existing centers. The ESD will provide child care for the Evergreen School District families during the work stoppage. A limited number of child care slots will be provided in five elementary schools from 6 am – 6 pm to support families.
- Superintendent's Report: Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, briefed the board on the following:
 - ESD Elections: An update was provided on ESD board member elections. The window to file for candidacy will be open September 1-15, 2023. [Click here](#) to view the election notice.
 - School District Work Stoppages: Monique Dugaw, *Executive Director of Communications and Public Relations*, shared an update on work stoppages in districts in Clark County.

- OPP Complaint: Tim shared an overview of the Office of Professional Practice (OPP) complaints that are sometimes received.
- Legislative Meetings: The ESD has been meeting with legislators to discuss Medicaid funding for district mental and behavioral services and challenges with the model.
- ESD 112 Cabinet Retreat: Cabinet participated in an annual retreat. This year's focus was on building infrastructure within the agency to support new programs and future growth.
- New Behavioral Support Programs: Jeffrey Niess, *Executive Director of Specialized Student Services*, shared an update on the new behavioral programs that will open in Camas and White Salmon School Districts. The new center in Camas has been named the Curae Center, which is Latin for "to care for". The program will focus on skill-building and coping skills, as well as mental health support, in addition to education. The Curae Center was scheduled to open tomorrow which has been delayed due to the teacher strike in Camas. Curae will serve students from second to seventh grade initially. The Gorge Academy in White Salmon will open this year serving 6-8 students with behavioral concerns. The first day of school will be on August 30th.
- Rural CTE Program: Kathy Whitlock, *Executive Director of Student & School Success*, shared an update on the new rural CTE program.
- Naselle Youth Camp Task Force: Tim has been asked to serve on the Naselle Youth Camp Task Force which was formed by the legislature to determine a use for the unoccupied youth camp.
- CSG Contract: CSG has entered a contract with Oak Harbor School District to provide services over the next three years.
- Board Portal: At next month's meeting, a preview will be shared of the new ESD 112 board portal.
- First Reading – Policy 5401 – Sick Leave: Melissa Kreuder, *Director of Human Resources & SW Washington Unemployment Pool*, reviewed proposed changes to Policy 5401 regarding Sick Leave. under general provisions. Darlene Stickel suggested a wording change that will be reflected in the second reading.

PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

- **Motion passed** to approve the consent agenda items including minutes of the ESD 112 Board of Directors' Meeting – June 27, 2023; ESD 112 Personnel Activity Reports for June & July 2023; ESD Expenditure Reports for June & July 2023; and EHS Budget Status/Expenditure Reports for June & July 2023.
- **Motion passed**: To approve Board Resolution R.23.01 In the Matter of Approving Pre-Endorsement Waiver Temporary Out of Endorsement.
- **Motion passed**: To approve the proposed policy changes to Policy 5411 – Vacation.
- **Motion passed**: To approve Board Resolution R.23.02 In the Matter of the 2022-23 ESD 112 Budget Extension in the amount of \$96,444,659 as amended.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

- Public Comments: No public comments were made.
- Correspondence: There was no correspondence.
- Board Participation in Events:
 - Heidi Rosenberg attended the EHS/ECEAP Policy Council Meeting on August 17, 2023.
 - Mark Hottowe and Heidi Rosenberg attended the ESD 112 Back to School Staff Meeting on August 18, 2023.

CALENDAR

- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – September 26, 2023
- AESA Educators’ Call to Action Conference – Washington D.C. – October 4 - 6, 2023
- ESD 112 Board of Directors Business Meeting – ESD 112 – October 24, 2023
- WSSDA Annual Conference – Bellevue, WA – November 16 – November 18, 2023
- AESA National Conference – Anaheim, CA – November 29 – December 1, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.



For questions, please contact Sara Moore, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, at (360) 952-3318 or email: sara.moore@esd112.org. Approved minutes of the Board of Directors’ meetings are kept in the ESD 112 Administration Offices and are public record.