



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Darlene Stickel, President; Mark Hottowe, Vice-President; LeAnne Bremer; Kevin Davis; Marilyn Koenninger; Dr. Richard Graham; and Steve Wrightson. Guests: Melissa Gombosky and Jessica Vavrus. Cabinet Members Present: Marnie Allen, Monique Dugaw, Gavin Hottman, Mike Nerland, Jeffrey Niess, Jodi Wall, and Kathy Whitlock.

CALL TO ORDER

The ESD 112 Board of Directors' Business meeting was called to order by Darlene Stickel, *President*, at 3:00 pm on March 29, 2022 with a quorum of seven members present.

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME OF GUESTS

- Darlene Stickel welcomed attendees and the following guests: Jessica Vavrus, *AESD Executive Director*, and Melissa Gombosky, *Legislative Liaison*.

OATH OF OFFICE

Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, administered the Oath of Office to Kevin Davis, District 7 Director.

PUBLIC HEARING – ESD 112 PROPOSED REDISTRICTING PLAN

A public hearing was held regarding ESD 112's proposed redistricting plan. Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, shared an overview of the changes to each director's district boundaries based on the population changes recorded in the 2020 Census as required by RCW 28A.310.030. Since the 2010 census, population in the region has increased by 91,460.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- Early Head Start and ECEAP Program Monthly Report: Jodi Wall, *Executive Director of Early Care and Education*, shared that February was their inservice month for staff which featured training in crisis prevention and intervention, as well as training on developmental milestones and stages. At the April Board Meeting, Early Head Start training will be provided for board members. A second joint training with Policy Council members will be held in October.
- AESD Update: Jessica Vavrus, *AESD Executive Director*, shared an update on the AESD Network, which is the network of all nine ESDs in Washington State. The AESD works in partnership with OSPI and other state agencies, and works to further their joint mission of ensuring equity and excellence in education through providing effective services statewide. Jessica shared information on the statewide initiatives that the AESD engages in as a regional delivery system for statewide programs and services and some examples of the impacts these services have made statewide. The AESD Annual Membership Meeting will be held on April 27, 2022 from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm via Zoom.

- AESD Legislative Update: Melissa Gombosky, *Legislative Liaison*, shared a recap of the 2022 legislative session and the policy bills that ESDs engaged on, as well as an overview of new ESD budget items. Melissa shared that during the 2021-23 biennium, the percentage of K-12 funding in the state operating budget is the lowest it has been at 43% of the overall budget.
- Financial Forecast for 2023: Gavin Hottman, Chief Business Officer, shared an update on the budget process and timeline for the 2022-23 SY including anticipated budget variables in the upcoming year. Gavin also shared debt refinancing possibilities for the board to consider this spring.
- First Reading on Revisions to Board Policy 5400, Vacation: Marnie Allen shared potential revisions to the board policy regarding vacation to allow employees to take vacation during their first six months on the job.
- Superintendent's Report: Tim Merlino, *Superintendent*, briefed the board on the following:
 - A. ESD Audit – The ESD had a clean audit without any exit comments.
 - B. COVID Update – Since the last meeting, optional masking and other changes to COVID guidelines went into effect. At the peak of COVID cases, 61 employees contacted HR with regarding symptoms or exposures, during the last week in February, only one employee contacted HR. There has been a small uptick in employees calling with symptoms and positive cases again. Districts have shared a dramatic decline in student cases.
 - C. AESD Membership Meeting – board members will be contacted to see if they are interested in participating in the AESD Annual Membership Meeting on April 27, 2022.
 - D. Accreditation – There was a request from ESD 189 for board members that are interested in serving on school district accreditation panels in Olympia, May 16-18th.
 - E. WSSDA will hold a required equity training for school district board members on April 19th, at ESD 112.
 - F. ESD 112 will host an AESA Executive in Residence in April from Region 4 Service Center in Houston.
- Employee Acknowledgements and Recognition: Monique Dugaw, *Executive Director of Communications and Public Engagement*, briefed the board on the following:
 - A. On March 16th, ESD 112 held a virtual Art Show for high school students from the region.
 - B. Xander Hayes, *Video Coordinator*, was applauded by the PREVENT Coalition for his work.
 - C. ESD Human Resources staff were thanked by an employee for their work and support during the COVID pandemic.

PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

- **Motion passed** to approve the consent agenda items including minutes of the ESD 112 Board of Directors' Meetings – February 22, 2022, and March 15, 2022; ESD 112 Personnel Activity Reports for February 2022, ESD 112 Expenditure Reports for February 2022; and Early Head Start expenditure reports for February 2022.
- **Motion passed** to approve Board Resolution R.21.16 – In the Matter of Redistricting ESD 112 Boundaries.
- **Motion passed** to accept the resignation of District 3 Director, Steven Wrightson.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

- Public Comments: No members of the public were present.
- Correspondence: None distributed.

CALENDAR

- ESD 112 Board of Directors' Business Meeting – Zoom – April 26, 2022 – 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- AESD Annual Membership Meeting – Zoom – April 27, 2022 - 9:30 am – 2:00 pm
- [WSSDA Regional Meeting](#) – Kelso HS Library – May 17, 2022 – 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm
- ESD 112 Board of Directors' Business Meeting – TBD – May 24, 2022 – 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- ESD 112 Board of Directors' Business Meeting – TBD – June 28, 2022 – 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.



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.