

# BoardNotes

During its regular meeting on March 28, 2023, the Everett Public Schools Board of Directors did the following:

The meeting opened at 5 p.m.

President LeSesne started the evening with a moment of silence for the students and staff who died in the school shooting in Nashville yesterday.

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Student Representative Kolly provided a land acknowledgment.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## RECOGNITION

The Board took time to recognize [Prodigies for Peace winners](#). The Snohomish County Black Heritage Committee held a community celebration honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and NAACP Black History Month on January 15. As part of the celebration, students were invited to submit essays and art for the 22nd annual Prodigies for Peace competition. This year, Everett Public Schools had nine winners for their essays and 21 winners for their artwork.

## HEARD THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The school board heard a [district update](#) from Dr. Saltzman including cabinet members visiting schools, spring concerts and drama performances, family information nights and more.

## SHARED BOARD COMMENTS

Student Representative Gilberston shared she took the SAT in school Wednesday and is looking forward to spring break. Student Representative Kolly had prom last week and SAT Wednesday for juniors. She enjoyed the students of color conference. Director Mason went to the Everett High School performance and enjoyed it thoroughly. She also shared how hard it is to have staff reductions and it is not a place we ever want to be again. Director Nicholls mentioned elementaries are in conferences this week and thanked teachers for all they do. Director Hirman thanked the Special Education PTSA for their event earlier this month. It was a great event and she loved the mascot races. She also gave a legislative update. Director Mitchell mentioned the [article in the Herald](#) last week about our cybersecurity program and how important it is for the district. She thanked the Information Technology Department and all they do. Director LeSesne congratulated the students who were recognized this evening. She also shared comments similar to Director Mason about how hard it is to reduce staff.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

There was one public comment from a parent about budget reductions. She asked the board to consider no reduction in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Department as there is still a lot of work to be accomplished.

## HEARD i-READY WINTER DIAGNOSTIC RESULTS

The board heard a presentation on the [i-Ready winter diagnostics](#). Students in grades K-8 participate in the fall and winter i-Ready diagnostic assessment in both math and reading. In the fifth full year of implementation, the i-Ready program includes a standards-aligned, computer-adaptive diagnostic assessment which identifies students' performance against grade-level standards. This information determines the personalized online learning path for students. In

addition to these lessons which fill in learning gaps, the program provides teachers with targeted information to guide instruction and intervention.

#### **HEARD THE BUDGET DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

The board heard a presentation on progress towards development of the [2023-24 operating budget](#) including a budget update, budget development timeline, pending legislative outcomes and next steps to the budget development process.

#### **HEARD THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

The board heard a presentation on [communications activities](#) for 2022-23, improvements made in district communications and a brief data review.

#### **HEARD PROPOSAL OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT**

The board was presented [a recommendation](#) to approve an adjustment to school attendance boundaries between Lowell and View Ridge elementary schools for an area on the west side of Evergreen Way between 75th Street SE and East Casino Road. This boundary change is necessary to move elementary students living in this area, plus an estimated two hundred new elementary students that are expected to move into the 430 multi-family unit Four Corners housing development under construction on the old Kmart site, from Lowell Elementary School to View Ridge Elementary School. Lowell Elementary School is over capacity and View Ridge Elementary School is under capacity. This boundary change will move 16 students in kindergarten through grade four from 13 families currently living in this area to View Ridge Elementary School. The board approved the recommendation with a vote of 3 to 2.

#### **HEARD PROPOSAL OF 2023-24 BOARD TRAVEL**

This item was moved to the next board meeting due to time.

#### **FIRST READING OF POLICY 2409, GRANTING EQUIVALENCY CREDIT**

The board of directors heard proposed revisions to [Policy 2409](#), Granting Equivalency Credit, for a first reading with second reading and adoption to be recommended at a future board meeting. Proposed revisions remove language that is no longer current or in practice.

#### **FIRST READING OF POLICY 2410, HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The board of directors heard proposed revisions to [Policy 2410](#), High School Graduation Requirements, for a first reading with second reading and adoption to be recommended at a future board meeting. Proposed revisions include the addition of language regarding Graduation Requirements Emergency Waiver (GREW). In July 2021 the State Board of Education (SBE) passed permanent rules allowing districts to offer waivers of certain graduation requirements on an individual student basis during certain emergencies, including the current COVID public health crisis. The current GREW rules permit the waiver of up to 2.0 core or flexible credits and/or the graduation pathway requirements for students in the classes of 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 as described in [Chapter 180-111 WAC](#). Revisions also update graduation requirements through the class of 2027 and removes language no longer current.

#### **FIRST READING OF POLICY 2416, HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY CERTIFICATE**

The board of directors heard proposed revisions to [Policy 2416](#), High School Equivalency Certificate, for a first reading with second reading and adoption to be recommended at a future board meeting. Proposed revisions reflects current regulations regarding eligibility requirements for individuals to take the high school equivalency test found in [WAC 131-48-100](#) and provides clarification the application and decision process for determining whether an individual has a substantial and warranted reason for leaving the regular high school program found as prescribed in [WAC 180-96-045](#) and [WAC 180-96-048](#).

### **FIRST READING OF POLICY 3230, STUDENT PRIVACY**

The board of directors heard proposed revisions to [Policy 3230](#), Student Privacy, for a first reading with second reading and adoption to be recommended at a future board meeting. Proposed revisions update, clarify and reorganize language. The revisions include changing the title from "Student Privacy" to "Searches of Students and Student Privacy." The board asked for this policy to be further clarified and differentiated from Policy 3231.

### **FIRST READING OF POLICY 3231, SEARCHES OF STUDENTS AND THEIR PROPERTY**

The board of directors heard proposed revisions to [Policy 3231](#), Searches of Students and Their Property, for a first reading with second reading and adoption to be recommended at a future board meeting. Proposed revisions update, clarify and reorganize language. The revisions also confine detailed information about conducting searches to the procedure. The board asked for this policy to be further clarified and differentiated from Policy 3230.

### **FIRST READING OF POLICY 3421, CHILD ABUSE, NEGLECT AND EXPLOITATION**

The board of directors heard proposed revisions to [Policy 3421](#), Child Abuse, Neglect and Exploitations, for a first reading with second reading and adoption to be recommended at a future board meeting. Proposed revisions include legal definitions of the terms for child abuse and neglect. Language has been added regarding community education programs to comply with [RCW 28A.620.010](#) and [RCW 28A.620.020](#). The revisions also include changing the title from "Child Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation" to "Child Abuse and Neglect."

### **FIRST READING OF POLICY 5350, HOLIDAYS**

The board of directors heard proposed revisions to [Policy 5350](#), Holidays, for a first reading with second reading and adoption to be recommended at a future board meeting. Proposed revisions align with [HB 1617](#) – Aligning State and School Holidays. Juneteenth became a legal holiday on July 1, 2022. As a result, it has been added to the list of legal/school holidays.

### **PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 6959, RELEASE OF RETAINAGE ON COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

The board of directors heard proposed deletion to [Policy 6959](#), Release of Retainage on Completed Construction Projects, for a first reading with second reading and adoption to be recommended at a future board meeting. Because a separate policy is not needed, the superintendent proposes deleting this policy and moving the language to [Procedure 6950P](#), Public Works Contractor Assurances and Change Orders.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

The regular board meeting video from 3/28/2023 has been uploaded and is available on Vimeo and YouTube.

Vimeo:

<https://vimeo.com/812825233>

YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/Z-atbtnGqDk>

### **Nondiscrimination statement**

Everett Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

**Title IX/Civil Rights Compliance Officer** – Kevin Allen, 425-385-4100, [KAllen@everettsd.org](mailto:KAllen@everettsd.org), PO Box 2098, Everett WA 98213  
**Section 504 Coordinator** – Dave Peters, 425-385-4063, [DPeters@everettsd.org](mailto:DPeters@everettsd.org), PO Box 2098, Everett WA 98213  
**ADA Coordinator** – Randi Seaberg, 425-385-4104, [RSeaberg@everettsd.org](mailto:RSeaberg@everettsd.org), PO Box 2098, Everett WA 98213