

BoardNotes for staff



Pam LeSesne



Traci Mitchell



Caroline Mason



Jen Hirman



Director Position 1



Alice Gilbertson



William Kink

Student representatives



During its regular meeting on September 12, 2023, the Everett Public Schools Board of Directors did the following:

The meeting opened at 5 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Student representative Alice Gilbertson provided a land acknowledgment.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The school board heard the [superintendent's update](#) which included the para to teacher program, vaccination clinic and the start of school.



BOARD COMMENTS

Director Mitchell was appreciative of communication from Dr. Saltzman during the first days of school. Director Hirman welcomed back the student representatives and our new rep, William Kink. She was able to be at Jackson Elementary the first day of school and thought it was a great day and appreciated the 5th grade patrols already being out, and the district staff who supported schools. Director Mason echoed Director Hirman's comments. She was also in schools the first day, at Evergreen Middle and View Ridge Elementary schools. Student Representative Kink had a great first week of school, indicating the school feels more smooth and "normal". Student representative Gilbertson shared Everett High had a pep assembly and there was amazing school spirit. Leadership students were out the first day helping students, which was also a great sign. Director LeSesne welcomed all students and parents back to school. She thanked HR for their work in the para to teacher pipeline. She also asked people to be more aware of stopping for school buses.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was one public comment about the diversity of EPS educators not matching the diversity of the student population, this also includes gender parity.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Director Hirman shared that last week WSSDA started up bi-monthly legislative meetings. A recent ruling (Wahkiakum) will be bringing up some renewed interest in simple majority. There are going to be 48 items on the upcoming WSSDA assembly on September 22. Among other items, there is a proposal for ongoing oversight, ethics and Professional Learning on how to work with AI and ChatGPT technologies.

SUMMER AND START OF SCHOOL UPDATE

The board of directors was provided [a presentation](#) about summer learning opportunities and summer graduation as well as an enrollment update. It also included an overview of the start of school from operational perspectives and family engagement.



POLICY 1411, AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The board of directors heard a proposed revision to [Policy 1411](#), Audience Participation with a second reading and adoption at a future meeting. Proposed revisions are to comply with [HB 1210](#) School Board Meetings—Recording. This legislation requires school districts to make an audio recording of all regular and special board meetings where final action is taken or formal public testimony is accepted. The recording must include school board members' comments, as well as public comments made during public comment period, if any. The requirement to record meetings does not extend to executive sessions or emergency meetings and does not become effective until June 30, 2024.

POLICY 1610, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The board of directors heard a proposed revision to [Policy 1610](#), Conflicts of Interest, with second reading and adoption at a future meeting. Proposed revisions are to comply with [HB 1577](#) Municipal Officers—Beneficial Interest in Contracts. This legislation increases the monthly contract value for which municipal officers may have a beneficial interest from \$1,500 to \$3,000.

POLICY 5010, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND NONDISCRIMINATION

The board of directors heard a proposed revision to [Policy 5010](#), Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination, with second reading and adoption at a future meeting. Proposed revisions comply with [HB 1207](#) Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, and Discrimination to clarify that allegations involving a staff member will not be handled under the processes in Policy 3204 and Procedure 3204P. Additional language has been added regarding discriminatory harassment, employment of persons with disabilities, and nondiscrimination for military service. Definitions have also been added to the grievance procedure. Overall, these revisions are intended to clarify processes and better align with Washington state law.

POLICY 5310, COMPENSATION, PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS AND BENEFITS

The board of directors heard a proposed revision to [Policy 5310](#), Compensation, Payroll Deductions and Benefits, with second reading and adoption at a future meeting. Proposed revisions comply with [SB 5650](#) K-12 Employees—Salary Inflationary Increases. For the 2023-24 school year, the legislation changed the inflationary adjustment index to 3.7 percent. For the 2024-

25 school year, the legislation defines the inflationary adjustment index as the implicit price deflator for the previous calendar year.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

The board meeting video from 9/12/2023 has been uploaded and is available on Vimeo and YouTube.

Vimeo:

<https://vimeo.com/864002907>

YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/wHUPQvKmAwc>

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POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

[All policies and procedures are available online.](#)

Non-discrimination

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 and ADA Coordinator**, [Chad Golden](#), 425-385-4100; **Section 504 Coordinator**, [Dave Peters](#), 425-385-4063.



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