

BoardNotes for staff



Traci Mitchell



Jen Hirman



Charles Adkins



Caroline Mason



Roman Rewolinski



William Kink



Vanessa Covarrubias

Student representatives



MEETING OPENING

During its regular meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, the Everett Public Schools Board of Directors did the following:

The meeting opened at 4:30 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Student Representative Vanessa Covarrubias read the land acknowledgment.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



CORE VALUE CHAMPIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

RECOGNITIONS

Our September Core Value Champions were celebrated at the Board meeting with a focus on Respect. Principals from Lowell Elementary, Garfield Elementary, and North Middle Schools recognized students who exemplify this core value.

Deson Paulis from Lowell was praised for his kindness and helpfulness. Ella Esquibel from Garfield was honored for her trustworthiness and positive attitude. Mathew Cervantes from North was celebrated for treating everyone with compassion and respect.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The school board received the [superintendent's report](#), which highlighted Dr. Saltzman's commitment to student and staff safety. The report also focused on gratitude for the generous donations from community partnerships that will support our students.



BOARD COMMENTS

At the October 8 board meeting, the School Board of Directors made the following comments:

Director Jen Hirman expressed enthusiasm for ParentSquare, the district's new communication tool, noting that she's hearing positive feedback about its impact. She also mentioned the district's cell phone policy is being well-received.

Director Charles Adkins commented that he is enjoying the instructional reviews, emphasizing their value in understanding the district's progress.

Director Caroline Mason echoed praise for ParentSquare, sharing that parents and staff have both been giving positive feedback. She also noted community support for the cell phone policy and highlighted the successful start to the school year, with students showing general agreement with the policy.

Director Roman Rewolinski congratulated the Core Value Champions and emphasized how their kindness and compassion are aspirational and that each student is a role model for all of us. He thanked Dr. Saltzman for the update on the AI Committee and praised Durham's donation of a bus for student projects. Additionally, he discussed school security, emphasizing the need for community support for the next levy to fund necessary upgrades.

President Traci Mitchell spoke about the two instructional reviews she has attended. She reflected on visiting Emerson Elementary, where she witnessed the progression of the dual-language program and its positive impact on student achievement, especially among multi-language learners.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

Student Representative Will Kink spoke to the success of district sports teams, noting great attendance and how enjoyable it is to see district members, including Dr. Saltzman, at the games. He praised the district's cell phone policy, particularly at the middle and high school levels, noting it has significantly reduced phone use in classrooms and improved student engagement.

Student Representative Vanessa Covarrubias focused her report on the positive impact of the AVID program. She also noted increased student participation in programs and activities this year, such as ASB elections. She attributes the rise in involvement to the district's cell phone policy, which she feels has made students more respectful and engaged in their school community.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

One public comment came from a parent, a substitute teacher in the district, who expressed concerns about unsafe walking routes and transportation policies for their student at Evergreen Middle School and requested a written response from the Board.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Director Jen Hirman shared that the General Assembly updated WSSDA's legislative platform, with 120 school districts participating. The assembly adopted two new position sets and retired a COVID-19-related position, adding new priorities like African American Studies, clean buildings funding, and mental health support. Everett Public Schools submitted priorities on student safety, multilingual learners, special education, building funding, and full funding of basic education. Hirman also reminded directors to vote in the upcoming elections by October 16.

AGENDA

STRATEGIC PROGRESS MONITORING: POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT PATTERNS

The board received an [update on the district's progress in preparing students for college and careers](#), a key strategic priority. Data from the classes of 2010 to 2022 show steady trends in postsecondary enrollment, with new information for the class of 2022 from the Education Research and Data Center and National Student Clearinghouse. Additional insights from Naviance and Equal Opportunity Schools highlighted military enlistment and college aspirations. The presentation also included updates on FAFSA completion rates, a strong indicator of future postsecondary enrollment.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION:

Rotary Club of Everett Next Generation Project Spotlight

A spotlight was given on the Rotary Club of Everett's Next Generation Project, which has partnered with Everett Public Schools for 13 years to support AVID students. The Rotary provides career speakers, mentorship, and \$8,000 in funding for field trips, college visits, and classroom grants, benefiting over 600 students across multiple schools. This partnership enhances college and career readiness for students at six schools in the district.

Start of School Update

A presentation to the board highlighted the successful launch of the 2024-25 school year, covering key areas such as leadership development, academic resources, hiring, and operational updates. The presentation showcased short video vignettes from stakeholders involved in the start-of-year preparations, illustrating the district's investments in areas like transportation, nutrition, technology, and community engagement. This format consolidated content typically shared over two meetings into one comprehensive overview, emphasizing alignment with strategic priorities.

Instructional Materials Overview and Adoption Schedule

A forecast of core instructional material needs for the next seven years was presented, focusing on equity, standards alignment, and technology integration. The presentation outlined fiscal responsibility for long-term adoption plans and next steps to support diverse student populations.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS unanimously moved to a second reading for a future meeting:

Policy 1621, Board-Superintendent Operating Protocols, Proposed Revision (first reading)

Proposed revisions to Policy 1621 reflect clarifications on board-superintendent protocols, based on discussions during the August Board Retreat. These updates provide clearer guidance on current practices and procedures for the Board of Directors.

Policy 2410, High School Graduation Requirements, Proposed Revision (first reading)

The proposed revisions to Policy 2410 align with the State Board of Education's (SBE) updated graduation requirements, including the removal of the Graduation Requirements Emergency Waiver starting in 2024-25. The district has introduced the performance-based pathway option for students this school year, and outdated graduation requirements for the class of 2021 are being removed.

Policy 3430, Comprehensive Safe Schools Plan, Proposed Revision (first reading)

The proposed revisions to Policy 3430 ensure compliance with RCW 28A.320.125, requiring district safe school plans to include how substitute teachers and temporary employees receive essential information on school safety policies, procedures, and functional drill responses. These updates focus on improving communication of safety protocols to all staff, including temporary personnel.

Policy 4215, Title I, Parent and Family Engagement, Proposed Revision (first reading)

Proposed revisions are to reflect recently updated Title I, Part A law to better support disadvantaged students. These changes aim to enhance educational equity by providing additional resources and support to schools with high percentages of low-income students.

Policy 5160, Sexual Harassment, Proposed Revision (first reading)

The proposed revisions to Policy 5160 reflect new Title IX rules that took effect on August 1, 2024, updating requirements for how school districts must handle sex-based harassment and discrimination complaints. The policy title will change to "Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment of Staff Prohibited," aligning federal standards with Washington's existing sexual harassment guidelines.

Policy 5320.2, Illness, Injury and Emergency Leave, Proposed Revision (first reading)

The proposed revisions to Policy 5320.2 update the definition of "family member" to include grandchildren and siblings, in alignment with RCW 49.46.210 (2).

Policy 6220, Requirements for Bids and Contracts, Proposed Revision (first reading)

The proposed revisions to Policy 6220 include updates to bid laws for small works rosters, based on changes in SSB 5268, and allow districts to use bids from other governmental entities. The revisions also align with state statutes on interlocal agreements and incorporate best practices recommended by the State Auditor's Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

MEETING VIDEO AVAILABLE ON VIMEO & YOUTUBE

The board meeting video from October 8, 2024, has been uploaded and is available on [Vimeo](#) and [YouTube](#).

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POLICIES & PROCEDURES

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

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Title IX/Civil Rights Compliance Officer and ADA Coordinator, Chad Golden, 425-385-4100,

CGolden@everettsd.org; Section 504 Coordinator, Dave Peters, 425-385-4063,

DPeters@everettsd.org; Gender-Inclusive Schools Coordinator, Joi Odom Grant, 425-385-4137,

JGrant@everettsd.org.



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