

CASHMERE SCHOOL DISTRICT #222  
Regular Board Meeting  
November 25, 2024

Call to Order: Board Chairman Aaron Bessonette called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Declaration of Quorum: Board members Paul Nelson, Nicholas Wood and Sara Pipkin were present. Board member Roger Perleberg was absent. There were twenty others in attendance including Superintendent Johnson.

- 1.0 Flag Salute – Board Chairman Aaron Bessonette led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2.0 Approval of the Agenda – On a motion by Nicholas Wood, the Board approved the agenda as presented.
- 3.0 Reports, Correspondence and Program
  - 3.1 Board Report – Board member Paul Nelson reported that their recent trip to Spokane was positive. Board Chairman Aaron Bessonette emphasized the value of additional training, noting that it was a worthwhile investment of time for the Board.
  - 3.2 CHS Student Report – High school ASB Vice President, Sophia Batanoiu, was present to update the Board on current CHS activities and sporting events. She stated the Veteran’s Day program was a huge success adding it was an amazing to see the community come together to celebrate our veterans. She highlighted the efforts of the leadership students who plan and coordinate this important celebration. Ms. Batanoiu went on to state the annual Key Club food drive had concluded last week and a wonderful contribution was made to our local food bank on behalf of the club.
  - 3.3 Superintendent Report –
    - 3.3.1 High School Accreditation Presentation – NCESD Superintendent, Michelle Price, announced she was present on behalf of the state to present the high school with an accreditation plaque. Ms. Price congratulated high school principal Craig MacKenzie and his team for their achievement.
    - 3.3.2 CHS Student Internship Reports – High school principal, Craig MacKenzie, was present to introduce several high school students who currently participate in various student internships. Mr. MacKenzie expressed gratitude for the students present, representing over 30 internship participants.

Senior, Sophia Bataoiu shared her experience at Confluence Health, where she job shadows her father, a night-shift physician. In her free time, she engages with other staff to explore diverse medical opportunities and has gained familiarity with medical terminology. Ms. Batanoiu highlighted the importance of critical thinking, problem-solving, and taking risks, as life-and-death situations often require these skills. While the environment can be stressful, she is adapting to the challenge of assisting people during their most vulnerable moments. Her focus during the internship has shifted toward neurology.

Next, Junior, Peighton Sadler shared her internship experience. Ms. Sadler has spent the past two months in Leah Hammond's class, aspiring to become a great teacher like her mentor. She spends an hour and a half daily at Vale during their reading and writing period. Initially expecting a teacher assistant role, she found herself deeply involved, helping kids with reading and writing and applying strategies to enhance their learning. Ms. Sadler enjoys making learning fun, embodying the Bulldog Way, and plans to pursue teaching after graduation. Her internship has provided valuable insight into the teaching profession and classroom environment. She loves seeing students excited about learning and appreciates connecting with them, both in and out of school. While motivating students can sometimes be challenging, she finds them all amazing and loves working with them. Ms. Hammond who was also present at this meeting, praised Ms. Sadler for her dedication, noting her ability to run fluency activities, build strong relationships, and work hard every day. She shared the students absolutely adore Ms. Sadler, and she feels fortunate to have her in the classroom.

Lastly, Junior, Jake Peterson spoke to the Board about his internship. Mr. Peterson is currently interning at Basin Ag Solutions (BAS) in Quincy WA, working 2-3 times a week under the guidance of General Manager, Nate Nihill and Plant Manager, Jason Guzman-Hernandez. BAS's service group, its largest division, handles custom work such as repackaging a variety of food items. The Quincy branch specializes in repackaging fruit (e.g., apples with caramel) and vegetables (e.g., carrots with ranch) with a focus on strict sanitation standards, including the use of mandatory hair nets. Initially, Mr. Peterson expected physically demanding and messy work but discovered a different experience. He participated in an audit, where he was responsible for reviewing data and documents, contributing to a 98% audit score. This task offered valuable insight into audit processes and business operations. Mr. Peterson identifies GRIT as his Bulldog Way element, emphasizing the precision and intensity required for audit preparation. The experience was stressful but rewarding, providing him with a deeper understanding of business management. Mr. Peterson views this internship as excellent preparation for college and as a foundation for potentially starting his own business in the future.

3.3.3 Budget/Enrollment Update – Business Manager Bowen Charlton was present to update the Board on budget and enrollment for the district. He stated enrollment in October had experienced a slight decrease due to some students moving out of district however as a whole we continue to be at about 48 students over what was budgeted.

3.3.4 Year End Budget Report – Business Manager Bowen Charlton presented the Board with an overview of the 2023-24 Fiscal Year End Budget Report. He reviewed the [attached PowerPoint](#) presentation with the Board covering the District's fund balances as well as an overview of the following key areas: enrollment, revenue to budget and expenditures for the year.

4.0 Visitors – There were several visitors in attendance, including community member Tom Hart, who elected to speak. Mr. Hart provided insight on the topic of school shootings, discussing strategies and measures schools can take to mitigate this threat. Specifically, he referenced the possibility of the district having a policy that would allow identified, trained staff to be armed. He referenced two districts in the state that have such a policy. Aaron Bessonette thanked Mr. Hart for his time and input and that the school board shares his priority of safety. Mr. Bessonette went on to say that

while the board has taken no official action, the general consensus is not in favor of arming staff due to a host of reasons.

5.0 Consent Agenda –

5.1 Approval of Board Minutes – On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved the October 21, 2024 regular board meeting minutes, October 21, 2024 special meeting minutes and October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 special meeting minutes as presented.

5.2 Approval of Warrants and Financial Reports

Pay date of November 12, 2024: Warrants #325452 - #325533 totaling \$211,031.66  
 General Fund \$174,344.72  
 ASB \$36,686.94

Pay date of November 29, 2024: Warrants #325546 - #325616 totaling \$179,547.44  
 General Fund \$169,634.53  
 ASB \$9,912.91

Pay date of November 29, 2023: Payroll in an amount totaling \$2,073,823.70, including benefits.

On a motion by Nicholas Wood, the Board approved the warrants and payroll as presented.

6.0 Action Items

6.1 Board Policy & Procedure 2413 Equivalency Credit Opportunities (Second Reading)

On a motion by Nicholas Wood, the Board approved Board Policy & Procedure 2413 – Equivalency Credit Opportunities as presented.

6.2 2025 Board Meeting Calendar – On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved the 2025 Board Meeting Calendar as presented.

6.3 Personnel Report –

**1. Retirements/Resignations/Releases/Terminations, etc.**

Name	Position	FTE	Request/Reassignment
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**2. Requests for Leave/Transfer/Change in Hours/Additional or New Assignment**

Name	Position	FTE	Request/Reassignment
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**3. Recommendation for Employment/Transfer/Return from Leave of Absence**

Name	Position	FTE	Comments
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**3a. Contract Approvals/Renewals 2024-2025**

**4. Recommendation/Request for Approval of Positions to be Posted**

Position	FTE	Comments
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**5. Status of Staff Vacancies Posted, this date:**

Position	FTE	Closes
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**CO-CURRICULAR/SUPPLEMENTAL POSITIONS**

**1. Resignations/Releases**

Name	Position	Comments
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**2. Non-Renewals**

Name	Position	Comments
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**3. Recommendations for Employment/Renewals: Co-Curricular Contracts for Activities**

Name	Position	Comments
Shelby Brunner	CHS – Asst Track Coach	Replaces Steve Simonson
Kylie Brunner	CHS – Asst Track Coach	Replaces Keith Collins
Juan Rodriguez	CHS – Asst Track Coach	Moved from 0.67 to 1.0 stipend
Aster Dotson	CMS – Asst Track Coach	Replaces Matt Fritz
Jesse Black	CHS – Asst Girls Wrestling Coach	

On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved the Personnel Report.

**6.4 Surplus Property –**

Cashmere School District:

- Toro Broom – 1

On a motion by Sara Pipkin, the Board approved the surplus property as presented.

**7.0 Adjournment** – On a motion by Paul Nelson and there being no further business to discuss, Board Chairman Aaron Bessonette adjourned the meeting at 7:15 PM.

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Secretary

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Chairman