

CASHMERE SCHOOL DISTRICT #222
Regular Board Meeting
March 24, 2025

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

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

1.0 Flag Salute – Chairman Aaron Bessonette led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 Approval of the Agenda – Chairman Aaron Bessonette stated both agenda action items 6.2 and 6.3 would be bumped up to be addressed at the conclusion of the Student Report.

On a motion by Sara Pipkin, the Board approved the agenda as modified.

3.0 Reports, Correspondence and Program

3.1. Board Report – Board member Sara Pipkin shared that she recently attended the Future Freshman Night at the high school. She praised everyone’s efforts in organizing the event, adding that, as a parent of an incoming freshman, she felt it was a well-planned and thoughtful experience.

3.2. CHS Student Report – ASB Vice President, Sophia Batanoiu updated the Board on recent CHS activities and sporting events. Ms. Batanoiu shared spring sports are officially underway! She highlighted current records and stats, providing a recap of each team’s most recent games and scores. She also noted that the last few weeks had been especially busy as students and staff prepared for Career Week, which culminated in a celebration last week. The event featured a full week of themed dress-up days—something student typically only experience during the regularly scheduled Spirit Week.

6.0 Action Items –

6.2 Request for Out of State Travel – DECA International Leadership Conference –

On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved the request for out of state travel for the DECA International Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida.

6.3 Request for Out of State Travel – FCCLA National Leadership Conference –

On a motion by Vice-Chairman Nick Wood, the Board approved the request for out of state travel for the FCCLA National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida.

3.3. Superintendent Report –

- 3.3.1. Enrollment / Fiscal Update – Business Manager Bo Charlton stated there was a slight decrease in numbers for the month of March, but that the district is still at about 38 students over the budgeted enrollment. Overall, he stated enrollment remains strong but that he would continue to monitor this area closely as we near the end of the school year. Mr. Charlton communicated the budget is tracking as far as end of year budget.
- 3.3.2. Legislative Session – Business Manager Bo Charlton provided an update to the Board on the current state of the legislative session. He stated we're at a pivotal point, as revenue projections for the year have now been released. This is a key moment to focus on our priorities moving forward and take advantage of opportunities and for districts to voice their opinions. He went on to say the "Big 3" has shifted somewhat. While Special Education (SpEd) and Materials, Supplies, and Operating Costs (MSOC) remain central, Transportation is not believed to proceed at this point. Mr. Charlton shared that the next few weeks are expected to be very busy, and continued close monitoring will be essential.
- 3.3.3 District Artificial Intelligence (AI) Team Presentation – Superintendent Johnson provided an overview of the recent AI training he and the district team attended. He emphasized the importance of using AI technology responsibly and effectively. Mr. Johnson also gave special recognition to CMS Assistant Principal, Jon Shelby, for taking on a leadership role in this initiative. Mr. Shelby went on to share his goal of sharing key learnings from the conference and inviting the Board to review the draft AI policy currently in development. He also outlined potential next steps for AI integration within the district.

Mr. Shelby presented the attached [PowerPoint](#) which included an introduction to AI basics and examples of successful AI implementation. Following the presentation, several staff members who also participated in the AI training shared their takeaways and how they are currently using or planning to use AI tools in their work. To conclude, Mr. Shelby outlined next steps for the district's AI integration. Such topics included increasing parent communication around AI, developing a student acceptable use policy, offering professional development for staff, conducting a student use survey and including AI-focused content for the upcoming August Institute.

- 4.0 Visitors – CHS parent Shela Pistoiresi was present to voice her concerns about girls' basketball. Chairman Aaron Bessonette thanked Ms. Pistoiresi for her comments and redirected her to the Athletic Director to address these types of concerns.

- 5.0 Consent Agenda –

5.1 Approval of Board Minutes – On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved the February 24, 2025 minutes as presented.

5.2 Approval of Warrants and Financial Reports

Pay date of March 12, 2025: Warrants #326062 - #326147 totaling \$315,248.55
 General Fund \$290,932.87
 ASB \$24,315.68

Pay date of March 31, 2025: Payroll in an amount totaling \$1,855,401.55, including benefits.

On a motion by Sara Pipkin, the Board approved the warrants and payroll as presented.

6.0 Action Items –

6.1 Board Policy & Procedure 4300 – Immigration Enforcement in Schools (Second Reading) – Superintendent Johnson presented the Board with Policy & Procedure 4300 – Immigration Enforcement in Schools (Second Reading).

On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved Board Policy & Procedure 4300 – Immigration Enforcement in Schools as presented.

6.4 Personnel Report –

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

Name	Position	FTE	Request/Reassignment
Carmen George	Vale – SpEd Paraprofessor		Resignation
Rachel Battis	Vale – SpEd Paraprofessor		Resignation

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
Denise Gann	Vale – 4 th Grade Teacher		Replaces Scott Griffith (Internal Transfer)
Heather Couture	Vale – Math Specialist		Replaces Tracy Griffith (Internal Transfer)

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
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On a motion by Vice-Chairman Nick Wood, the Board approved the Personnel Report.

8.0 Executive Session – Superintendent Johnson requested an approximate 30-minute executive session on a personnel matter with no action to follow per RCW 42.30.100(1)(g).

On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board moved into executive session at 8:12 PM.

On a motion by Sara Pipkin, the Board moved out of executive session at 8:45 PM.

9.0 Adjournment – On a motion by Vice-Chairman Nick Wood and there being no further business to discuss, Chairman Aaron Bessonette adjourned the meeting at 8:46 PM.

Secretary

Chairman