

Snake River School Board of Trustees
Held at Snake River Community Library
924 W. Highway 39, Blackfoot, ID 83221
Wednesday, March 19, 2025

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Lon Harrington called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Other board members present were Josh Sorensen, Larin Mortimer, and Carol Hepworth. Toni Ibarra was absent. Also attending was Superintendent Mark Kress.

2. PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Josh Sorensen opened the meeting with a prayer.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Larin Mortimer and seconded by Carol Hepworth to approve the agenda as presented. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

4. PATRON FORUM

There were no comments in the Patron Forum.

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. Consent Agenda

Minutes: Minutes of February 20, 2025

Retirements/Resignations: Amy Cox, H.S. Math Teacher (retiring); Sharon Gustaveson, H.S. Math Teacher (retiring); Sylvia Long, Third Grade Teacher; Teresa Kay, SRO K-8 Teacher; Jenna Whitaker, SROHS English Teacher; Chersten Egbert, Middle School EL Parapro; Kylee Dawson, Bus Driver; Paul Turpin, Bus Driver

New Hire: Zachariah Shepard, Custodian

Reconciliation Reports; Budget Report, Payroll/Claims Payable February 2025

A motion was made by Josh Sorensen and seconded by Larin Mortimer to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with a special thanks to those retiring for their years of service given to the district. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

b. High School Football Field

At a past board meeting, Travis Goodwin presented a plan to redo the football field. Superintendent Kress gave a quick report on what was previously reported. The discussion centered also around when and how the project would take place. Superintendent Kress was hoping to start the project the day after track was complete near the end of the school year. He will also contact Travis Goodwin to get the project lined up.

Larin Mortimer moved and Josh Sorensen seconded to approve the repair of the high school football field in the amount of approximately \$32,680, as presented. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Superintendent Report

- 1. Jr. High Grant:** Superintendent Kress discussed the ongoing process of the DEQ grant for the Jr. High. The district asked for \$700,000 and as of right now, the district received a verbal commitment to receive \$400,000. Once the grant is finalized, work will begin on Jr. High water system.
- 2. Legislative Topics:** The legislative session is in full swing and Superintendent Kress discussed some of the important issues that can potentially affect education including HB 305, the “use it or lose it” bill and potential legislation providing a 5% increase to all employees including certified, classified, and administration. He will continue to keep the board updated.
- 3. Safety Report:** Superintendent Kress reported on the success of the Jr. High intercom system that was recently installed. He thanked the board for their quick approval and invited the board to view how that system works. He would like the board to consider possibly putting this system in other schools in the future.
- 4. Investment Report:** A portion of the expired CD that was at Frontier Credit Union was transferred to D.L. Evans Bank at 4.25% interest and the other portion also transferred to National Life.

b. Upcoming Events

- 1. March 21st will be Teacher Inservice**
- 2. March 24, 25, 27, 28, 29 West Side Story at the high school**
- 3. April 3-7 will be Spring Break, Students return on April 8th**
- 4. Distinguished Young Women will be April 4th at the High School**
- 5. Jr. SAT Day will be April 17th.**
- 6. Summer Leadership Institute will be May 6th in Pocatello. Lon will represent the board at the training.**

7. POLICY READINGS

a. Second Readings (Policy Updates from ISBA)

Policy 1000-Board of Trustees Governance Policy Guiding Principles: This is a new Governing with Purpose Policy as described above that takes the place of the previous Policy 1000, now Policy 1005.

Policy 1005-Legal Status and Operation: This policy is being renumbered from 1000 to 1005 to make room for a Governing with Purpose Policy at the start of this section. It also includes some optional revisions to the introductory paragraph of this policy.

Policy 2000- Instruction Policy Guiding Principles: This is a newly revised Governing with Purpose Policy as described above. This policy has been heavily revised with the aim of providing more options to include among the board's priorities and to make it more customizable.

Policy 3000-Student Policy Guiding Principles: This is a new Governing with Purpose Policy as described above that takes the place of the previous Policy 3000, now Policy 3005.

Policy 3005-Entrance, Placement, Transfer: The only change is the policy number, moving from Policy 3000 to Policy 3005.

Policy 3070-Students of Legal Age: This update reduces the sharing of information about adult students with their parents, bringing the policy into alignment with recommendations from the attorney we consulted about this policy. This is a required update to an optional policy.

Policy 3500F-Notice of Health Services: This update removes a reference to the required dyslexia screening discussed in Policy 2415 from the list of exams requiring parent permission. This is because it appears to not fall within the scope of these requirements and is required by Idaho Code.

Policy 3516-District-Provided Epinephrine: This is a new model policy for boards that wish to keep district/school-provided epinephrine on hand in case of an emergency. It was created and reviewed by an attorney.

Policy 4000-Community Relations Policy Guiding Principles: This is a newly revised Governing with Purpose Policy as described above. This policy has been heavily revised with the aim of providing more options to include among the board's priorities and to make it more customizable.

Policy 4105-Public Participation in Board Meeting: Both versions of this update include changes is based on case law that cautions against restricting public comment at board meetings too narrowly. It notes that speakers can supplement their comments with written testimony and emphasizes that the board will apply any restrictions narrowly and, in a viewpoint,-neutral way. It also includes some minor changes in phrasing for clarity and brevity.

Policy 5000-Personnel Policy Guiding Principles: This is a newly revised Governing with Purpose Policy as described above. This policy has been heavily revised with the aim of providing more options to include among the board's priorities and to make it more customizable.

Policy 6000-Goals-Administration: This is a newly revised Governing with Purpose Policy as described above. This policy has been heavily revised with the aim of providing more options to include among the board's priorities and to make it more customizable.

Policy 7000-Goals-Financial Management: This is a newly revised Governing with Purpose Policy as described above. This policy has been heavily revised with the aim of providing more options to include among the board's priorities and to make it more customizable.

Policy 8000-Goals-Non-instructional Operations: This is a newly revised Governing with Purpose Policy as described above. This policy has been heavily revised with the aim of providing more options to include among the board's priorities and to make it more customizable.

Policy 9000- Goals-School Facilities: This is a newly revised Governing with Purpose Policy as described above. This policy has been heavily revised with the aim of providing more options to include among the board's priorities.

A motion was made by Josh Sorensen and seconded by Carol Hepworth to approve the second readings of Policy 1000-Board of Trustees Governance Policy Guiding Principles; Policy 1005-Legal Status and Operation; Policy 2000-Instruction Policy Guiding Principles; Policy 3000-Student Policy Guiding Principles; Policy 3005-Entrance, Placement, Transfer; Policy 3070-Students of Legal Age; Policy 3500F-Notice of Health Services; Policy 3516-District-Provided Epinephrine; Policy 4000-Community Relations Policy Guiding Principles; Policy 4105-Public Participation in Board Meeting; Policy 5000-Personnel Policy Guiding Principles; Policy 6000-Goals-Administration; Policy 7000-Goals-Financial Management; Policy 8000-Goals-Non-instructional Operations; Policy 9000- Goals-School Facilities. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

First Readings: (Policy Updates ISBA)

Policy 1315-District/School Planning: Along with a couple of other minor items, this policy updates the term "student learning plan" to "career pathway plans".

Policy 1510-Open Meeting Law Compliance and Cure: This update corrects a couple of spelling/grammar mistakes.

Policy 2435-Advanced Opportunities: This mainly updates references to the Fast Forward program to the Advanced Opportunities program and the advanced opportunities scholarship to the early graduation scholarship.

Policy 2435F-Advanced Opportunities Participation Form: This mainly updates references to the Fast Forward program to the Advanced Opportunities program and the "learning plan" to "career pathway plans"

Policy 2470P-Self-Directed Learner Procedure: This update references to the "learning plan" to "career pathway plans".

Policy 3460-School-Related Foreign and Extended Travel by Students: It was previously unclear whether this policy could apply to domestic travel as well as travel outside the US. It now explicitly applies to any extended travel.

Policy 3518—Treatment of Opioid Overdoses: This update corrects two internal legal citations and expands upon the legal references at the bottom.

Policy 4110-Public Complaints and Suggestions: This update corrects a grammar/usage typo.
Policy 6320-Evaluation of Administrative Staff: Along with other minor cleanup related to grammar and consistency with ISBA’s style guide, this update clarifies which written report it references in the final paragraph.

A motion was made by Josh Sorensen and seconded by Larin Mortimer to approve the first readings of Policy 1315-District/School Planning; Policy 1510-Open Meeting Law Compliance and Cure; Policy 2435-Advanced Opportunities; Policy 2435F-Advanced Opportunities Participation Form; Policy 2470P-Self-Directed Learner Procedure; Policy 3460-School-Related Foreign and Extended Travel by Students; Policy 3518—Treatment of Opioid Overdoses; Policy 4110-Public Complaints and Suggestions; and Policy 6320-Evaluation of Administrative Staff. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Because there was no new information to report, the board elected not to go into executive session.

Josh Sorensen denied the action to go into Executive Session. Carol Hepworth seconded. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

9. CLOSING INFORMATION ITEMS

The next regular Board Meeting will be April 16, 2025 at Snake River High School at 7:00 p.m. The high school FCCLA program will be providing dinner for the board beginning at 6:30 p.m.

10. ADJOURN

Larin Mortimer moved and Josh Sorensen seconded to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Terisa Coombs
Clerk

Lon Harrington
Chairman

April 16, 2025
Date