

Washougal School District 112-6
Board of Directors Special Meeting & Work Session Minutes
Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Special Board Meeting; Executive Session; Work Session, 5:30 p.m.

Washougal School District Office & Online Zoom Meeting

<https://washougalsd-org.zoom.us/j/89049866319>

Webinar ID: 890 4986 6319

Generated by Julie Ferguson on Tuesday, March 10, 2026

PRESENT: Sadie McKenzie, Board Director; Ida Royer, Board Director; Jane Long, Board Director; Paul Hooper, Board Director; and Aaron Hansen, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board.

1. Special Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

A. Board Director District #1 Interview

Sadie McKenzie called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. The board interviewed Greg Retchless for the open Board Director District #1 seat.

2. Executive Session

A. RCW 42.30.110(1)(h) Evaluate the Qualifications of a Candidate to Elected Office

Sadie McKenzie recessed to executive session at 5:44 p.m. until 6:15 p.m. to discuss the appointment of District 1, as allowed by RCW 42.30.110(1)(h). The board is expected to take further action following the executive session.

B. Return to Special Meeting

The board returned from executive session at 6:15 p.m.

3. Board Organization

A. Discussion & Appointment of Board Director District #1 Position

Sadie thanked Greg for applying and Jane said she feels his experience can bring a lot to the board. Paul appreciates how Greg looks at all options for students. Ida said she appreciates his willingness to listen to other perspectives. Jane Long moved to appoint Greg Retchless to the Director District #1 position, and Paul Hooper seconded. The board voted by roll-call vote as follows: Hooper, aye; Long, aye; McKenzie, aye; Royer, aye. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Oath of Office

Superintendent Aaron Hansen administered the oath of office to Greg Retchless for Board Director District #1.

4. Work Session

Sadie McKenzie led the pledge of allegiance to start the work session.

A. Student Representatives - High School

WHS student reps Olivia Rios, Marley Weaver and Jacob Larzalere were in attendance and introduced themselves and gave a brief background for our new board member. Marley spoke about Grade Point Averages systems: weighted vs non-weighted and how our system of non-weighted averages puts some students at a disadvantage. Jacob said he feels many students don't take Standardized Testing seriously and factors that contribute to student test scores. Olivia expressed that open classroom discussions, encouragement of club participation, and more hands-on group activities could help increase student engagement. She also suggested surveys as a means of gauging school health metrics. The surveys could be two-fold: teachers completing a survey of how they view their classrooms and students completing one about how they feel about a class, student interaction, and the teacher. Olivia also shared how we could meaningfully show appreciation of our teachers who make students feel seen and comfortable asking for help. Students would vote for the teacher they think has been most impactful. The teacher who receives the most votes would get a prize. This could include one teacher each semester.

B. Education Support Professionals Appreciation

PSE Leadership Misty Young, Ladonna Davis, Cynthia Sweet, Penny Porche, and Kathy Sloop, attended and gave a brief synopsis of what they do and how long they have been with the district. Aaron Hansen recognized and thanked them for all the various contributions they give to our students and staff and provided them with a small gift.

C. Board & Superintendent Update

Sadie shared that the board had a listening tour roundtable at Gateway Church and the participant had great ideas for getting more involvement. Stride is coming up and volunteers are needed.

Jane said parent teacher conferences are coming up, gave a shout out to David Cooke for inviting the board to see a study lesson and said it is officially baseball season.

Paul said the year is going quickly and it's almost time for Spring Break.

Aaron's update highlighted that it is time to start looking to next school year and our TTK, Kindergarten, and Dual Language enrollment is open for the 26-27 SY. Middle school basketball is in the final week with one team at CCMS and four teams at JMS. Spring Sports have started and we have an ongoing project to get our baseball and softball fields in good playing condition. The same group is doing work on the soccer and football fields at JMS. The pole vault pit at the high school was replaced due to a donation from the Smead family. He was able to visit Cascadia Tech Academy with a lot of superintendents from the area and was able partner up with some Washougal students. Last week was the 5th grade band concert at CRGE and they sounded incredible. Unite! is putting out their annual survey and is looking for people to participate. Listening Tour events may be changing format to try to get more participation. OSPI's Roadmap to Success has been published and Aaron shared it with the board.

D. Legislative Update

Aaron shared that the legislative session should be completed by March 12th but may need to go into Sine Die if they need more time. We should not plan on getting more MSOC funding and we are most concerned that funds may be reduced for Running Start and Transition to Kindergarten. We are hopeful that the sales tax break on services for school districts will pass and the bus depreciation changes will impact us but we do a very good job with our depreciation schedule.

E. Chartwells Presentation

Chartwells Area Director Hossein Akhtarkhavari and Director of Dining Services Sheri Cranford were in attendance to present an update on how things are going. The students are enjoying having a variety of options every day, including a scratch cooked item, which has led to higher participation. Breakfast participation has increased 52.6 % and lunch 35.4% due to the variety of options. They also have a "cheers" program which recognizes staff for various ways they go above and beyond. They are recognized by school district and regionally.

F. NEW Policy 1240 - Committees, first reading

Aaron presented new Policy 1240-Committees which ensures focused governance by limiting board representation to no more than two members per committee. It establishes a formal process for committee creation, defining their specific purpose and terms through a majority board vote. The board discussed.

G. NEW Policy 4110 - Citizen Advisory Committees & Task Forces, first reading

This policy provides a formal framework for Citizen Advisory Committees & Task Forces to ensure community engagement is structured and transparent. By defining clear responsibilities and timelines, the district can effectively leverage local expertise to provide the Board with diverse perspectives and actionable insights necessary for informed decision-making. The board had no questions.

H. Policy 5011 - Sexual Harassment of District Staff Prohibited, first reading

Revisions were made to update the nondiscrimination statement and include protected classes in Washington. The board had no questions.

5. Adjourn

Jane Long moved to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. and Paul Hooper seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Dated this 24th day of March, 2026

President

Secretary to the Board