



# Columbia Gorge

EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT

400 EAST SCENIC DRIVE, SUITE 207  
THE DALLES, OR 97058

Board Meeting  
February 17, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.  
Via Zoom  
**MINUTES**

These are the Official Minutes. They were approved  
at the March 17, 2021 Meeting of the Board.

**Members Present:** Paul Zastrow  
Susan Gabay  
Ian Stromquist  
Stephanie Ritchie  
Tammarra Ferguson

**Staff/Guests Present:** Pat Sublette, Superintendent  
Penny Grotting, Assistant Superintendent  
Kim Domenighini, Director of Fiscal Services  
Bob Dais, Director of Human Resources  
Antonia Sanchez, Migrant Education Administrative Assistant  
Christa Rude, Early Learning Hub Director  
Christy Christopher, STEM Hub Director  
Gabrielle DeLeone, Regional Educator Network Director  
Jonathan Fost, Migrant Education Director  
Lori Burkart, EI/ECSE Assessment Specialist  
Maggie Lowe, Early Learning Director  
Scott Whitbeck, Director of School Improvement  
Stan Felderman, Administrative Assistant/Assistant Bookkeeper  
Susan Vallie, Executive Assistant

## **Call to Order and Flag Salute**

Chairman Zastrow called the meeting to order at 7pm  
Director Gabay led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Introductions**

Director of School Improvement, Scott Whitbeck, who is currently assigned to D21 and Bob Dais, Director of Human Resources, introduced themselves.

## **Comments from the Audience about Non-Agenda Items**

Audience members had no comments.

## **Presentations/Reports**

### Legislative Update

Chairman Zastrow gave a brief overview of the current status of the legislative session.

### CGESD Superintendent

The second in-service day of the year, for ESD Staff, took place earlier in the week. The agenda, for this virtual event, included the introduction of the Intercultural Development

Inventory (IDI) theory-based assessment to staff, required OSHA COVID training and Committee Meetings.

The ESD recently acquired a furniture donation and had been named in a BOLI complaint, which is expected to be dropped as the person was not an employee of the ESD. In addition, an ESD employee had responded to an email scam in November, which resulted in the loss of approximately \$2,000. A small percentage of the funds have been recovered. The loss, which was immediately reported, was turned over to the insurance company who recommended enhanced email security be explored. It is not expected insurance rates will increase next year because of this.

Transitions taking place in the office are giving the ESD more infrastructure as new routines are put into place.

Last week the EI/ECSI Building discovered a leaking water pipe in the basement. There was minimal damage and no flood remediation needed. The program has also been exploring options for additional space.

The Oregon Department of Education acknowledged Maggie, and her Staff, for their work with LEAP (an acronym for Learning Experiences—an Alternative Program for Preschoolers and Parents). The hope is the program will be funded for an additional year, as it has been this year through a pilot program for rural schools.

#### Assistant Superintendent

Assistant Superintendent Grotting has been providing support for a number of programs and people, especially Bob Dais, Kim Domenighini and Scott Whitbeck as they immerse themselves in the CGESD culture and learn the systems which are in place.

#### Columbia Gorge ESD Personnel Report

Bob Dais highlighted a report, which will be presented each board meeting, outlining the status of GCESD changes and vacancies for the month.

### **Department Reports**

#### Migrant Education

Jonathan Fost spoke of how his department has been providing additional support for families by providing supply packages which include blue blocker glasses. The first distribution took place last week, prior to the winter weather which came in. A second distribution is scheduled for the upcoming weekend. More than 100 families participated in the first distribution. Arrangements for supplies to be dropped off will be made for those unable to make it to one, of the two, distributions. In conclusion Jonathan was pleased to share how some emergency Title 1C funding has come through and will be up for acceptance later in the meeting.

#### Four Rivers Early Learning Hub

Christa Rude has been working on budget strategies in preparation for a presentation to their board, and the submission of grants. In addition, the hub has been working with DHS to get computers, awarded through the Tides program, into the hands of families. Parenting classes are in the works, in association with local partnerships, and Play and Learn at home groups are being supported.

### Columbia Gorge STEM Hub

Per Christy Christopher the Hub's current focus has been on preparing at home STEM Kits for students. They have also been moving forward with obtaining, and planning for, grants - one of which has been extended through September.

### Regional Educator Network

Per Gabrielle DeLeone, they have several ongoing projects in the works, including grants for equity focused training and dual credit courses.

### Early Learning

Maggie Lowe shared how proud she is of the preschool staff, and their success with the LEAP program. She also shared how their Operations Blueprint for a return to in person school is about done.

## Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2021
- b. Ratify Financial Reports for January 2021
- c. Approval of Contracts/Agreements
  1. North Central ESD for Human Resources Services – Updated
  2. Extension of Agreement with CTA for Tech Services
  3. Awarded Title IC Emergency Funds
  4. Agreement with Willamette EDS for PowerSchool Training
  5. Furniture Donation from Education Northwest
  6. Northwest Education for Equity Committee Support
  7. Carnegie Foundation - Improvement Learning and Support Platform
  8. Talent Ed-Hire Program
  9. DocuSign for eSignature Services

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Director Gabay.  
Director Ritchie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## Discussion/Action Items

- a. Licensed Staff Contract Renewals and Extensions  
One area of note; Three professionally licensed staff members have been put in contract status, versus a year-to-year contract.  
Motion to approve item 6a was made by Director Stromquist.  
Director Ritchie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- b. Approve Budget Committee Meeting Calendar  
Motion to approve the Budget Calendar was made by Director Ritchie.  
Director Gabay seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- c. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CGESD Education Association  
As explained by the Superintendent, this MOU has been a work in progress since this summer and aligns dates with the law.  
Motion to approve it (the MOU) was made by Director Ritchie.  
Director Gabay seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

d. OAESD Chair-Elect Nominations for 2021-22

As explained by the chair, each year the OAESD presents those who have been nominated by local boards for consideration as Chair-elect for their officers Council. This year there is one person: Linda Brown.

Director Ritchie moved to accept the nomination.

Director Stromquist seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Informational Items**

- a. The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, via Zoom.
- b. Special District Elections will take place on May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- c. A bargaining team will need to be put together to work on the next agreement with the association.
- d. The Superintendent's review will be discussed at the next meeting, with the actual review taking place in April.
- e. Adriana Garcia has had to rescind her acceptance of the support position with the Learning Hub. The position will be reposted.

**Adjourn**

Chairman Zastrow adjourned the meeting at 8:10pm.