

CASHMERE SCHOOL DISTRICT #222
Regular Board Meeting
May 19, 2025

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

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

- 1.0 Flag Salute – Board Chairman Aaron Bessonette led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2.0 Approval of Agenda – On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved the agenda as presented.
- 3.0 Reports, Correspondence and Program
 - 3.1. Board Report – Board Chairman Aaron Bessonette noted that graduation is quickly approaching. He also mentioned that prom was recently held.
 - 3.2. CHS Student Report – Superintendent Johnson invited Leadership Advisor Andy Groce to introduce both the outgoing and incoming ASB officers. Mr. Groce shared that this year he worked with an exceptional group of student leaders—some of whom are returning in new roles for the upcoming school year. He described them as one of the most active and dedicated groups he’s ever had. The current officers were present to deliver a student report, share their plans for the upcoming school year, and introduce the newly elected ASB officers. The ASB officers for the 2025-26 school year are as follows:

ASB President – Eliana Thomas
ASB Vice-President – Hadley Westlund
ASB Treasurer – Brooke Chalmers
ASB Secretary – Rylan Reiber
 - 3.3. Superintendent's Report –
 - 3.3.1. State Board of Education Student Representative Recognition – High School Principal Craig MacKenzie introduced sophomore Riley Acheson as a proud bulldog and aspiring future educator. He shared that three months ago, Ms. Acheson expressed interest in applying to serve as a student representative on the Washington State Board of Education. He went on explain she had recently been selected as the next student representative. Ms. Acheson went on to speak about how her interest was inspired by her DECA Advisor, Mr. Pakinas, who encouraged her to step out of her comfort zone and grow as a leader. She described the experience so far as incredibly rewarding and shared her passion for working with kids and pursuing a career in education. Ms. Acheson also expressed that serving in this role is her way of honoring and giving back to the Cashmere School District. Board Chairman Bessonette thanked Ms. Acheson for

being here and invited her to return to future board meetings whenever available.

- 3.3.2. FFA National Qualifying Team Presentation – Superintendent Johnson went on to introduce High School Teacher Rusty Finch. He stated he had asked Mr. Finch to give the Board an update in his department. Mr. Finch shared the attached [PowerPoint](#) presentation with the Board. Topics covered in the PowerPoint were the various State FFA Competitions this group participates in, such as Food Science, Meats Evaluation and Milk Quality. Mr. Finch went on to say this group performed very well, bringing home five state titles. Board Chairman Bessonette thanked the group for their time presenting today and for a fine job of representing Cashmere year after year. Superintendent then requested Action Item 6.2 – Request for Out of State Travel for the National FFA Conference be moved up directly after the group’s presentation.

6.0 Action Items

- 6.2 Request for Out of State Travel – National FFA Conference – On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved the request for out of state travel for the FFA National Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. The conference will be held October 25 – November 1.
- 3.3.3. Special Recognition – “NCESD Friend of Children Award” Presentation – Superintendent Johnson introduced the next special recognition, welcoming North Central Educational Service District Board Chairman, Michael Musick, to make a couple of announcements. Mr. Musick presented the *Friend of Children* award to Tom Day and Stan Radoslovich in recognition of their dedicated volunteer service—spending their lunch hours patrolling the school parking lot and serving as positive role models for the students of the Cashmere School District. He then went on to present the *Vision and Leadership* award to the Cashmere School District Board of Directors, announcing that they had been named the NCESD School Board of the Year!
- 3.3.4. 2025-26 CHS Staffing Update – Dean of Students, Health Occupations – Superintendent Johnson introduced CTE Director Rebecca Swanson, who provided an update to the Board regarding expansion of Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways, specifically a planned expansion in Health Sciences for the upcoming school year. Ms. Swanson presented the attached [presentation](#) and outlined the increasing regional demand for Health Science professionals. She noted that job growth in this field is projected to far outpace the average. She also informed the Board that the district currently has a .6 FTE Health Sciences teaching position posted in anticipation of this expansion.

Superintendent Johnson then addressed the current status of the Vice Principal vacancy, which was posted earlier in the spring. High School Principal Craig MacKenzie reported that the district initially received 26 applications and identified three finalists. However, none of the candidates were ultimately selected for the role. As a result, the high school administration began exploring alternative solutions. They decided to reach out to the high school

staff to gauge interest in a temporary leadership role as Dean of Students. The goal was to identify individuals respected by both students and faculty. Two strong internal candidates emerged: Andy Groce and Megan Carlson. Both will serve as Dean of Students for the upcoming school year. Superintendent Johnson expressed strong confidence in this decision, emphasizing that Mr. Groce and Ms. Carlson have each built meaningful relationships with students and are well-positioned to support the school community in these roles.

3.3.5. District Fiscal / Enrollment Update – Business Manager Bo Charlton provided the Board with an update on the district’s current fiscal status and student enrollment. He stated that as the fiscal year comes to a close, the district is on track to end the year as expected financially. Additionally, enrollment numbers have exceeded projections, with approximately 35 more students enrolled than originally budgeted.

3.3.6. 2025-26 Budget Adoption Process and Timeline – Business Manager Bo Charlton provided the Board with an overview of the 2025-26 budget adoption process and timeline. He explained that the first step in the process is driven by enrollment projections. Mr. Charlton noted that he and the district’s Payroll Officer, Kelly Thies work closely to ensure that payroll figures, which can account for up to 85% of the total budget, are accurate and aligned. Their collaborative review will help ensure that budget numbers are solid and reliable. Following the internal review, Mr. Charlton will schedule individual meetings with the Board members to present the formal budget and address any questions at that time.

4.0 Visitors – There were several visitors in attendance but none elected to speak.

5.0 Consent Agenda

5.1. Approval of Board Minutes – On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved the April 21, 2025, the May 5, 2025 and May 14, 2025 minutes as presented.

5.2. Approval of Warrants and Financial Reports

Pay date of May 12, 2025: Warrants #326362 - #326437 totaling \$155,748.02

General Fund	\$129,667.62
ASB	\$26,080.40

Pay date of May 30, 2025: Warrants #326450 - #326501 totaling \$118,893.71

General Fund	\$111,535.56
ASB	\$7,358.15

Pay date of May 30, 2025: Payroll in an amount totaling \$1,885,917.76, including benefits.

On a motion by Vice-Chairman Nick Wood, the Board approved the warrants and payroll as presented.

6.0 Action Items

6.1. Request for Out of State Travel – National FBLA Conference – On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved the request for out of state travel for the FBLA National Conference in Anaheim, California. The conference will be held June 28 – July 3.

6.3. Resolution 2025-3 – Delegating Authority to WIAA – Superintendent Johnson presented the Board with Resolution 2025-3 – Delegating Authority to WIAA. This is an annual requirement for public school districts to remain a member of WIAA.

On a motion by Sara Pipkin, the Board approved Resolution 2025-3 – Delegating Authority to WIAA.

6.4. 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
Tana White	CSD – Occupational Therapist	0.8	Replaces Kiersten Moholy
Andy Groce	CHS – Summer, Extended Learning		
Karin Blomquist	CHS – Summer, Ramp Up		
Tim Miller	CHS – Custodian		Replaces Randi Belcher
Megan Carlson	CHS – Dean of Students		Replaces Scott Brown
Andy Groce	CHS – Dean of Students		Replaces Scott Brown

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 as presented.

6.5. Surplus Property –

Cashmere School District:

- Drill Press – 2
- Table Saw – 1

On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board approved the Surplus Property as presented.

7.0 Discussion Items – there were no discussion items.

8.0 Executive Session – Personnel (No Action) – Superintendent Johnson requested an executive session on a personnel matter with no action to follow per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g).

On a motion by Paul Nelson, the Board moved into executive session at 7:29 PM.

On a motion by Sara Pipkin, the Board moved out of executive session at 8:02 PM.

9.0 Adjournment – On a motion by Paul Nelson and there being no further business to discuss, Chairman Aaron Bessonette adjourned the meeting at 8:03 PM.

Secretary

Chairman