

**NorthEast Washington ESD 101
Board of Directors
November 17, 2020**

MINUTES

The NorthEast Washington ESD 101 (NEWESD) Board of Directors met in regular session on November 17, 2020, at 4202 S. Regal Street, Spokane, Washington. Chair Sally Pfeifer confirmed a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Mary Kempel led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Present via Zoom

Directors: Mr. Emmett Arndt, Ms. Kathy Bumgarner, Mr. Phil Champlin, Mr. Rand Lothspeich, Ms. Sally Pfeifer, Ms. June Sine and Mr. Chuck Stocker.

Staff: Dr. Michael Dunn, Mr. Mick Miller, Mr. Cassidy Probert, Ms. Michelle Powers, Ms. Tracy Poindexter-Canton, Mr. Steve Schreiner, Ms. Jennifer Ireland and Ms. Mary Kempel.

Guest: Ms. Rachel Eifler.

Communication

Dr. Dunn referenced written communications received regarding services and support provided by NEWESD programs and staff. The Board communications will be shared with NEWESD staff.

Consent Agenda

Minutes from the October 20, 2020 Board meeting and October 20, 2020 Special Board meeting were presented for board approval.

Fiscal Report, Vouchers, Payroll, Grants, Cooperatives, Workers' Compensation, Unemployment, Audit Reports and Interlocal Agreements.

Fiscal Report

Mr. Probert recommended approval of vouchers as audited and certified by the auditing officer (as required by RCW 42.24.080) and those expense reimbursement claims audited and certified (as required by RCW 42.24.090) that have been recorded on the list given to the Board. Mr. Probert also presented a summary of expenditures. Vouchers for October and November 2020 include:

General Fund Accounts Payable (October 21, 2020)

ACH number 202100097 in the amount of \$1,739.39.

General Fund Accounts Payable (October 23, 2020)

ACH numbers 202100098 - 202100118 in the amount of \$18,947.15.

General Fund Accounts Payable (October 23, 2020)

Voucher numbers 336091 - 336120 in the amount of \$114,709.25.

General Fund Payroll (October 30, 2020)

Voucher numbers 336121 - 336122 in the amount of \$4,553.88.

General Fund Payroll (October 30, 2020)

Voucher numbers 336123 - 336150 in the amount of \$476,257.72.

General Fund Payroll (October 30, 2020)

Wire transfers 202090009 - 202090010 in the amount of \$853,196.20.

General Fund Accounts Payable (October 28, 2020)

Wire transfers 202090011 - 202090012 in the amount of \$37,472.26.

General Fund Accounts Payable (October 30, 2020)

ACH numbers 202100119 - 202100141 in the amount of \$8,897.35.

General Fund Accounts Payable (October 30, 2020)

Voucher numbers 336151 - 336159 in the amount of \$14,203.70.

General Fund Accounts Payable (November 6, 2020)

ACH numbers 202100142 - 202100169 in the amount of \$11,027.82.

General Fund Accounts Payable (November 6, 2020)

Voucher numbers 336160 - 336176 in the amount of \$25,382.70.

Total for Accounts Payable Vouchers:	\$232,379.62
Total for Payroll Vouchers:	\$1,334,007.80
Total for Unemployment Vouchers:	\$0.00
Total for Workers' Compensation Vouchers:	\$0.00
Total for Compensated Absences Vouchers:	<u>\$0.00</u>
Grand Total:	\$1,566,387.42

Workers' Compensation Cooperative (October 23, 2020)

Voucher numbers 229583 - 229612 in the amount of \$22,869.73.

Workers' Compensation Cooperative (October 30, 2020)

Voucher numbers 229613 - 229636 in the amount of \$17,988.13.

Workers' Compensation Cooperative (November 6, 2020)

Voucher numbers 229637 - 229647 in the amount of \$20,832.75.

Workers' Compensation Cooperative (November 13, 2020)

Voucher numbers 229648 - 229680 in the amount of \$29,289.62.

Total for Workers' Compensation Vouchers: \$90,980.23

Grants needing board approval:

Program Type	Granting Agency Program Title ESD Program Title	Original Award
SPED	SPED Pre-K Inclusion Champions Program Pre-K Inclusion Champions	\$15,000.00
State	Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Beginning Educator Support Team (BEST)	\$121,800.00
Federal	Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction CPWI Expansion– Partnership for Success	262,500.00
Federal	Eviction Rent Assistance Program (ERAP) Youth Rental Assistance Same	4,457.00
Federal	SNAP-ED (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education) Program Region 1 SNAP-ED Program	\$102,164.00
Federal	Phase II SPED Pre-K Inclusion Champions Phase II ESD SPED Pre-K Inclusion Champions	\$15,000.00

Personnel – Certificated

Supplemental contract – Dr. Dunn recommended approval of the following supplemental contract for the 2020/2021 school year:

Molly Haffner, psychologist, .5 day at MA 45/1 for a total of \$145.11 to meet a service request of a district.

Contract addenda—Dr. Dunn recommended approval of the following contract addenda for certificated staff to reflect additional years of experience and college credit reported prior to October 15, 2020 and the 2.0% salary increase. Salary placement is based on the 2020/2021 certificated salary schedule.

Diana Anderson, speech language pathologist, 170 days at MA/16 for an adjusted base contract of \$64,195.33.

Jena Ayers, school counselor, 114 days at MA/2 for an adjusted base contract of \$31,118.28.

Marijean Baird, school counselor, 152 days at MA/1 for an adjusted base contract of \$41,036.70.

Jenna Brown, school counselor, 184 days at MA 45/5 for an adjusted base contract of \$55,567.00.

Jamie Cosand, teacher, 184 days at MA/16 for an adjusted base contract of \$69,482.00.

Charles Ducharme, teacher, 92 days at MA 90/2 for an adjusted base contract of \$28,164.50.

Shannon Gates-Thomsen, speech language pathologist, 179 days at MA 90/1 for an adjusted base contract of \$54,247.70.

Molly Haffner, school psychologist, 93 days at MA 45/1 for an adjusted base contract of \$28,557.01.

Jeff Higgins, teacher, 92 days at BA 15/8 for an adjusted base contract of \$24,631.00.

Erika Kellum, school psychologist, 184 days at MA 45/4 for an adjusted base contract of \$55,024.00.

Diane Loriano, school psychologist, 167 days at MA 90/16 for an adjusted base contract of \$70,100.97.

Lorie Mancinelli-Wilson, teacher, 88 days at MA 90/16 for an adjusted base contract of \$36,939.43.

Susan Matteson, speech language pathologist, 176 days at MA 90/16 for an adjusted base contract of \$73,878.87.

Barbara Thompson, teacher, 184 days at MA 45/16 for an adjusted base contract of \$73,955.00.

Kathryn Tribby-Moore, teacher, 184 days at MA 90/16 for an adjusted base contract of \$77,237.00.

Candice Tulberg, school psychologist, 184 days at MA 45/7 for an adjusted base contract of \$57,236.00.

Elisa Vanhoff, teacher, 184 days at MA 90/16 for an adjusted base contract of \$77,237.00.

David Welch, school psychologist, 92 days at MA 90/16 for an adjusted base contract of \$38,618.50.

Personnel – Administrative, Supervisory and Professional

Internal hire—the following professional staff member was awarded an open position:

Abigail Shepherd, student assistance professional serving Cheney Public Schools at an hourly rate of \$32.21. Abigail earned a bachelor’s degree in business and psychology from Evergreen State College and a master’s of social work degree from Arizona State University. She has experience as a mental health counselor at Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center. She completed her MSW internship at Spokane Public Schools and at Excelsior. Abigail has been employed by NEWESD 101 as an education advocate at the Juvenile Detention Center since October 2019.

New hire—the following professional staff member has been hired:

Melissa Claxton, instructional case manager at an annual salary of \$46,679. Melissa has experience as a secretary and a paraeducator for in-school intervention at Riverside School District. Prior to working in the K-12 system, she was a supervisor of customer relations for Pitney Bowes.

Resignation—the following professional staff member has resigned:

Christina Dahl, senior fiscal manager, effective November 20, 2020.

Personnel – Classified

New hires—the following classified staff members have been hired:

Nichole Grimm, ECEAP lead teacher/family support advocate serving Summit Valley School District at an hourly rate of \$22.10. Nichole has experience as a paraeducator in the Summit Valley and Chewelah school districts. She also worked as a health care aide at Chesterfield Health Care Services.

Michelle Taylor, ECEAP assistant teacher serving Mead School District at an hourly rate of \$14.17. Michelle earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Carroll College. She has experience as a pre-k teacher at Meadowlane Christian Preschool and as a pre-k and kindergarten teacher at Discovery School.

Shylo Williamson, ECEAP assistant teacher serving Davenport School District at an hourly rate of \$14.17. Shylo is pursuing a bachelor's degree in education from Whitworth University. She has experience as a substitute paraeducator for Davenport School District and as a substitute in NEWESD 101's ECEAP program.

Motion: Mr. Stocker moved for board approval of consent agenda items as described above including:

Minutes: October 20, 2020 regular meeting and October 20, 2020 special board meeting.

Fiscal Report, Vouchers, Payroll, Grants, Cooperatives, Workers' Compensation, Unemployment, Audit Reports and Interlocal Agreements.

The following supplemental contract for the 2020/2021 school year:
Molly Haffner.

The following contract addenda for certificated staff to reflect additional years of experience and college credit reported prior to October 15, 2020 and the 2.0% salary increase. Salary placement is based on the 2020/2021 certificated salary schedule: Diana Anderson, Jena Ayers, Marijean Baird, Jenna Brown, Jamie Cosand, Charles Ducharme, Shannon Gates-Thomsen, Molly Haffner, Jeff Higgins, Erika Kellum, Diane Lorian, Lorie Mancinelli-Wilson, Susan Matteson, Barbara Thompson, Kathryn Tribby-Moore, Candice Tulberg, Elisa Vanhoff and David Welch.

The following professional staff member was awarded an open position:
Abigail Shepherd.

The following professional staff member has been hired: Melissa Claxton.

The following professional staff member has resigned: Christina Dahl.

The following classified staff members have been hired: Nichole Grimm, Michelle Taylor and Shylo Williamson.

Second: Mr. Lothspeich

Vote: Yes—7, No—0

Discussion/Action Items

1. NEWESD 101 student demographics/data dive—Ms. Jennifer Ireland, Ms. Rachel Eifler and Mr. Steve Schreiner presented a data overview of the demographic makeup of the students attending public and charter schools in the NEWESD 101 region. This work is a result of the newly adopted NEWESD equity and antiracism goal which states: *Explicitly and publicly affirm our commitment as an equitable and antiracist organization by enacting practices, policies and programs that celebrate diversity, equity and inclusion, prohibiting the exclusion or unjust treatment of anyone because of race, gender, social identity or status. Advocate the values of social justice and antiracism while pursuing strategies that dismantle racism within all aspects of our ESD, educational communities and society.*

The presenters shared that by reviewing NEWESD regional demographics and student data they are able to identify student groups, what their experiences are in the educational system, which practices are positively impacting particular student groups and which student groups need attention. The goal is not to change student learning to fit the system but to change the system to fit student learning needs.

2. Core analysis update—Mr. Probert provided a core analysis report for the fiscal year ending August 2020. His analysis included a comparison of the past year to the previous five years. Even with the additional expenditure of the debt payment for the Talbott Event Center bond, NEWESD core continues to be positive year after year. Various programs are also doing well, in large part due to the reduction of expenditures resulting from the elimination of most travel due to COVID. The business office figures have fluctuated this year as a result of some staffing changes.

3. AESD Executive Board meeting report—June Sine reported on the following items from the November 10, 2020 AESD Executive Board meeting:

- The AESD budget was approved. The balance was larger than predicted.
- Superintendent Reykdal presented on how students are affected by the pandemic. He shared that former Governor Christine Gregoire is leading a team to address the loss of learning time for students. He also discussed helping students with connectivity; this is a universal right and should not be a privilege.
- A majority of ESD boards voted to continue with the annual AESD conferences; however, the 2021 conference has been cancelled. Discussions on the coordination of future events will continue.

- Revised new board orientation information will be available on the AESD website soon.
- NEWESD Board members will not be participating in the December 2-4, 2020 AESA National Conference.

Chair Pfeifer thanked June for representing NEWESD on the AESD Executive Board.

4. Board engagement reports—Ms. Sine asked Board members to share that NEWEC mini grants are available, applications are due December 15, 2020. A few individuals have expressed interest in the NEWEC Board vacancies. Board members are still interested in a candidate with an educational background.

Chair Pfeifer and Mr. Arndt participated in accreditation panels on October 29-30, 2020 conducting seven third-year reviews and one initial review. They were both impressed with the districts' genuine desire to improve student learning. Mr. Miller thanked them for serving on the panel.

5. Superintendent's report—Dr. Dunn reported on the following items:

- While many districts are working toward bringing back additional grade levels to in-person learning, they are now adapting to the newly released restrictions in effect until December 14, 2020. East Valley, West Valley and Newport school districts have had to revert back to remote learning due to the number of staff and students in quarantine. This process has been further complicated by the recent firing of the Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) officer. Resumption of regular meetings with SRHD will begin next week. NEWESD has also scaled back staffing through December 11, 2020. These restrictions are an attempt to reduce community-wide spread so students can remain in school.
- NEWESD staff are volunteering in the Adams Elementary School Bite2Go program, delivering food to families' homes each Friday. Staff have traditionally tutored students; however, this has not been possible during the pandemic.
- He and Mr. Miller recently travelled to Reardan-Edwall and Mary Walker to facilitate school board work sessions.
- As of now, four districts will be conducting superintendent searches in the coming year. NEWESD has been contacted to consider facilitation of two of those searches.
- Board members are invited to a portion of the December 3 NEWASA meeting via Zoom. As part of the professional learning related to equity, antiracism, and the book study of *White Fragility*, a few area school students of color, and allies, will share their lived experiences in our schools.

Mr. Miller updated the Board on the following items:

- The Washington State Department of Health has approved the NEWESD behavior health licensure application. Staff are now working on the fee for service financial structure for the program and developing contracts for service with managed care organizations (MCOs). We will also be looking for districts that will be interested in partnering. He anticipates being able to begin services late spring. There is significant need for this service regionally.
- A team of NEWESD staff are working, in consultation with representatives from local tribes, on a statement to recognize indigenous lands within the service area. The goal is to make others aware that “we” were not the first to dwell on this land and to help change the hearts and minds of our communities. The draft statement reads, *“NEWESD 101 is situated on the ancestral land of the Plateau Peoples who inhabited the highlands between the Rocky Mountains and Pacific coast, a vast area including portions of Eastern Washington. Some of the region’s tribes include the Spokane, Coeur d’Alene and Kalispel bands, along with those making up the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. NEWESD 101 extends its deepest respect and gratitude to its indigenous neighbors.”* Mr. Jared Brown, Ms. Michelle Grove and Ms. Kristin Monson are part of the University of Washington Native American Education Certification program.
- The Open Doors program has renewed the third-floor lease in the Next Generation Zone facility for one year. This coming Spring, they will review the intent to continue this lease beyond this addition year. Open Door will join the other NEWESD facilities currently providing GED testing. The GED program has experienced incredible success.

Mr. Kassidy Probert reported on the following:

- Regional enrollment numbers for 2020-21 continue to be below final 2019-20 enrollment. The increase in enrollment from September to October was because running start students get counted for the first time in October. Mr. Probert shared the enrollment comparison graph by district. Although districts anticipated a decrease in enrollment, for many the loss was greater than projected. This loss is not consistent region-wide, there are some rural districts that have experienced an increase in enrollment. Kindergarten is down approximately 15% statewide; middle school and high school have remained flat.
- The first Ridership report for transportation was released. Only 25% of students are being transported compared to 2019-20; however, districts are not experiencing the same level of expenditure savings. Whether they transport one student or 50, the cost to run the bus is the same. This will continue to be an issue.
- ESD 112 is coordinating the second round of PPE ordering. Our region ordered approximately \$83,000, which is less than our last order due to many districts still having sufficient PPE on hand.

Ms. Tracy Poindexter-Canton shared some of the feature stories from the next issue of FOCUS, to be released December 7, 2020: 1) Prevailing through a pandemic, a district perspective – focusing on uplifting experiences and connections with students and families, 2) Learning Management System (LMS) regional trainings, outreach and support; and 3) a tribute to Dr. Ramona Griffin who will be retiring. Chair Pfeifer complimented the inclusive work Tracy has been doing in her new role.

6. Board retreat (January 19, 12:30-3:45 pm)—the Board will revisit the proposed board retreat during the December Board meeting. They are considering postponing the retreat until the COVID restrictions have been lifted and the event can be held in person.

7. NEWESD 101 Board holiday messages (A1-A2)—Board members approved the holiday message for staff and the holiday card for clients.

8. Legislative report—with the re-election of Governor Inslee and results of the other legislative races, the Democrats hold a slight majority in the House and Senate. The legislative session will be held virtually, no more than 3-4 legislators will be on the floor at any one time. At this time, there appears to be no interest in scheduling a special session.

The NEWESD regional priorities have been shared with legislators, and they have been invited to attend the December 3 NEWASA meeting. The AESD legislative priorities are being finalized.

Adjournment

Chair Pfeifer adjourned the regular board meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Sally Pfeifer, Chair

Secretary to the Board