



## Jefferson County School District 509-J

# Monday, October 9, 2023 2023-2024 BOARD MEETING

### Regular Session (7:00pm)

*Hybrid: In-person and Electronic Meeting via Zoom –  
Work Session will take place in-person only, no remote access*

#### **MEETING LOCATION:**

**JCSD 509J – SSB Board Room  
445 SE Buff Street, Madras, OR 97741**

[ACCESS ZOOM MEETING HERE](#)

Phone: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 880 1433 7734 Passcode: 945024

### **2023-2024 Board of Directors:**

Chair Kevin Richards, Vice-Chair Courtney Snead, Laurie Danzuka, Jacob Struck and Regina Mitchell

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## **REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chair Kevin Richards, Laurie Danzuka, Jacob Struck and Regina Mitchell

**ABSENT:** Vice Chair Courtney Snead

#### **CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Chair Kevin Richards called the meeting to order immediately following the work session at 6:53pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **WELCOME NEWLY APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER REGINA MITCHELL / OATH OF OFFICE**

Board Chair Kevin Richards introduced Regina Mitchell, the newly appointed (October 9, 2023) board member and shared some positive comments he has heard in the community from people that know her, and people that may not know her but heard about her background and experience and are impressed and encouraged for what she will bring to our district.

Regina Mitchell took her oath of office.

“I Regina Mitchell do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Oregon. I will faithfully and honorably discharge the duties of the appointed Jefferson County School District Board Director, position 2, to the best of my ability, so help me God.”

## **BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL & AGENDA ADOPTION**

Board Secretary noted attendance including the new board member.

Board Chair Kevin Richards asked if there are any comments and called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Superintendent Jay Mathisen informed the board of the update to the personnel sheet.

Laurie Danzuka made a motion to adopt the agenda with the noted update to the personnel action item; motion passed unanimously – **Approved 4/0**.

## **WELCOME STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE BOARD / OATH OF OFFICE**

Board Chair Kevin Richards asked Superintendent Mathisen to introduce our student representatives and have them share their report.

Superintendent Mathisen introduced Yashira Chavero, the student representative for Madras High School and she took her oath of office.

Yashira Chavero shared some information about herself and gave her student representative report. She shared information about MHS Sports, to include cheer, soccer, cross country, volley ball and football. She shared about various clubs at MHS: Key Club, Interact Club, Youth Advisory Council, Environmental and Japan Club. She explained the letters presented as part of the student point of view – “If you could make one change to our school what would it be?” – one was about longer passing period (time between classes) and the other was about off campus lunches. Yashira shared about MHS Homecoming, they had senior sunrise, a bonfire, senior scare and around 400 students attended the dance.

Superintendent Mathisen introduced Ashley Camas, the student representative for Bridges High School and she took her oath of office.

Ashley Camas, shared some information about herself and gave her student representative report. She shared the new BHS logo (a unique lightning strike) and explained what “BOLT UP” means at Bridges High School – Bravery, Ownership, Lifelong learning, Team work, Unwavering and Perseverance. She explained when they changed the mascot, they changed the motto from grit to BOLT UP. She shared about what is happening at BHS, in NASU and the ROOTS Auto Partnership (Warm Springs, COCC and ROOTS) program; explaining they have expanded the program, they have more students participating this year. She explained that students can earn college credits and shared a few quotes from students about their thoughts on the program.

Jacob Struck said the board is happy about this program and the growth – positive things happening in our district.

Board Chair Kevin Richards thanked the student representatives for their impressive reports and said the JCSD 509J school board really appreciates their time, their voices for the students, and really appreciates having them at the board meetings.

## **INFORMATION / PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS / COMMUNICATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15, 2023 – October 15, 2023)**

Board Chair Kevin Richards read the proclamation for National Hispanic Heritage Month.

### **Indigenous Peoples' Day (October 9, 2023)**

Superintendent Jay Mathisen read the proclamation for Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Board Chair Kevin Richards and Superintendent Jay Mathisen expressed their sincere appreciation and intent to publicly recognize the importance of National Hispanic Heritage Month and Indigenous Peoples' Day and recognize them not only as a board, but also in our schools throughout the district.

### **Enrollment Summary**

Superintendent Jay Mathisen directed board members to page 23 of the board packet and explained the enrollment summary and answered a few questions relative to the enrollment report and projection of enrollment in the budget process.

### **OSBA Elections Update**

Superintendent Jay Mathisen explained that Laurie Danzuka is running unopposed for the OSBA Board position and Courtney Snead is running unopposed for the OSBA Legislative Committee.

Board Chair Kevin Richards thanked them for being willing to serve and stated how nice it is to be so well represented on the board and in our region.

### **Agricultural Land Lab**

Superintendent Jay Mathisen directed board members to pages 24-38 of their board packet and welcomed Brook Rich to speak about the Madras High School Agricultural Land Lab. He also recognized Principal Tony Summers and Agriculture Teacher/FFA Advisor Lee Hoffman for their work on this project. He briefly explained the two documents (pages 24-38) and shared the uniqueness of this partnership between the district and City of Madras.

Brook Rich shared that we have a signed agreement with the City of Madras for property on the corner of McTaggart and J Street. She explained, that they will be using the land for the Central Oregon FFA Soils competition this Wednesday; the students will identify soil, there will be anywhere between 80 and 100 students on site and she invited the board members to stop by to view the activities. She explained there will be four pits dug for the competition. Brook also explained the work that has been done for a site plan for the next 3 to 5 years. She said we are excited for our students to have their hands on this and they are excited to have this three-year lease in place.

Brook Rich explained, we will have an opportunity to extend the three-year lease at some point, and the desire is to extend the agreement somewhere between a 10 to 50 years. She also explained that in this lease, it is agreed that the district can use the funds to a mutual agreement to improve the property. We are very excited about the possibilities.

Chair Kevin Richards shared, this is a passion of his, and this is a unique opportunity for the community and our district. He believes the last time the district had a land lab agreement was back in the 90s. He is very optimistic about moving forward with this agricultural land lab and believes it will be a good partnership with our community.

Jacob Struck clarified, that the mutual agreement on land improvement means that the money we put into the property can be utilized as an upgrade to property towards the payment.

Discussion took place about the possibilities and Brook Rich confirmed, yes that is the understanding, as they work to improve the property those receipts can be submitted towards the payment.

The board thanked everyone involved in this agreement process and looks forward to moving forward with this partnership and wonderful opportunity.

### **Division 22 Assurances**

Superintendent Jay Mathisen explained that the Division 22 Assurances for 2022-2023, is provided as an independent handout in their board member binder. He explained that in all areas the district is in compliance and he recognized Melinda Boyle stating she has done a really good job, checking and communicating the status of each category. He explained the next steps, the state requires by November 1, 2023 that we post it on the district website.

Superintendent Jay Mathisen asked if there are any questions. There were no questions presented.

Chair Kevin Richards proceeded to the next agenda item, and asked Superintendent Mathisen to speak on the topic.

### **Community Engagement**

Superintendent Jay Mathisen shared about the community engagement activities that have taken place at Warm Springs K-8 Academy. He shared that at the WSK8 back-to-school barbeque we served over 800 meals. He shared that the community also had an opportunity to respond to a survey and the information is summarized on pages 39-40 of the board packet.

Discussion took place about the survey process.

Superintendent Jay Mathisen directed board members to page 41 of the board packet and explained the Impact Aid Family Engagement Night that will take place at WSK8 on October 26, 2023.

Discussion took place about areas of improvement noted in the comments, and the importance of sharing the impact of the one-on-one tutoring/reading classes in our district, and the plans for the meeting format.

### **Budget Committee Vacancies Update**

Chair Kevin Richards explained the three vacancies on the budget committee, position 6 (formerly Regina Mitchell), position 7 (formerly Jim Hutchins), position 8 (formerly Ken Stout) and reminded the board, at the last board meeting Jacob Struck and Courtney Snead were appointed to communicate with the applicants who applied for the vacant board position as to their interest in being on the budget committee and coming forward this evening with a recommendation to fill those budget seats. Courtney Snead is not present this evening, so Board Chair Richards asked Jacob Struck to report.

Jacob Struck thanked Board Secretary Tessa Bailey for the tremendous job in contacting, emailing, documenting and communicating the responses of all the former board position 2 applicants, and he shared that the budget committee vacant positions were advertised in the local paper and posted on the website.

Jacob Struck informed the board, of all the communication and postings for applications there were only three applications submitted. The applicants that applied were the applicants of the previous JCSD board position 2 vacancy, so the board has seen their applications and information from that process; they found the applicants to be highly qualified and willing to be on the budget committee. Therefore, the recommendation is to fill the three budget committee positions with those three applicants.

Jacob Struck also noted for the record, out of fairness, maybe the first two applicants that responded be placed in the full three-year positions (positions 7 and 8) and the last one to respond fill the shorter two-year term (position 6) – it is up to the Board.

Board Chair Kevin Richards requested confirmation on names of the applicants for the budget committee. Jacob Struck confirmed: Sean Gallagher, Marissa Wilson and Demus Martinez.

Superintendent Jay Mathisen directed board members to page 42 of the board packet for the names and confirmations of their willingness to fill the budget committee positions.

Board Chair Kevin Richards said the board will have the opportunity to take action on this later in the meeting and proceeded to the next agenda item.

### **HEARING OF CITIZENS / DELEGATIONS / PUBLIC COMMENT [2-OPTIONS]**

**OPTION 1:** Each person wishing to speak will have signed in at the beginning of the meeting to be recognized. The 509-J Board of Directors reserves this time for citizens to share comments or concerns. Because time is limited, as a standard practice, as a courtesy to others, and to maintain our meeting schedule, guests will be allotted three minutes to speak. If you have a group attending regarding the same topic, you will need to appoint one speaker. The Chair has authority to keep order and impose any reasonable restrictions necessary to conduct an efficient meeting. The Board reserves the right to delay discussion on any item presented until later in the meeting or at a subsequent meeting. Objective criticism of operations and programs may be heard, but no

complaints concerning specific personnel, the visitor will be directed to the appropriate means for filing complaints as necessary.

**OPTION 2:** Jefferson County School District 509-J will accept public comment in writing prior to the meeting. Written comments must be received online (via the comment link on the agenda) by **1:00 pm [the date of the board meeting]** and may be read during the public comment section of the meeting. Comments or complaints regarding specific people or personnel WILL NOT be accepted, please refer to the district complaint policy.

*[In-persons from sign-in sheet - no notes or formal written comment submitted to the board secretary; therefore, the following is a brief summary of the topic shared as a public comment during the meeting.]*

**Jace Wheeler and Beau Herman signed up to speak [Summarized] –**

Jace Wheeler introduced himself, sharing that he works in the tech department during the day and in the afternoon he goes to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century after school program, where he spends time with the students playing eSports. He shared the success of the program and explained the potential opportunities for student scholarships as they proceed in competitions. Jace explained that eSports is ‘exploding / taking-off’ and they probably need more help as they continue to grow, and he looked to Beau Herman to continue the conversation.

MHS eSports Head Coach Beau Herman introduced himself, sharing this is his fourth year with an eSports team; his third year in Madras, he started a team back in Montana. When eSports started in Madras, ten students signed up, the current roster as of today, they have fifty-five students but only thirty-five seats available in the eSports room. It’s a good problem to have, but a challenge. He explained that there are 400 colleges that offer eSports scholarships. He explained the popularity of the program and opportunities with students that otherwise may be left behind. This is a community for them. He explained that even though they play games, it is considered an official sport and they have specific requirements and attendance policies. The students come from Madras, Bridges and four are homeschooled, which brings students in from the community, providing opportunities they may not otherwise have. Beau Herman shared about his experience and qualifications and thanked the board for the opportunity to share eSports with them and would appreciate their support.

Discussion took place - board members asked questions ranging from the variety of games played, the age of students involved, and how much time is spent on the games and competitions.

Jace Wheeler also informed the board that our district has been gifted some money and/or equipment, a donation from Intel through Best Buy of Bend for the eSports program. Head Coach Beau Herman explained, because the Madras team played so well - placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, in the Best Buy competition across the country. The Intel/Best Buy partnership allowed for awards to be given in the local areas of the competition. Mr. Herman explained - they choose Madras because we had the highest enrolled teams, the most games and we played so well.

Board Chair Kevin Richards requested more details on the variety of games; how are the teams formed with the fifty-five students and nineteen teams; how the students determine the games they play; and how are the teams/students selected for competitions. Head Coach Beau Herman summarized the various games, the team structure, how they are selected and also explained the college scholarship opportunities.

The board thanked the guest speakers for sharing eSports with them and for bringing another diverse opportunity to our students to participate, as well as the possibility to attend college - they look forward to learning more about the program as it continues to progress.

Head Coach Beau Herman also shared, this spring they will be including Drone Racing. The reason he is sharing is because of the career focus. Madras is an agricultural community and drones are used a lot in agricultural studies for crops. Getting students introduced in the program, participating and potentially pursuing a certificate program and license, before they even graduate from high school is an example of another opportunity for our students in Madras.

Board Chair Kevin Richards thanked them again for the information and proceeded to the action items on the agenda.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1.1. Approval of Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes of ***September 11, 2023***
- 1.2. Personnel Action
- 1.3. Resolution #24-09, Misc. Grants & Donations
- 1.4. Financial Report

Board Chair Richards called for a motion on the Consent Agenda. Laurie Danzuka noted a correction to Jacob Struck's name on page six of the minutes. Board Secretary noted the correction.

Jacob Struck made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; motion passed unanimously – **Approved 4/0.**

### **2. APPOINT JCSD 509J BUDGET COMMITTEE VACANCIES AND/OR NEXT STEPS**

- 2.1. Position 6 (formerly Regina Mitchell)
- 2.2. Position 7 (formerly Jim Hutchins)
- 2.3. Position 8 (formerly Ken Stout)

Board Chair Kevin Richards stated the recommendation made by Jacob Struck earlier in the meeting for the three vacant budget committee positions to be filled as follows:

- Position 6 (two year term) – Demus Martinez
- Position 7 (three year term) – Sean Gallagher
- Position 8 (three year term) – Marissa Wilson



The recommendation was confirmed by Jacob Struck.

Board Chair Kevin Richards opened up to board discussion and called for a motion on the vacant budget committee positions.

Laurie Danzuka, motioned to approve and appoint the three applicants to the 509J Budget Committee as recommended - Demus Martinez, Position 6; Sean Gallagher, Position 7 and Marissa Wilson Position 8; motion passed unanimously – **Approved 4/0**.

## **BOARD & SUPERINTENDENT HIGHLIGHTS**

- Appreciate how our district supports youth sports. Madras had their first home football game last Saturday. It's an incredible facility and it is incredible to have the involvement with three other communities in attendance.
- The MHS Distinguished Alumni event was really nice.
- Shared a little history about Indigenous Peoples Day and Native American Heritage month and reminded people, when there are requests to come and speak on those special recognition days, please keep in mind, they are Native American every day - all year long.
- It's nice to see kids involved in the special ceremonies and honoring where they came from.
- Really cool to have the lease agreement for the Land Lab.
- Nice to have a resources through Best Care - Coalition for prevention; an onsite coordinator who talks to kids, coaches kids, and informs them about effects.
- Very impressed with all the programs and resources in our district.
- Nice to see the great City and County resources set up in our High Schools.
- Nice to see the newly appointed board member fill our vacant seat – grateful to have the 5<sup>th</sup> member added. There is a high level of functionality.
- Welcome to Regina Mitchell, the new JCSD 590J Board member.
- Appreciation for the students flourishing in our district and those serving, and doing the work that is needed.
- Appreciation for the partnership with Mosaic Medical in the health of our students.

## **REMINDERS MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

- 2023 OSBA Elections (Nominations are open!):
  - October 13 – OSBA to distribute ballots, resolutions submissions
  - November 1 – Opening of member board voting on regional candidates
  - November 15 – Opening of voting period for OSBA Board Legislative Policy Committee, resolutions
  - December 15 – Close of voting
  - January 1 – Newly elected officers, regional board and LPC members take office
- Work Session (5:30pm) & Regular Session (7:00pm), Location:WSK8 – **Monday, November 13, 2023**
- 54<sup>TH</sup> Annual NIEA Convention & Trade Show – **October 18-21, 2023**, Albuquerque, NM
- Family Engagement - Warm Springs K8, **Thursday, October 26, 2023**
- Next Board Leadership (9am) – **Tuesday, November 7, 2023** (Kevin & Regina)
- OSBA Annual Convention **November 9 - preconference / November 10-11, 2023 - Conference**



***Important Note:*** Dates, times and locations of the events listed are subject to change with little or no notice, please check the JCSD 509J website for school board, individual school and performing arts center information on the various events scheduled throughout our district:

<https://www.jcsd.k12.or.us/>

**MEETING CLOSURE/ADJOURNED**

With no further business Board Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 8:10pm.

**Draft to Board for approval at next meeting,  
Monday November 13, 2023**

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Tessa Bailey, Executive Assistant

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Board Chair Kevin Richards

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Superintendent Jay Mathisen

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Date