Tacoma School District

Board Business Meeting

Published on September 23, 2025 at 6:52 PM PDT
Amended on October 13, 2025 at 5:31 PM PDT

Date and Time

Thursday September 25, 2025 at 6:00 PM PDT

The Tacoma Public Schools Board of Directors will meet for a Business Meeting on the date and time above in the 4th Floor Auditorium at the Central Administration Building. All regular Board Business Meetings, Committee of the Whole, and Study Session meetings are open public meetings and everyone is encouraged to attend. Executive sessions are closed to the public. Public parking and the main entrance are located on the west side of the building at South G Street.

ACCOMMODATION

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NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Tacoma Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity, creed, religion, color, national origin, immigration or citizenship status, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, homelessness, disability, neurodivergence, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Civil Rights Coordinator, Gender-Inclusive Schools Coordinator, and Title IX Coordinator:
Tiffany Davis-Brantley

253-571-1252, civilrights@tacoma.k12.wa.us

Section 504 Coordinator:
Laura Tuman
253-571-1086, 504Coordinator@tacoma.k12.wa.us

Tacoma Public Schools
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1357
Tacoma, WA 98401-1357
www.tacomaschools.org

INTERPRETER
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Agenda

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Board President Strozier will call the meeting to order.

B. Flag Salute

Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Land Acknowledgment

Tacoma Public Schools acknowledges that we are on the traditional ancestral and historical lands of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Puyallup Tribe. This acknowledgment serves as a first step in honoring our nearest tribal neighbors and partners who have inhabited this region since time immemorial, and to whom we give thanks for allowing us passage to their lands. We shall intentionally create inclusive and respectful partnerships that honor indigenous cultures, histories, identities, and sociopolitical realities.

D. Roll Call

General Counsel Gbenro will call the roll.

E. Adoption of the Agenda

President Strozier will call for a motion to amend the agenda or approve as presented.

II. Recognition of Staff, Students, and Community

A. RECOGNITION OF THE SHINING STAR PARTNER AWARD TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EQUITY, ENGAGEMENT AND BELONGING DEPARTMENT AT PIERCE COLLEGE

The Community Partnership Office recommends the Board of Directors recognize the Department of Equity, Engagement and Belonging at Pierce College.

III. Superintendent's Report

A. HR: STAFF START OF SCHOOL UPDATE

Fall Staffing video: Slide 4 video link

B. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT TO THE BOARD

C. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATES

IV. Staff Report to the Board

A. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

V. Members of the Public Wishing to Address the Board

School Board members encourage public participation. Your civil input is appreciated. Board members will not respond to your comments during the meeting. The Superintendent or a designee will follow-up with you after the meeting if action is needed.

Instead of speaking at a meeting, you may also send an email to the board at board@tacoma.k12.wa.us. Please contact the Board Office in advance of the meeting for disability accommodations.

A. Public Comment Guidelines

Under **Board Policy 1430 - Public Comment**, the Board President may terminate an individual's comments when the allotted time has passed and may interrupt a speaker to require the same standard of civility that the Board imposes on itself. Examples of uncivil comments include comments that:

- Are libelous or slanderous under a legal standard;

- Are an unwarranted invasion of privacy;
- Are obscene or indecent pursuant to the Federal Communications Act or any rule or regulation of the Federal Communications Commission;
- Violate school district policy or procedure related to harassment, intimidation, bullying, or discrimination;
- Incite an unlawful act on school premises or violate a lawful school regulation;
- or Create a material and substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the Board meeting.

The Board as a whole has the final decision in determining the appropriateness of all such rulings and can maintain order by removing those who are disruptive. However, the Board recognizes the distinction between uncivil discourse, which it will not tolerate, and comments about the Board, district, and/or staff that are negative yet still civil in nature. The Board will exercise its authority to maintain order in a content neutral manner.

B. OPTION 1: VERBAL COMMENT

The General Counsel will call your name when it is your turn to address the school board. Please speak into the microphone. You may have up to three (3) minutes to share your comments or, if there are a large number of speakers, time may be limited at the President's discretion.

C. OPTION 2: WRITTEN COMMENT

The following member of the public submitted written public comment:

(Please note: This comment was sent for the Sept. 11, 2025 Board Meeting but was submitted after the deadline.)

VI. Consent Agenda

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2025 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Approve minutes for Board Business Meeting on September 11, 2025

B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

The Chief Financial Officer recommends that the Board of Directors approve the submission of one general certificate for authorization, and, if authorized, approve expenditure of funds within accepted guidelines.

C. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT)

D. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL REQUESTS

APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-COUNTRY TRAVEL TO SHANGHAI, CHINA, OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 2, 2025

The Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning recommends that the Board of Directors approve travel for six delegates to travel to Shanghai, China from October 24 - November 2, 2025 in the amount of $30,000. [Funding Source: International Trust]

E. FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

F. APPROVAL OF THE PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources recommends that the Board of Directors approve the personnel recommendations to the Superintendent for the September 25, 2025 Board Meeting.

G. OTHER

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARDS, GIFTS, OR DONATIONS

The Chief Financial Officer recommends that the Board of Directors approve acceptance of the included grants, gifts, or donations, and approve the expenditure of funds within accepted guidelines.

H. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

This is the vote to approve consent agenda items.

VII. Policy Matters

A. SECOND READING OF REVISED POLICY 6957: CHANGE ORDERS

The General Counsel, on behalf of the Director of Purchasing, recommends the Board of Directors adopt the revised draft of Policy 6957.

B. SECOND READING OF REVISED POLICY 6959: ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

The General Counsel, on behalf of the Director of Purchasing, recommends the Board of Directors adopt the revised draft of Policy 6959.

VIII. Financial Report

The district's next monthly financial report will be presented.

Monthly financial statements can be found on the district website at https://www.tacomaschools.org/departments/businessandfinance.

A. FINANCIAL PRESENTATION

IX. Curriculum and Instruction

A. APPROVAL OF THE 2025-26 FISCAL YEAR HIGHLY CAPABLE DISTRICT PLAN

The Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning recommends that the Board of Directors approve the 2025-26 Highly Capable Plan and approve acceptance of associated funding estimated at $958,201 for September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026 as well as expenditure of funds within accepted guidelines. [Funding source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction]

X. Business Matters

A. APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BUS PURCHASE FROM SCHETKY BUS SALES AND BRYSON BUS SALES

The Chief Financial Officer recommends the Board of Directors approve the purchase of two (2) Type C diesel buses from Schetky Bus Sales and two (2) Type C diesel buses from Bryson Bus Sales in the amount of $773,010.65. [Funding Source: Transportation Vehicle Fund]

B. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT #1 TO CONTRACT NO. TSD-23-138 BETWEEN FIRST STUDENT AND TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

The Chief Financial Officer recommends that the Board of Directors approve Amendment #1 to Contract TSD-20-219 with First Student to provide maintenance services for the District's transportation fleet in the amount of $384,487, increasing the total contract value to $984,487. [Funding Source: Transportation]

C. APPROVAL OF THE PRECONSTRUCTION SERVICES CONTRACT AND GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE (GMP) AMENDMENT #1 TO CONTRACT NO. TSD-25-171 BETWEEN TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 AND BNBUILDERS: NOVEMBER 24, 2024-DECEMBER 31, 2028

The Chief Operating Officer recommends that the Board of Directors approve the Preconstruction Services Contract and the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Amendment #1 between BNBuilders and Tacoma School District No.10 for the new Central Kitchen Project in the amount of $4,995,177, bringing the total consideration to $5,176,449, excluding sales tax. [Funding Source: Capital Project Bond as approved by voters on February 13, 2024]

XI. Other Business

A. ADOPTION OF BOARD ANNUAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

The District's General Counsel recommends that the Board individually approve and communicate the draft annual goals and objectives they formulated for the 2025-2026 school year.

XII. Closing Items

A. BOARD COMMENTS/REPORTS

Committee Reports:

Community Events:

Updates/Comments:

B. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

October 9, 2025:
6:00PM - Business Meeting

October 16, 2025:
6:00PM - Study Session

October 23, 2025:
6:00PM - Business Meeting

C. Adjourn Meeting

Board President Strozier will adjourn the meeting.

Coversheet

RECOGNITION OF THE SHINING STAR PARTNER AWARD TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EQUITY, ENGAGEMENT AND BELONGING DEPARTMENT AT PIERCE COLLEGE

Section: II. Recognition of Staff, Students, and Community
Item: A. RECOGNITION OF THE SHINING STAR PARTNER AWARD TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EQUITY, ENGAGEMENT AND BELONGING DEPARTMENT AT PIERCE COLLEGE
Purpose: FYI
Submitted by:
Related Material: SHINING.STAR.PARTNER.AWARD_EEB.DEPT_PIERCE.COLLEGE.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
RECOGNITION OF THE SHINING STAR COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EQUITY, ENGAGEMENT AND BELONGING DEPARTMENT AT PIERCE COLLEGE

Department
Community Partnership Office

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
Tacoma Public Schools defines 'partnership' as a cooperative relationship between students, families, schools, school districts and the greater Tacoma Community. Partners are committed to supporting student academic success and the whole child. Partners work with and invest in the education of our children and youth-whose future, in turn, will affect the quality of life in the entire Tacoma community.

When it comes to student success, TPS recognizes that schools cannot do it alone. In recognition of an investment of time, talent, and resources for TPS students, families and staff - the Shining Star Community Partner Award signifies honor and thanks to a community partner who has made a difference by doing what is best for kids.

Current Consideration
The Equity, Engagement, and Belonging Department at Pierce College endeavors to cultivate a deep sense of belonging and engagement for students, staff, and faculty; recognizing that in doing so, students reap the benefits that come with higher education: higher incomes, better health, and greater social and economic mobility that passes from generation to generation. That is why it seemed natural for Pierce college representatives Ms. Shawna Freeman-Lane and Ms. Robin Thompson, to extend their influence beyond the Pierce College walls to form a partnership with our Academic Excellence and Achievement/Advanced Programs department around student well-being and youth leadership.

The purpose of the event was two-fold. One was to provide a student leadership opportunity for TPS students to learn about the project management process. Secondly, through the process, students lifted a wellness event focusing on school district and local mental health resources addressing the types of mental health challenges youth might face potentially becoming barriers to learning. The wellness gathering was a platform to highlight strategies and resources students can access to improve wellness and academic achievement. In collaboration with Shawna and Robin, the students were able to plan and implement a full day of wellness. With presentations from Shallae and Mae from Health Services department and Kristi and Jimmy from Whole Child department, and resources from MultiCare and pierce county health department, the event came together superbly.

Ms. Shawna Freeman-Lane and Ms. Robin Thompson generously opened the Pierce College campus to host this great event. From the moment of inception to the closing down of the day, a five-month project from beginning to end, Shawna and Robin dutifully worked side-by-side with the youth project management team (Felicity Aguon, Safeerah Shah, Rhiannon Meyer, Coleman George, Samuel Sagalovich, Kai Stone, Briony Shipp, Calla Kitmitto, and Ibrahim Jamal) throughout the summer to ensure their success. Not only did they provide a fully functional, well accommodated space for the event, they supplied the team t-shirts and rallied Pierce college professors to also offer highly engaging breakout sessions at the event. The breakout sessions provided by Shawna and other Pierce College staff were entitled Pathways & Possibilities: Wellness, Vision, and Your Next Steps and Taste & Perception: Exploring Your Sensory Superpowers - Discover how your taste buds shape your experience of the world!

This is the start of a wonderful partnership. We look forward to many other events in support of student leadership and success.

Fiscal Implication
None

Recommendation
The Community Partnership Office recommends the Board of Directors recognize Pierce College as being awarded the September Shining Star Community Partner Award.

Strategic Benchmark
Partnership & Participation

Approved By
Chief Communications Officer, Tanisha Jumper

Coversheet

HR: STAFF START OF SCHOOL UPDATE

Section:	III. Superintendent's Report
Item:	A. HR: STAFF START OF SCHOOL UPDATE
Purpose:	FYI
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	HR UPDATE START OF SCHOOL_2025.09.25.pdf

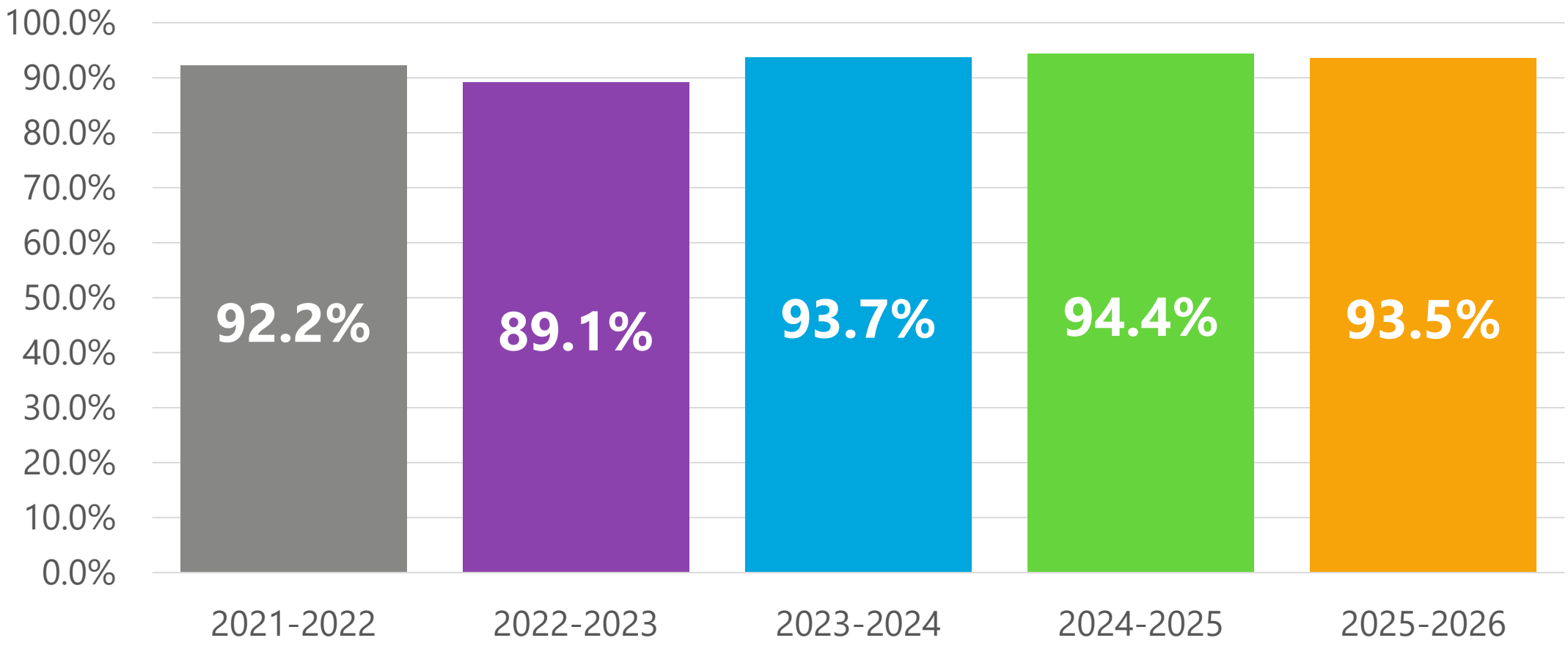
Start of School Update

Presenters: Renee Trueblood, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Steven Deaderick, Director of Operations, Human Resources

Date: September 25, 2024

TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

Certificated Staff Retention



Certificated Teachers

Fall Staffing Displacements

- Enrollment drives staffing placements
- Displacement: adjust staff placements based on student enrollment
  - Ask for volunteers
  - Provide staff options to consider
  - 17 Classroom and Special Education Teachers were displaced
  - All staff notified and reassigned



Certificated Teachers

Fall Staffing District Deployments

October 15 deadline for Final Deployment of:

- Elementary Specialist (PE & Music teachers, and Librarians)
- Multi-Lingual Teachers
- Instructional Facilitators
- Nurses
- Occupational Therapists
- Physical Therapists
- School Psychologists
- Speech Language Pathologists
- Audiologists



Coversheet

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Section: IV. Staff Report to the Board
Item: A. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE
Purpose: FYI
Submitted by:
Related Material: CAPITAL.PROJECTS.UPDATE_25SEPT2025.pdf



Capital Projects Update

Planning & Construction

September 2025

BUILDING FOR ACHIEVEMENT

TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

Oakland Secondary

- Opened September 2025
- Originally built 1912
- Supports students grades 6-12
- Also houses Tacoma Online & Tacoma Flex
- Historic Modernization
- Listed on Tacoma's Register of Historic Places



Photo: Oakland First Day of School, 2025

Capital Projects Update

Major Capital Projects

Lowell Elementary, Fall 2026
- Replacement project
- Construction phase

Maritime | 253 Skills Center, Fall 2026
- New construction, with Port of Tacoma
- Regional career & technical education (CTE) center
- Construction phase

Foss, Summer 2026
- Procurement phase (phase 1 complete)
- Updates to safety features, lighting, carpets, restrooms, courtyard, cafeteria



Photo: Lowell Elementary, Sept. 2025

Capital Projects Update

Major Capital Projects

Jennie Reed Elementary, Fall 2026
- ADA, HVAC, plumbing, roofing, lighting & flooring updates
- Construction phase (phase 1A complete)

Robotics Center, Fall 2027
- On Lemay-America's Car Museum site
- Procurement phase, design-build

Whittier Elementary, Fall 2027
- Design Advisory Committee meeting now
- Students on-site during construction
- Planning phase

iDEA, Fall 2030
- Procurement begins November 2025



Photo: Maritime | 253, Aug 2025

Capital Projects Update

Major Capital Projects

Central Administration Building (CAB)

- Partial renovation (replace all windows, energy efficiency improvements, boiler & piping work, lighting, carpet)
- Most employees moving to Eastside swing site
- December 2025 - Fall 2027

Hoyt

- Improvements to playground, safety equipment, restrooms, & lighting
- Fall 2025

Professional Development Center (PDC)

- Demolition of Buildings B & C
- Working with Parks Tacoma to use the space left by the demo

Photo: Gray MS, Sept 2025



Capital Projects Update

Roofs & Fields

Roof updates
- Lister, completed
- Sheridan, Hunt, Stadium, 2025
- Stanley, 2026

Completed athletic fields
- Hilltop Heritage Middle School, home to Stadium & Hilltop fastpitch
- Peck Sports Field, home to Stadium baseball

Turf replacements
- First Creek & Mary Lyon, Fall 2025
- Gray MS & Birney, Fall 2026
- 14 additional schools by 2029



Inset Photo: New Tencate turf product

Photo: Hilltop Heritage, Dec 2024

BUILDING FOR ACHIEVEMENT

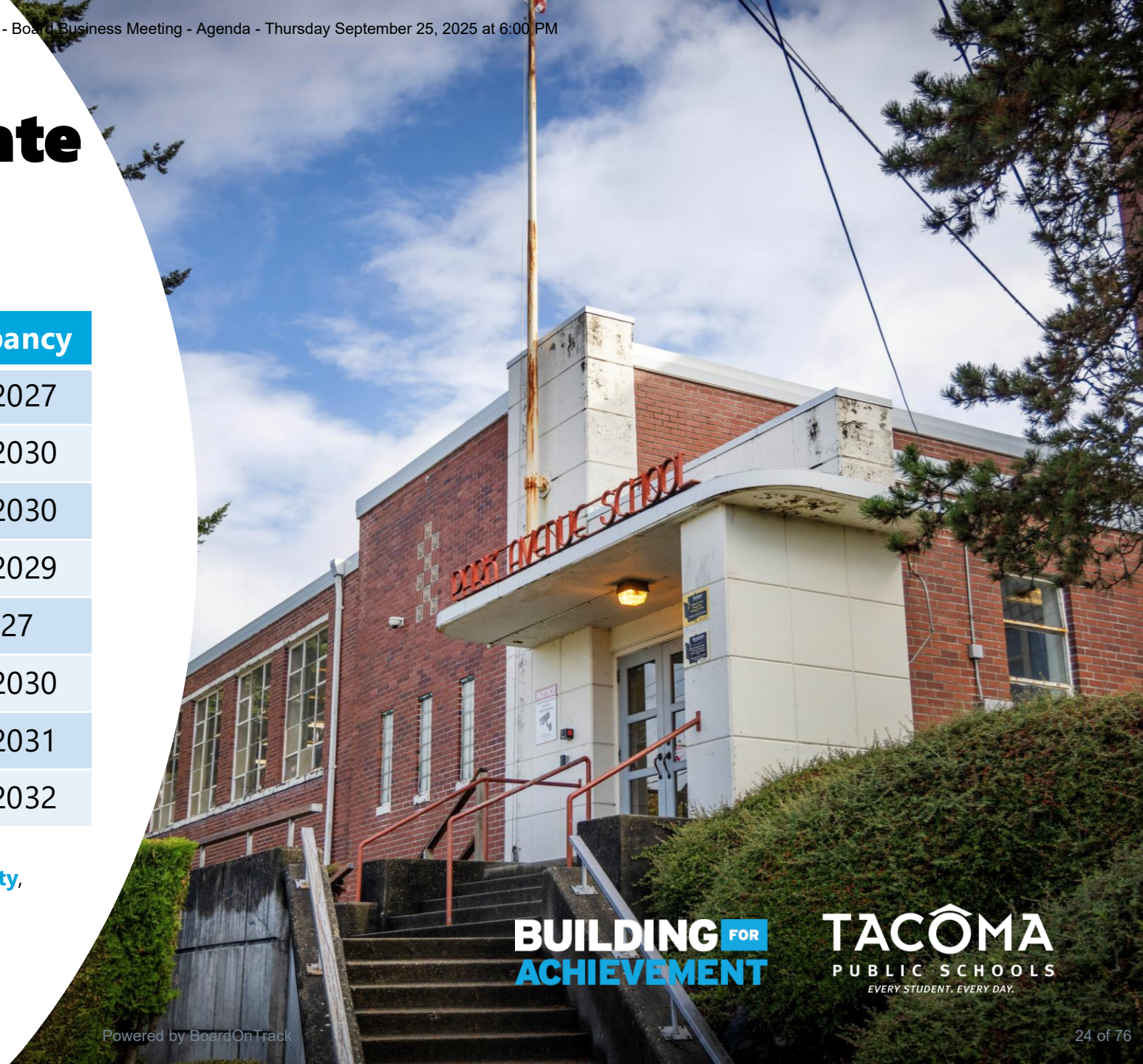
TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

Capital Projects Update

2024 Bond Target Schedule

	Procurement	Occupancy
Central Kitchen	Jan. 2025	Sept. 2027
Athletic Fields	Ongoing	Sept. 2030
iDEA	Oct. 2025	Sept. 2030
DeLong Elementary	Oct. 2026	Sept. 2029
CAB Improvements*		Fall 2027
Pt. Defiance Elementary	Oct. 2027	Sept. 2030
Whitman Elementary	Oct. 2028	Sept. 2031
Stanley Elementary	Oct. 2029	Sept. 2032

*Construction Dec. 2025-Fall 2027
NOTE: Other projects still under exploration: **Joint Maintenance Facility**, **Transportation Center**.



BUILDING FOR ACHIEVEMENT

TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.



THANK YOU

Capital Projects Update
Planning & Construction

BUILDING FOR ACHIEVEMENT

TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

Coversheet

OPTION 2: WRITTEN COMMENT

Section: V. Members of the Public Wishing to Address the Board
Item: C. OPTION 2: WRITTEN COMMENT
Purpose: FYI
Submitted by:
Related Material: M.Capes_Public.Comment_09-25-25.pdf

Good afternoon/night y'all,

I'm a Social Studies teacher at Mt. T and an executive board member of TEA.

We started the year pretty overwhelming high class sizes — with over a dozen teachers hitting above class sizes in ways that I've never seen nor my older colleagues. For example, we have multiple teachers with individual classes near or over 40 students in a class. One particular who has been teaching over 40 years just as of today hit 200 total students, and he has never seen anything like this in his career.

We appreciate efforts to bring those down — especially already posting a humanities opening— as well as advocate for as much FTE as the district can grant us.

But I want to speak this in particular to the impact on staff, but also students, when severely under projecting class sizes. The first few weeks are crucial in developing bonds and community. With the looming knowledge that schedules for students are most likely going to impact a large percentage of students, it can feel jarring for students who have started to create friendships with their peers in their classes and causes a wave of stability — with figuring out new routines, new classmates, and new teachers. For teachers, there's a heavy load work rebuilding class cultures as dynamics get shifted when any student gets shifted out. But before that shift even happens, it's taxing to create and facilitate meaningful lessons when our classrooms are jammed to gills in some cases trying to fit everyone in spaces that were not created for that size.

Oftentimes, these schedule changes due to the vastness of them got without student nor teacher input. No knock to our counseling team working tirelessly on this balancing, but it's the reality with having limited time. But, the impact especially on students is there. From my experience, they are left confused, unheard, and frustrated.

Moving forward, I'd highly advise the board to look into how the paid demographer projects the following year's FTE. Understandably, it'll never be perfect across the board. But in my experience of hearing from union members across the district, there's yearly a wave of underprojected schools — last year middle school and this year high school with Mt T and Stadium highly understaffed causing high case loads (and also Lincoln partly). There does need to be an analysis to examine the root. Maybe it's the impact of the new Tacoma eviction law, maybe the needed planning for people moving to Tacoma (as the City & County are projecting in the next 30 years), but it does have an impact on TPS staff and students.

In solidarity,
Megan Capes
Contemporary World Problems & African American Studies teacher at Mt. Tahoma HS
Tacoma EA WEA-PAC manager

Coversheet

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Section:	VI. Consent Agenda
Item:	A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
Purpose:	Approve Minutes
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	Minutes for Board Business Meeting on September 11, 2025

APPROVED

Tacoma School District

Minutes

Board Business Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday September 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM

The Tacoma Public Schools Board of Directors will meet for a Business Meeting on the date and time above in the 4th Floor Auditorium at the Central Administration Building. All regular Board Business Meetings, Committee of the Whole, and Study Session meetings are open public meetings and everyone is encouraged to attend. Executive sessions are closed to the public. Public parking and the main entrance are located on the west side of the building at South G Street.

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Tiffany Davis-Brantley
253-571-1252, civilrights@tacoma.k12.wa.us

Section 504 Coordinator:
Laura Tuman
253-571-1086, 504Coordinator@tacoma.k12.wa.us

Tacoma Public Schools
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1357
Tacoma, WA 98401-1357
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Directors Present
C. McElroy, E. Bonbright, K. Strozier, L. Keating

Directors Absent
E. Leon

Guests Present
Carriana Wells - Student Representative, Joshua Barber - Student Representative, T. Jones

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I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

K. Strozier called a meeting of the board of directors of Tacoma School District to order on Thursday Sep 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

B. Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

C. Land Acknowledgment

Board President Strozier read a statement to honor and acknowledge that we are on the traditional ancestral and historical lands of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians.

D.

Roll Call

E. Adoption of the Agenda

L. Keating made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
C. McElroy seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Recognition of Staff, Students, and Community

A. STATE HOLIDAYS AND CIVIC OBSERVANCES*

A.1 NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
36 U.S.C. 126

A.2 LABOR DAY
The first Monday in September: RCW 28A.150.050 and RCW 1.16.050

A.3 CONSTITUTION & CITIZENSHIP DAY
September 17, or on the preceding Friday if it occurs on a non-school day: RCW 28A.230.170.

**NOTE: The State Holidays and Civic Observances were inadvertently left off the September 11th Board Meeting agenda and added after the-fact.*

III. Superintendent's Report

A. INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Director of Athletics & Activities Neil introduced this year's cohort of School Board student representatives:

- Joshua Barber, Industrial Design, Engineering and Art (iDEA)
- Carriana Wells, School of the Arts (SOTA)
- Tavaeh Harrell, Mt. Tahoma
- Jordan Fualaau, Lincoln

B. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Superintendent Garcia gave start-of-school updates, thanking community partners, staff and students for all the hard work starting back from day one. He asked the community to be patient as we get in the flow of things.

He also recognized that this is the anniversary of 9/11 and shared remembrances and acknowledged all who were affected by that tragedy.

IV. Members of the Public Wishing to Address the Board

A. Public Comment Guidelines

B. OPTION 1: VERBAL COMMENT

Sharon Freeman, member of Bethlehem Baptist's Affordable Housing committee, addressed the Board regarding the Church's plan to build an affordable housing development on the church's property.

[Tacoma Public schools enjoys strong working relationships with Tacoma Housing Authority (THA) and local community-based organizations serving youth and families within our city, and we are pleased to provide opportunity for "public comment" at a business meeting following proposed housing projects' submission of the application to THA.]

C. OPTION 2: WRITTEN COMMENT

There were no written comments submitted by the deadline.

V. Consent Agenda

A. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 10, 2025 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from Board Business Meeting on 07-10-25.
Minutes were passed as part of the Consent Agenda.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

B. APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 14, 2025 BOARD RETREAT MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from Board of Directors Retreat on 08-14-25.
Minutes were passed as part of the Consent Agenda.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 28, 2025 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from Board Business Meeting on 08-28-25.
Minutes were passed as part of the Consent Agenda.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

E. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT)

F. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL REQUESTS

G.

FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

H. APPROVAL OF THE PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

I. OTHER

J. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

E. Bonbright made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
L. Keating seconded the motion.
A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 4 yeas.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VI. Curriculum and Instruction

A. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO.TSD-25-206 BETWEEN BROCK'S ACADEMY AND TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 FROM SEPTEMBER 1, 2025 - AUGUST 31, 2026

E. Bonbright made a motion to approve Contract No. TSD-25-206 between Brock's Academy and Tacoma School District No. 10 from September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2025.
C. McElroy seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VII. Business Matters

A. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO. TSD-25-225 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TACOMA (TACOMA CREATES) AND TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

E. Bonbright made a motion to approve Contract No. TSD-25-225 between the City of Tacoma (Tacoma Creates) and Tacoma School District No. 10 for reimbursement of transportation activities of up to $320,000.00 for the 2025-2026 school year.
L. Keating seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT #1 TO CONTRACT TSD-20-219 BETWEEN ASSOCIATED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

L. Keating made a motion to approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract TSD-20-219 with Associated Petroleum Products to provide fuel services for all District fleet vehicles and buses in the amount of $3,000,000, increasing the total contract value to $10,500,000 and extending the term through August 31, 2027.
E. Bonbright seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C.

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT #1 TO DISTRICT CONTRACT TSD-22-124 WITH ALEXANDER GOW FIRE EQUIPMENT

C. McElroy made a motion to approve Amendment #1 to Contract TSD-22-124 with Alexander Gow Fire Equipment to extend the contract through the 2025-2026 school year. The service rate remains the same at $56,025, but will bring the total contract value to $224,100.
E. Bonbright seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. APPROVAL OF PUGET SOUND EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT TSD-25-175

L. Keating made a motion to approve the Puget Sound Education District Interlocal Agreement No. TSD-25-175 to pay an annual flat rate assessment of $3000 to create and operate the Specialized Transportation program and to pay those costs that exceed PSESD's annual apportionment for McKinney Vento students.
C. McElroy seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VIII. Other Business

A. FIRST READING OF BOARD ANNUAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2025 - 2026 SCHOOL YEAR

The Board reviewed the proposed Annual Goals and Objectives they have formulated for the 2025-2026 school year

Strategic Benchmark: Safe and Supported

Goal #1: The Board will conduct a comprehensive study of the appropriate use of cell phones during school hours.

Goal #2: The Board will conduct a listening session with our LGBTQIA+ students to learn more about their school experiences.

As this was a first reading, no action was taken. Board members may provide feedback before a second reading.

IX. Closing Items

A. BOARD COMMENTS/REPORTS

Committee Reports:

- Director Keating shared about meetings she, Superintendent Garcia, and Chief Financial Officer Medina, and our Government Affairs Team have continued to

meet with legislative representatives as interim work between legislative sessions, working together with them on ways to help mitigate financial impacts school districts have been navigating for the last several years.
- Director Bonbright shared about her work on the Tacoma Education Dream (TED) Fund Board, a local foundation that the District has created to raise funds for TPS students and programs. They're putting together a program committee and will be working on the grant program. There will be more shared soon.

Community Events:

- Directors Keating and Bonbright attended the Asian Pacific Cultural Center grand opening of their new building, congratulating Executive Director Pritchard and her team for their work.
- Director McElroy shared for the community's knowledge that High School Late Nights will continue throughout the school year every Friday from 7:00-11:00pm at all 4 community centers. The YMCA also hosts Friday late nights from 5:00-9:30pm. -♦- She shared about the Tacoma Moon Fest at Chinese Reconciliation Park on Saturday, September 13th. -♦- She encouraged Tacoma residents to attend and get involved with their Neighborhood Council meetings, Co-Create to Recreate through Parks Tacoma, the Parks Board, and Tacoma City Council meetings for additional places to make their voices heard.

Updates/Comments:

- Board members shared the experiences they had serving at schools on the first day of school.
    - Directors Keating and Strozier greeted students at Oakland High School.
    - Director Keating, along with Chief Communications Officer Jumper also greeted students at Jefferson Elementary School and helped welcome State Superintendent Reykdal as he visited the school.
    - Director McElroy greeted students at Franklin Elementary school, which was fun as it has been meaningful in her life.
    - Director Bonbright greeted students at Mary Lyon Elementary and shared how positive and excited they were. She met a lot of staff as well.
- Director McElroy reminded the community that the cold season is coming up and shared that you can donate warm clothing to different venues like the Salvation Army and Goodwills, and that they also need donations of socks and underwear.

Superintendent Reminders:

- There is a vaccination clinic at Mt. Tahoma on Sept. 25th, 3:30-6:30pm, which is free for TPS families.

- The District has emailed families about what used to be called the "Free and Reduced Lunch" forms but now are called the "Child Nutrition Eligibility and Education Benefits" (CNEEB)forms. For middle school students, this is a direct link to College-Bound scholarships. There are additional benefits besides free meals for both middle and high school students. Deadline for the form is October 1st. All information is online here.
- He encouraged seniors to check out our Guaranteed Admissions Program with seven different universities and community colleges.

B. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

September 25, 2025, 6:00PM: Business Meeting

October 9, 2025, 6:00PM: Business Meeting

October 16, 2025, 6:00PM: Study Session

C. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
T. Jones

Coversheet

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Section: VI. Consent Agenda
Item: B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS
Purpose:
Submitted by:
Related Material: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Department
Business & Finance Division / Financial Services

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 28A.330.080 requires that monies of such school districts shall be paid out only upon orders for warrants signed by the President, or a majority of the Board of Directors and countersigned by the Secretary. PROVIDED, that when, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, the orders for warrants issued by the district shall have reached such numbers that the signing of each warrant by the President personally imposes too great a task on the President; the Board of Directors, after auditing all payrolls and bills as provided by RCW 28A.330.090, may authorize the issuing of one general certificate to the County Treasurer, to be signed by the President, authorizing said Treasurer to pay all the warrants specified by date, number, name and amount, and the funds on which said warrants shall be drawn; thereupon the Secretary of said board shall be authorized to draw and sign said orders for warrants.

Current Consideration
Acceptance of these financial reports will provide the Board of Directors with financial information necessary for the proper financial management of the District. This standard consent agenda action item completes the statutory requirements.

Fiscal Implication
The District has a fiscal responsibility to provide timely payments to its employees and vendors in accordance with federal and state laws.

Recommendation
The Chief Financial Officer recommends that the Board of Directors approve the submission of one general certificate for authorization, and if authorized, approve expenditure of funds within accepted guidelines.

Strategic Benchmark
Academic Achievement; Partnership and Participation; Safe and Supported

Approved By
Chief Financial Officer, Rosalind Medina

FUND	DATE	INSTRUMENT NO.	AMOUNT
Accounts Payable	09/03/25	315954-316007	$508,300.65
ACH Accounts Payable	09/05/25	-4015474--4015523	$14,548,570.23
Manual Payroll	09/05/25 09/05/25	315939-315953 316008-316010	$17,055.49 $93.63
ACH Payroll	09/05/25 09/05/25	-256041574--256042889 -256266629--256286665	$ 1,114,791.02 $8,762,490.84

*ACH instrument numbers are system reference numbers only and may not appear in consecutive order

TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

TO THE TREASURER OF PIERCE COUNTY:

You are hereby authorized to pay all the following warrants, specified by date, fund and amount as drawn and signed by the Secretary of the Tacoma School District No. 10.

Board of Directors

_____

Board President

Date of Approval

FUND	DATE	INSTRUMENT NO.	AMOUNT
Accounts Payable	09/03/25	315954-316007	$508,300.65
ACH Accounts Payable	09/05/25	-4015474--4015523	$14,548,570.23
Manual Payroll	09/05/25 09/05/25	315939-315953 316008-316010	$17,055.49 $93.63
ACH Payroll	09/05/25 09/05/25	-256041574--256042889 -256266629--256286665	$ 1,114,791.02 $8,762,490.84

* ACH instrument numbers are system reference numbers only and may not appear in consecutive order

I, the undersigned do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the materials have been furnished, the services rendered and/or the labor performed as described herein, and the claim is a just, due and unpaid obligation against Tacoma School District No. 10, and that I am authorized to authenticate and certify to said claim.

We, your Committee on Auditing and Finance, have audited and approved the following described claims and payrolls and recommend the issuance of the following warrants and wire transfer authorization:

Chief Financial Officer

Date of Approval

Committee on Auditing & Finance

Coversheet

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL REQUESTS

Section: VI. Consent Agenda
Item: D. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL REQUESTS
Purpose:
Submitted by:
Related Material:
TRAVEL TO SHANGHAI CHINA FROM OCTOBER 25- NOVEMBER 2 2025.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-COUNTRY TRAVEL TO SHANGHAI, CHINA OCTOBER 24-NOVEMBER 2, 2025

Department
TEACHING & LEARNING

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
A team of six delegates have been invited to represent Tacoma Public Schools for an International Exchange Trip. The trip will include meeting with partner schools, education officials from Shanghai and the Chinese Government, and agencies involved in student exchanges. By deepening our partnerships and recruiting students, we diversify the learning experience for our students while also creating opportunities for our students to travel abroad.

Current Consideration
It is requested that the Board of Directors approve the travel request for six delegates to travel to Shanghai, China in the amount of $30,000 from October 24- November 2, 2025.

Fiscal Implication
The estimated cost of travel is: $30,000 The International Trust will cover the cost of travel.

Recommendation
The Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning recommends that the Board of Directors approve travel for six delegates to travel to Shanghai, China in the amount of $30,000 from October 24 - November 2, 2025.[Funding Source: International Trust].

Strategic Benchmark
Partnership and Participation

Approved By
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning Zeek Edmond

Coversheet

APPROVAL OF THE PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

Section: VI. Consent Agenda
Item: F. APPROVAL OF THE PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT
Purpose:
Submitted by:
Related Material: PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATION TO SUPT 092525 v3.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
APPROVAL OF THE PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

Department
Human Resources

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background

Current Consideration

Fiscal Implication

Recommendation
The Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources recommends that the Board of Directors approve the personnel recommendations to the Superintendent for the September 25, 2025 Board meeting.

Strategic Benchmark

Approved By
Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Renee Trueblood

PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT
TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting - September 25, 2025

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 25, 2025
To: Joshua J. Garcia, Superintendent
From: Renee Trueblood, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

It is recommended that the actions on the following employees be approved, effective as indicated.

CERTIFICATED RECOMMENDATIONS

Hire

Name	Location	Position	FTE	Employment Status	Anticipated Effective Date
Pazienza, Kristina	SOTA	Teacher HS	1.0000	Replacement	09/22/2025
Taylor, Christy	Hunt	Teacher MS Band, Orch,	1.0000	Continuing	09/08/2025
Walsh, Amy	Stewart	Teacher Special Education	0.8000	Replacement	08/27/2025

Rehire

Name	Location	Position	FTE	Employment Status	Anticipated Effective Date
Atherton, Amy	Whitman	Teacher K-3	1.0000	Continuing	08/27/2025
Collins, Melissa	Hilltop Heritage	Teacher Secondary	0.8000	Continuing	08/27/2025
Cruz-Rosario, Marlene	Mann	Teacher Special Education	1.0000	Continuing	09/05/2025
Flores, Rafael	Stewart	Teacher MS	1.0000	Continuing	08/27/2025
Herrera, Yesenia	Sheridan	Teacher 4-5	1.0000	Replacement	08/27/2025
Ryan, Christyn	Whitman	Teacher Elem Vocal Music	1.0000	Continuing	08/27/2025
Smit, Julia	Whitman	Teacher 4-5	1.0000	Continuing	08/27/2025
Southard, Coral	Stewart	Teacher MS	0.4000	Continuing	08/27/2025
Steele, Katherine	NE Tacoma	Teacher Special Education	1.0000	Continuing	08/27/2025
Wills, Bradley	Stadium	Teacher Special Education	1.0000	Replacement	09/02/2025
Wiltbank, Victoria	Arlington	Teacher Special Education	0.8000	Continuing 1 Year	09/10/2025

CLASSIFIED RECOMMENDATIONS

Separation of Employment - Resignation

Name	Location	Position	FTE	Employment Status	Anticipated Effective Date
Ayler-Jason, Willie	CAB	District Patrol Officer	1.0000	Regular	09/19/2025
Barnes, Mary	Maint	Admin Sec'y, Gen Supp Svc	1.0000	Regular	09/30/2025
Borell, Kamryn	Meeker	ESP Special Education 1:1	0.8125	Regular	08/31/2025
Brady, Joanna	Fern Hill	Office Coordinator	1.0000	Regular	09/19/2025
del Solar Morrell, Amaya	Mt Tahoma	ESP Special Education 1:1	0.8125	Regular	09/10/2025
Luna, Autumn	Birney	ESP MTSS	0.6000	Regular	09/03/2025
Reyna, Giavanna	Jefferson	ESP Special Education	0.8125	Regular	09/01/2025
Rodriguez-Garcia, Gladybeliz	Mann	ESP Headstart/ECEAP	0.8262	Regular	08/31/2025
Skyler, Jax	Mt Tahoma	ESP Special Education DHH	0.8750	Regular	10/10/2025

SUBSTITUTE & NON-REGULAR RECOMMENDATIONS

Hire

Name	Location	Position	Anticipated Effective Date
Barela, Corinna	CAB	AVID Tutor	09/08/2025
Blanton, Kristen	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Bui-Rivet, Stella	CAB	Substitute Teacher	08/26/2025
Ferard, Michael	Transportation	Substitute Bus Driver	09/01/2025
Fries, Maydra	Transportation	Substitute Bus Driver	09/05/2025
Greenwood, Nicole	CAB	Substitute ESP	09/05/2025
Knott, Neva	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/03/2025
Mauer-Smith, Karen	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
McCoy, Adanya	CAB	AVID Tutor	09/01/2025
Newman, Natalie	CAB	Substitute ESP	09/01/2025
Novikoff, Andrew	Bryant	School Crossing Guard	09/03/2025
Palu-Nuku-Kafoto, Leifono	Transportation	Substitute Bus Driver	09/01/2025
Peixoto, Zachery	CAB	Substitute ESP	09/05/2025
Raybon, Melissa	CAB	AVID Tutor	09/08/2025
Smith, Ty'Shae	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Tichy, Travis	Transportation	Substitute Bus Driver	09/04/2025

Rehire

Name	Location	Position	Anticipated Effective Date
Armbruster, Kaitlyn	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Blauser, Vince	CAB	Substitute Principal	09/05/2025
Bogden, Peter	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Brunelle, Nicole	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Cruz-Rosario, Marlene	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Echternkamp, Tara	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Fredricks, Carl	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Gorman, DeVonte	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Gray, Javon	CAB	Substitute Bus Monitor	08/27/2025
Holm, Nicole	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Matz, Catherine	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
McCoy, Autumn	CAB	Substitute Teacher	08/25/2025
McKee, Mary	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Quantz, Larry	Browns Pt	Noon Hour Supervisor	09/10/2025
Rice, Luke	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Robert, Spencer	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Rojas, Andrea	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Rumbaugh, Graham	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Seaman, Emily	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Smeall, Kimberly	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Steedman, Taylor	CAB	Substitute ESP	09/01/2025
Wanner, Alyssa	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Wildaire, Hudson	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025
Wiltbank, Victoria	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/01/2025

Separation of Employment - Resignation

Name	Location	Position	Anticipated Effective Date
Bomar, John	CAB	Substitute Principal	09/01/2025
Cushway, Kara	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/19/2025
Faitalia, Faavevela	CAB	Substitute Campus Security	09/26/2025
Gilbertson, Jesse	CAB	Substitute Teacher	09/04/2025
Grace, Nicole	CAB	Substitute ESP	09/03/2025

Separation of Employment - Deceased

Name	Location	Position	Anticipated Effective Date
Alexander, David	Nutrition Services	Substitute Nutrition Services	08/30/2025

Coversheet

OTHER

Section: VI. Consent Agenda
Item: G. OTHER
Purpose:
Submitted by:
Related Material:
APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS, GIFTS, AND DONATIONS.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS, GIFTS, AND DONATIONS

Department
Business & Finance Division

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
Tacoma Public Schools pursues and manages competitive and formula-driven grant funding from federal, state, local government, non-profit, and private funding sources to fuel our innovative programs. Additionally, the District may accept gifts or donations in support of school programs and activities. Board Policies 2104, 6114, and 6130 guide the acceptance of grants and gifts. As required by Board Policy 2104, Board approval of acceptance is requested for the following grants, gifts, or donations valued at $50,000 or greater.

Current Consideration
Approval of acceptance is requested for grants, gifts, and donations detailed in the attached report.

Fiscal Implication
Request for acceptance of funds and resources provided by external partners provides transparency for the Board of Directors regarding the District's financial responsibilities and ensures appropriate oversight and alignment with the District's programs and goals. This standard consent agenda action item satisfies Board Policy requirements.

Recommendation
The Chief Financial Officer recommends that the Board of Directors approve acceptance of the included grants, gifts, or donations, and approve the expenditure of funds within accepted guidelines.

Strategic Benchmark
Partnership and Participation

Approved By
Chief Financial Officer, Rosalind Medina

Tacoma Public Schools | Grants Office

Approval of Acceptance Request

Grants, Gifts, and Donations for Current Consideration

Board of Directors Business Meeting | September 25, 2025

Funder	Award Title	Description	Value	Indirect Cost %	Cost Share	Duration*	Department	Administrator
Ballmer Group	Tacoma School-Based Behavioral Health	To support the provision of school-based mental health services for Tacoma students by contracted local mental health services agencies.	$3,000,000	10%	No	9/1/25 – 12/31/27	Whole Child	Laura Allen
NewSchools Venture Fund	Innovative Schools Grant for Maritime|253 Skills Center	To support development and launch of the innovative Maritime|253 Skills Center and district learning through participation in the Innovative Schools Community of Practice.	$200,000	0%	No	7/15/25 – 12/31/26	Career & Technical Education (CTE)	Adam Kulaas & Kristie Wolford
WA Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction	Homeless Student Stability Education Program (HSSeP) (25-26)	To support school districts in increasing the identification of and capacity to support students experiencing homelessness by promoting housing stability and collaboration with housing sector partners.	$54,000	7%	No	7/1/25 – 6/30/26	Title I & Student Support Programs	Taj Jensen
WA State Department of Agriculture	WSDA Farm to School Purchasing Grant	To support the district's efforts to procure high quality, minimally-processed Washington-grown foods for incorporation in school meals and increase collaboration with local farmers.	$240,000	0%	No	10/1/25 – 6/30/27	Nutrition Services	Cary Campen

Funder	Award Title	Description	Value	Indirect Cost %	Cost Share	Duration*	Department	Administrator
WA State Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB)	Paraeducator Training Reimbursement Program (24-25)	To offset school district costs of implementing the Fundamental Course of Study and General Paraeducator Certificate training programs for Education Support Professionals.	$177,327 (Minimum award amount)	0%	No	7/1/24 – 9/1/25	Human Resources	Steven Deaderick
WA Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction	Special Education IDEA, Part B (25-26)	To provide financial assistance to the school district for costs associated with the provision of special education and related services for students with disabilities.	$7,526,811	2.43%	No	9/1/25 – 8/31/26	Student Services	Elise Friedrich-Nielsen & Melissa Thienes

*Due to routine irregularity in timing between the availability of a complete award agreement and the start date on which funded activities may begin, award duration may commence prior to Board approval of acceptance. To ensure appropriate responsiveness to funder and funded project timeline requirements, the District may find it necessary to execute an award agreement prior to receipt of Board approval of acceptance. In such instances, the Board maintains the right to deny acceptance. Should the Board approve acceptance with conditions, the Grants Office will collaborate with the funder to realize revised, mutually agreeable terms. Should the Board deny acceptance in full, the Grants Office will terminate the award agreement while collaborating with the funder and affected stakeholders to minimize impacts.

Coversheet

SECOND READING OF REVISED POLICY 6957: CHANGE ORDERS

Section:	VII. Policy Matters
Item:	A. SECOND READING OF REVISED POLICY 6957: CHANGE ORDERS
Purpose:	Vote
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	SECOND READING OF REVISED POLICY 6957.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
SECOND READING OF REVISED POLICY 6957 - CHANGE ORDERS

Department
Legal

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
Following a recommendation from the state auditor, the Purchasing Department was directed to revise the policy to reflect a $200,000 threshold, consistent with the amount used by the auditor when reviewing change orders.

Current Consideration
By updating Policy 6957, the District is establishing a clear and consistent process for the review and approval of construction change orders. This revision not only enhances transparency and accountability but also ensures alignment with state audit standards. Ultimately, it helps maintain the District's compliance with regulatory expectations and supports more effective project oversight. This policy was reviewed by the Equity Policy Review Team on September 18, 2025.

Fiscal Implication
None.

Recommendation
The General Counsel on behalf of the Director of Purchasing recommends the Board of Directors adopt the revised draft of Policy 6957.

Strategic Benchmark
Operations

Approved By
General Counsel, Malik Gbenro

Policy ~~No.~~ 6957
Management Support

inser**CHANGE ORDERS**

PURPOSE STATEMENT
To establish a clear process for reviewing and approving construction change orders, including defined authorization limits for the Superintendent and board president, ensuring transparency, accountability, and timely decision-making during construction projects.

Change orders which arise during construction shall be individually considered by the school board provided, however, that for each project the school board ~~may~~ hereby grants the superintendent authority to authorize change orders provided that the total cost of all change orders approved does not exceed ~~ten~~ twenty (2~~1~~0) percent or $200,000 of the approved total construction cost of the project. The superintendent shall advise the school board of all change orders executed in such cases.

In the event change order requests exceed ~~ten~~ twenty (2~~1~~0) percent of the total construction cost of the project or $200,000, and must be considered between school board meetings due to exigent circumstances, the president of the S~~s~~chool B~~b~~oard may provide interim authorization for the change order. The school board shall take formal action on such requests at the next S~~s~~chool B~~b~~oard meeting.

DRAFT

Adoption Date: 7/27/2000
Revised Date: xx/xx/2025

Policy 6957
Management Support

CHANGE ORDERS

Purpose Statement
To establish a clear process for reviewing and approving construction change orders, including defined authorization limits for the Superintendent and Board President, ensuring transparency, accountability, and timely decision-making during construction projects.

Change orders which arise during construction shall be individually considered by the School Board provided, however, that for each project the School Board hereby grants the Superintendent authority to authorize change orders provided that the total cost of all change orders approved does not exceed twenty (20) percent or $200,000 of the approved total construction cost of the project. The Superintendent shall advise the School Board of all change orders executed in such cases.

In the event change order requests exceed twenty (20) percent of the total construction cost of the project or $200,000 and must be considered between School Board meetings due to exigent circumstances, the President of the School Board may provide interim authorization for the change order. The School Board shall take formal action on such requests at the next School Board meeting.

Adoption Date: 7/27/2000
Revised Date: 9/25/2025

Coversheet

SECOND READING OF REVISED POLICY 6959: ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Section: VII. Policy Matters
Item: B. SECOND READING OF REVISED POLICY 6959: ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PROJECT
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: SECOND READING OF REVISED POLICY 6959.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
SECOND READING OF REVISED POLICY 6959 - ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Department
Legal

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
Policy 6959 has been updated to align with the revised provisions of RCW 39.04.152, which now reflect a higher threshold for small works projects. This update brings the policy in line with both the current legal requirements and the District's best practices. Specifically, the policy now applies to projects exceeding $350,000—an increase from the previous threshold of $100,000—ensuring consistency with state guidelines and improved clarity in project management and procurement processes.

Current Consideration
By updating Policy 6959, this ensures the District is staying in compliance with requirements. This policy was reviewed by the Equity Policy Review Team on September 18, 2025.

Fiscal Implication
None.

Recommendation
The General Counsel on behalf of the Director of Purchasing recommends the Board of Directors adopt the revised draft of Policy 6959.

Strategic Benchmark
Operations

Approved By
General Counsel, Malik Gbenro

Policy No. 6959
Management Support

ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

PURPOSE STATEMENT: To outline the required steps for final acceptance of completed construction projects over $350,000, ensuring compliance with legal requirements, proper certification, and the release of retainage only after confirming the project is complete and free of liens or outstanding obligations.

This policy applies only those project in excess of $350~~100~~,000.

For purposes of authorizing the release of retained contract monies (retainage), the board shall formally approve final acceptance of a completed capital project subject to the following:

A. Written final acceptance by the S~~s~~chool B~~b~~oard;

B. The architect's letter of inspection indicating that the work has been completed; and

C. Certification by the superintendent that no liens have been filed on the project, or if liens have been filed, a certified list of the liens and their respective order of priority.

Pursuant to statute, final payment shall not be made until the ~~district~~District has received from the state department of revenue, state department of employment security, and state department of labor and industries certification that all taxes due, or to become due by the project's contractor, have been paid in full. The superintendent shall notify each department listed that the work is completed and officially accepted so that a determination of tax liabilities of the contractor may be made.

The contract shall provide that a percentage of the project cost shall be retained by the ~~district~~District as required by law to ensure that the project shall remain free and clear of any materialmen, subcontractor or tax liens. The ~~district~~District will accept a bond submitted by the contractor for any portion of the retainage in a form acceptable to the ~~district~~District, and the superintendent of public instruction if state funds are part of the project, from a bonding company registered with the Washington state insurance commissioner and on the currently authorized insurance list published by the Washington state insurance commissioner, unless the ~~district~~District can demonstrate good cause for refusing to accept the bond.

Legal Reference:	RCW 60.28	Lien for Labor, Materials, Taxes on Public Works
	RCW 39.04.152~~5~~	Small works roster contract procedures, limited public work process
	WAC 180-29-147	Retained Percentage Law Related Requirements

Powered by BoardOnTrack

Policy No. 6959
Management Support

Adoption Date: ~~0~~3/28/20~~0~~2
Revised Date: xx/xx/2025

DRAFT

Policy 6959
Management Support

ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Purpose Statement
To outline the required steps for final acceptance of completed construction projects over $350,000, ensuring compliance with legal requirements, proper certification, and the release of retainage only after confirming the project is complete and free of liens or outstanding obligations.

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For purposes of authorizing the release of retained contract monies (retainage), the Board shall formally approve final acceptance of a completed capital project subject to the following:

A. Written final acceptance by the School Board;

B. The architect's letter of inspection indicating that the work has been completed; and

C. Certification by the Superintendent that no liens have been filed on the project, or if liens have been filed, a certified list of the liens and their respective order of priority.

Pursuant to statute, final payment shall not be made until the District has received from the state department of revenue, state department of employment security, and state department of labor and industries certification that all taxes due, or to become due by the project's contractor, have been paid in full. The Superintendent shall notify each department listed that the work is completed and officially accepted so that a determination of tax liabilities of the contractor may be made.

The contract shall provide that a percentage of the project cost shall be retained by the District as required by law to ensure that the project shall remain free and clear of any materialmen, subcontractor or tax liens. The District will accept a bond submitted by the contractor for any portion of the retainage in a form acceptable to the District, and the Superintendent of public instruction if state funds are part of the project, from a bonding company registered with the Washington state insurance commissioner and on the currently authorized insurance list published by the Washington state insurance commissioner, unless the District can demonstrate good cause for refusing to accept the bond.

Legal Reference:	RCW 60.28	Lien for Labor, Materials, Taxes on Public Works
	RCW 39.04.152	Small works roster contract procedures, limited public work process
	WAC 180-29-147	Retained Percentage Law Related Requirements

Adoption Date: 3/28/2002
Revised Date: 9/25/2025

Coversheet

FINANCIAL PRESENTATION

Section: VIII. Financial Report
Item: A. FINANCIAL PRESENTATION
Purpose: FYI
Submitted by:
Related Material: FINANCIAL UPDATE - 9.25.25.pdf

TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

Tacoma Public Schools Financial Update

SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

Financial Update

Projected Fund Balance

- The current fund balance estimated for year end 2024-2025 is between $2.5 million and $3 million.

Levy Timeline

- 1st reading for the February 2026 levy will take place at the October 9 board meeting.
- A levy presentation will be provided at the October 16 study session.
- Final approval will be requested at the October 23 board meeting.

Questions?

Coversheet

APPROVAL OF THE 2025-26 FISCAL YEAR HIGHLY CAPABLE DISTRICT PLAN

Section:	IX. Curriculum and Instruction
Item:	A. APPROVAL OF THE 2025-26 FISCAL YEAR HIGHLY CAPABLE DISTRICT PLAN
Purpose:	Vote
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	2025-26 FISCAL YEAR HIGHLY CAPABLE DISTRICT PLAN.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
APPROVAL OF 2025-26 FISCAL YEAR HIGHLY CAPABLE DISTRICT PLAN

Department
Teaching & Learning: Highly Capable

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
A Highly Capable District Plan is submitted annually to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. The plan provides details about the district's plan to serve K-12 students who are identified as highly capable learners. TPS provides Highly Capable programs and services to K-12 to students who perform, or show the potential of performing, at high intellectual levels when compared with others of their age and experience. Highly capable children are present in all student groups, regardless of gender, disability, English language proficiency, economic status, ethnic or cultural background.

Current Consideration
RCW 28A.150.220 states that the instructional program of basic education shall include programs for highly capable students. Identified highly capable students often require services that are different from those provided within the general education setting. OSPI provides formula-driven state funding to address this need. Board approval of the Highly Capable Comprehensive Plan is required annually. This plan allows OSPI to provide formula-driven state funding for provision of Highly Capable program services within Tacoma Public Schools.

Fiscal Implication
Allocations for the highly capable program are based upon providing an additional (2.1590) hours per week of instruction for a class size of 15 student FTE. The enrollment basis for this calculation is 5% of current year total enrollment inclusive of running start. The resulting enrollment figure is used to calculate the number of teachers needed to provide the additional instructional time to those students. Funding is received as salary and benefits for the number of teachers generated by the formula. The district's monthly allocation will be adjusted throughout the school year based on changes in reported enrollment. Funding is estimated at $958,201 for September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026.

Recommendation
The Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning recommends that the Board of Directors approve the 2025-26 Highly Capable Plan and approve acceptance of associated funding estimated at $958,201 for September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026 as well as expenditure of funds within accepted guidelines [Funding source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction].

Strategic Benchmark
Academic Excellence

Approved By
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Zeek Edmond

Coversheet

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BUS PURCHASE FROM SCHETKY BUS SALES AND BRYSON BUS SALES

Section: X. Business Matters
Item: A. APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BUS PURCHASE FROM SCHETKY BUS SALES AND BRYSON BUS SALES
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BUS PURCHASES.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BUS PURCHASE FROM SCHETKY BUS SALES AND BRYSON BUS SALES

Department
Business & Finance Division / Transportation

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
School bus purchases come from the Transportation Vehicle Fund. This fund can only be used for school bus purchases or major bus repairs. This fund completely covers all bus purchases. Buses come off depreciation (reimbursement) each year. It is important to replace these buses with newer buses for safety and financial reasons as per the depreciation schedule. Buses should be replaced every 8 or 13 years, depending on the type of bus and as administered by OSPI.

Current Consideration
Transportation proposed to purchase four (4) replacement buses using the State Department of General Administrative Contract to ensure we comply with all bid laws. We propose the purchase of two (2) Type C diesel buses from Schetky Bus Sales and two (2) Type C diesel buses from Bryson Bus Sales. Buses will arrive in in the 2026-2027 school year.

Fiscal Implication
$773,010.65 from the Transportation Vehicle Fund.

Recommendation
The Chief Financial Officer recommends the Board of Directors approve the purchase of two (2) Type C diesel buses from Schetky Bus Sales and two (2) Type C diesel buses from Bryson Bus Sales in the amount of $773,010.65. [Funding Source: Transportation Vehicle Fund]

Strategic Benchmark
Academic Achievement; Safe and Supported

Approved By
Chief Financial Officer, Rosalind Medina

Coversheet

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT #1 TO CONTRACT NO. TSD-23-138 BETWEEN FIRST STUDENT AND TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

Section: X. Business Matters
Item: B. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT #1 TO CONTRACT NO. TSD-23-138 BETWEEN FIRST STUDENT AND TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: AMEND.1_TSD-23-138_FIRST STUDENT_AND_TPS.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT #1 TO CONTRACT TSD-23-138 BETWEEN FIRST STUDENT AND TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

Department
Transportation Services

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
On October 12, 2023, the District entered into a contract with First Student to provide maintenance services for the District's transportation fleet. Based on services rendered to date, and current projections for the 2025-2026 school year, an increase in funding will be needed to accommodate such.

This proposed Amendment #1 increases the contract by $384,487. The new total contract value will be $984,487. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Current Consideration
The Board is asked to approve Amendment #1 to Contract TSD-23-138 with First Student, which increases the contract by $384,487, bringing the total contract value to $984,487.

Fiscal Implication
This Amendment #1 will increase the value of the contract by $384,487 and the new total value of the contract will be $984,487.

Recommendation
The Chief Financial Officer recommends that the Board of Directors approve Amendment #1 to Contract TSD-20-219 with First Student to provide maintenance services for the District's transportation fleet, in the amount of $384,487, increasing the total contract value to $984,487. [Funding Source: Transportation]

Strategic Benchmark
Academic Achievement; Partnership & Participation; Safe & Supported

Approved By
Chief Financial Officer, Rosalind Medina

Coversheet

APPROVAL OF THE PRECONSTRUCTION SERVICES CONTRACT AND GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE (GMP) AMENDMENT #1 TO CONTRACT NO. TSD-25-171 BETWEEN TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 AND BNBUILDERS: NOVEMBER 24, 2024-DECEMBER 31, 2028

Section: X. Business Matters
Item: C. APPROVAL OF THE PRECONSTRUCTION SERVICES CONTRACT AND GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE (GMP) AMENDMENT #1 TO CONTRACT NO. TSD-25-171 BETWEEN TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 AND BNBUILDERS: NOVEMBER 24, 2024-DECEMBER 31, 2028
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: APPROVAL OF PRECON AND GMP1 CENTRAL KITCHEN.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
APPROVAL OF THE PRECONSTRUCTION SERVICES CONTRACT AND GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE (GMP) AMENDMENT #1 TO CONTRACT NO.TSD-25-171 BETWEEN TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 AND BNBUILDERS: NOVEMBER 24, 2024-DECEMBER 31, 2028

Department
Planning & Construction

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
On April 24, 2025, the Board of Directors approved the negotiation and award of contract with BNBuilders for the Progressive Design/Build alternative project delivery method for new Central Kitchen Project. On August 21, 2025, an Initial Services agreement was executed with BNBuilders.

Current Consideration
It is requested that the Board of Directors approve Contract No. TSD-25-171 between BNBuilders and Tacoma School District #10 for Design-Build and Preconstruction Services and for GMP #1 for the new Central Kitchen Project. The Preconstruction Services are $4,225,245, the Guaranteed Maximum Price for GMP Amendment #1 is $769,932 for early procurement of select food service equipment for a combined amount of $4,995,177. These amounts are not inclusive of the initial agreement of $181,272 excluding sales tax, bringing the cumulative contract amount to $5,176,449, excluding sales tax.

Fiscal Implication
Funding for this project is provided through the Capital Project Bond issue(s) as approved by voters on February 13, 2024.

Recommendation
The Chief Operating Officer recommends that the Board of Directors approve the Preconstruction Services Contract and the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Amendment #1 between BNBuilders and Tacoma School District #10 for the new Central Kitchen Project in the amount of $4,995,177, bringing the total consideration to $5,176,449, excluding sales tax. [Funding Source: Capital Project Bond as approved by voters on February 13, 2024]

Strategic Benchmark
Partnership

Approved By
Chief Operating Officer, Christopher Williams

Coversheet

ADOPTION OF BOARD ANNUAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Section: XI. Other Business
Item: A. ADOPTION OF BOARD ANNUAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: ADOPTION OF OF 2025-26 BOARD GOALS.pdf

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Agenda Action Item

Item Title
ADOPTION OF BOARD ANNUAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Department
General Counsel

Board Meeting Date
September 25, 2025

Background
In compliance with District Policy 1810, the Board of Directors hosted a retreat on August 14, 2025, during which it discussed and reviewed draft annual goals and objectives.

Current Consideration
Pursuant to Regulation 1820R, the Board publicly communicates the draft annual goals and recommended objectives discussed at the August 14, 2025 retreat at a Board Business meeting no later than September.

Fiscal Implication
None.

Recommendation
The District's General Counsel recommends that the Board individually approve and communicate the draft annual goals and objectives they formulated for the 2025-2026 school year.

Strategic Benchmark
Academic Achievement; Partnership and Participation; Safe and Supported

Approved By
General Counsel, Malik Gbenro

Tacoma Public Schools Board of Directors

Board Annual Goals and Objectives for the 2025-2026 School Year

Our Mission / What we do:
In partnership with parents and community, we will provide a comprehensive educational experience that is rigorous, individualized, and enables students to contribute to a changing and diverse world.

Strategic Plan Goal 3 - Safe and Supported:
We think holistically about the needs of all people within our ecosystem. We create spaces where students and staff are safe, supported, and valued.

- Student voice is valued in decision-making.
- Students have the support they need; access to food, transportation, and caring adults to navigate the school system.
- Students are able to identify a trusted adult.
- Staff are ethical and trustworthy, creating a culture of accountability.
- We share our spaces with Community partners, organizations, and neighbors

2025-2026 Recommended Board Goals:

Goal #1 The Board will conduct a comprehensive study of the appropriate use of cell phones during school hours.

Goal #2 The Board will conduct a listening session with our LGBTQIA+ students to learn more about their school experiences.