



**Board Business Meeting  
Meeting Minutes**

The Tacoma Public Schools Board of Directors will meet for a Business Meeting on the date and time below 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.

Live Streaming Open Meeting	In-Person Open Meeting
Rainier Connect Channel 25, Comcast Channel 26 or Live Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/goktpstv">bit.ly/goktpstv</a>  Broadcast and Recorded at <a href="https://www.youtube.com">www.youtube.com</a>	Central Administration Building 601 South 8th Street Tacoma, WA 98405 4th Floor Auditorium

Thursday, May 22, 2025 06:00 PM

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Board met in regular session on Thursday, May 8, 2025 in the fourth-floor auditorium of the Central Administration Building located at 601 South 8th Street in Tacoma, Washington.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**3. 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.

**4. ROLL CALL**

Directors Bonbright, Keating, Leon, McElroy, and Strozier were in attendance. Student representatives Constantine, Garcia-Arias, and Palaki were in attendance.

**5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**6. RECOGNITION OF STAFF, STUDENTS, AND COMMUNITY**

**6.1 RECOGNITION OF THE SHINING STAR COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD TO ALLEN AME CHURCH**

The Community Partnership Office presented the Shining Star Community Partner Award to community partner Allen AME Church.

**6.2 RECOGNITION OF ADRIAN WINDSOR (SILAS HIGH SCHOOL) AS THE WIAA 3A BOYS STATE WRESTLING CHAMPION IN THE 113 WEIGHT CLASS**

The Board of Directors recognized Adrian Windsor as the 3A Boys State Wrestling Champion in the 113 weight class.

**6.3 RECOGNITION OF STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2024-2025**

The Board of Directors recognized the student representatives who served on the Board this Year: Senior representatives Esther Garcia-Arias (Lincoln High School) and Ana Palaki (Stadium High School) and Junior representative Emilia Constantine (Silas High School).

Representatives shared their thoughts about their time serving as student representatives and encouraged other students to try for the opportunity as well. Board directors also made comments of appreciation for their contributions to the Board's work this year.

## 7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Garcia shared the following:

- Updates on Spring high school sports, including that the Silas Girls Golf team won 3rd place in the state; Silas' soccer team will be playing in the championships; Lincoln, Mt. Tahoma, and Silas are having track and field events, and district's are coming up; Unified soccer teams are doing well, and some of our Fast Pitch teams are still in play. He gave a special shout-out to Stadium Tigers community (students, staff, and families) spring sports team for having a cumulative GPA of over a 3.2.
- He reminded students to be safe, to make smart decisions, and to talk to parents as the school year winds down with events like prom, etc. He reminded seniors that the school year is not over yet, so stay focused and finish strong.
- He congratulated Ms. Lynn Eisenhower who had her last performance as she's retiring.

### 7.1 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT TO THE BOARD

Student Representative Palaki shared about Stadium's annual Memorial Day Assembly. There were 22 seniors who carried the wreaths of 11 Stadium alumni who have died in wars. -♦- Their Music Dept. had their final concerts, with several students earning scholarships to go on to college. -♦- She shared their pride for the athletes who will be competing in finals.

Student Representative Constantine (School of the Arts) shared about upcoming events, including the advanced dance, choir, orchestra and band performances and their last senior showcase in a few weeks. They also have their "Day in the Park," and Prom coming up.

Student Representative Garcia-Arias shared that Lincoln has their multicultural assembly coming up. It's been exciting to see students practicing. -♦- Their orchestra, choir, band and drum-line concerts are also being held soon. She's proud of students for the passion they put into these extracurricular cultural events. -♦- Several Science department students are working on STEAM justice projects (Science, Technology, Engineering Art, and Math) which will be presented at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Institute in Seattle. -♦-The Girls' Flag Football Team will be traveling to China to showcase the sport. -♦- They will be having a "Soak a Senior" fundraiser on June 6th, as well as their Senior Awards Ceremony that evening. Their Moving Up Ceremony will be held June 13th. -♦- She also acknowledged the athletes who are competing at State in both Track and Golf.

## 8. STAFF REPORT TO THE BOARD

### 8.1 HEAD START: YEAR IN REVIEW

Director of Early Learning Rahl-Lewis shared accomplishments and next steps as part of the Head Start year in review. This year's Head Start Policy Council president, Ivett Jimenez, shared her experience of serving on the council this year.

### 8.2 2025-2026 BUDGET UPDATE

Chief Financial Officer Medina presented a 2025-2026 budget update.

## 9. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

The following members of the public gave spoken public comment:

- Joshua Barber, student, addressed the Board regarding his positive experience with the Beyond the Bell program.

The following members of the public addressed the Board regarding budget cuts/staffing concerns at all levels of the district. Many were particularly concerned about supports for special education/peer inclusion programs/support.

Spoken public comments were shared by:

- Students: Nolan, S. Ellawala, O. Gillick, S. Janzen, and L. Camandona
- Alicia Blakefield
- Nicki Eighmy
- Tabitha Plotke
- Jennifer Boutell
- Keri Madden
- Gwen Lewandowski
- Angel Morton
- Conner Griswold
- Kari Patrick
- Patricia Leo
- Christina Montaquin
- Jana Quiocho
- Angela Wallen
- Tiffany Roosien
- Michael Tobin

Written public comments were shared by:

- o S. Allen
- o Bennight family
- o Leah Coakley
- o Erica Coutsouridis
- o Margaret Foley
- o Igama family/Stanley PTA
- o C.K.
- o Becca Lewis
- o Kimberly Luna
- o Jeffrey Murtaugh
- o Dan Roscoe
- o R. Shakhramanov
- o Sherman parents
- o Rachelle Tichy
- o A. Virts
- o Liz Walle
- o Lindsay Willis
- o K.Z.

## 10. CONSENT AGENDA

Director McElroy moved that the Board of Directors approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Bonbright seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 5 yeas.

### 10.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

#### 10.1.a APPROVAL OF THE MAY 8, 2025 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

#### 10.1.b APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 17, 2025 STUDY SESSION MINUTES

### 10.2 APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

### 10.3 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT)

### 10.4 INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL REQUESTS

### 10.5 FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

#### 10.5.a APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FOR LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM TO MESA, ARIZONA, JUNE 19-22, 2025

#### 10.5.b APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP FROM LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL TO ATLANTA, GEORGIA, JUNE 22-27, 2025

#### 10.5.c APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FOR STADIUM HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS TO CORVALLIS, OREGON, JULY 8-11, 2025

### 10.6 APPROVAL OF THE PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

### 10.7 OTHER

#### 10.7.a APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARDS, GIFTS, OR DONATIONS

## 11. POLICY MATTERS

There were no policy matters.

## 12. FINANCIAL REPORT

The district's next monthly financial report will be presented at the June 12, 2025 Board Business Meeting.

## 13. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

### 13.1 APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN BETHEL, CHIEF LESCHI, CLOVER PARK, FEDERAL WAY, FIFE, FRANKLIN PIERCE, ORTING, PENINSULA, PUYALLUP, STEILACOOM, SUMNER-BONNEY LAKE, UNIVERSITY PLACE, VASHON ISLAND, AND WHITE RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 FROM JUNE 1, 2025 - AUGUST 31, 2035

Director Bonbright moved that the Board of Directors approve Interlocal Agreements between 14 school districts and Tacoma School District No. 10 for the Maritime|253 Skills Center from June 1, 2025 - August 31, 2035. Director McElroy seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 5 yeas.

## 14. BUSINESS MATTERS

### 14.1 APPROVAL OF PAY TO PARTICIPATE FEE STRUCTURE FOR ATHLETICS PARTICIPATION

Director McElroy moved that the Board of Directors approve the implementation of the Pay to Participate fee structure beginning in the 2025–2026 school year, with exemptions for students qualifying for Free or Reduced Lunch and an annual family maximum fee cap. Director Keating seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 5 yeas.

#### **14.2 APPROVAL TO INCREASE WASHINGTON OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION PURCHASE ORDER #25430**

Director Bonbright moved that the Board of Directors approve an increase of \$130,000 to the Purchase Order to account for ongoing athletic activities at the District's middle and high schools for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year. Director Keating seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 5 yeas.

#### **14.3 APPROVAL TO PURCHASE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AT LARCHMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FROM GAMETIME C/O GREAT WESTERN RECREATION, LANDSCAPE STRUCTURES, MIRACLE PLAY AND BUELL RECREATION**

Director Bonbright moved that the Board of Directors approve the purchase of playground equipment at Larchmont Elementary School from GameTime, Landscape Structures, Miracle Play, and/or Buell Recreation in the amount of \$200,000, excluding sales tax. Director Leon seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 5 yeas.

#### **14.4 APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION TO DEDICATED DEEDED LAND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TACOMA AND TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.10 AS PART OF THE PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF OAKLAND HIGH SCHOOL**

Director McElroy moved that the Board of Directors approve transferring deed interest to the City of Tacoma for approximately 520 square feet for a portion of parcel No. 6445002381 to be used as public Right of Way. The authorization to dedicated deeded land between the City of Tacoma and Tacoma School District No. 10 as part of the permitting requirements for the modernization of Oakland High School. Director Keating seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 5 yeas.

#### **14.5 APPROVAL TO INCREASE FIRSTALT CONTRACT NO. TSD-24-147 FOR ALTERNATIVE VEHICLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

Director Keating moved that the Board of Directors approve the increase to FirstAlt contract No. TSD-24-147 in the amount of \$228,885.85 for alternative vehicle transportation services for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year. Director Leon seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 5 yeas.

### **15. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no "other business."

### **16. BOARD COMMENTS/REPORTS**

#### Committee Reports:

- o Director Bonbright shared about the recent quarterly JMAC (Joint Municipal Action Committee) meeting where they heard a recap of the legislative action enacted this session and the impacts that how they affect each of the agencies represented. She emphasized that TPS is not the only entity in our community struggling financially. They try to work together to support each other.

#### Community Events:

- o Directors Strozier (who was a featured speaker) and Bonbright attended the Empowering Youth Tacoma luncheon, hosted by the College Success Foundation.
- o Director Keating attended a workshop given at Silas High School by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to learn about programs available to help prepare graduating students who are on IEPs/504 plans for life beyond high school to be as successful as they can be.
- o Director Bonbright attended the grand opening of the Patsy Suhr Place, a low income housing community for seniors 55 and older in the Lincoln District.

#### Updates/Comments:

- o Director McElroy reminded graduating seniors who are wondering about cap decorations/cultural heritage to reach out to their school administrators/counselors to find out what's allowable. Superintendent Garcia added that every Indigenous student has a right to wear their native regalia as it is allowed by Washington State RCW. There will be staff at each ceremony to answer any questions or to lend supports to students. - ♦ - She thanked members of the public who gave public comment. She also reminded the public that serving on the School Board is an elected, volunteer position, and that they each do it because they care - they each have deep empathy for those here.
- o Directors Keating and Bonbright attended the Indian Education Graduation Recognition ceremony, which is always very meaningful. Favorite parts of the event each year include seeing students' regalia from all the Tribes from across the country that are represented by TPS graduating students; the Blanket Ceremony where students and their nominated teacher or staff member are each wrapped in a blanket representing their particular tribe; and students receiving a beautiful hand-made and hand-painted drum, which are painted each year by Mr. George Zuniga, who was a former TPS student.
- o Directors Leon and Bonbright held student listening sessions at Stadium and Silas High Schools to discuss what's important to

them such as mental health, their academics, etc. Director Leon also held a listening Session at Truman Middle School. Each listening session was held with a mix of male/female, and mix of grade levels from each school. There were no administrators or teachers in the room so students would feel that they could speak openly about pros/cons/critiques. They did share things they thought could be improved, but overall students feel that they have strong support from teachers and staff, strong in academics and that they feel safe and supported. They visited the CTE design lab at Truman, and the plant science program at Silas, and a foreign language class at Stadium. He thanked the staff and students who helped with these visits.

**17. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS**

June 12, 2025: Business Meeting

June 26, 2025: Business Meeting

July 10, 2025: Business Meeting

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

Board President Strozier adjourned the Board Business Meeting at 8:50PM.

**19. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board met in Executive Session at 9:00PM. The purpose of the Executive Session was to review the performance of a public employee.

**20. ADJOURNMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board President Strozier adjourned the Executive Session at 9:27pm.