



## Pullman School District

# Minutes

## Finance Committee Meeting

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### Date and Time

Thursday February 6, 2025 at 3:30 PM

### Location

Superintendent Maxwell's Office

District Office

240 SE Dexter St., Pullman, WA 99163

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**Please note these are FINAL committee meeting minutes. Finance Committee meeting minutes do not require approval at a subsequent meeting.**

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### Committee Members Present

Arron Carter, Bob Maxwell, Cameron Grow, Craig Nelson, Dagny Myers, Debbie Crabtree, Diane Hodge, Juston Pollestad, Pam Brantner, Roberta Kramer

### Committee Members Absent

*None*

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## I. Opening Items

### A. Record Attendance

### B. Call the Meeting to Order

Bob Maxwell called a meeting of the Finance Committee Committee of Pullman School District to order on Thursday Feb 6, 2025 at 3:30 PM.

## **II. Finance Committee Meeting Agenda Items**

### **A. 2024-25 Budget**

#### **Budget Status Report**

- Diane discussed meeting the 46:1 basic education teacher ratio. Currently, the ratio stands at 56.8:1, which is above the target.
- K-3 class size compliance is set at 17:1, and we are currently at 16.02:1, which keeps us in compliance.
- Reviewed the latest Avista billing, which showed an increase of \$23,500 from December to January despite mild weather conditions.
- Revenue has increased by \$400,000 due to higher enrollment numbers.

#### **Cash Flow through December/January**

- The estimated ending fund balance for August is projected to be 7.73%. The goal remains at 9% to prepare for unexpected expenditures.
- Bob emphasized the importance of monitoring the fund balance to avoid the need for loans to cover payroll.
- Diane reported a 6% increase in water rates as of January.

### **B. Listening Session**

- Bob discussed the upcoming listening session, where Diane will provide a foundational Budget 101 presentation.
- Bob is reviewing potential survey questions for staff, community members, and possibly students.
- Arron emphasized the need to communicate that the board makes final decisions based on discussions at all levels.
- Bob suggested adding a budget-related Q&A section to the district website for increased transparency.

### **C. Legislative Update**

- Bob reviewed key legislative updates:
  - A proposed bill may provide an additional \$1 million in local effort assistance.
  - Strong legislative support exists for special education and MSOC funding bills.
  - There is potential for minor funding from transportation-related bills.
  - The state is facing a budget decline and is not fully meeting its funding obligations. Still optimistic that some additional funding will be secured this session.

- Bob reminded everyone that the district will enter bargaining negotiations with three employee groups this spring.

#### **D. Restructuring**

- Bob outlined that any restructuring decisions will depend on the budget status.
- The district aims to rebuild areas requiring additional support, subject to board approval.
- Concerns exist regarding potential reductions in federal funding.
- If necessary, a Reduction in Force (RIF) resolution would need board approval.
- Attrition will be evaluated after receiving Intent to Return forms, which are due by March 1 and we review the rolling up of cohorts and enrollment.

### **III. Closing Items**

#### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bob Maxwell

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Next meeting: March 20, 2025