



Pullman School District

Minutes

Finance Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday November 13, 2025 at 3:30 PM

Location

Pioneer Center

Bob Maxwell's Office

Committee Members Present

Arron Carter, Bob Maxwell, Cameron Grow, Dagny Myers, Diane Hodge, Lisa Waananen Jones, Ryan Mulvey

Committee Members Absent

Juston Pollestad, Pam Brantner

Guests Present

jfleury@psd267.org

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Diane Hodge called a meeting of the Finance Committee Committee of Pullman School District to order on Thursday Nov 13, 2025 at 3:30 PM.

C.

Approve Minutes

II. Finance Committee

A. Item 1: Financial Status Update

The committee reviewed the district's current financial position. The October fund balance is **8.91%**, which reflects the receipt of a portion of the district's levy during that month. Despite this, the fund balance is projected to decrease to **3.76% in June**, which is historically one of the district's largest payroll months.

The committee emphasized the continued need for **conservative spending** as we move into the second half of the fiscal year. It was also noted that beginning in January, the district will be funded based on **actual enrollment**, which may impact revenue projections.

Bob recommended that the committee take a formal recommendation to the Board to **increase the district's fund balance target to at least 8%** to ensure greater financial stability.

Diane shared that, based on current trends and anticipated expenditures, she is **certain that a budget extension will be required** this year.

B. Item 2: Enrollment

The committee reviewed the district's current enrollment trends. Enrollment is **down 6 FTE in November** compared to October. Historical data shows that over the past four years, the district has averaged a **decrease of 31 FTE from October to June**, with most of the decline occurring at the high school due to **Running Start** participation and **Open Doors** programs.

For the 2025–26 budget year, the district budgeted **2,540 FTE**. Current enrollment stands at **2,643 FTE**, and based on the average October-to-June trend, the district anticipates ending the year at approximately **2,619 FTE**.

The committee reviewed long-range enrollment projections for the **2026–27 through 2029–30** fiscal years. After discussion, the committee agreed on the following projected budget enrollment figures:

2026–27: 2,575 FTE

2027–28: 2,580 FTE

2028–29: 2,585 FTE

2029–30: 2,580 FTE

The committee noted an expectation of **modest growth**, but overall **steady enrollment**, especially given that **construction permits are significantly down**, which may limit future housing-related enrollment increases.

These enrollment projections will be forwarded to the Board for approval in the **December consent agenda** as part of the budget development process.

C. Item 3: Property

The committee received an update on current property-related matters. Bids for the **Johnson property** are due on **November 19**. There has been considerable interest in the property, with multiple parties requesting tours. In accordance with statutory requirements, bids must be **at least 90% of the appraised value** in order to be accepted.

The committee also reviewed the status of the **aquatic center easement**. The signed easement agreement will be presented to the **City Council** at their next meeting.

In addition, the district is exploring the potential purchase of **30 acres located north of district-owned property off Crestview**. This location is financially advantageous, as existing utilities and road access extend directly to the site, which would result in **significant cost savings** for future development.

D. Item 4: Committee Recommendations to the Board

PowerSchool Evaluation System

Ryan Mulvey presented the **PowerSchool evaluation contract** to the committee for review. He shared information on a new evaluation process used by other districts that promotes consistency across the district by utilizing the **same process and forms** for all evaluations.

PowerSchool has offered a **significant discount** if the district enters into a **three-year agreement**. As part of the contract, PowerSchool will also **build the evaluation system for the district**, a step that other districts strongly recommended based on their experience.

The new platform will eliminate paper forms, provide clear tracking of **comprehensive versus focused evaluations**, and maintain continuity even when administrator assignments change. The system is expected to be more efficient, user-friendly, and interactive for staff. Ryan noted that the proposal has already been shared with both administrators and PEA.

Legislative Update

Bob provided a brief update from the **NEWASA meeting** he and Ryan attended earlier in the day with nine legislative representatives. Topics discussed included **special education funding, MSOCs, and small school modernization**.

He reported that **insurance and utility cost increases** continue to place significant pressure on school district budgets. Legislators did not indicate that education is a top funding priority this session, though there is hope education won't be cut too much.

Diane emphasized the importance of continued **conservative spending**, noting that the fiscal outlook is unlikely to improve in the near term.

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 4:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Maxwell

Next meeting: December 18, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.