



# Wenatchee School District

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## Wenatchee School District Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes of March 24, 2020  
WSD District Office – 6:00 p.m.

### CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by Board Vice-President, Martin Barron, at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ATTENDANCE

Present:

Laura R. Jaecks, Board President (via remote access)  
Martin Barron, Board Vice President  
Dr. Michele Sandberg, Board Director (via remote access)  
Julie Norton, Board Director (via remote access)  
Maria Iñiguez, Board Director (via remote access)  
Dr. Paul Gordon, Board Secretary

Also Present:

Staff members (via remote access)

### BOARD PUBLIC COMMENT STATEMENT

Vice-President Barron invited public comment from members of the public who may be connected to the meeting. There were none.

### ACTION

Resolution #03-20 - Emergency - Suspension of Policy

**Motion:** Director Jaecks made motion to approve Resolution #03-20 as presented. **Seconded:** Director Norton. **Discussion:** Upon questions from Board members, Dr. Gordon reviewed language in Resolution #03-20 indicating that the duration of the resolution is based on the Governor's order of March 13 and any subsequent orders. Following comments from Board members, Dr. Gordon suggested that the District could work with legal counsel to ensure that the Board could rescind the Resolution, or broaden or narrow it, based on current needs. He also clarified that this was a template Resolution that the majority of all districts in Washington State are using. At the end of discussion, Director Barron asked for a roll call vote for approval of Resolution #03-20 - Emergency - Suspension of Policy.

Roll call vote:

Director Norton - Aye  
Director Jaecks - Aye  
Director Iñiguez - Aye  
Director Sandberg - Aye  
Director Barron - Aye

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### AGENDA APPROVAL

Vice-President Barron indicated that no executive session will be needed tonight, and asked if there were any additional changes to the agenda. There were none.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Vice-President Barron asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. **Motion:** Director Sandberg made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. **Seconded:** Director Norton. Consent Agenda items included the following:

- A. Minutes: 2-25-20 Regular Meeting
- B. Vouchers/Payroll

- C. Personnel Report
- D. Surplus Report
- E. Donation to Sunnyslope Elementary
- F. Annual Report WSD Asset Preservation Program
- G. March Enrollment Report
- H. February Financial Report

Roll Call Vote:

Director Norton - Aye

Director Jaecks - Aye

Director Iñiguez - Aye

Director Sandberg - Aye

## Director Barron - Aye

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None

## ASB REPORTS

None

**DISCUSSION:**

## Policy Updates - 1st Reading #3424 and #3510

Director Barron called attention to the two policies up for first read, asking if there were any questions or comments. Director Sandberg noted that policy #3424 is a new policy and policy #3510 had minor revisions. Questions related to the overdose reversal medications identified in Policy #3424 followed. Dr. Gordon indicated that he will review our “self-carrying” medication policy to make sure the two policies are aligned prior to the 2nd reading.

## BOARD COMMUNICATION

- Director Iñiguez gave a shout out to the District's Food Service Staff for the work they are doing and being on the front lines. She also thanked teachers for reaching out and checking in on students.
- Director Sandberg thanked all the essential staff in the District who are continuing to work and commended their efforts. She also expressed her appreciation to Dr. Gordon and the Cabinet for all their behind the scenes work.
- Director Barron echoed the sentiments shared by Directors Iniguez and Sandberg, and followed up with a formal statement. (See attached)

## SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Gordon expressed his sincere gratitude to each and every staff member in the District for the work that is being done, and for coming together during this difficult time. He then discussed the District's next steps in moving forward with student learning. While working under State and Federal guidance, the District is hoping to offer more online learning opportunities in the coming weeks. He cautioned, however, that this is not an easy task for a traditional face-to-face based learning environment. There are a lot of unknowns currently, and he emphasized the need to give each other grace as we walk down this path together. He added that staff are missing the daily interactions with students and the District is looking forward to the day that we can welcome students back into our buildings.

## ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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President

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Superintendent

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Martin Barron Statement 3/24/20t:

I deputized for President Laura Jaecks this evening because I am the one who is able to be here in person, but at this point, acting as an individual board member, I wish to use the Board Comment section to go on record offering my encouragement.

The first thing I want to talk about is gratitude.

Our job as your school board is to represent you the community: students, parents, businesses, public organizations, all our residents. The doers are the more than one thousand employees of the school district. Thank you school district employees for your efforts, skill and dedication in this difficult time: everyone who is feeding our youth (the first priority by emergency sequence), bus drivers who are taking brown bags to isolated parts of the district, the maintenance staff keeping facilities safe and functional, everyone working on emergency child care (the second priority by emergency sequence), and teachers who are building new learning materials and programs for students. And I congratulate and thank all the community partners who have jumped up to help provide care for our children.

You see one face beside me representing the doers: Superintendent Paul Gordon, the district's chief executive and my trusted friend, BUT he is just the face lifted by the shoulders of the thousand plus.

School districts are only one part of a world facing unprecedented uncertainty that will need unknown tools and solutions and has presently unknowable outcomes. We do look to our state Government and civic leaders for guidance and need their active support during this state of emergency: everything from resources to granting emergency permissions for creative and new ways to educate.

The second thing I want to talk about is being kind so that, no matter how difficult the circumstances, we understand good intentions and mitigating actions that seek common benefit.

Being kind means do not hesitate to tell the district what your students need, or suggest improvement to what we are doing. I believe we will do our utmost to listen and respond. Dando pedidos por parte de sus estudiantes y haciendo sugerencias para mejorar nuestros esfuerzos son gestiones amables y bienvenidas. El distrito está a su servicio con el deber de escuchar y responder.

I get to the priority that is third in sequence but not third in importance, the one for which we do not yet have a completed toolkit. "How are we going to complete the education year?" Please listen to and work with what the district rolls out in the coming days and weeks. I assure you that our educators and administrators are applying all the professional education expertise that the supervisory and policy-making board does not possess. Here I thank Paul, other school district leaders and communicators many of whom would normally be seated beside us, and all our teaching staff. I also thank our employee organizations who are playing a vital role as allies and constructive supporters.

I want you to know that our school district doers are doing everything they can and know how to, and are putting in maximum effort. Please recognize that some things will take longer than our hopes and wishes. Please respect when things don't work out perfectly and we have to go back and try again.

Finally to students and parents who are carrying the full burden of "Stay Home, Stay Healthy". Please have confidence that the Wenatchee School District will do its best for you. I hope all of us are able to find resilience in this time of adversity.

Together in spirit even while we keep our bodies the right social distance apart!

Good night.