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SHOSHONE JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 312
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 11, 2025
6:30 p.m. Board Work Session
7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting
Shoshone School Building, Art Room #309
61 East Highway 24, Shoshone, Idaho

11 **Board Work Session: 6:30 p.m.**

12 Present:

13 **Board Members:** Chair Oscar Rodriguez, Vice-Chair Margarita Juarez. Trustees Lorie Race,
14 Jose Regalado and Nick Wallace. Meeting was held in the Shoshone School Art Room (#309)
15 located at 61 East Highway 24, Shoshone, Idaho.

16 **Staff:** Dr. Rob Waite- Superintendent, Principal Kelly Wilkins, Shoshone Education
17 Association (SEA) Representative Jackie Owens and Clerk Heather Wallace.

18 **Absent:** Principal Kelly Chapman due to illness. Excused by the Board.

19 **Guest:** None

20 The board work session began at 6:32 p.m. It was noted a quorum was present for the work
21 session.

22 **I. Continuation of Facilities Discussion:**

23 Dr. Rob Waite presented a PowerPoint to continue the discussion on facilities and the
24 proposed construction of a multipurpose building. Discussion items included:

25 **Updates:**

26 John Larsen and Dr. Waite met with Design West Architects on the following:

27 Concerns (proposed building of multipurpose building): The Board of Trustees were given
28 copies of the proposed design plans to review during discussion. These documents were
29 filed with the official February Board Packet.

- 30 • The fire hydrant, pipe for water drainage areas, main gas and main water lines are
31 located in the proposed building site. While these utilities can be relocated, it would
32 be an additional expense. Mr. Larson will meet with the city engineer to discuss the
33 ongoing city project of improving the water system in the area. The project would
34 improve water issues and may help offset some of the relocation costs.
- 35 • The sewer line is located near the front sidewalk. If the building is positioned closer
36 to the parking lot, the sewer line location will need to be addressed.
- 37 • A drainage field is located to the north of the proposed building site.
- 38 • The area west of the proposed site has a slope that would require backfilling.
39 Attaching the multipurpose building to the existing structure may avoid this issue.
- 40 • The gym's weight room was added after the original construction, resulting in
41 multiple rooflines. The addition of a multipurpose building would create a third
42 roofline. There may be opportunities for additional construction to unify the
43 rooflines for a more cohesive design.

44 School Entrances:

- 45 • A portion of the weight room may be repurposed into a hallway to provide an
46 entrance into the multipurpose building.
47 • In the same meeting, the architects stated they are drafting plans to address the
48 current school entrances. This is being referred to as “phase 2”.

49 Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC)

- 50 • Mr. Larson, Dr. Waite, Shannon Harris, and a principal also met with Michael
51 Arrington from Starr Corporation to review and discuss the current contract for
52 services. Mr. Arrington clarified that the contract remains valid for the entire
53 duration of the initial project, which includes four phases. Since the multipurpose
54 building and school entrance improvements are part of these phases, there is no
55 need to request new bids for GMGC services.
56 • Mr. Arrington is interested in continuing with the project and discussed key
57 considerations, including,
58 ○ Challenges related to the building location.
59 ○ To attach or not to attach the multipurpose building to the existing
60 structure.
61 ○ Construction timelines
62 ○ Comparing CMU (concrete masonry unit) vs. PEMB (pre-engineered metal
63 building) for cost effectiveness.
64 ○ Starr Corp will research to determine the most cost-effective option.
65 • The discussion also touched on the recent Vo-Ag building construction, including
66 challenges encountered during that process. Mr. Arrington assured the
67 administration, the new project would proceed more smoothly.

68 Next Steps:

- 69 • Topography and Boundary Surveys have been ordered at the cost of \$7650. These
70 surveys will be conducted by a specialized company. Dr. Waite briefly explained the
71 cost considerations for surveying the entire campus versus breaking the services
72 into separate areas. Trustee Wallace suggested involving the technology director
73 during the survey process in order to create a permanent GPS record of the data.
74

75 Spending Authority:

- 76 • Dr. Waite explained that when the Board of Trustees reviews and approves the
77 budget, it grants legal “spending authority” to the district administration for
78 managing revenues and expenditures. The proposed building project will be funded
79 through the School Modernization Fund legislation. However, at the time the budget
80 was approved and enacted, the School Modernization portion remained as
81 undetermined due to timing of legislative action and funding formulas.
82 Additionally, the state will have a process to retain final approval over projects and
83 funding.
84

85 Dr. Waite shared the following projected timeline for the construction project.

- 86 • Submit drawing for plan review- End of March
87 • Plans out for bid- End of April
88 • Bid Opening- Middle of May
89 • Mobilization and Construction- Beginning of June

90 To conclude the work session, the Board of Trustees, administration, and those in
91 attendance toured the area of the current gym, and proposed building site.

92 **Regular Monthly Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

93 **I. Call to Order:**

94 The monthly school board meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Chair Oscar
95 Rodriguez. Meeting was held in the Shoshone School Art Room (#309) located at 61 East
96 Highway 24, Shoshone, Idaho.

97 Present:

98 **Board Members:** Chair Oscar Rodriguez, Vice-Chair Margarita Juarez, Trustees Lorie Race,
99 Jose Regalado and Nick Wallace. It was noted a quorum was present.

100 **Staff:** Dr. Rob Waite-Superintendent, Principal Kelly Wilkins. Shoshone Education
101 Association (S.E.A.) Representative Jackie Owens and Clerk Heather Wallace.

102 **Absent:** Principal Kelly Chapman due to illness. Excused by the Board.

103 **Guest:** None

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105 **II. Pledge of Allegiance:** Chair Rodriguez led the Board and staff in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

106 **III. Consideration of Public Input:**

107 A. Request to Appear before the Board (4105F): The clerk received no such requests.

108 **IV. Reports:**

109 A. S.E.A.: Jackie Owens reported the S.E.A. is planning for Dr. Seuss Day and will be holding their
110 annual Cookie / Sucker Sale. They will present their plan to the administration for approval.

111 B. Shoshone Teachers: No report for the month of February.

112 C. Student Body: Jackie Owens reported:

113 • The annual Read a Thon is currently underway. To date, \$5280 has been donated
114 and students have read over 35,000 minutes. Proceeds will go towards the
115 playground update fund.

116 • Teachers Kate Jones, Melissa Martin, Norene Weber, and Jackie Owns are coaching
117 and overseeing the “Girls on the Run” program. This is a volunteer-led afterschool
118 program designed to inspire girls grades 3rd-8th grade girls by building confidence
119 through interactive lessons and physical activities. Cost per participant is \$35 which
120 will include necessary equipment, including shoes.

121 D. Goals and School Improvement:

122 **Principal Wilkins:**

123 • She met with the Leadership Team and the PTO group to plan a *Leadership Literacy*
124 *Night* for students on April 3rd. The theme will be “All the Places You Can Go”, and will
125 include activities and a silent auction. Proceeds from the action will go towards the
126 playground fund.

127 • A “Glow in the Dark 5K Fun Run” is scheduled for April 12th.

128 • Widia testing is nearing completion.

129 • ISAT testing is set to begin in a month.

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131 **Principal Chapman:** No report due to illness.

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Superintendent Waite:

- Principal Chapman and Mr. Perry accompanied a group of students to the play *Hamilton* as part of an enrichment activity.
- Additional enrichment activities are scheduled for the spring.
- A group of Jr. High school boys met with Dr. Waite and Principal Chapman, requesting to attend a F1 (Formula One) Race in Las Vegas as an enrichment activity. Mrs. Martin has agreed to serve as the overseer and chaperon. The race is scheduled for next year; allowing students several months to fundraise to help cover expenses.
- The annual “College Trip” is scheduled for early spring.
- Dr. Waite expressed his appreciation for sharing positive reports about the exciting opportunities happening within the District.

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ACTION ITEMS

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- V. Consent Agenda:**
A. Approval of Agenda
B. Approval of the Minutes:
 January 14, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
C. Weekly Principal/Superintendent Reports
D. Accept as Presented

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Trustee Race made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Trustee Regalado seconded.

Discussion: Dr. Waite followed up on the public comment from the January board meeting. He met with the patron and reported it was a great conversation.

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Chair Rodriguez called for a vote for all those in favor say aye. Motion carried unanimously

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- VI. Financials:**
A. Accounts Payable
B. Financial Statements District- January 2025
 Elementary- January 2025
 Secondary- January 2025

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Trustee Race made a motion to approve the Accounts Payables and Financial Statements as presented. Vice-Chair Juarez seconded.

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Discussion: Dr. Waite gave the following report on behalf of the district’s Business Manager.

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- Technology Fund 245 current has a negative cash balance. The REAP Fund balance of \$42,490 will be transferred to fund 245. Additionally, the district will receive state technology funding in the spring to further offset the negative balance.
- Medicaid Fund 260 is also over and showing a negative balance. However, the district has received a statement that \$60,000 will be reimbursed to the district within the next month. Dr. Waite explained the Medicaid account pays for special medical services for qualifying students, with partial reimbursement from Medicaid. The district uses a professional billing company to bill Medicaid to ensure accuracy, though this services comes at a cost. Due to the lag of time between expenses and reimbursement, the Medicaid account may continue to show negative balances.

- 178 • Accounting corrections will be made before the next financial statement. These
179 adjustments will be reflected in the maintenance and custodial funds, along with
180 school plant facilities funds. Fund 250 will show a correction in salaries.
- 181 • The State February 15th payment will show the SDE approved support units and the
182 funding amounts. This will include changes to some salaries. The administration will
183 compare the budgeted amounts with state reported figures. There will be an update
184 for the March meeting.
- 185 • Planning for the 2025-2026 budget will start soon.

186 Chair Rodriguez called for a vote of all those in favor say aye. Motion carried unanimously.

187 **VII. School Board Training- School Improvement**

188 A. Federal and State Legislation Update:

189 Dr. Waite provided a PowerPoint titled: Most Talked About. Topics of discussion included:

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191 State and Federal Legislation and Homeland Security:

- 192 • Immigration Policy Concerns: Recent governmental action on immigration have
193 raised public concern. To date, these actions have not impacted district enrollment
194 or caused issues within the schools. Dr. Waite reported he has had conversations with
195 some local community patrons who are concerned for their children's safety in school
196 because of the actions of *Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.)* Dr. Waite was
197 able to give reassurance the district's goal is to provide factual information, maintain
198 a clam and supportive school environment, and ensure stability for students while
199 they are at school. Dr. Waite read the Homeland Security: Revised Removal Priorities
200 to the Board of Trustees. Chair Rodriguez asked whether Homeland Security
201 statements and news reports are affecting students in the school. Dr. Waite said, to
202 date, there has been no direct impact on students, However, he acknowledged that in
203 cases where parents are known to be felons, while authorities will not enter schools
204 to remove students; the situation at home may still affect their well-being.

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206 National Department of Education:

- 207 • Discussions at the national level regarding the possible elimination of the Department
208 of Education have raised concerns to some. If eliminated, federal education funds
209 would go directly to the states for management and distribution. Currently the
210 district receives approximately \$123,358 in funding from the Department of
211 Education, while the State Department of Education funds the District \$5.8 million
212 dollars. Recently the district went through a lengthy audit conducted by the
213 Department of Education, requiring over two months' preparation, with five state
214 agency staff reviewing the documents.

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216 Food Service Program:

- 217 • The lunch program is managed through Department of AG- USDA, not the Department
218 of Education. Currently, there are no discussions regarding defunding the program.

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220 School Vouchers (State of Idaho):

- 221 • Dr. Waite believes some form of legislation for public money going toward private
222 schools will likely pass. However, he anticipates that it will not include the level of
223 accountability that school districts would like to see, particularly in terms of meeting
224 the same requirements as public schools or easing up on the regulations for public

225 schools. There may be legislation proposing districts could apply for “innovation
226 waivers”, to prevent loss of funding. Dr. Waite gave an example of what an innovation
227 wavier might be.

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229 Transgender Laws:

230 • Previously, Idaho allowed transgender students to participate in school and college
231 activities. However, new laws will affect Idaho’s policy, and the state will no longer
232 allow this type of participation.

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234 Open Enrollment and Transportations Issues: Jackie Owens asked if private schools will be
235 required to follow open enrollment policies, specifically regarding student acceptance and
236 transportation provisions. Dr. Waite responded that he does not believe private schools will
237 be subject to the same requirements in these areas.

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239 **VIII. Motion for Adjournment:**

240 A. Next Meeting: Tuesday: March 11, 2025

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242 Chair Rodriquez entertained a motion for adjournment.

243 Trustee Race made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. with Trustee Regalado
244 seconding.

245 Discussion: None

246 Chair Rodriguez stated all those in favor please say aye. Motion carried unanimously and the
247 meeting was declared as officially closed.

248 *Heather Wallace*

249 Heather Wallace

250 District Clerk

251 February 11, 2025

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253 This document serves as the official minutes of the February 11, 2025 board meeting. An
254 audio recording is available of this meeting.

255 Filed with the official February Board Packet:

- 256 • Construction / Architect proposed drawings
257 • PowerPoint used for Board Work Session: Updates
258 • PowerPoint used for School Board Training- School Improvement: Federal and State
259 Legislation Update: Most Talked About.