



Jefferson County Education Service District

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Hybrid: In-person and Electronic Meeting via Zoom

IN-PERSON LOCATION:

Jefferson County School District 509J (Board Conference Room)
445 SE Buff Street, Madras, OR 97741

[ACCESS ZOOM MEETING HERE](#)

Phone: 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 871 7623 9054 Passcode: 345343



2024/2025 Board Members: Chair Barbara Ibrahim; Vice-Chair Maurice Langsev; Dani Cowdrey; Joan Starkel; Heidi Casper and Paul May

REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES

Immediately following the Budget Committee Meeting, or 6:30PM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ATTENDANCE: Chair Barbara Ibrahim (Remote), Vice Chair Maurice Langsev, Joan Starkel, Paul May and Heidi Casper

ABSENT: Dani Cowdrey

1. WELCOME - REGULAR SESSION / BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL

Following the JCESD 1st Budget Committee Meeting, Board Chair Barbara Ibrahim called the regular session meeting to order at 6:36pm and requested a roll call of JCESD board members present; board secretary noted board member attendance for the record.

2. AGENDA ADOPTION

Board Chair Barbara Ibrahim asked if there are any updates, changes, or questions and called for a motion to adopt the agenda.

Joan Starkel made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, the motion was seconded by Heidi Casper and passed unanimously – **APPROVED 5/0 (1 absent)**.

3. COMMUNICATION / PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS / DISCUSSION

3.1. Certified Staff Appreciation Week (May 5-9, 2025) Proclamation

Superintendent Shay Mikalson directed board members to page 3 of the board packet and read the certified staff appreciation week proclamation to recognize the certified staff.

3.2. **Teacher of the Year (TOTY) Next Steps**

Superintendent Shay Mikalson explained that we are in the next phase of our Teacher of the Year program for our region. He directed them to page 4 of the board packet and explained we are seeking two board members to be on the Blue Ribbon Panel to score the applicants and select the regional winner for 2025. There is an action item later in the meeting if any board member is interested in participating this year.

3.3. **Steve Rankin Mini-Grant Program Update/Next Steps**

Superintendent Shay Mikalson shared that the Steve Rankin Memorial Mini-Grant Program is winding down, there have been some applications submitted, but the deadline is May 17, 2025. Next month we will bring the applications to the board for review and awarding for the fall.

3.4. **Bargaining Update/Next Steps**

Superintendent Shay Mikalson explained that bargaining in the tri-county region has just begun. We are currently on a 2-year contract where we are negotiating a fiscal package and one language item. Again, negotiations are just starting in our region and a lot of the conversations are impacted by those taking place at 509J. Our association has formally requested information, which is the first part of the process. We have provided that information, thanks to our HR Director Jayel. We will wait to hear from them about bargaining dates going forward. We also have an action item this evening if a board member, or two is interested in being on that team as we continue through the negotiation process.

Board Chair Barbara Ibrahim proceeded to the public comment period on the agenda.

4. **HEARING OF CITIZENS, DELEGATIONS AND STAFF MEMBERS:**

(Option 1) (Board Chair will offer opportunity during meeting) The Board of Directors reserves this time for citizens to speak to the Board; because time is limited, as a standard practice, and courtesy to others and to maintain our meeting schedule, guests will be allotted three minutes (or less if needed, based board chair prerogative) to speak. If you have a group attending regarding the same topic, you will need to appoint one speaker.

➤ **Remote access attendees:** Please raise your hand and enter your name in the chat to be called on by the board chair.

➤ **In-Person attendance:** Sign-in on the sign-in sheet at the room entrance and wait to be called on by the board chair.

(Option 2) Written Comment: The JCESD Board may accept public comment in writing prior to the meeting. If you are a member of the community and wish to provide a public comment they will be taken in written format ONLY. Written comments must be received by 1:00 pm [the date of the board meeting] and may be read during the public comment section of the virtual meeting. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

There were no comments submitted or provided in person this evening.

Board Chair Barbara Ibrahim proceeded to the Action Items for the evening.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 CONSENT AGENDA

- 5.1.1 Approval of **March 5, 2025** Meeting Minutes *[no meeting in April]*
- 5.1.2 Personnel
- 5.1.3 Accounts Payable Vouchers
- 5.1.4 Financials

Board Chair Barbara Ibrahim asked if there are any questions or comments on the consent agenda.

Superintendent Shay Mikalson highlighted items on the personnel sheet, page 10 of the board packet and recognized Manda Currier for the hard work in hiring. Manda said it has been a team effort and all the work goes back to the team.

Joan Starkel asked if there are any expected “surprises” regarding the state school fund as part of the financial report. CFO Brad Henry responded that at this point no, he said it is a little better than where we ended last year, but he would not consider it a ‘surprise’.

Superintendent Shay Mikalson explained that the State report comes out May 14, 2025.

Board Chair Barbara Ibrahim called for motion to approve the consent agenda.

Heidi Casper made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, the motion was seconded by Paul May and the motion passed unanimously – **APPROVED 5/0.**

5.2 **APPOINT BOARD MEMBER(S) TO REPRESENT ON TOTY BLUE RIBBON PANEL**

Heidi Casper expressed an interest and asked if it would be a conflict of interest if she is on the panel and an applicant happens to be one that she works with. Superintendent Shay Mikalson explained that she could be on the panel and state the conflict if she finds that to be the case and there is a concern.

Board Chair Barbara Ibrahim also expressed interest.

With no other board member expressing interest, Joan Starkel, made a motion to appoint Heidi Casper and Barb Ibrahim to the Blue Ribbon Panel for the 2025 Regional Teacher of the Year, the motion was seconded by Maurice Langsev; the motion passed unanimously – **APPROVED 5/0.**

Superintendent Shay Mikalson thanked Heidi and Barb for helping and said there will be information sent out for each panel member’s independent scoring and if the scoring warrants a meeting we can come together to discuss, otherwise the selection can be made and we will inform the committee of the standing.

5.3 **APPOINT BOARD MEMBER(S) TO REPRESENT THE BOARD IN BARGAINING**

Board Chair Barbara Ibrahim explained that we are requesting a JCESD Board member to represent on the bargaining team. Superintendent Shay explained the importance of having a board member on the bargaining team – their perspective is valued and important. Also bargaining is about communication and it is helpful to have a board member or two. There will be three to four meetings (at least), and he will forward the information as it becomes available.

Paul May expressed interest on being on the bargaining team again this year – he feels that it was an extremely valuable experience as a board member.

Board Chair Ibrahim asked if there is any additional interest, with none, Superintendent Mikalson said that one works great.

Maurice Langsev motioned to have Paul May represent the board on the bargaining committee, the motion was seconded by Joan Starkel and passed unanimously – **APPROVED 5/0.**

6. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- There were no board highlights mentioned this evening.

7. REMINDERS:

- ~~[If needed] 2nd Budget Committee Meeting (5:30pm) – **Wednesday, May 14, 2025**~~
~~@509J Board Room~~
- Regular Board Meeting – **June 4, 2025**
 - Public hearing on the FY 2025-26 budget (ORS 294.453).
 - Adopt resolutions to adopt the budget, make appropriations, categorize and impose taxes.

8. REGULAR SESSION MEETING CLOSURE/ADJOURNED

With no further business, Board Chair Barbara Ibrahim adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm.

**Draft to Board for approval at next meeting,
Wednesday, June 4, 2025**

Tessa Bailey, Executive Assistant

JCESD Board Chair Barbara Ibrahim

JCESD Superintendent Shay Mikalson

Date

Jefferson County ESD Board Meeting

Date

May 7, 2025

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