

MINUTES
Pendleton School District 16R Board of Directors
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

June 8, 2026

6:00 p.m. | District Office | 107 NW 10th Street, Pendleton, OR 97801

Present: Beth Harrison, Board Chair
Ryan Lehnert
Jill Pace
Ryan DeGrofft
Mason Murphy
Anne Keeler
Kevin Dinning, Director of Human Resources
Michelle Jones, Director of Business Services
Ronda Thornburg, Executive Secretary
Michelle Jensen, PhD, Superintendent
Matt Yoshioka, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (arrived at 6:11 p.m.)

Absent: Julie Smith, Director of Special Programs (with prior notice)
Patrick Gregg (with prior notice)

The meeting was in person and offered virtually.

1. Opening and Call to Order *Board Chair*

Chair Harrison welcomed everyone and called the regular board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.1. Pledge of Allegiance

The group stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.2. Meeting Audio and Video Recorded

Chair Harrison stated that this meeting is being audio and video recorded.

2. Approve Board Agenda *Board Chair*

Director Keeler motioned to approve the June 8, 2026, Regular Board Meeting agenda. Director Pace seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda *Board Chair*

3.1. Board Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2026 Work Session

May 11, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

3.2. May 31, 2026 Financial Report

Expenditures:

All expenditures for the month of May are usual and customary and within expectations.

Revenue:

Revenues for the month of May are within expectations. Current property tax collections are at 95% of levy, which aligns with budgeted projections.

3.3. Grants

Granting Agency	Recipient	Purpose	Amount
Pendleton Linebackers Club	PHS Football	WOU camp donation	\$7,500

A letter of appreciation will be sent to each donor.

3.4. Gift Donation

Donor	Gift	Recipient	Value
Chuck West	Wooden Business Desk	PHS Drama Program	\$500

A letter of appreciation will be sent to each donor.

3.5. Human Resources Report

NEW HIRE	Certified	Jacob Pierce	Special Education Teacher (2026-27 SY)	WES
		Danielle Kobasa	Special Education Teacher (2026-27 SY)	WES
		Quinn Piver	Special Education Teacher (2026-27 SY)	SHES
	Classified	Laura Castro	Library Media Assistant	WES
RESIGNATION	Certified	Serena Bontemps	Grade 3 Teacher	SHES
		Kelsey Eckstine	Counselor	SMS
	Classified	Shelley McAlary	Paraprofessional	WES
		Samantha Durning	Paraprofessional	SHES
		Jenna Wells	Paraprofessional	SHES
	Extra Duty	Suzanne Kennedy	Assistant Dance Coach	PHS
		Kendra Stewart	Assistant Cross Country Coach	PHS
		Evan Brandhagen	Head Boys Soccer Coach	PHS
		Dave Curtis	Head Girls Golf Coach	PHS
		Kiana Rickman	Head Girls Soccer Coach	PHS
EXTRA DUTY	Dance	Jessica Frazier	Assistant Coach	PHS
	Wrestling	Tyler Miler	Head Girls Coach	PHS
	Basketball	Bailey DeBord	Assistant Boys Coach	PHS
	Soccer	Kaden Clark	Head Boys Coach	PHS
VOLUNTEER	Dance	Suzanne Kennedy	Coach	PHS
	Cross Country	Kendra Stewart	Coach	PHS

Director Murphy motioned to approve the June 8, 2026, consent agenda as presented. Director Pace seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Board Communications *Board Chair*

4.1. Pendleton Association of Teachers *PAT Representative*

No report.

4.2. Oregon School Employees Association *Tammy Hillmick*

No report.

4.3. **PL874/Indian Education** *Kendall Rosario*

No report.

5. **Public Comment** *Board Chair*

No comments.

6. **Superintendent's Report** *Michelle Jensen*

Before the principal's report, Superintendent Jensen provided a safety update regarding a firearm that was brought to a school and provided context about the response.

6.1. **End-of-Year Reports** *Principals*

Angela Lattin – Pendleton Early Learning Center
Anne Sokoloski – McKay Creek Elementary School
TJ Presley – Sherwood Heights Elementary School
Heidi Paullus – Washington Elementary School
Angie Horton – Sunridge Middle School
Pat Dutcher – Pendleton High School

Each principal shared a few pictures and events, highlighted successes from the past year, and areas to focus on in the fall. All were available for questions from the Board.

7. **Reports & Discussion**

7.1. **Board Officer Recommendations** *Director Lehnert*

On behalf of the nominating committee, Director Lehnert recommends the following Directors in the positions for the 2026-27 school year.

Anne Keeler – Board Chair
Patrick Gregg – Board Vice-Chair

The Board will vote on the nominations/positions at the July regular board meeting.

8. **Board Business – Action Items**

8.1. **Superintendent** *Michelle Jensen*

8.1.1. **Approve Assistant Superintendent Contract 2026-2029**

The Assistant Superintendent contract for Matt Yoshioka is for the term of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2029.

Director Pace moved to approve the Assistant Superintendent contract for Matt Yoshioka as presented. Director Murphy seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8.2. **Business Services** *Michelle Jones*

8.2.1. **Food Service Contract**

In November of 2022, the District issued an RFP for Food Service management due to the expiration of our prior agreement. On February 13, 2023, the Board acted to approve a five-year contract with Sodexo to provide the district's Food Service Management. Due to federal requirements, the Board is required to approve an annual renewal to continue services. The only change to note from our prior contract is a 3.59% cost-of-living adjustment to the fixed price per meal charged to the district.

Director Murphy moved to approve the Sodexo Contract Amendment for 2026-27 as presented. Director Pace seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8.2.2. Approve Out-of-State Travel - PHS

Policy IICA – Field Trips and Excursions requires Board approval for any field trip or excursion occurring outside the states of Oregon, Washington, or Idaho. The following student activities have submitted requests for travel that meet the educational and extracurricular objectives of the district and have been reviewed by administration.

Proposed Trips

Pendleton High School FFA
Advisor: Marty Campbell
Event: Washington Leadership Conference
Location: Washington, D.C.
Dates: June 9–13, 2026
Funding Source: Donation

The Washington Leadership Conference is a national leadership development program sponsored by the National FFA Organization. Students participate in workshops and activities focused on leadership, citizenship, personal growth, and service. Participation provides students with opportunities to develop leadership skills and engage with peers from across the country.

Pendleton High School Volleyball
Coach: Jodi Primus
Event: Hawaii Island Labor Day Classic Tournament
Location: Hilo, Hawaii
Dates: September 2–7, 2026
Funding Source: Team fundraising activities

Pendleton High School FFA
Advisor: Marty Campbell
Event: National FFA Convention
Location: Indianapolis, IN
Dates: October 18-24, 2026
Funding Source: Fundraising and FFA Alumni Chapter donations

Director Lehnert moved that the out-of-state student travel be approved as presented. Director Keeler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8.3. Board Board Chair

8.3.1. July 7, 2026 Work Session

When the July Board Work Session falls close to the Independence Day Holiday, the Board has occasionally canceled it.

Director Murphy moved to cancel the July 7, 2026 Board Work Session. Director Keeler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Board Member Comments Board Chair

Director Murphy loved the reports.

10. Adjournment Board Chair

With no further business brought forward for the good of the order, the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Beth Harrison, Board Chair

Michelle Jensen, PhD, Superintendent

Ronda Thornburg, Executive Secretary

Date

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