

Malheur Education Service District Region 14
Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 19th, 2025, at 3:30 PM at Plaza Inn Restaurant, in Ontario, OR

Malheur ESD Board Meeting:

Pursuant to notices sent to newspapers of general circulation, the Board meeting was held on Tuesday, August 19th, 2025, at 3:30 PM at the Plaza Inn Restaurant, Ontario, OR.

Preliminary:

ESD Board Vice Chair Les Linegar called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. Board members in attendance and comprising a quorum were Greg Alexander, Newell Cleaver, Amy McGourty, and Topper Schlupe. Jill Conant and Rebecca Martinez were not present. Also in attendance were Superintendent Mark Redmond, Director of Finance Matt Mejia, Director of Curriculum Angie Arriola, Director of Special Education Teresa Jones, Director of Technology Randy Seals, and Executive Administrative Assistant Jodi Westerberg. ELL Specialist Jason Echeverria was in attendance as a guest.

Matt Mejia answered the one budget question he had received:

- a. Lawrence Co. - a company that takes care of unemployment for the ESD and the 4 small schools.

Consent Agenda:

A MOTION WAS MADE by Newell Cleaver to approve Consent Agenda Items A-C.

Greg Alexander seconded, and the motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

- A. Approve the Minutes of the July 15th, 2025, board meeting.
- B. Approve budget questions for August 2025
- C. Approve payment of August 2025 bills and monthly financial statements.

Business Items:

- A. Business Report/Audit progress: ESD has received two payments from the State School Fund and has run one payroll. Hopefully by next month all last year's funding will have been submitted. The plan is for the audit to be ready to present to the Board in November or December.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Greg Alexander to approve Business Item B. Amy McGourty seconded and the motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

- B. Approve OAESD Governance Council Representative: Jill Conant
- C. Malheur ESD Board Member Contact Information: Superintendent Redmond distributed contact information sheets to the Board Members.

- D. Building Bid and Discussion-Superintendent Redmond shared the capital projects financials with the board, going over the beginning fund balance, transfers, and the loan possibilities. He shared the loan confirmation letter from the Bank of Eastern Oregon as well.

Superintendent Redmond also went through the bidding process with the board, gave the board a breakdown of all the bids, discussing both the recommendation from the architect/project manager and the ESD's attorney to reject the irregular bid. He also discussed the timeline and process. The board asked Superintendent Redmond to look into several loan options.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Greg Alexander to approve the building bid from Alpine Construction Management for \$1,120,926.00 and the Alternate "A" bid. Topper Schlupe seconded and the motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote

Personnel Items:

- A. Approve Job Postings
 - a. None
- B. Approve Job Descriptions
 - a. None

A MOTION WAS MADE by Newell Cleaver to approve Personnel Items C-and D with spelling change for New Hire Miriaha Mendoza. Amy McGourty seconded, and the motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

- C. Approve Resignations:
 - a. Teresa Jones - Director of Special Education, Retirement form PERS, 8/31/25
 - b. Monica Grenz - College and Career Coach (YTP)
- D. Approve Hires:
 - a. Teresa Jones - Director of Special Education, Rehire of Retiree, 9/1/25
 - b. Erica Trinidad-Teran - Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant (IECMHC)
 - c. Morgan Beaver - Preschool Instructional Assistant
 - d. Jessica Tolman - Preschool Instructional Assistant
 - e. Miriaha Mendoza - 0.4 FTE Counselor, Contracted per Huntington School District contract

Other:

- A. October 28th, 6-8 OSBA Dinner
- B. December 3-5th, Colorado Springs (October 17th Early Bird discount).
- C. Director of Curriculum Update - Angie Arriola: Supporting 2 new teachers in Juntura, helping schools get back up and running after summer break. Les Linegar asked if there had been difficulty adjusting to the statewide No Cell Phone policy. Angie said that

schools are “practicing” that for now until policy is officially in place and there have been a few minor incidents, but nothing too bad so far.

- D. Director of Special Education Update - Teresa Jones: Preschools start on Monday and there are still openings at the preschool in Nyssa. Lots of Evaluations and Referrals are taking place, but that is common for this time of year. ODE will be looking at SPED files directly this year instead of just receiving reports from reviews Teresa has done, so that is creating some stress in the districts.
- E. Director of Technology Update - Randy Seals: Tech team is responding to a lot of tickets as is typical for this time of year, but it is easier since this is the second year for the entire crew. He is expected between 1200-1500 tickets over the course of the next month.
- F. Superintendent Update - Mark Redmond
 - a. Staff Inservice: Inservice was held on the 11th and had very good turnout.
 - b. Huntington District: In third year of School Improvement so ESD is going to provide more significant support. Mark presented school data to their Board and the community and that was the first time that had been done in quite a while.
 - c. OAESD: Sam Breyer is the new director and Mark feels this will be very positive.

Adjournment:

A MOTION WAS MADE by Newell Cleaver to adjourn the meeting. Amy McGourty seconded and the motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm.

BOARD CHAIR

BOARD SECRETARY

DATE APPROVED: _____