



# Aberdeen Schools

Keeping you informed about our schools -- December 8,  
2023



## Decorating at McDermoth

*Kindergarten and 1st Grade students at McDermoth Elementary School put their fine motor skills to use in fun fashion this week -- decorating for the holidays on pajama day.*







## Family fun at Stevens



*A holiday tradition continued this week at Stevens Elementary School with the annual Make-It-and-Take-It Family Fun Night.*



**Miller Junior High Centennial T-Shirt Order Form.pdf**

**Download**  
336.8 KB

## SCHOOL BOARD





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## Summary of the December 12 meeting

[Agenda](#) (pdf)

Vice President Suzy Ritter convened the regular meeting of the Aberdeen School District Board of Directors at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 12, 2023, in the Community Room at Aberdeen High School. In attendance were Jessica Jurasin (remotely) and Jeremy Wright, along with Superintendent Jeffrey Thake and 18 patrons and staff. President Jennifer Durney and Director Annica Mizin were excused.

The meeting began with the flag salute.

### Consent Agenda

The Board approved the Consent Agenda, which included:

1. The minutes from the regular meeting on November 14, 2023;
2. November payroll vouchers totaling \$4,143,098.22;
3. General Fund vouchers totaling \$851,068.99; ASB Fund vouchers totaling \$32,844.17, a Capital Projects Fund voucher in the amount of \$78,108.60, and a Private Purpose Trust Fund voucher in the amount of \$300.00;
4. Accepted a gift to the District from Tammy Jo Lund who donated a 2001 Dodge Caravan valued at \$1,302.00 to the CTE program at Aberdeen High School for use in the automotive technology program;
5. Approved trip requests for
  - The Goldenaires at Aberdeen High School to travel to Edmonds for a jazz festival March 7-9, 2024,
  - The Choir at Aberdeen High School to travel to Columbia Basin College at Pasco for the jazz festival on April 19-20, 2024,
  - The AHS Girls Basketball team to travel to Seabrook on Dec. 15-16, and
  - The AHS Girls Wrestling Team to travel to Kelso for a wrestling tournament.



### **Comments from the Board**

The Board discussed recent attendance at the annual conference of the Washington State School Directors' Association.

### **Comments from the Public**

Senior Ayden Giffin invited Board members to attend the annual holiday concert and silent auction on Wednesday, Dec. 13, hosted by the American Sign Language class at Aberdeen High School.

### **Miller Junior High School Annual Report**

Principal John Meers presented Miller Junior High School's annual report and school improvement plan. The Board discussed the school's goals for improved reading and math scores.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Thake discussed the upcoming Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) Levy and the Capital Projects Levy that are on the Feb. 13 special election ballot, the growth of the music program at Miller Junior High School, and the work taking place to formalize District mission, values and goals.

Superintendent Thake noted the centennial celebration at Miller Junior High School will take place on Sunday, Jan. 28, and the upcoming WSSDA Legislative Conference is set for Jan. 28-29.

### **Financial Services**

#### **Fiscal Status Report**

The Fiscal Status Report for November was presented by the executive director of business and operations, Elyssa Louderback. She reported an ending fund balance of \$103,042.32 in the General Fund. With 25 percent of the fiscal year elapsed, the District has received 21.14 percent of revenue and is at 26.19 percent of expenditures. Under enrollment, she reported the District is currently trending 70.6 FTE above budget.

### **New Business**

#### **GEAR UP Contract**

A personal services contract with Ann Taylor to consult with the GEAR UP program on compliance and reporting this year was approved.

#### **Rainier Lanes Agreement**

A revision to the 23-24 agreement with Rainier Lanes to host the AHS Girls' Bowling team for practices and matches was approved.

#### **Haley-Aldrich Contract**

An agreement with Haley-Aldrich for geo-technical engineering services for the slope repair at the AHS tennis courts was approved.

#### **ProCare Therapy Contract**

An agreement with ProCare Therapy to provide specialist services in 2023-2024, with addendum to place Diana Magnin in the District as a speech language pathologist, was approved.



### **Surplus Equipment**

The list of surplus equipment and materials presented by the Business Office for November/December was approved.

### **Personnel Report**

Following an executive session, the Board approved the Personnel Report.

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### **Next regular meeting is Tuesday, January 16; special meeting Dec. 21**

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16, in the Community Room at Aberdeen High School.

In addition, a special meeting of the Board is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21, for the sole purpose of reconciling the fund balances in the General Fund and Capital Projects Fund before year-end. This meeting will be via Zoom. You can access the link [here](#).

Those who attend regular meetings are welcome to sign up at the meeting to provide public comment on agenda items. Written public comment for the record can also be submitted up to noon the day of the meeting by writing to [schoolboard@asd5.org](mailto:schoolboard@asd5.org). Comments or concerns not on the agenda can be brought to the attention of the district by contacting the Superintendent's Office or by contacting individual board members.

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### **Info on the 2024 special levies available online and upcoming meetings**

Superintendent Jeffrey Thake has announced plans for three town-hall type meetings to give School District residents an opportunity to ask questions about the upcoming EP&O and Capital Projects levies:

- 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 4, at Central Park Elementary School,
- 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 18, at Stevens Elementary School, and
- 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8, at Aberdeen High School.

Both measures go before voters in the February special election. You can review the superintendent's full report [here](#). Additional information is posted [on the District website](#).

Anyone with questions is invited to contact Superintendent Thake. He is also available to speak to local groups and organizations about the proposals. These meetings can be arranged by contacting him at (360) 538-2002 or via email at [jthake@asd5.org](mailto:jthake@asd5.org).



## Levy Q & A February 13, 2024



Voters in the Aberdeen School District will decide two levies during the Feb. 13, 2024 special election:

- An Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) Levy for programs
- A Capital Projects Levy for projects

### What will the levies pay for?

The EP&O Levy is a renewal of the existing levy, which is expiring. It will continue the community's support for programs such as athletics, music, drama, school counselors, nurses/health assistants, curriculum, technology, building maintenance, and other programs that are either not funded or are underfunded by the state.

The Capital Levy is new and will fund modern upgrades to our aging buildings and technology infrastructure. The bonds for J.M. Weatherwax High School are now paid off. The \$1 per \$1,000 being proposed for building upgrades is less than the annual tax rate was for the high school.

### Where do public schools get their money?

About 72% comes from the state, about 18% from the federal government, about 9% from local taxes, and 1% from other sources such as grants or fees.

### Why is the District asking for more money?

The current EP&O levy approved four years ago was for \$5,200,000 in each of the four years. This replacement request is for \$5,950,000 per year for the next four years and reflects increased program costs.

Due to the high school bond being paid off, the combined tax rate of both the EP&O Levy and the Capital Projects Levy will not result in a rate increase.

EP&O Levy		
Collection Year	Tax Rate per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2025	\$2.50	\$5,950,000
2026	\$2.50	\$5,950,000
2027	\$2.42	\$5,950,000
2028	\$2.32	\$5,950,000
Capital Projects Levy		
2025	\$1.00	\$2,188,984
2026	\$1.00	\$2,276,544
2027	\$1.00	\$2,367,606
2028	\$1.00	\$2,462,310

### How much will the combined levy cost property owners?

Collection Year	Rate per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Cost for \$250,000 Home
2025 (est)	\$3.50	\$875.00
2026	\$3.50	\$875.00
2027	\$3.42	\$855.00
2028	\$3.32	\$830.00

More Information is available at [www.asd5.org](http://www.asd5.org)



**How do schools get "local" dollars?**

Through voter-approved property taxes such as the two being proposed.

Property owners pay a set amount for each \$1,000 of their property's value (called Assessed Valuation or AV). These levies cannot be increased once approved. Below is the estimated rate per \$1,000 of assessed value for both levies.

**Why ask for a Capital Levy and not a Bond?**

As you may recall, a bond initiative that was proposed to replace one of our elementary schools at the last election cycle failed by one (1) vote. Bond planning for a new school can take several years. Meantime, we have current facility needs that should be addressed before the next bond initiative for a new school is placed before voters.

**When is the vote?**

Ballots will be mailed in late January, with all ballots due on or before February 13, 2024.

**Do all school districts receive equal state funding?**

The state recognizes that some communities have higher property values and can more easily raise funds to support their schools. That is not the case in Aberdeen. For this reason, the state will provide a "match" to districts like ours if the levy passes. In the previous calendar year, the Aberdeen School District received an additional \$2.4 million from the state because voters supported the levy.

This match to our schools is over 3.67% of the total budget and is not available unless the levy is approved.

**What programs does the EP&O Levy fund?**

All extra-curricular, co-curricular, PE, music, and drama programs are funded with local levy dollars. The elementary swimming program and Outdoor School are supported with levy dollars. In addition, the levy helps fund salaries for staff to improve student learning and other professional development; para-educator support in the classroom and on the playground; improve and maintain technology in our classrooms; support the services and supplies needed to clean and maintain our buildings and grounds. The levy will also augment school counselor staffing above the state funding model so that services remain available. The capital levy will be used for construction/facility upgrades to continue investing in our existing facilities.

**Aren't these items funded by the state under basic education funding?**

No. Basic education funds from the state and federal government provide about 90% of the cost of basic education. The funds requested through this levy represent about 9% of the proposed budget for the next four (4) years. When the incentive funds from the state are factored in, the impact on the budget is 12%.

**What are co-curricular or extracurricular programs?**

These include drama, musicals, the swim program, athletic programs and competitions, performing arts and marching bands, choir, orchestra and other after school activities. These funds also supplement the staff funded by the state to support academic and social emotional support for all students. The levy funds make it possible to provide these opportunities to all students regardless of income.

*More Information is available at [www.asd5.org](http://www.asd5.org)*

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## Free movie night during the Winter Break



*It's free, but pre-registration is required. Scan the QR code above for more information.  
There will be hot cocoa and cookies!*

## Get your game tickets online or at the door



The Athletic Department is pleased to introduce online ticket sales to sporting events through GoFan. You can still buy tickets at the gate. Athletic Director John Crabb said the e-ticket option is available for all home sporting events. Patrons can buy season tickets or individual tickets.

Access the online ticket site using the QR code at left or by visiting [here](#).





# ABERDEEN LITTLE LEAGUE

## 2024 Signups!

It's that time of year again! Aberdeen Little League is having their annual Signups.

Signups will be online starting December 1, 2023 with two in person sign ups located at the Little League concession stand.

When you signup online you will be able to create an account, add your child, select a program, fill out most of the required paperwork. You will still need to print and fill out the medical release and school enrollment forms and upload them.

If you have already created an account online with us in the past, you will still need to sign in and enter your child into an available program.

Please Visit <https://www.aberdeenlittleleague.org> to sign up.

### **Signup Dates Online:**

December 1, 2023 – January 31, 2024

### **Signup Dates In Person:**

January 20, 2024 – 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

January 24, 2024 – 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

### **Player Fees:**

T-Ball (ages 4-6) \$50

Coach Pitch (6-8) \$50

Minors (8-11) \$100

Majors (10-12) \$100

We accept credit card or cash and will NOT accept checks for registration fees.

### **Tryout Dates:**

Tryouts will be held at the Bishop Building. Time slots are based on last name.

Minors – February 6, 2024 A-L 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm; M-Z 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Majors – February 7, 2024 A-L 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm; M-Z 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

**Please watch our Aberdeen Little League facebook page for updated information.**

## Staying in touch with Leadership

- Superintendent Jeffrey Thake, [jthake@asd5.org](mailto:jthake@asd5.org)
- Business Office, Elyssa Louderback, [elouderback@asd5.org](mailto:elouderback@asd5.org)
- Human Resources, Christi Sayres, [csayres@asd5.org](mailto:csayres@asd5.org)
- Special Education, Rick Bates, [rbates@asd5.org](mailto:rbates@asd5.org)
- Career & Technical Education, Lynn Green, [lgreen@asd5.org](mailto:lgreen@asd5.org)
- Teaching, Learning & Technology, Traci Sandstrom, [tsandstrom@asd5.org](mailto:tsandstrom@asd5.org)
- Food Services, Jaime Matisons, [jmatisons@asd5.org](mailto:jmatisons@asd5.org)



## School Office Hours

### **A.J. West Elementary School**

- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- (360) 538-2130 / Principal Nani Villarreal

### **Central Park Elementary School**

- Office Hours: 8:15 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- (360) 538-2170 / Principal Ruth Erwin-Svoboda

### **McDermoth Elementary School**

- Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- (360) 538-2120 / Principal Mindi Hammill

### Robert Gray Elementary School

- Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- (360) 538-2140 / Principal Sherri Northington

### Stevens Elementary School

- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- (360) 538-2150 / Principal Jamie Stotler

### Harbor Learning Center

- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- (360) 538-2180 / Principal Lisa Griebel

### Hopkins Preschool

- Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- (360) 538-2190 / Principal Darby Carroll

### Miller Junior High School

- Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- (360) 538-2100 / Principal John Meers

### Aberdeen High School

- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- (360) 538-2040 General / Principal Aaron Roiko
- (360) 538-2060 Attendance Line

### 2023-2024 Aberdeen School District Calendar

August 2023					<div>August 2023</div> <div>28 Professional Development</div> <div>29 Professional Development</div> <div>30 First Day of School</div> <div>September 2023</div> <div>04 Labor Day-No School</div> <div>October 2023</div> <div>November 2023</div> <div>10 Veterans Day Observed - No School</div> <div>22-24 Thanksgiving Holiday</div> <div>December 2023</div> <div>15 Early Release</div> <div>18-29 Winter Break</div> <div>January 2024</div> <div>01 Winter Break continues</div> <div>15 Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday-No School</div> <div>February 2024</div> <div>19 Presidents Day Holiday -No School</div> <div>20 Professional Development-No School</div> <div>March 2024</div> <div>15 Weather Makeup Day, If Needed</div> <div>April 2024</div> <div>1-5 Spring Break</div> <div>May 2024</div> <div>24 Weather Makeup Day, If Needed</div> <div>27 Memorial Day Holiday</div> <div>June 2024</div> <div>13 Last Day of School / Early Release</div> <div>19 Juneteenth</div> <div>* Denotes Board meeting</div> <div>√ Collaboration Days:</div> <div>09/27 10/25</div> <div>12/6 01/10</div> <div>02/07 03/06</div> <div>04/10 05/15</div>
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School Board 02/21/23 Updated 09/19 School Board mtgs



The Washington State Governor's Office of the Education Ombuds (OEO) was created to help families navigate the education system.

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The Aberdeen School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Christi Sayres, Title IX Coordinator and Civil rights Compliance Coordinator, 216 North G St., Aberdeen, WA 98520; (360) 538-2222; [csayres@asd5.org](mailto:csayres@asd5.org); Dr. Richard Bates, Section 504/ADA Coordinator, 216 North G St., Aberdeen, WA 98520; (360) 538-2017; [rbates@asd5.org](mailto:rbates@asd5.org).



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