

# School board will add student advisor

BY MATT RAWLINGS  
*Of the Keizertimes*

The Salem Keizer Public Schools (SKPS) Board of Directors voted to add a student advisor to the school board, accepted a proclamation to recognize the month of November as Native American Heritage Month, and elected two community members to serve on the budget committee during a virtual board meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 10.

Multiple Native American students in the district were able to share some of their experiences within the district via video submission. Board member Jesse Lippold, who is of Native American descent, talked about the importance of this proclamation and the progress the district has made in recognizing tribal members.

"It's been a tough path for our people. While it's easy to get into the mentality that the world's against you, I believe that our school district is making leaps and bounds in the right direction," Lippold said.

The proclamation, which recognizes the role Indigenous people played in the

country's history while celebrating the nearly 1,700 students in SKPS who identify as Alaska Natives or Native American, was passed unanimously by the board.

In October, Lippold brought a proposal before the board that would allow a student advisor to the school board that would act as a liaison between the board and the student advisory committee.

"This is a systemic way to give students a voice within our school district and have them be a part of the conversations we are having," Lippold said.

Board Chairperson Satya Chandragiri was vocal about his approval of the proposal.

"I really think this is a great opportunity to build the pipeline for future leaders," Chandragiri said.

While members were a tad skeptical, the board ultimately decided to pass the new policy of selecting a student advisor. Board member Marty Heyen was the only dissenting vote.

"I am a data person and I just don't feel like I have enough information at this time," Heyen said.

Eight members of the community vying for a spot on the budget committee got a chance to share their credentials and convince the board why they would be a good fit. The board wound up choosing Wilma Marchbanks and Lisa Harnisch to fill the two vacant roles.

Harnisch is a parent of two former SKPS students and expressed that she is a strong advocate for the district.

"As part of the budget committee, I will advocate that we actively listen to students, families, community partners and staff to align resources to meet the current needs of children to assure that they have the opportunity to achieve educational excellence," Harnisch said.

Marchbanks is a parent of seven former SKPS students and shared that she plans to use her role as a way to distribute resources through an equity lens and boost the voice of minorities in the process.

"I will ensure that the distribution of funds is allocated through an equity lens as it relates to the budgeting committee. I hope to amplify the voices that have been historically unheard and silenced in this process," Marchbanks said.

Since June, hostility during the public comment section

of board meetings has been prevalent due to the board's rejection of community pleas to remove Student Resource Officers (SROs) from schools. There have also been numerous complaints that the board has been dismissive of students of color.

Chandragiri gave a first reading of a proposal that would give himself, as the chairperson, additional authority to manage public comment.

Board member Sheronne Blasi was critical of Chandragiri proposal at the previous board meeting and continued to share her displeasure with the possible revision.

"This is a step in the wrong direction, versus a step that is inviting and encouraging public comment," Blasi said. "The community feels that this is another opportunity for the board to potentially silence them, and I agree with them."

Board member Kathy Goss, however, believes that the revision is necessary.

"I don't think anybody on the board is saying people can't speak. But anything they want to be said can be said without ripping up everyone on the board personally. I object to that. I don't think it's healthy," Goss said.

police scanner

## SUNDAY, NOV. 1

12 a.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 5000 block of Hasbrook Avenue NE.  
12:34 a.m. - Driving under the influence of intoxicants at the intersection of River Road N and Plymouth Drive NE.  
7 a.m. - Computer crime in the 5000 block of St Croix Way NE.  
10:17 a.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 800 block of Foothill Court NE.  
10 p.m. - Theft in the 300 block of Hollyhock Place N.  
10:01 p.m. - Traffic accident in the 5000 block of McLeod Lane NE.  
10:45 p.m. - Arrest for strangulation in the 6000 block of Hidden Creek Loop Lane.

## MONDAY, NOV. 2

2:01 a.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 1000 block of Manzanita Street NE.  
4 p.m. - Theft in the 1000 block of Mary Street NE.  
11:12 p.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 1000 block of Susan Court NE.

## TUESDAY, NOV. 3

11:20 a.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 7000 block of Mykala Street NE.  
10:01 p.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 400 block of Manbrin Drive N.

11:30 p.m. - Theft in the 5000 block of Newberg Drive N.

## WEDNESDAY, NOV. 4

11:29 a.m. - Stalking order violation in the 1000 block of Clearview Avenue NE.  
1 p.m. - Theft at the intersection of Lockhaven Drive NE and McLeod Lane NE.  
1:15 p.m. - Arrest for possession of methamphetamine and heroin in the 5000 block of 10th Avenue NE.  
3:41 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.  
4 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 3000 block of River Road N.

## THURSDAY, NOV. 5

2:05 a.m. - Arrest for robbery in the 600 block of Greenwood Drive NE.  
9:07 a.m. - Fraud use of credit card in the 1000 block of Country Glen Avenue NE.  
12 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 1000 block of Brandon Avenue NE.  
12:48 p.m. - Stalking order violation in the 1000 block of Clearview Avenue NE.  
1:53 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.  
8:26 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 5000 block of River Road N.

## FRIDAY, NOV. 6

9 a.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 4000 block of 13th Avenue N.  
1:39 p.m. - Vandalism in the 5000 block of River Road N.  
10:13 p.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.  
11:57 p.m. - Failure to perform duties of driver when property was damaged in the 4000 block of River Road N.

## SATURDAY, NOV. 7

7:42 a.m. - Theft in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.  
8:24 a.m. - Traffic accident at the intersection of River Road N. and Cummings Lane N.  
1:25 p.m. - Traffic accident in the 6000 block of Field of Dreams Way NE.  
6:09 p.m. - Traffic accident in the 6000 block of Ulali Drive.  
8:44 p.m. - Theft in the 1000 block of Murphy Avenue NE.  
10:24 p.m. - Failure to perform duties of driver when property was damaged in the 3000 block of Pleasant View Drive NE.

## SUNDAY, NOV. 8

3:14 a.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 800 block of Laguna Drive NE.  
12:58 p.m. - Warrant served in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.

## MONDAY, NOV. 9

9:14 a.m. - Unlawful entry to vehicle in the 1000 block of Lazy Creek Drive NE.

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503-393-0222 • [KeizerCommunityChurch.com](http://KeizerCommunityChurch.com)

**SUNDAY:**  
Sermons can be found online at [www.keizercommunitychurch.com](http://www.keizercommunitychurch.com)

**WEDNESDAY:**  
6:30 pm Awana; Youth Group; Adults



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393-5323

5303 River Rd. N., Keizer  
Father Gary L. Zerr, Pastor  
Saturday Vigil Liturgy: 5:30 p.m.  
Sundays: 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
La Misa en Español: 12:30 p.m.



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**REV. ALYSSA BAKER, Lead Pastor**  
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**Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA**  
4505 River Road N, Keizer • 503-393-4507  
[www.FLCKeizer.org](http://www.FLCKeizer.org)

**Pastor Linda Matz Easterling**  
Sunday School - 9:00 am  
Worship Service - 10:00 am



**Keizer Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
6945 Wheatland Rd. NE 393-6843  
[www.KeizerChristian.org](http://www.KeizerChristian.org)


Worship and Children's Church • 10:00 a.m.  
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**COUNTRYSIDE Christian Church**

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**Pastor Peter Blank**  
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