I. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION
President Rainer Houser called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m., led the pledge of allegiance, established a quorum, and welcomed attendees to the meeting.

II. CONSENT AGENDA
Bruce Wildfang motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented and Rick Anthony seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

III. AESD—Supporting our Board Members
Melissa Gombosky framed the legislative advocacy process for the year ahead and discussed Board member roles and strategies for influencing legislative outcomes. She highlighted the following information:
- Democrats picked up many seats and have control of both the house and senate.
- Initiatives with tax increases were not passed.
- Passage of gun measure could help move school safety bills as it will remove gun control from the conversations.
- AESD board members may be called on to provide testimony to support AESD initiatives.

IV. STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIPS: 2019 Legislative Session/AESD Priorities
Melissa Gombosky summarized the AESD focal points for the 2018 session and points of emphasis for AESD.
- AESD Superintendents’ group established the following as 2018-19 Legislative Priorities: Full funding of the SEBB; and regional Safety Centers at each ESD.
- Support for EL Coordinators will be on the agenda but not at the top. Frank Ordway noted support for continued funding.
- Governor’s budget priorities should be released 2nd or 3rd week of December and should include funding for Career Connected Coordinators.

V. GROW THE NETWORK: Computer Science, School Accreditation, Communications Services Briefings
Gene Sharratt led reports from members of the AESD Superintendents’ group on new and continuing network initiatives intended to grow the network:
- Provided an update and review of progress of regional Computer Science work.
- Encouraged members to view the many Career Connect Washington partners listed on the AESD website at https://www.waesd.org/.
- Reviewed the program evaluation work being conducted by Puget Sound Educational Service District in partnership with Kauffman & Associates, Inc. to successfully implement an evaluation plan to review the effectiveness of the ESD Math, Science, English Language Arts and Early Learning Coordinator services. Additional information is available on the AESD website under professional learning.
Larry Francois provided an update on school accreditation:

- He reviewed the status of schools in the accreditation process. 3 districts had submitted initial inquiries; 21 districts were in initial accreditation process; 6 districts in six-year renewal stage; and 40 districts are in third-year review stage.
- Accreditation panels are scheduled to meet May 20-21 in Tumwater and May 28-29 in Spokane. Superintendents were asked to share this information with board members and send forward names of board members interested in participating.
- Accredited schools currently receive marketing information they can use on their websites, certificates and plaques upon completion. The group encouraged looking into additional ways to celebrate completion and to market the program to school district administrators.
- A video is being produced and will be shown at the WASA/ AWSP summer conference.

VI. GROW THE NETWORK: School Safety
Greg Lynch provided a report on work being done across the ESDs to establish regional safety centers. He noted that a bill will be introduced to the legislature that will provide funding for each ESD to house three positions to support safety initiatives in school districts within their regions.

VII. TELLING OUR STORY: Goal 2 Update
Gene Sharratt briefed the group on progress being made on the goal of “Growing our Network” and provided an overview of the presentation about ESDs being done later in the week at the WSSDA conference.

VIII. TELLING OUR STORY: 50th Anniversary Celebrations
Rainer Houser asked Gene Sharratt to update the group on emerging plans to celebrate 50 years of service in the upcoming year. Gene noted that along with a birthday celebration being planned in conjunction with the AESD annual conference in April, plans were also underway to hold a celebration event in Olympia.

IX. AESD: Supporting our Board Members
Rainer Houser talked with the group about new board member training at the AESD Annual conference in April. Collectively there are five new board members across all of the ESDs so the group requested felt a training would be worthwhile. Tim Merlino planned to work on adding a session to the conference schedule.

X. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Process for Filling Vacancy
Dana Anderson shared the process for filling the executive director position being vacated by Gene Sharratt. The group planned to hold a conference call to review the current job description before the position is posted and recruitment begins.

XI. GOOD OF THE ORDER
Rainer Houser asked the group if there were other topics to discuss. The group shared the following:
- John Welch is running for a position on the AESA board. He noted that ballots will be sent out on December 17.
- Rainer requested that a follow-up on the process to separate funds from WSSDA be provided at a future meeting.

XII. ADJOURN
Meeting was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.