



NOVEMBER 28, 2017 MEETING OVERVIEW

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the actions taken by the School Board and to provide a listing of the reports given. Anyone interested in viewing the full meeting, please visit the website listed below.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education came to order at 6:05pm at the call of Chair Julia Brim-Edwards in the Cafeteria of Jefferson High School, 5210 N. Kerby Avenue, Portland, Oregon.

Attendance

Present: Chair Brim-Edwards; Vice-Chairs Esparza Brown and Moore; Directors Anthony, Bailey, Kohnstamm, and Rosen; Student Representative Tran; Superintendent Guerrero; Interim General Counsel Large.

Welcome from Principal Margaret Calvert and Jefferson High School Students

Jefferson High School Principal Margaret Calvert welcomed the Board.

Jordyn Mejia, a senior at Jefferson, stated that her overall experience at Jefferson was very good. She had an amazing support system from friends and teachers, and that Jefferson was one big family. Students can talk to teachers more and receive more academic support.

Javondre Cole, senior at Jefferson, stated that his experience at Jefferson has been remarkable. Jefferson had a rich history and he mentioned former alumni. Athletics were not an outlet at Jefferson they were an asset. In addition, Jefferson has a culture of community.

Recognition: Bioscience Showcase

Cynthia Bui, a senior from Madison High School, reported on her 3-minute fastpitch presentation that she provided to a group of entrepreneurs and researchers, on her class project that can help detect E. coli in water. Ms. Bui was asked to share her findings at the annual Oregon Bioscience Showcase. Ms. Bui was one of only two high school students invited to participate.

Student and Public Comment

Mauria McClay: stated that she had spoken at the previous Board meeting about removing the historically underserved designation for Special Education students, adding that she was not going away. She was not sure if anything had changed, but some communication should be provided to parents.

Jamila Singleton: as a concerned community member, she was not confident that racism was being challenged in the District. The system was not designed to serve the underserved and disparate outcomes persist. The Board, PPS teachers and administrator demographics are white, and white exceptionalism was ingrained in the District. What was the Board doing to challenge their own racism?

Kim Wilson: as a teacher at Scott School, she had two asks: ask for teacher input when students are about to be affected, be honest and open and tell parents the truth. Respond when students, teachers and parents reach out to the Board.

Tim Sytsma: a second year bus driver in the Special Needs Department, stated that bus drivers were operating without a contract since June 30th. They would like to continue the conversation, but negotiations were at a standstill.

Walter Hollands: teacher at Grant, reported that there is a new freshman science class that has been imposed on all high school students. The curriculum had been free and was developed by one teacher at Beaverton High School. There is no book; however, it was constructivist learning and aligned with next generation science standards. On the negative side, there wasn't really a curriculum. It was essentially 100 PowerPoint slides that is given to the teacher and a couple quizzes and a concluding test. There are no written instructions for the teacher or students. The slides were poorly written and full of misspellings. Also, there are no hand-on activities. Director Kohnstamm requested that the Board Office Manager research how the curriculum was selected.

Leslie Waldow: her nephew is five years old and has disabilities. He has been denied transportation by the District and was told that his disabilities do not matter. She was offended and disgusted that the District said he could get to school on his own.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Guerrero reported on the following items: update on safe and working drinking fountains; Pioneer Program changes; and, PPS graduate JT Flowers was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship.

Action Items

- Authorizing Use of Construction Excise Fund
Public Comment:
None
- Middle School Conversion Project: Exemption from Competitive Bidding
Public Comment:
None

Reports

- Board Chair Report: Work Plan, Policy and Superintendent's Goals
- Middle School Implementation Update
- Revised Budget for Middle School Implementation

The Board Approved the Following Items

- Resolution 5542: Authorizing Use of Construction Excise Fund
- Resolution 5543: Middle School Conversion Project Exemption from Competitive Bidding
- Business Agenda

Adjourn

Chair Brim-Edwards adjourned the meeting at 8:00pm.

In accordance with ORS 192.650, the District's official School Board meeting minutes are maintained via video recording, which can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8CC942A46270A16E>. The agenda and back-up materials for this meeting can be accessed at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/board/7862.htm>. Please contact the School Board Office at 503-916-3741 for questions or help accessing information.