



REGULAR MEETING OVERVIEW

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the actions taken by the School Board and of discussions and reports given. Anyone interested in viewing the full meeting, please visit the School Board website at <https://www.pps.net/domain/219>.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education came to order at 6:04 pm at the call of Board Chair Lowery. This meeting was held virtually due to Covid-19 and streamed live at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ppscomms/videos>

Attendance

Present: Board Chair Lowery; Directors Bailey, Brim-Edwards, DePass, Kohnstamm, Moore, Scott; Student Representative Shue; Superintendent Guerrero

Absent: none

Pre-meeting

The virtual meeting opened for attendees to arrive at 5:45 pm. No deliberation or decisions were made prior to the start of the meeting.

Consent Agenda – Resolutions 6214, 6215, 6217, and 6218

Time Started: 6:05 pm

Discussion

Director Brim-Edwards stated that there are new legal contracts on Resolution 6214 with vendors that appear to have been used in the past. She requested that the next quarterly report include a summary of vendor contracts for the full year. She stated for the record that she had a question regarding resolution 6218 which was answered by staff. She acknowledged the work of staff to find a good home for Access.

Note: Resolution 6216 was skipped.

Action Taken

Director Kohnstamm moved, and Director Brim-Edwards seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda, which included Resolution 6214, 6215, 6217, and 6218. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed by a vote of 7-0, with Student Representative Shue voting yes (unofficial).

Public Comment

Time Started: 6:11 pm

None

Student Representative's Report

Time Started: 6:12 pm

Student Representative Shue shared that he is still busy working on college applications. He shared that the District Student Counsel has begun to work more cohesively. He noted that they have established three subcommittees, have scheduled a retreat for January, and have elected Jackson Weinberg as

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Deputy Student Representative. He added that they have achieved a representative from each comprehensive high school and are working towards representation from alternative high schools as well.

Superintendent's Report

Time Started: 6:14 pm

Superintendent Guerrero shared that the district held a "Schools and Covid-19" panel presentation. He noted that the panel included regional and national public health experts and district stakeholder groups, including students, parents, educators, and community-based partners. He stated that a recording of the panel is posted on the district's YouTube page and that if anyone had additional questions to submit them in a survey that can be found on the district website. Superintendent Guerrero shared that the district continues to work on the multi-year strategic plan, which is aligned to the shared vision, noting that it will begin to articulate a blueprint for how to actualize the portrait of a graduate. He shared that it looks as if the district will be receiving close to full funding for the coming fiscal year. He showed a video of a performance by the Cleveland High School Choirs.

Board Committee and Conference Reports

Time Started: 6:25 pm

School Improvement Bond:

Director DePass shared that the committee received a quarterly update from the Bond Accountability Committee (BAC) and the Office of School Modernization (OSM), and an update on the bond execution plan process. She shared that there are four open positions on the BAC. She noted that they received 14 applications for the positions and that they have chosen four diverse and talented applicants to refer to the full Board for consideration.

Community Budget Review Committee (CBRC):

Director Moore shared that the committee will hold its December meeting on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, from 6-7 pm. She noted that the Portland Public Schools five-year forecast would be on the agenda as well as benchmarking and confirming dates for future meetings.

Intergovernmental Committee:

Director Scott shared that the committee has been working on the PPS Legislative Agenda. He added that there would be a discussion in January to determine whether they want to change the way school board members are elected.

Policy Committee:

Director Moore shared that at the December 7th meeting, the committee looked at the suicide prevention policy, which has been referred for a first reading, the Real Estate policy, a newly drafted Anti-racist Anti-harassment Learning Community policy, and took a preliminary look at a Climate Crisis policy.

Rose Quarter Design Committee:

Director Brim-Edwards shared that at the last committee meeting on Monday they primarily discussed highway covers for I-5. She added there was a request by a committee member for deeper engagement with Portland Public Schools.

SE Guiding Coalition Enrollment and Program Balancing Committee:

Director Bailey shared that there was a SE Guiding Coalition Enrollment and Program Balancing meeting held Thursday, noting that the committee came to a consensus on a plan for the Kellogg feeder pattern which would be considered by the Board in January.

Regular Update: COVID-19 Metrics

Time Started: 6:34 pm

Dr. Russel Brown shared that the numbers included in the update were current through the previous week. He noted that Covid-19 cases have begun to plateau, but that rates are still far from where it needs

to be for any in-person learning. He stated that returning to in-person learning will still dependent on safety measures taken by everyone, including wearing masks, washing hands, and social distancing.

Action Taken

None

Resolution 6219: Acceptance of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), Reports to Management, and the Report on Requirements for Federal Awards

Time Started: 6:40 pm

Director Brim-Edwards shared that the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Audit was completed by Talbot, Korvola & Warwick (TKW) and that they reported clean findings. She stated that the auditors presented the CAFR, single audit, and the Oregon Requirements Audit to the Audit Committee and that the committee voted to refer the audits to the full Board for consideration. Superintendent Guerrero noted that the audit results are due to the work of the budget and finance team led by Deputy Superintendent Claire Hertz. Ms. Hertz shared that the finance team has done a great job while working from home and transitioning to paperless systems. She added that TKW provides a high bar, which pushes them towards excellence.

Tim Gillette, an auditor from TKW auditor, provided an overview of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, stating that the findings were clean. He credited the financial Department for three years with clean audit findings. He noted that in addition to the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Audit, they also completed a single audit and an audit on Oregon minimum standards. He shared that the single audit is a requirement for organizations that spend over \$750,000 in federal funds and that the audit was found to be clean. He shared that there were a few small findings in the Oregon Minimum Standards Audit, none of which require corrective actions.

Director Brim-Edwards stated that the district typically only accepts the audit and offered an amendment to the resolution to remove the language stating that the Board approves it. There was no further board discussion.

Action Taken

Director Brim-Edwards moved and Director Bailey seconded the motion to amend Resolution 6219 to remove "and approves" from the resolution. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed (7 yes, 0 no), with Student Representative Shue voting yes (unofficial).

Director Brim-Edwards moved and Director Kohnstamm seconded the motion to approve Resolution 6219 as amended. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed (7 yes, 0 no), with Student Representative Shue voting yes (unofficial).

Renaming

Time Started: 6:50 pm

Dani Ledezma provided an overview of the re-naming processing, noting that it is aligned to the District Vision, the Racial Equity and Social Justice (RESJ) framework, the theory of action, and culturally responsive and sustaining pedagogy, and provided an overview of each aspect. Area Director Steven Stapleton shared that he has been a part of the planning committee and that they have been working on a Renaming Tool kit. He shared that the committee has focused on being culturally inclusive which builds a sense of belonging. Shanice Clarke shared that they are making sure that they are framing the process on the perspectives, tensions, and ideas that people have. She noted that the Administrative Directive (AD) will provide the opportunity to apply racial equity through community design, and there will be a tool kit to support the process. She shared the criteria for naming and defining spaces will drive change-making, adding that criteria includes culturally responsive pedagogy, student empathy interviews, modeling culturally responsive design and embracing complexity. Ernie Guerrero of Step-Up shared his perspective of the process as a school partner. He shared that Step-up students and staff are majority black and indigenous people of color (BIPOC) and that he appreciates the district bringing in partners that work directly with students in schools, adding that the process has been student-focused. Ms. Clarke shared that there are case studies in process at Madison and Wilson High Schools. She shared that there are five phases and that the next step for the case current studies is to identify what needs to exist to do

the work, and that they are exploring name ideas that have resulted from their case studies. She added that they hope to have a final name to present by January.

Board directors asked questions regarding the renaming process. Director Brim-Edwards asked how they plan to engage the larger school community? Ms. Ledezma shared that they have been engaging with the school and community through the process. Director Bailey asked how they are balancing the desire of some people to not change school names with some people's desire for change. Ms. Ledezma stated that the case study is working to find an inclusive approach that focuses on the RESJ framework while also having conversations that respect different viewpoints. Shanice Clarke added that engagement with groups who have different kinds of relationships to the school, such as alumni groups, have occurred, but that they are focusing on aligning the values of the school community with racial equity at the center. Ms. Ledezma added that there are community members on the committee and that the principals did outreach to get diverse perspectives.

Superintendent Guerrero thanked staff and the community for taking part in the design process. He introduced Steven Stapleton, Portland Public Schools' newest Senior Director. Mr. Stapleton stated that he was glad to be in Portland and that he is excited about the racial equity work that Portland Public Schools engaging in.

Action Taken

None

Break: 7:35 – 7:47 pm

First Reading of the Student Suicide Prevention Policy 4.xx.xxx-P

Time Started: 7:47 pm

Director Moore provided background on the Student Suicide Prevention Policy, noting that the policy is in response to an Oregon law called SB-52: Adi's Act. She shared that Adi Staub was a Portland Public Schools student who identified as transgender and who died by suicide in 2017. She noted that it is a well-rounded and thoughtful policy that outlines what each school and the district as a whole must have to respond to suicidality in students. Directors Brim-Edwards, Kohnstamm, and Bailey provided comment on the importance of the policy and thanking Amy, Mila, and Adi's family for their work.

Director Moore stated that the policy will be posted on the district's Policy page and that the public comment period is 21 days.

Action Taken

None

Implementation of the Secretary of State Audit Recommendations

Time Started: 7:55 pm

Director Brim-Edwards shared that in January of 2019 the Secretary of State issued an audit of Portland Public Schools. She stated that the district provided a detailed response to the Secretary of State and that the Secretary of State responded that they would return to check the status of implementation. She noted that the Secretary of State notified the district of their intent to return in January 2021. Director Brim-Edwards shared that there was a portion of the audit that was determined by the Secretary of State to be overseen by the Board of Education and that they would look at the evidence of implementation and determine whether they thought it to be fully, partially, or not completed.

There was discussion regarding how the Board would work through the recommendations. It was requested that the audit committee provide a recommendation. Director Scott stated that he did not believe that the Board was prepared nor qualified to make decisions regarding the implementation of the audit. There was discussion regarding whether the Board should respond to the audit. Director Kohnstamm suggested that they submit the evidence of implementation that was gathered and reiterate district management's response to the recommendation. Superintendent Guerrero stated that the district had done its best to list the evidence and reflect on whether the implementation was completed. A motion was made and seconded to submit the evidence that was gathered to the Secretary of State's

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office and that the Board endorse district management's response. Director Brim-Edwards requested that they vote separately on how to respond to the implementation and whether to submit the evidence. There was discussion regarding whether to submit the evidence and a response or just the evidence. It was decided to submit the evidence and endorse district management's responses.

Action Taken

Director Brim-Edwards moved to split the evidence from implementation. The motion was seconded by Director Lowery and put to a voice vote. The motion failed (3 yes [Brim-Edwards, DePass, Lowery]- 4 no [Bailey, Kohnstamm, Moore, Scott])

Director Scott moved to submit the evidence that was gathered to the Secretary of State's office and that the Board endorse district management's response. The motion was seconded by Director Lowery and put to a voice vote. The motion passed (7-0)

Resolution 6220: Adoption of the Portland Public Schools Legislative Agenda

Time Started

8:38 pm

Director Scott stated that the legislative agenda was drafted by district staff and was reviewed and revised by the Intergovernmental Committee. He noted that the agenda is aligned to the five educational system shifts of Portland Public Schools. Courtney Westling shared that the list reflects the district's vision but is not exhaustive, noting that if items come up that are not expressly listed that they would still be addressed. Ms. Westling provided an overview of the agenda. Director Scott asked if the Oregon Legislative Emergency Board (E-Board) funding that was announced included CARES Act funds? Jon Eames shared that there is \$600 million that will be allocated to spend in January, which includes \$100m for wildfire relief, \$400m for COVID-19 relief and \$100m for other issues that come up. He noted that they did not state where the funds were from but that it is likely that part of the funds are from the remaining CARES Act budget.

There was discussion regarding including a topic focused on Transformative Curriculum and Pedagogy, which would align with the Native Student Success bill, African American Success bill, and upcoming Civics Education bill. Courtney Westling stated that they could add a bullet point to reflect that agenda. Ms. Westling stated that she would create language and add a bullet regarding Transformative Curriculum and Pedagogy.

Action Taken

Director Scott moved to approve Resolution 6220 to adopt the 2021 Portland Public Schools Legislative Agenda with an amendment that would add a bullet calling-out the system shift around transformative curriculum and pedagogy. The motion was seconded by Director DePass and put to a voice vote. The motion passed (7-0), with Student Representative Shue voting yes (unofficial).

OSBA Legislative Agenda

Time Started: 8:58 pm

Director Lowery stated that the Board would consider a resolution to adopt the Oregon School Board Association (OSBA) 2021-2022 legislative priorities and principals as recommended by the OSBA Legislative Policy Committee, which Director Moore is a member of. Director Moore introduced the OSBA legislative agenda, noting that the OSBA committee has been working on the agenda for 18 months. She added that the agenda reflects a growing recognition that it needs to champion racial equity work and that it is meant to be for general direction. She stated that she strongly recommends that the Board adopts the agenda.

There was Board discussion Director Kohnstamm stated that she would have liked to see stronger language regarding training a diverse workforce and working with higher education institutions with teacher training programs. Director Brim-Edwards noted that she would like the PPS legislative agenda to be prioritized over the OSBA agenda if there is conflict.

There was discussion regarding what was meant by cost containment. It was noted that it is likely Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) and healthcare costs. Director Bailey stated for the record that he would not support any measure that directly impacts the availability of state employees' pension. Director Moore stated that as part of a coalition, not all parties agree with every element, but that Portland Public Schools PPS is an independent actor with its own legislative agenda.

Action Taken

Director Scott moved to adopt the Oregon School Board Association (OSBA) Legislative Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Kohnstamm and put to a voice vote. The motion passed (7 yes, 0 no), with Student Representative Shue voting yes (unofficial).

Adjourn

Chair Lowery adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled to be held January 12, 2020.

Submitted by:



Kara Bradshaw, Executive Assistant
PPS Board of Education