

**School District No. 1J, Multnomah County, Oregon
Board Retreat of September 2, 2014**

INFORMAL MINUTES

A Retreat of the Board of Directors came to order at 5:38pm at the call of Co-Chair Pam Knowles in the WY 'east Conference Room at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, OR, 97227

There were present:

Board of Directors:

Pam Knowles, Co-Chair
Ruth Adkins, Co-Chair
Bobbie Regan
Matt Morton
Tom Koehler
Greg Belisle
Steve Buel

Student Representative:

Minna Jayaswal

Staff:

Carole Smith, Superintendent
Julie Harrelson, Facilitator
Caren Huson-Quiniones, Board Office

Co-Chair Knowles indicated that the Retreat would be a continuation of the Retreat that the Board held in July 2014.

BOARD MANAGER OVERVIEW

Co-Chair Knowles introduced Rosanne Powell, new Board Office Manager. Ms. Powell will provide agenda setting notes, follow-up on citizen comment, serve as the host of the Board, maintain the dashboard, and make the Board visible in the community.

REVIEW OF PROTOCOLS

Co-Chair Adkins proposed that Board policies be updated to align with the Board protocols document. Director Buel stated that he had problems with the protocols. There are federal laws that the Board must follow and also state laws that must be adhered to. Our policies have to follow federal and state law. At least four Board members are needed to vote in favor of a resolution, which becomes similar to policy. Then it is the Superintendent's job to make sure it is enforced. The Board protocols have no actual standing in any official way. There is a problem when the protocols do not meet the policy language. The proposed protocols do not meet the federal law under freedom of speech. Our policies do not have any language regarding the co-chair process.

Director Regan commented that to her, the protocols basically say to be respectful. She did not agree with Number 5 of the protocols which states that amendments to resolutions must be

submitted the Wednesday prior to a Board meeting. Board members do not even receive their packets until Thursday/Friday before a meeting. Co-Chair Knowles mentioned that the Board usually receives a draft resolution at one Board meeting and then votes on it at the next meeting. Director Regan suggested wording such as “respectfully bring it forward prior to the Board meeting”, and to remove the words “by Wednesday”.

Director Buel stated that he would like to be able to bring items forward in an open Board meeting for future agendas. He would like to have a motion and second at a Board meeting, and a vote of the Board to place an item on an agenda.

REVIEW OF 2014-15 WORK PLAN

Director Buel commented that he would like to see a sense of urgency based on education and not data points. Director Regan stated her concern about interfacing with families, and that we should do a district-wide welcome and perhaps Board members attend Kindergarten Round-up.

Co-Chair Knowles asked Board members to provide their written concerns in regards to the Work Plan. In addition, she would like to see an annual report on how much money is in the Capital Asset Renewal Fund and also the Construction Excise Tax Fund. Additionally, she would like to have a Work Session on Early Childhood Learning, review Outdoor School, and discuss the hiring of an auditor.

At 7:37pm, the Board took a ten minute break.

COMMITTEES, WORK SESSIONS

Co-Chair Adkins reviewed the list of Committees and Board participation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Jon Isaacs, Chief of Community Involvement and Public Affairs, reviewed plans for Town Hall meetings to be hosted by Board members. Director Regan commented that Board members should also attend PTA meetings. Director Morton mentioned that Benson High School was not listed for a Town Hall meeting and that he would be happy to host.

ADJOURN

Co-Chair Knowles adjourned the Retreat at 8:19pm

Submitted by:

Caren Huson-Quiniones, Senior Specialist
PPS Board of Education