



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 School Board website at <https://www.pps.net/domain/219>.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education came to order at 6:05 PM at the call of Chair Amy Kohnstamm in the Board Auditorium at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon.

Attendance

Present: Chair Kohnstamm; Directors Bailey, Brim-Edwards, DePass, Lowery, Moore, Scott; Student Representative Latterell, Superintendent Guerrero, Interim General Council Liz Large

Absent: None

Business Agenda

Director Brim-Edwards requested a threshold be decided upon by the board so that the board does not need to be approve a field trip for a single student. Director Scott requested that the policy be reviewed so that the board does not approve field trips at all, and instead entrusts the superintendent and staff to do their due diligence.

Student Comment

Hazel Cross: Beverly Cleary. Her school has many recycle bins, but not all schools do. It could lower the carbon footprint dramatically. Many teachers were only allowing paper in the bins and items are being incorrectly recycled. Bins need signs. Most schools don't compost and that is wrong.

Caroline Recinos: Beverly Cleary. Many items in the cafeteria served in plastic that are not recyclable nor compostable. There are several alternative options, including finding compostable/recyclable items. Switch to minimum packaging. Short term added cost is outweighed by the environmental benefits.

Eliza Kerstetter: Beverly Cleary. Asked PPS to practice what they preach. Board approved resolution 5272, but years later only a few things have been followed. It was requested by the end of the school year 2020 that all principals would have taken a professional development. It was requested that metal utensils be provided in every school, but there have been no obvious strides. Help PPS be green and clean. Buying metal trays allows them to be reusable and not be plastic, even though they are more expensive but will be better for the environment.

Public Comment

Armand Milazzo: Bulling. Parent of eight grader. Shared that suicide is a real thing in our schools. His student has been bullied, which has escalated, and student was told by bullies to commit suicide. He talked to admin and nothing was done. Talked to superintendent and nothing happened. It wasn't until he went to the board it started to be addressed. The district has a responsibility to help.

Jeff Gierer: SLP cuts. Woodlawn Speech language Pathologist (SLP). Caseloads are rising, concerned about the ethical obligation for SLPs to provide services to Special Education (SPED) students. Historically PPS has been given more time to support students in focus programs, but it was announced that SPED would no longer received support by SLPs. Those are the students who need 2 on 1 or 3 on 1 supports, and who cannot tell us what their needs are, but their voices are important. PPS is taking that small level of support away.

Jane Comeault: Environmental impact of PPS operations. Reiterate what was already heard from some students. The progress made is not enough. It is not fair to teach kids about climate change but

not change practices. All food scraps should be composted and all utensils should be reusable or compostable. It is a matter of equity, their school has a dedicated parent volunteer who can do work, but not all schools do. It should be written into scope of work of PPS staff, not volunteers.

Fred Spada: Transcript destruction. Transcript destruction. I've sent letters and emails. Life was ruined because my transcripts were destroyed before high school. It's been a four year fight. Didn't pass the background check for the IRS because they couldn't confirm that I went to school at PPS. You're trying to cover it up.

Jesse Erwin: School psychologist FTE allocation. School Psychologist at PPS. Splits time at multiple schools. Shocked to learn that his position at Vestal was being cut in half. Thought it must be an error, but realized it wasn't. It's a student allocation this year and not by student need formula. 15 schools received a bump in FTE and only two were Title 1, and most schools that lost FTE were. It does not line up with district equity goals. They have until 4 pm tomorrow to decide if they will decide to take the reduction or hope it gets corrected.

Alisha Chavez-Downing: SLP cuts. K-2 intensive skills teacher. Stands in solidarity with SLPs. Concern about reduction in school. Their SLP has 8 more students than contract allows. The SLP is supporting students bilingually and students with limited communication ability. They are stretched so thin that they can't do their job with fidelity. What does this say to the students and their families? We are constantly talking about retaining educators, but how can we retain them if we keep treating them as if they are not valuable, but also over working them. Willing to host a board member to see the myriad of supports SLP offer to underserved communities.

Superintendent's Report

The board will be meeting in a work session regarding the Student Investment Account (SIA), which he believes is a bold and well balance plan. The Student Success Act (SSA) application addresses a few key things that we focused on by community engagement. Closing on black history month, he a few examples of events that occurred throughout the district, which included Roosevelt hoodies up, Grant Students raising a Black Lives Matter Flag, and media recognizing excellent black educators. He noted that black history is integrated into all grades all year. Can find details about events on the PPS.net website. There are still a few events remaining. Full calendar of PPS Arts events at ppsarts.com. The state of the Arts report will be brought to the board soon.

Student Representative's Report

Student Representative Latterell announced that the District Student Council (DSC) will be holding their annual Student Summit at Benson High School in May. They also heard that each high school has a representative that is helping design the new climate justice and climate change curriculum. There is a Youth Climate Mixer at Roosevelt Monday March 02, 2020 from 4:30 – 6:30 pm. The Search and Seizure Policy engagement has been done around the 3 themes that came up were parental consent, documentation, and language regarding reasonable suspicion.

Policies for First Reading- Diploma Requirements Policy 4.20.042-P

Director Moore introduced the Diploma Requirements Policy 4.20.042 noting that the changes are to bring the policy into compliance with new legislation that was passed, adding that the changes are relatively minor and will not feel substantive to students. Ms. Moore stated that the March 17, 2020 is the last day to comment.

Resolution 6058: Enrollment and Program Balancing Scope of Work

Claire Hertz introduced the scope of work for enrollment balancing, noting that they started with a review of previous processes, and adding that the work will be implemented in segments, but with consideration of the impact of the whole district with each implementation. There was discussion regarding communication to communities regard the enrollment balancing process. There was discussion regarding Access. Ms. Hertz stated that Access will be addressed by looking at the entire district. Director Moore noted that FLO Analytics has been working on a district wide comprehensive analysis of the enrollment picture, which will help inform the work. The board shared their reflections on the scope of work. There

was discussion regarding portables. Ms. Hertz stated that they will working to reduce need at schools with the oldest portables, so that the portables can be removed and the current school footprint more effectively. Director Bailey summarized the goals of the enrollment balancing work: optimize the use of facilities, reduce and eliminate K-8 schools, and to minimize co-located schools.

Resolution 6059: Grant Bowl Master Plan

Dan Jung summarized the Grant Bowl Master Plan that is being recommended for approval, noting that the plan they are recommending is the one in which the softball field will be co-located with the baseball field above the grant bowl. Jamie Hurd provided an overview of the community engagement process that took place prior to the creation of the plan, which included community workshops and smaller advisory groups which was also open to the public. She noted that agreeing to the plan will trigger a Type 3 land use, because of the lights, which involves public engagement. They will also be required to complete a traffic impact report. Director Brim-Edwards asked if the cost of completion of the project is expected to come from the future bond program and Dan Jung replied that there is currently no funding for phase 2 and will need an alternative funding source, which could be part of the bond program which will be decided upon by the board.

Audit Committee Report

Director Brim-Edwards shared that the audit committee had a report from the internal performance auditor, noting that there is a project to get all of the audits that have happened in the past and any responses to them in one place. They talked about a potential fraud hotline, though they decided that at this time there is not capacity for it.

They received a brief report from the bond performance auditors on their progress, noting that they did not share anything specific as the report is still underway. The committee also considered a staff recommendation on the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) Auditor and the committee approved their request, which will coming to the board soon. They looked at a Secretary of State (SoS) implementation score card, and discussed how to track the implementation in a more streamlined way.

School Improvement Bond Report

Director Scott shared that the last School Improvement Bond Committee meeting was on February 13, 2020. They looked at the Facilities Condition Assessment Review, the Educational Sustainability Review, received an updated from the Bond Accountability Committee (BAC), a presentation on the Water Pilot Program and a preview of the Grant Bowl. Additionally there was a full board work session regarding the 2020 bond package, at which they reviewed the Facility Condition Assessment and potential bond options, as well as had robust conversation regarding bond criteria. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for March 12, 2020, with a possible work session on March 17, 2020.

Charter and Alternative Programs Committee

Director Lowery shared that the Charter and Alternative Programs Committee held a hearing on February 13th where they heard from KairosPDX and Portland Village School and their communities, as they look at the renewal of the programs. A meeting was held on February 20, 2020 where they made a committee recommendation that will be coming to the next board meeting. They will also be looking at increasing the pass-through funds for schools that serve more than 50% underserved students. The Committee will be looking alternative programs next.

Intergovernmental Task Force

There are conversations with Portland Parks and Recreation that will lead to a revised collaborative agreement, as the existing agreement is very old, and practices are not aligned with current practices. They are not sure when it will be completed. They received some legislative updates, most of which were still to be determined as the legislative session has come to a halt. They received an update on the

environmental sustainability efforts happening at the district. Portland Public Schools has a good track record and improvements are being added regularly, with new infrastructure to work interdepartmentally to improve practices. Director Kohnstamm added that nutrition services is engaged in looking at how to improve their practices. It was added that it would be helpful to highlight what work is being done on sustainability.

Policy Committee

Director Moore shared that the policy committee is working on a meals policy, noting that they have made a couple of changes and that it's nearly ready to be referred to the full board. The big work is on the enrollment policies. There has been community engagement and are looking to align the policies to the racial equity policy. She noted that it will take multiple policy committee meetings, but that they are looking to get it completed before boundary discussions take place.

Linked Learning Conference

Director Kohnstamm shared that she visited Long Beach school district to view their Career and Technical Education (CTE) linked learning program. Their program includes integrated project based learning throughout the district and connects CTE to core curriculum, which has increased their graduation rates. Director DePass will be visiting Nashville in March to view their Linked Learning programs.

Public Comment on Action Items

- Resolution 6059: Grant Bowl Master Plan
Public Comment

Debbie Englestad: 34 years as a softball coach at Grant and went to Grant. Joined by Oliva Dunn who is a softball player at Grant. Coaching provides a unique relationship with students. Most of coaching career she has been advocating for an on campus softball field. Thought that when Grant was upgraded that it would happen, but it was taken out of the plans. The heart ache of players and parents while watching the baseball field being built. She hopes it becomes real this time.

Ken Peterson: President for Grant land use neighborhood association. Appearance is not an expressed or implied opposition to plan. They did not have time to consider the plan and was not informed directly by PPS. There was no intentional engagement with the proposed plan. It proposes adding 6 lights and moves the boundary closer to the houses. They believe there should be a delay to the approval so that the neighborhood has time to consider and respond to the plan. Would not delay much, but could be completed until March 17th. The neighborhood association board is supportive of adding the softball field.

David Pietka: Lives across the street from the score board. As a neighbor who is going to look at the field. Not opposed to softball coming. Wants three things, a study showing the increased use for need of lights, wants to know if the parks department will be allowed to extend the use of the field, and a mitigation strategy, whether it's landscaping or a restriction of the hours. Has sent a letter to everyone. 90% of the season, they won't need lights. There could be demands in the fall. Wants softball but wants his three demands.

Following Items were Approved by the Board

- Business Agenda, Resolutions 6052 through 6057
- Resolution 6059: Grant Bowl Master Plan
- Resolution 6058: Enrollment and Program Balancing Scope of Work

Following Items were Not Approved by the Board

- None

Adjourn

Chair Kohnstamm adjourned the meeting at 8:09 pm.

The Next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled to be held March 03, 2020.

Submitted by:

Kara Bradshaw

Kara Bradshaw, Executive Assistant
PPS Board of Education