



**September 23, 2019 MEETING OVERVIEW**

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*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 Vice Chair Julia Brim-Edwards in the Board Auditorium at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon.

**Attendance**

Present: Directors Brim-Edwards, Lowery, Scott, Bailey, DePass, Moore  
Absent: Chair Kohnstamm, Student Representative Latterell

**Levy**

Director Bailey shared a reminder that in November PPS will be asking to renew the local option levy. Funds from the renewal of the levy will go directly into the classroom. Last year it funded about 1/3 of Portland Public Schools' teachers. The tax rate would not go up with the new and the funds will continue to be monitored by a community budget review committee. There will be a meeting on Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm, at the Multnomah County Headquarters, hosted by the League of Women voters is holding a forum on the local option levy.

**Proclamation of Hispanic Heritage Month**

Resolution 5967, the Proclamation of Hispanic Heritage Month, was read in Spanish by Jonathan Garcia and then was repeated again in English by Director Lowery. Director Bailey motioned and Director Moore seconded the motion to adopt resolution 5967. The motion was put a voice vote and passed unanimously (6-yes, 0-no), with Director Kohnstamm and Student Representative Latterell absent.

**Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Guerrero introduced Doctor Ester Omogbehin, who was recently hired as a Regional Superintendent. Dr. Omogbehin spoke on why she chose Portland Public Schools. Superintendent Guerrero discussed the student lead Climate Change Strike, noting that it is estimated that more than 6,000 students took part. The activity aligned with the district's vision of leadership and teaching of climate science. Superintendent Guerrero introduced Nichole Berg as the district Climate Change and Climate Justice Coordinator. Nichole Berg thanked the PPS students who participated in the Climate Strike, and the board for advocating for the students and the environment. She introduced herself, and shared a brief background, also noting why she chose at Portland Public Schools.

**Student Comment**

Ella Shriner: Climate Strike. It was an incredible day to be a student leader. She thanked the board and district leadership for supporting the strike. She gave an overview of how the day went, sharing that there were an estimated 20,000 people in attendance, showing a lot of support. PPS was slow getting communication out and there was some miscommunication, but appreciated the work by the community engagement team.

**Public Comment**

Heidi Hacker: Forest Park Elementary Expansion. Parent of two students at Forest Park Elementary and is on the school's safety committee. Would like to address the safety concerns regarding the

portable. The first portable, which was meant to be a temporary solution, was donated to the school. The school now has five portables. Half of the student body is in a portable. The CO2 levels are too high and the teachers are needed to leave the windows open, regardless of the outside temperatures, in order to keep the CO 2 levels at a safe level.

Cheri Bates: Forest Park Elementary Expansion. Parent and Safety Committee Member at Forest Park. Portables do not have bathrooms or running water, which is unhygienic and effect the options for classroom activities, they are not seismically stable, and safety is an additional concern during a lock out or lock down. They would like to see the portables removed and the building addition completed.

Matt Marjanovic: FLO Analytic Status. Parent of two PPS students. He was co-creator for the soft neighborhood for school assignment, presented to the board in 2015. Does not expect the FLO analytic outcomes to be substantially different than those from the DBRAC era, since both processes are designed to preserve the status quo. Has questions about the FLO analytics project including: How much has the scheduled slipped? If new deadlines have been established, what are they and is the board okay with them? What is the delay related to? Will they be on time for the opening of Kellogg? Will FLO still provide all of the deliverables that are expected? Has the budget slipped, and what is the overall budget expectation?

### **Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) Results**

Doctor Russ Brown discussed the correlation between Measure of Academic Progress testing (MAP) and Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC). MAP allows the district to measure student achievement and growth, which is similar to a growth chart that a child would receive after a checkup at the doctor. Student's MAP performance in the fall can predict the student success in the SBAC at the end of the year by about 85% accuracy. Based on a national scale, it is expected that 50% of students should be meeting benchmark levels. Portland Public Schools did not meet that national expectation from the 2018/19 SBAC results. There was an overall loss of proficiency from previous years in Portland Public Schools, as well across the state. Portland still outperformed for the state. There are still gaps in achievement between student groups.

It was clarified that the SBAC level of proficiency is not equal to grade level proficiency. SBAC standards are a socially constructed bars set to show that a student is on track to leave high school career and college ready, which is a much higher bar than just being grade level proficient.

It was discussed how the different testing and the test results could be clearly communicated to the community to help everyone understand a complicated system. Director Bailey suggested a series of three-minute videos in supported languages.

### **Student Success Act Overview**

Deputy Superintendent Claire Hertz presented an overview of the Student Success Act (SSA) and how it relates to the Portland Public School Vision. Aurora Terry discussed the Continuous Improvement Process (CIP) and how it will result in an action plan. The District is currently working on the PPS Strategic Planning, a Student Account Plan and the Continuous Improvement Plan, with the future goal being to align all three of the required plans to be one larger plan that covers all of the required points in those three plans.

The application for funding will be prepared by the district, they will present the application to the board to be approved, and then the application is sent to the state for approval. The district will be required to submit a new request for the first time in three years and then every four years after that. A Strategic Planning process will voluntarily be done yearly by the district to continually look at how the monies could be best spent to support the students who need it.

The district is in the planning process of how the money will be divided, and it partly depends on how the Oregon Department of Education mandates how the funds can be used. The Oregon Department of Education is writing rules about the Student Success Act every day, so it is not clear what all of the parameters will be.

A Community Engagement Plan is still in motion as the district is still learning about the program. Jonathan Garcia, Chief Community Engagement Manager, stated the importance of engaging with the community, specifically with the groups of the community who are often not engaged. The plan is to go to where those communities are, in order to better engage with them. There is also a survey planned for October that will be in all supported languages and will be communicated in a variety of ways that will focus on the five priority areas. A preliminary Engagement plan is in place, and will continue to be built upon.

### **2020-2021 Budget Calendar Review**

Vice Chair Brim-Edwards noted that the quarter 4 financial report would not be presented at the board meeting, but that it is available online.

### **Council of the Great City Schools**

Director Lowery presented a summary of the institute that the School Board and Superintendent Guerrero attended over the summer. The ABC Institute (Accelerated Board Capacity) was presented by the Council of the Great City of Schools at Harvard University. One hundred board members from 18 districts attended. Each attendee read twenty hours' worth of case studies in advance of the institute. There were four full days of classes and small group sessions where the Portland Public Schools board members worked with board members from mostly larger districts around the country to learn and discuss topics in areas of individual interest.

### **Action Items**

- Proclaiming the Celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month  
Public Comment  
None
- Business Agenda  
Public Comment  
None

### **The Board Approved the Following Items**

- Resolution 5867: Resolution Proclaiming the Celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month in Portland Public Schools
- Business Agenda

### **Adjourn**

Vice Chair Brim-Edwards adjourned the meeting at 8:44 pm.

### **Next Meeting**

The next regular board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15, at 6:00 pm at the BESC.