



FEBRUARY 17, 2016 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 Tom Koehler in the Board Auditorium of the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon St, Portland, Oregon.

Attendance:

Present: Chair Koehler; Directors Anthony, Buel, Esparza Brown, Kohnstamm, Knowles, and Rosen; Student Representative Davidson; Superintendent Smith

Student Testimony

Zoe Jacobs: Attends seventh grade at West Sylvan and was a Spanish Immersion student. She attended Ainsworth for six years. Spanish Immersion should remain at Ainsworth.

Public Comment:

Beth Shields: Since the Boundary proposals were announced, parents have been petitioning around school grounds. There are two programs housed at Ainsworth: Spanish Immersion has classes capped and has a Teacher's Aide; general education classes are large and do not have an Aide.

Brian Unflat: Schools are successful due to their unique students and employees, and he hopes all will remain committed regardless of the boundary changes. There was a difference between focus programs and special need programs. PPS needs to review the root cause of all the boundary issues; it is a result of growing pains and not learning from the past.

Lisa Hansen: DBRAC's Boundary Scenario 2b would drive students out of their local school. The top priority should be to keep school communities together as much as possible. She did not approve of Scenarios 2a and 2b.

Holly Ingram: Asked the Board to please consider the following: 1) leave no school underserved; 2) enhance middle school facilities; 3) provide continuity for the kids; 4) keep neighborhoods full.

Lori Lyons-Lachman: Lives in the Jefferson Cluster which has been working together to reopen middle schools. They support DBRAC's recommendation regarding Ockley Green. Transition planning needs to start immediately.

Rosie Platt: The west side has entered into a new division, and she hopes to see the communities revert back to transparency and that the Board receive testimony from all views. Community members were creating new boundary scenarios.

Ovidio Garcia: His children are in the Spanish Immersion program at Ainsworth. Families from 13 countries participate in that program and they value their diversity. A survey was performed of their community and 93% were opposed to Scenario 2b. Spanish Immersion has had 30 years of success at Ainsworth, so why put everything at risk? Scenarios 2a and 2b are both disruptive.

Jeanne Savage: Scenario 2b does not work. There are 32 students at West Sylvan which are being overlooked; they have been planning to attend Lincoln. Moving hastily forward with any plans was not a good idea.

Naira Perez: Scenario 2b targets the underserved students in the Spanish Immersion program, many whose primary language is Spanish. Those students feel left out. They keep hearing that PPS and DBRAC knows what's best for them. The Ainsworth community did their own survey and 93% are opposed to Scenario 2b. PPS wants to move Hispanic students out of sight.

Juan Gomez: Read a letter into the record from a Hispanic parent. The parent is part of those that PPS

refers to as underserved, yet any communication he receives from PPS is in English, which he can't read. Ainsworth has the only Spanish Immersion program on the west side. The parent feels that they are just a number in PPS data and statistics. The parent asked the Board to think about the parents that cannot attend a Board meeting.

The following reports were presented to the Board:

- Board Member Conference Report

Public Hearings:

- Board Priority Metrics
Public Comment:
None received.

The Board approved the following items:

- Resolution 5210: Adopting Board Priority Metrics for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 School Years
- Resolution 5211: Adopting Board Member Expectations and Operating Protocols
- Business Agenda

Adjourn:

Chair Koehler adjourned the meeting at 6:58pm.

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.