

March 9, 2015

BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1J, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

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Other Matters Requiring Board Action

The Superintendent RECOMMENDED adoption of the following items:

Numbers 5039 through 5042

During the meeting of the Whole, Director Knowles moved and Director Morton seconded the motion to adopt Resolution 5039. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed unanimously (yes-7, no-0; with Student Representative Jayaswal absent).

Director Koehler moved and Director Buel seconded the motion to amend Resolution 5040 by adding the following sentence to the end of Resolution 1e: "The Board directs the Superintendent to request the State of Oregon pilot, this school year, a valid random statistical sample of the SBA test in lieu of the existing testing regime." The motion was put to a voice vote and passed by a vote of 6-1 (yes-6, no-1 [Belisle], with Student Representative Jayaswal absent).

Director Buel moved to strike the first sentence in Recital F of Resolution 5040. Receiving no second, the motion failed.

Director Buel moved and Director Koehler seconded the motion to strike Resolution 1b in Resolution 5040. The motion was put to a voice vote and failed by a vote of 1-6 (yes-1 [Buel], no-6, with Student Representative Jayaswal absent).

Director Buel moved to strike Resolution 3c from Resolution 5040. Receiving no second, the motion failed.

Director Buel moved and Director Koehler seconded the motion to add the following language to Resolution 3d in Resolution 5040: "Bring forth a comprehensive report to the school board by July 21, 2015, concerning our district's response to the Smarter Balanced testing. The report should outline the following at a minimum:

- Implementation steps which were taken to administer the tests.
- An appraisal of the impact of the testing on children, teachers and other staff members.
- An estimate of the time taken by various administrators and teachers in preparing for Smarter Balanced.
- An estimate of the money spent on delivering the test, including an approximation of district and building administrative costs.
- A full report on opt out numbers by school and their effect on the state report cards.
- Preparation for this report shall be conducted in a manner which attempts to be unbiased and includes positive as well as negative aspects of the Smarter Balanced testing. Preparation for the report should include school visits, and confidential interviews of teachers, students, parents and administrators, as well as a review of the literature surrounding high-stakes testing and common core.

The motion was put to a voice vote and failed by a vote of 2-5 (yes-2 [Koehler, Buel], no-5, with Student Representative Jayaswal absent).

Director Buel moved to add the following language to the end of Recital G in Resolution 5040: "or any inequities which violate our Equity Policy." Receiving no second, the motion failed.

During the meeting of the Whole, Director Regan moved and Director Morton seconded the motion to adopt Resolution 5040 as amended. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed by a vote of 5-2 (yes-5, no-2 [Buel, Belisle], with Student Representative Jayaswal absent).

Director Belisle moved and Director Morton seconded the motion to adopt Resolutions 5041 and 5042. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed unanimously (yes-7, no-1, with Student Representative Jayaswal absent).

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RESOLUTION No. 5039

2015-16 Standard Inter-District Student Transfers

RECITALS

- A. State law requires district school boards to decide each year whether to participate in the standard interdistrict transfer process, including:
 - 1. The maximum number of resident students, if any, who will be released to schools in other district
 - 2. The maximum number of non-resident students, if any, who will be released to enroll in district schools
 - 3. The priorities that will apply in a random lottery, in the event that there are more requests than maximum number of slots for releases or approvals.

- B. Of the more than 800 non-resident students attending PPS schools this year who are subject to standard interdistrict transfer rules, approximately 300 will need to obtain permission from their resident districts and PPS in order to remain enrolled in 2015-16. The remaining students received permission last year, so do not need to seek permission again.

- C. Over the past three years, more than 500 PPS resident students have transferred to other school districts, either through the Open Enrollment procedure, or through the standard interdistrict procedure. Those students do not have to seek permission from PPS to remain enrolled in other districts, but newly transferring students do need to seek approval through Open Enrollment or the standard interdistrict procedure. For the 2015-16 school year, Superintendent Smith recommends the School Board set an initial level of 300 standard interdistrict transfer slots for new approvals of non-resident students to PPS schools. In accordance with state law, that number may be revised at a later time so long as there are no pending applications.

- D. Additionally, the superintendent recommends that PPS allow up to 50 resident students to enroll in other districts beginning in the 2015-16 school year.

- E. If there are more applicants than space, lottery priority will be given to students requesting schools where they are currently enrolled and for students with an older brother or sister who will attend that school next year. Random lottery numbers will be used as tie-breakers as needed.

- F. Standard interdistrict lottery approvals into PPS will remain in effect through the highest grade of the approved school. Once a student reaches the highest grade, he/she will have to apply to attend a different PPS school the following year.

- G. Superintendent Smith directs staff to develop timelines and procedures to assist families with successfully participating in the standard interdistrict transfer request process, and to draft revisions to existing enrollment and transfer policies for approval by the school board.

RESOLUTION

- 1. The Board of Directors for Portland Public Schools accepts the Superintendent's recommendation to open 300 slots for non-resident students to transfer into PPS and for 50 students to transfer out to other districts for the 2015-16 school year through the standard interdistrict transfer process.

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2. The Board directs the Superintendent and her delegates to allocate slots by school and grade level, and to follow these priorities in the event of more applicants than space:
 - Prioritize students currently enrolled in a school over new students
 - Prioritize new students with co-enrolled siblings over new students without co-enrolled siblings
3. The Board accepts the Superintendent's recommendation that interdistrict transfer agreements into PPS will remain in effect through the highest grade of the approved school.
4. The Board directs the Superintendent and her delegates to draft policy changes for school board approval, adjust administrative directives and procedures in compliance with HB 2747 and 4007 and report back to the board on the results of the 2015-16 transfer process prior to the 2016-17 transfer cycle.

H. Adair

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RESOLUTION No. 5040

Resolution on Implementation of the Smarter Balanced Assessment

RECITALS

- A. On July 22, 2014, the Board of Education passed Resolution 4943 expressing concerns regarding the State's implementation of the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA).
- B. The Oregon Department of Education has continued to move forward with the statewide implementation of Smarter Balanced Assessment this spring with testing scheduled to occur March 10, 2015 through June 5, 2015.
- C. A State workgroup, along with Nancy Golden, Oregon's Chief Education Officer, is proposing to delay any sanctions to districts and schools due to Smarter Balanced results and calls for a reduced role of summative standardized testing in our children's education. These recommendations are in alignment with our July 2014 resolution. There are also promising discussions at the Federal level about reducing the use of "high-stakes" testing.
- D. The PPS Assessment Advisory Committee convened this year to conduct a comprehensive review of all types of assessment conducted in PPS. This Committee includes classroom teachers, building administrators and Office of Teaching and Learning staff as well as nationally-recognized assessment expert Dr. Rick Stiggins as a volunteer advisor to the committee.
- E. To prepare for the implementation of the SBA for spring of 2015, Portland Public Schools has:
 - 1. Added 64 mobile computer labs to 60 schools to ensure each school has the equipment needed for the assessment
 - 2. Provided professional development including assessment training for principals, test coordinators, and teachers.
 - 3. Provided scheduling and technical support for building administrators
 - 4. Conducted multiple presentations to PTAs/site councils across the district.
- F. The Portland Public Schools Board continues to support the elimination of the multiple-choice OAKS and moving toward a more challenging, summative assessment that is just one part of an overall program of assessment for learning. We are opposed to "high-stakes" or "punitive" state or federal mandated summative assessments.
- G. The Board continues to be concerned by the 7 to 8 1/2 hours of class time that students in grades 3-8 and 11 will spend taking the SBA, the lack of opportunity for school districts or students to review test results, as well as the potential negative impact on schools and students as a result of any state imposed sanctions or labels based on test results.
- H. The Portland Public Schools Board would like to recognize the work of staff in schools and central office for their hard work during the transition, as well as the students and families for their patience during transition and urge them to communicate concerns to the State around the SBA.

RESOLUTION

- 1. The Portland Public Schools Board of Education calls on the State of Oregon to:
 - a. Reduce the length of the Smarter Balanced Assessment.
 - b. Provide constructive guidance for schools and students regarding the SBA results, including feedback that will enable students to learn from the test results.

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- c. Provide a report on first year of SBA implementation, including costs and time spent testing, lessons learned, reliability and validity, and an explanation of how the results will be used.
 - d. Develop a plan for how to support districts with families opting out of SBA and the negative impact on school report cards, and consider not counting students who have opted out as part of the cohort.
 - e. Support the option presented by the National Education Association of moving from testing every student grades 3-8 and 11 to using a sampling of students to gather the same data. The Board directs the Superintendent to request the State of Oregon to pilot, this school year, a valid random statistical sample of the SBA test in lieu of the existing testing regime.
2. The Portland Public Schools Board supports the State workgroup's vision to reduce the role of summative standardized testing and develop a greater focus on in-class, teacher/student driven assessments.
 3. The Portland Public Schools Board directs the Superintendent to:
 - a. Provide balanced information to families about the Smarter Balanced Assessment, including how families can provide feedback to decision makers at the State and Federal levels.
 - b. Ensure that administrators and teachers are communicating to students and families that while this is a more challenging test, lower scores than those on OAKS do not mean students or schools have "failed."
 - c. Ensure that time spent on test preparation is limited to getting oriented to the testing interface rather than extensive practicing or preparing for test content.

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RESOLUTION No. 5041

Resolution Authorizing the Sale of General Obligation Bonds and Related Matters

RECITALS

- A. The Board of Directors of Portland Public Schools, Multnomah County, Oregon also known as Multnomah County School District 1J (“PPS” or the “District”) is committed to maintaining and preserving the useful life of its school buildings.
- B. PPS understands that its schools are the property and pride of all citizens of Portland, and are strong anchors needed for livable neighborhoods.
- C. The average age of PPS school buildings is 67 years old and they have received only minimal updates over time.
- D. PPS recognizes that the condition of its facilities has a direct impact on the ability of teachers to teach and students to learn and succeed.
- E. Due to inadequate state funding for schools, PPS has prioritized use of General Fund money for its core educational mission, resulting in deferral of major maintenance on its facilities, leading to secondary damage and increased facility costs.
- F. At meetings in June and August, 2012, the Board of Education (“Board”) determined that it would be appropriate to seek voter approval in November, 2012, for general obligation bonds to finance a program of capital investments in PPS schools that includes:
- the full modernization or replacement of three high schools identified using high seismic risk and the need for major access upgrades as priority criteria;
 - the full modernization or replacement of Faubion School in partnership with Concordia University;
 - seismic and other building improvements: including seismic strengthening, replacement and seismically bracing roofs, roof replacements and accessibility improvements at a number of district schools;
 - educational facility improvements to improve grades 6-8 science classrooms with sinks and electrical outlets at as many as 39 schools;
 - repayment of \$45 million of existing capital debt; and
 - master planning the high school campuses not impacted by the major investment described above.
- G. In November of 2012 the voters of the District authorized PPS to issue up to \$482 million of general obligation bonds (the “2012 Bond Election”) to improve schools with 67% of voters supporting this capital investment program.
- H. The Board adopted Resolution No. 4745 on April 1, 2013 to authorize the issuance of up to \$165 million in principal amount of general obligation bonds under the 2012 Bond Election.
- I. On May 1, 2013 the District issued \$144,840,000 in general obligation bonds pursuant to the authority of the 2012 Bond Election and Resolution No. 4745, leaving \$337,160,000 of authority under the 2012 Bond Election and \$20,160,000 of authority under Resolution No. 4745.
- J. It is now desirable to authorize the sale of additional general obligation bonds under the 2012 Bond Election in a principal amount up to \$275 million to fund capital improvement work in PPS schools.

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RESOLUTION

1. The Board hereby authorizes the issuance and sale of up to \$275 million in principal amount of general obligation bonds to pay for capital costs that are described in the ballot measure for the 2012 Bond Election (the "Capital Costs") and costs related to the general obligation bonds authorized by this resolution (the "Bonds").
2. The District's Chief Financial Officer or the person designated by the Chief Financial Officer to act under this resolution (each of whom is referred to in this resolution as a "District Official") may, on behalf of the District and without further action by the Board:
 - a. Sell and issue the Bonds in one or more series.
 - b. Participate in the preparation of, authorize the distribution of, and deem final any official statement or other disclosure documents relating to each series of the Bonds.
 - c. Establish the form, final principal amount, maturity schedule, interest rates, sale prices and discount, prepayment terms, payment terms and dates, and other terms of each series of Bonds.
 - d. Execute and deliver a bond declaration for each series of Bonds. The bond declaration for each series may specify the terms under which the series is issued, and may contain covenants for the benefit of Bond owners and any providers of credit enhancement for the Bonds.
 - e. Publish a notice of sale, receive bids and award the sale of each series of Bonds to the bidder complying with the notice and offering the most favorable terms to the District, or select one or more underwriters, commercial banks or other investors and negotiate the sale of any series of the Bonds with those underwriters, commercial banks or investors.
 - f. Undertake to provide continuing disclosure for each series of Bonds in accordance with Rule 15c2-12 of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.
 - g. Apply for ratings for each series of Bonds, determine whether to purchase municipal bond insurance or obtain other forms of credit enhancement (such as the Oregon School Bond Guaranty Program) for each series of Bonds, enter into agreements with the providers of credit enhancement, and execute and deliver related documents.
 - h. Appoint paying agents and other service providers for the Bonds and negotiate the terms of and execute agreements with those service providers.
 - i. Determine whether each series of Bonds will bear interest that is excludable from gross income under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or is includable in gross income under that code. If a series bears interest that is excludable from gross income under that code, the District Official may enter into covenants to maintain the excludability of interest on that series of the Bonds from gross income.
 - j. If permitted by federal law, issue any series of Bonds as taxable bonds that are eligible for federal interest subsidies or tax credits, and enter into related covenants.
 - k. Sell and issue one or more series of the Bonds to provide interim financing for Capital Costs, enter into lines of credit or similar documents which permit the District to draw Bond proceeds over time, and issue Bonds to refund the Bonds that provide interim financing for the Capital Costs. Refunding Bonds described in this Section 2.0 to refund Bonds shall not be subject to the limit in Section 1 on the principal amount of Bonds that are issued to pay for Capital Costs.

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- I. To the extent permitted by the November, 2012 ballot measure, issue Bonds to refund previously issued obligations of the District, and take any related actions.
 - m. Execute any documents and take any other action in connection with the Bonds which the District Official finds will be advantageous to the District.
3. The District hereby declares its official intent pursuant to Section 1.150-2 of the Federal Income Tax Regulations to use the proceeds of the Bonds to reimburse the District for Capital Costs that the District pays from its revenues. The District Official is hereby authorized to make additional reimbursement declarations on behalf of the District.

Y. Awwad

RESOLUTION No. 5042

Minutes

The following minutes are offered for adoption:

February 24 and March 3, 2015