



NOVEMBER 14, 2017 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 6:06pm at the call of Chair Julia Brim-Edwards in the Board Auditorium of the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon.

Attendance

Present: Chair Brim-Edwards; Vice-Chairs Esparza Brown and Moore; Directors Anthony, Bailey, Kohnstamm, and Rosen; Student Representative Tran; Superintendent Guerrero; General Counsel Harris.

Recognition: National School Psychology Awareness Week

Student and Public Comment

Liliana Eide, an 8th grader at Ockley Green, stated that the students were surrounded by chaos, schedules were messed up, and classes were overcrowded. Her Science class has 45 students in it, they don't have a compacted math teacher, and the substitute for half of her Spanish classes did not speak Spanish. Students will go into high school unprepared, and they feel that they are being ignored.

Joseph Clyde: a bus driver for First Student, would like the Board to adopt to policies: no use of handheld devices on a bus and no heavy strong perfumes/scents should be worn.

John Grueschow: a member of the Portland Chapter of the War Resisters League, advised staff to steer clear of the Oregon Plan use in high schools across the state. The program gives juniors and seniors the chance to earn academic credits while training for military service.

Beth BLumklotz: a bus driver in her 6th year with PPS, stated that they needed the Board's help as PPS was not engaged in a meaningful conversation to move bus driver complaints into action. Bargaining was not going well with PPS. PPS shows up unprepared. Bus drivers have been sharing stories and examples of why their needs to be heard and all they receive in return are nodding heads. Senior bus drivers were earning the same or near nutrition service drivers. It takes 25 years for a bust driver to earn what a nutrition services driver earns in one year. The bus drivers have been told that there was a wage freeze. Bus drivers would like to open a conversation directly with the board so that they could hear the concerns directly.

Mauria McClay: worked as a learning center teacher at Scott, where two fte Special Education positions were reassigned from four schools that historically served underserved schools. The Underserved designation was actually removed from Scott. Teachers were not seeing students for the amount of time designated in their IEP. The District needs to weight Special Education positions by service minutes required. This issue should be placed on the Board's next agenda and the Board needs to be held publicly accountable.

Ken Thrasher: a 1967 graduate of Franklin High School and a proud Quaker, stated that for over a hundred years, the Quaker name has been in place. Franklin is a great place to learn. 18 months ago, the Quaker name became an issue. History, tradition and discussions with the alumni should occur when considering proposed name changes and he does not see any relevance in changing the Quaker name.

Vanessa Rentschler: her son is autistic and he was only being provided glorified babysitting this year from Special Education. She asked the Board to please suspend the Special Education policy change and to please work with families. Director Kohnstamm asked Superintendent Guerrero and Board Office Manager Rosanne Powell to follow-up on the issue.

Rebecca Jacobson: reported that her son is on the autism spectrum and that five years ago she had a bad experience with PPS. It took staff two weeks to figure out where her son should be placed, and that was lost time that can never be regained. The timing and placement was bad. Without ever meeting her son, they placed him in a B Room and no one at the schools knew how to help him. After many suspensions, the IEP team called a meeting, took a vote, and for the final four weeks of the school year, placed him in Pioneer.

Action Items

- One Year Extension of District Council of Unions Contract

Public Comment:

None

- Approval of 2017-19 Service Employees International Union Contract

Public Comment:

None

- Middle School Implementation: Authorization to Borrow

Public Comment:

None

- Amendment to Middle School Resolution

Public Comment:

Phoebe Perez: attends ACCESS Academy and stated that no building was designated in the resolution for ACCESS. She asked that Rose City Park continue to house ACCESS.

Anjali Wearasinghe: 7th Grader at Beverly Cleary, stated that Middle School was tough and taking apart a cohort will disrupt the lives of the students. She asked the Board to amend the proposed resolution so that the middle schools will be grandfathered to Grant High School. The students were promised attendance at Grant when they were younger.

Jason Blomklotz: wants a good principal, a cutting edge curriculum, social support systems, and a building that allow for a dynamic program and that was safe. PPS has failed to plan for success. The Board has not done its work. He demanded to sit at the table for decisions and demanded that the Board partner with the community. The plan has to be clear.

Maria Cordero: PPS and the Board have repeatedly conducted political stunts to make sure that they are not following any formula for success. Tubman should open and should benefit everyone with a culturally relevant and empowering education. Why can't Tubman be the first school centering on blackness in all forms. Privileged schools are not asked to make sacrifices. An unreliable foundation, a fallen down building, and telling the black community it is equitable. If any community was due a new school, it would be Portland's black community. How will the district engage teachers of color? That topic is central to PAT negotiations taken place now.

Nick Matthern: stated that K8s have failed many students in Portland and that there was a significant facility problem at Tubman. If environmental concerns do arise at Tubman, an alternate site should be determined; but, in the interim, don't allow that to hinder our students to a thriving middle school.

Claire Dennerlein: has a 5th grade student at Martin Luther King Jr. school and added that a middle school was needed at Tubman with a black-centered education.

- Grant High School Budget Amendment

Public Comment:

None

Reports

- Update on Harriet Tubman Health and Safety
- Discussion: Rigler/Scott
- Discussion: Outstanding Items from Resolution No. 5528
- Quarterly Update: Bond Accountability Committee
- Quarterly Update: Capital Bond(s)
- Board Committee Reports

The Board Approved the Following Items

- Resolution 5532: Extension for District Council Unions 2015-17 Contract
- Resolution 5533: 2017-2019 Service Employees International Union Contract
- Resolution 5534: Feeder Pattern and Attendance Area Changes for Harriet Tubman and Roseway Heights Middle Schools (Madison, Grant, and Grant/Jefferson Clusters)
- Resolution 5535: Authorization of Bond Program Contingency Obligation of \$4m to the Grant High School Modernization as part of the 2012 Capital Bond Program
- Business Agenda

Adjourn

Chair Brim-Edwards adjourned the meeting at 9:50pm.

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.