



INFORMAL MINUTES

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the actions taken by the School Board and of discussions and reports given. Anyone interested in viewing the full meeting, please visit the School Board website at <https://www.pps.net/domain/219>.

A Meeting of the Board of Education's Policy Committee came to order at 4:09 pm at the call of the Committee Chair Rita Moore. This meeting was held virtually due to Covid-19 and streamed live at <https://www.youtube.com/user/ppscomms/videos>

There were present:

Committee Members

Committee Chair Director Moore, Directors Bailey and Brim-Edwards

Staff and Other Attendees

Nichole Berg – Programs Manager, Climate Change and Climate Justice
Kara Bradshaw - Executive Assistant, Board of Education
Shanice Clarke – Director of Community Engagement, Strategic Partnerships
Guadalupe Guerrero – Superintendent
Janise Hansen – Senior Internal Auditor
Claire Hertz - Deputy Superintendent of Business and Operations
Dan Jung – Chief Operation Officer
Mary Kane – Legal Counsel
Liz Large – Contracted General Counsel
Rachel Lent – Paralegal
James Loveland – Senior Director, Student Support
Patrick LeBoeuf – Director, Construction and Project Management
Dani Ledezma – Senior Advisor, Racial Equity and Social Justice
Parker Myrus – District Student Council Representative
Terry Proctor – Manager, Multimedia Services
Mila Rodriguez-Adair – Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) on Special Assignment
David Roy – Interim Senior Director, Communications
Amy Ruona – Senior Manager, Student Success and Health
Nathaniel Shue – Board Student Representative
Jackson Weinberg – District Student Council Representative
Dana White – Director, Planning & Property Management

Pre-meeting

The virtual meeting opened for attendees to arrive at 3:45pm. No deliberation or decisions were made prior to the start of the meeting.

Student Suicide Prevention Policy 4.xx.xxx-P

Time Started: 4:12 pm

Mila Rodriguez-Adair provided an overview of the themes heard during community engagement, which included training, accountability, data tracking, and supports that everyone can access. Amy Ruona shared that the feedback was very consistent across the engagement groups. There was discussion regarding a tracking system. Ms. Rodriguez-Adair shared that if there were funds, they would hire a full-time data analyst to help with developing and implementing a tracking system support, as well as a full time to implement and train staff.

It was noted that the policy revision is behind schedule of the required adoption date, but that it was decided it was more important to create a good policy. Liz Large shared that the framework policy was

presented to the committee in June and that the draft presented was almost completely new after all of the engagement. Implementation of the policy was discussed. There was discussion regarding the training being applicable to adult suicide prevention as well. Director Bailey suggested that in the future the policy formally support adults. Director Brim-Edwards asked about training contractors who work with children. Ms. Large stated that she would look into it.

There was discussion regarding revisions to district department terminology and the addition of language to specific to contractors who work directly with students. The committee voted unanimously to refer the policy to the full committee with minor revisions. Director Moore requested the minor revisions be shared with the committee prior to the first reading.

Actions

The committee voted unanimously to refer the policy to the full committee with minor revisions.

5:02 pm – 5:06 pm Break

Preservation, maintenance, and Disposition of District Real Property 8.70.040-P

Time Started: 5:06 pm

Director Moore shared that the committee would look at the new language in the preamble which was created in partnership with local Native American communities and communities of color. Dani Ledezma provided an overview of the considerations taken when drafting the language. She showed a short video. Dani Ledezma shared that they were hoping to find a way to acknowledge the land and dispossession of land in the pre-amble and asked to bring the completed pre-amble language back to the next committee meeting. Director Moore asked her to share the language as soon as possible and stated they would look at the language and the other small changes with hopes to getting it to the full board for a first reading on January 12, 2021.

Director Brim-Edwards asked if it would be possible to move forward on the response to KairosPDX while waiting for language suggestions since the language for rent and sales is not disputed. Board Chair Lowery stated she thinks we should wait, Liz Large stated she would send a written response to the committee highlighting the pros and cons of moving forward early.

Anti-Racist Learning Communities (formally titled All Students Belong) 4.xx.xxx-P

Time Started: 5:28 pm

Dani Ledezma shared that the responses from the community engagement resulted in suggestions that led to some policy revisions but that much of the feedback would inform the Administrative Directive (AD). She stated that the community was supportive of the policy in general, but that wanted to see more consistency in reporting and uniform responses. Ms. Ledezma added that they would continue to engage culturally specific groups as the Administrative Directive was developed. Dani Ledezma introduced the policy name change, noting that anti-racism encompasses other forms of oppression and that it aligns with the Portland Public Schools vision. There was discussion regarding the revised title, including whether it should encompass other forms of oppression. Ms. Ledezma stated that because the policy only defines the terms that was legislatively mandated, they created a separate list of terminology to accompany the policy. There was discussion regarding restorative justice. Dani shared that they would define restorative justice and link it to the Student Conduct and Discipline. There was discussion regarding hate symbols, how they change with time, and who determines intent. Ms. Ledezma shared that could provide information in the tool kit. She added that they plan to track for patterns. Staff would make responsive revisions and bring the policy back to the committee at the next meeting.

4.30.060-P Title IX: Draft policy Updates

Time Started: 6:05 pm

Director Moore stated that there are complex revisions that still need to be made to the policy and so the policy would be pushed to the next meeting for review.

6:07 – 6:13 Break.

Climate Crisis Response Policy 2.xx.xxx-P

Time Started: 6:13

Director Moore shared that the committee would be looking at the implementations recommended in the draft policy and consider what the district can accomplish. Dan Jung stated that some of the actions are already in place and that some would be relatively easy to implement, while others would be difficult.

Director Kohnstamm shared that the policy reads more like an administrative directive and asked what the plan is to create a high-level policy, as opposed to implementation plan. Director Moore shared that staff and herself are looking at climate policies from other districts and jurisdictions across the country to inform how PPS would structure theirs. There was discussion regarding how detailed the policy should be and whether some of the items in the proposed policy would be better suited for the Administrative Directive.

The committee identified information that would be helpful to have in order to consider the policy, including implementation details, copies of similar policies, what is required by regulatory agencies, current data tracking systems, and details on the intersectionality with racial equity. Jane Comeault, Mike Rosen and Amy Higg, members of the Climate Crisis Committee, urged the board to take a leadership role and create a policy that is unlike anything anyone else is doing. Director Moore requested that the Climate Crisis Committee send examples of other policies they considered to the board.

Public Comment

- Mike Rosen: Climate Crisis Policy, PPS should be a leader and create a policy that is unlike any other in the country.
- Jane Comeault: Climate Crisis Policy. The Climate Crisis Committee received feedback from the city and a letter of support from the mayor, and looked at large university policies.

Adjourned

Committee Chair Moore adjourned the meeting at 7:03 pm.

Submitted by:



Kara Bradshaw, Executive Assistant
PPS Board of Education