



INFORMAL MINUTES

A Work Session of the Board of Education came to order at 6:34 PM at the call of Board Chair Kohnstamm in the Mazama Conference Room at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon, 97227.

There were present:

Board Directors

Amy Kohnstamm – Chair
Rita Moore – Vice-Chair
Scott Bailey
Julia Brim-Edwards
Michelle DePass
Eilidh Lowery
Rita Moore
Scott Andrews
Maxine Latterell

Staff and Other Attendees

Kara Bradshaw – Executive Assistant, Board of Education
Shawn Bird – Chief of Schools
Judy Brennan – Director, Enrollment and Transfer
Guadalupe Guerrero – Superintendent
Dr. Gregg Cuellar – Deputy Superintendent, Instruction & School Communities
Marina Creswell – Senior Director, School Modernization
Jonathan Garcia – Chief Engagement Officer
Claire Hertz – Deputy Superintendent of Business and Operations
Dan Jung – Chief Operation Officer
Joe LaFontaine – Regional Superintendent
Liz Large – Interim Legal Council
Cynthia Le - Chief Financial Officer
Dani Ledezma – Senior Advisor, Racial Equity and Social Justice
Brenda Martinek – Chief of Student Support Services
Dr. Esther Omogbehin – Regional Superintendent
Rosanne Powell - Senior Board Manager
Aaron Presberg – Senior Program Manager, Sustainability
Keely Simpson – Regional Superintendent
Stephanie Soden-Back - Chief of Staff
Dr. Luis Valentino – Chief Academic Officer
Courtney Westling – Director, Government Relations
Don Wolff – Chief Technology Officer

School Improvement Bond

Dan Jung provided an overview of the history of the bond program, noting the changes in the criteria choices between the 2012 and 2017 bonds. He provided a recap of the previous discussions that the board has had regarding the bond, and what topics are planned for the future, noting that there are still staff recommendations and community feedback to come. The group looked at the Facilities Deficiencies and the Sample Scenarios documents. Mr. Jung noted that the costs in the column labeled Low are things that need to be taken care of now or are expected to fail in the next two years. The costs in the column labeled High also include items that are expected to need to be completed in the next ten years. He noted that there are a lot of facilities that have needs to maintain them as a safe, warm (moderate temperature), and dry school. There was discussion regarding how to determine whether items get improvements and how much, when the school might be torn down in five years for modernization. Mr.

Jung noted that there are no scenarios that include modernization of schools that are not high schools because that has been the precedent set. The board members were given a list of discussion topic questions to discuss in groups. After small group discussion, the board members reported out. Common topics that were reported on were High School Modernization, seismic improvements, curriculum, American Disabilities Act (ADA) upgrades, Middle School Redesign and Special Education classroom upgrades. Dan Jung noted that a few people asked about the contingency and explained that it's built in.

Dan Jung recapped what he heard the groups report. The board asked questions of district areas specialist. Ms. Hertz stated that they are working on enrollment projections and that they are enrollment projections are grouped by North/Northeast together, west, south east and south west. Mr. Wolff shared that classroom modernization would provide each classroom with a wireless access point, a mounted projector, and dedicated computers. He noted that funds allocated to curriculum would not be paper text books, they would likely be digitally based, which would require infrastructure. There was further discussion regarding infrastructure, cyber security, data protection, and Enterprise Resource Planning system (ERP), which is what all the financial systems and human resources systems run on, and which has not been refreshed in 20 years.

Dr. Luis Valentino provided an overview of the curriculum category, noting that one objective is to update some of the curriculum that more than 20 years old, and well as put the district on the state curriculum cycle.

Director Scott asked for a timeline, given that there is still some discord regarding criteria. He replied that the intention is to come back with staff recommendations with slightly more accurate costs and then to go out for community feedback. The board provided feedback on the activities and shared additional comments regarding the school improvement Bond planning.

Director Kohnstamm adjourned to a brief break at 9:00 pm. The meeting was re-adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Enrollment Balancing

Claire Hertz provided an overview of the second draft of the enrollment scope of work. She shared that they plan to start by looking at South East schools, then look at North/Northeast schools, and then West/Southwest. She noted that enrollment balancing is being done at this time because of the new middle school opening. Board members offered feedback on the second draft of the scope of work. There was discussion regarding middle school redesign and how it relates to enrollment balancing. There was discussion regarding whether the process would first analyze the district as a whole or start in South East and spread out from there, and how adjusting the boundaries in Southeast would affect the other areas. There was discussion about co-located schools. Claire Hertz stated that there will first be a comprehensive analysis of need across the district, and then they will start to address solutions by region. She stated that they would revisit the scope of work and work to integrate board feedback.

Public Comment

Mike Rosen: Environmental conservation. PPS climate justice committee. PPS is a major contributor to carbon emissions but can reverse trend by addressing target areas to improve efficiency of schools, reduces footprint and cost. PPS has put some things into place. Most work has been done with small resources. With the Bond we can make buildings and operation more sustainable. We can make upgrades. Voters care about this and students are demanding it and the bond can help us address it.

Amy Higgs: Environmental Conservation. Eco school network. Been supporting parents and students in PPS and neighboring districts. Many people are working to reduce. More parents joining group. Many people have eco-anxiety over whether we'll have a planet to live on in the future. Students are noticing more. Learning about environmental problems when they are in a building that does not model what they are learning about become hopeless. Carefully consider students health and safety for student's futures. Recycling, compost, gardens reusable supplies. Ready to assist in student engagement.

Angela Jarvis Holland: ADA. Executive Director of All Born In. Shared the story of 8 year old Jennifer crawled up the steps of the capital, which lead to the right to people with disabilities ADA bill to be passed. PPS is past due. It is a moral civil rights issue. We have to think who is at the table and who is not at the table. People with disabilities are invisible. There is a huge generational impact. It's

dysfunction. Pay for some of the consultancy and for people with disabilities to be included in the planning. The only area where we are required to have a plan. The biggest saying from the disabilities from the community, nothing without us.

Gabrielle Mercedes Bolívar: The Jefferson / Ockley Green enrollment balancing was done in a silo, and this feels like that again. There was community engagement, but they weren't listened to. If you only look at a hot spot, then it creates problems everywhere. Wants thoughtful intentional, looking at data trends, and an entire district comprehensive balancing. It's worth waiting 2-3 years if it's done district wide.

Heidi Owen: Cleveland High School parent. Was part of access being split up. Low income schools and Pioneer were hurt and impacted by the silo of the Access changes. She was under the impression that the process would be district wide. Access should be centrally located. SPED should be a focus, so they don't displace students. With hot spot work, SPED and alternative kids lose. Please don't do that.

Matt Marionovich: In addition to what has already been said. For all the talk of a data driven process, he hasn't see any data yet. Doesn't make sense when you look at how the data actually works. Expected to see a comprehensive report from Flo Analytics. There is historical data based on demographic volatility.

Maripat Hensel: Representing Southwest and if it goes through we'd be the last to be balanced. If residential infill isn't taken into consideration then the Southwest schools will be hardest hit. River isn't the only boundary, highways are as well. There are a lot of immigrants in Southwest as well and they need to be taken care of.

Committee Chair Rita Moore Adjourned the meeting at 10:24 pm.

Submitted by:

Kara Bradshaw

Kara Bradshaw, Executive Assistant
PPS Board of Education