



INFORMAL MEETING 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 Board of Education Retreat came to order at 11:03 am at the call of Board Chair Lowery. This meeting was held virtually due to Covid-19 and streamed live at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ppscomms/videos>

Attendance

Present: Board Chair Lowery; Directors Bailey, Brim-Edwards, DePass, Kohnstamm, Scott

Absent: Director Moore; Student Representative Shue

Other Attendees

Kara Bradshaw – Executive Assistant, Board of Education

Terry Proctor – Manager, Multimedia Services

Pre-meeting

The virtual meeting opened for attendees to arrive at 10:50 am. No deliberation or decisions were made prior to the start of the meeting.

Guardrails

Time Started: 11:04 am

Director Lowery read an email from Director Moore that provided clarifying details regarding guardrails that she received at a training with the Council of the Great City Schools. Director Lowery asked if the Board wanted to move forward with discussing guardrails or wait until Director Moore was present to continue the conversation. There was discussion regarding how they relate to the Board and the superintendent's evaluation and the purpose of guardrails. It was decided to pause the conversation and bring it back to the April retreat.

Board Leadership

Time Started: 11:25

Director DePass led a conversation regarding creating a path towards board leadership, noting that the Board currently does not have a clear path towards leadership. There was a discussion regarding the pros and cons of a rotational leadership model, how long the chair term should be, the chair and vice-chair description of roles and core-competencies, and providing leadership development opportunities.

The Board decided that interest in a chair or vice-chair position should be declared publicly prior to the leadership vote. It was agreed upon to continue with the scheduled board leadership vote and continue the leadership conversation. Directors DePass, Brim-Edwards, and Bailey will look at revising the current Board leadership policy.

BREAK 12:34 pm – 12:53 pm

Communications

Time Started: 12:57 pm

Director Lowery stated that the Board would revise the Communications Protocols document and then share it with the District Superintendent's Leadership Team (SLT) for review. The Board went through and discussed the document by section. Discussion included any conflicts with state / federal policies or law, the tone of specific language, public comment communication and responses, materials to the Board, and the consequences for violating the protocols.

Break 2:05 – 2:10 pm

Communications Continued

Time Started: 2:11 pm

There was discussion regarding communicating directly with the Superintendent and or Senior Leadership when a question arises, or when a serious concern is voiced by a staff member, student, parent, or other community members, and whether protocols should be put into place if the concern includes the superintendent or Senior Leadership. It was decided that legal counsel would be consulted and discussed at a later date.

Ethics Statement

Time Started: 2:39 pm

The Board discussed a draft Ethics and Conflict of Interest Statement. Director Scott stated that the document was drafted after the previous Board retreat and that having one is recommended by the Council of Great City Schools. Discussion included whether the Board should have a specific Ethics statement or if Oregon State ethics laws were sufficient. It was decided a brief ethics statement signed annually would provide clarity and transparency. The drafted statement will be further revised and brought to the April retreat.

Adjourn

Chair Lowery adjourned the meeting at 2:57 pm.

The Next Board of Education retreat will be scheduled in April 2021.

Submitted by:



Kara Bradshaw, Executive Assistant
PPS Board of Education