



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 School Board website at <https://www.pps.net/domain/219>.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education came to order at 6:08 pm at the call of Chair Amy Kohnstamm in the Board Auditorium at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon.

Attendance

Present: Chair Kohnstamm; Directors Bailey, Brim-Edwards, DePass, Lowery, Moore, Scott; Student Representative Latterell, Superintendent Guerrero, Interim General Council Liz Large

Absent: None

Student Comment

Loyal Waddy: Rosa Parks Calendar. Second grader at Rosa Parks. Thinks we should keep year round school, they have after school activities. He likes to go on field trips all year to learn. He has been going to school year round his whole life and it keeps him from forgetting things.

Public Comment

Mark Jackson: Mental Health. Co-founder of REAP Inc. Thanked PPS for being intentional in how to spend SSA funding and for community engagement. Would like to learn how social emotional supports will be identified. The Racial Equity and Social Justice is a great model and the district should take Dani's lead. Supports KairosPDX, and asks that the Board apply the equity policy to their school, and hope board will continue to see the value of their work.

DeShawn Williams: Mental Health. Social worker and partner with REAP, speaking on the behalf of the few providers of culturally specific services. Echo importance of partnership with providers that represent the students in need. It's not lack of providers it's the obstacles that are in their way to partner or getting their foot in the door. Community providers of black and brown students are in need of support.

Heidi Hacker: Forest Park. Address the portable classrooms that serve half of the students as full time. The CO2 levels have shown improvement. Ultimate goal remains to remove portables and finish building out school. Some of the classrooms have 33 students in them. The recommendation is that there are 30 people or less in each portable. 2021-2020 projects 30+ in each class. Request that a maximum allowance of student and staff for full time portable classrooms be set at 29.

Matt Drake: Forest Park. Parent of 4 students, is pulmonary care doctor, and runs a pulmonary lab. Carbon Dioxide pose significant risk in cognitive function. Potential lifetime impact. More than 75% of the time levels exceed limits set by PPS. It's more than just more reasonable class sizes, it's about focusing on student health.

Business Agenda

No items were pulled from the Business Agenda and there was no board discussion.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Guerrero provided his reflections on racial equity. He stated that he is committed to making sure that students and families of color feel affirmed and their culture is valued and that rigorous culturally responsive instruction is provided. He recognized the leadership black educators and staff, and students. He shared that the charge of school leaders is to reimagine a school system so that it serves

every student, especially black and native kids, in a way that public education was never designed to. He added that while work has been done to improve the system, there is more work to be done. Several district leaders and other staff groups are engaging in Racial Equity and Social Justice Professional Development. He added that he is inspired to work with community partners to create deeper relationships of trust.

Resolution 6067 to Recognize Classified and Non-Represented Employees Week

Chief Human Resources Officer Sharon Reese introduced the Classified and Non-Represented staff and highlighted some of the many ways that they impact student learning.

Resolution 6075 to Recognize March 1-7, 2020 as School Social Work Week

Amy Ruona, Senior Director of Student Health and Wellness, and Mary Krogh, Student Drug and Alcohol Support Counselor shared their appreciation for the recognition of social workers in serving highest needs students. Superintendent Guerrero shared the importance of school social workers in students' lives.

Resolution 6076 to Recognize March 2020 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Superintendent Guerrero shared that one of the most effective ways of changing the impact of disabilities is increasing awareness. Noelle Sisk, Student Success Advocate, shared the activities that the district has hosted, including bringing in Lucy Meyers, and hosting viewings of Intelligent Lives, IEP training, and district wide paraeducator trainings. She also noted that the Special Education department recently launched the Special Education Tool Kit which is available in all supported PPS languages.

Public Comment on Resolution 6076

Susan Carson. Son is a fifth grader at Scott, he has a developmental disability and has been integrated into general education classrooms with supports. He's meeting his goals. They thought he would go to Roseway Heights for Middle School, but the District wants to place him in a skills classroom at a different school. He would better served in a general education classroom with supports. It's his right to receive the support he needs at his neighborhood school.

PAT Presentation

Elizabeth Teal, current PAT Vice-President and President Elect. They rallied for the Student Success Act. They have some questions, but mostly have a lot to be excited about- the increase of employees, counselors and electives. First steps to supporting all schools is small class sizes. She is excited that the hiring is happening when pool is full. It's not enough to address all imbalances, but it's a start. She noted that PAT wasn't involved in process of allocations, that there were cuts to school based counselors and the change in the Rosa Parks calendar, and that it was a missed opportunity to work together. When there is more collaboration, there will be better buy in. Looks forward to collaborating in the future.

Rosa Parks Calendar

An overview of the decision making process was provided. Chief of Schools Dr. Shawn Bird shared that the district's recommendation is to change the calendar to a traditional calendar, adding that with the change they will be adding a twenty day summer program which is open to all students, after school child care for students in grades Kinder through third, and an incoming kinder summer transition program for children and parents. Factors that lead to the recommendation include a decrease in student test scores, low attendance rates, an inability find child care providers who would adjust to the year round schedule, and difficulty scheduling professional development for teachers when their peers are on a different calendar. Shanice Clarke summarized the engagement process, which began before this year. She noted that there was large support for the school to remain on a year round calendar, and the engagement team had an interest to find out what is working with the year round calendar. There was Board discussion

regarding what supports could be put in place for the school to remain on a year round calendar as well as what supports would be put into place with a transition to a traditional calendar.

Public Comment

Melissa Duclos. A public neighborhood school of color that gets a year round calendar, same time for breaks, and teacher turnover rates are lower. She thought the school would have access to child care on their schedule, that teachers would get their curriculum on time. The district did not support the vision of the new calendar. Agrees with 71% of teachers who want to continue with the year round calendar. The district didn't ask the parents what they want. The district views the calendar as a failure, instead of acknowledging their own failure. More schools should be on a year round calendar.

Beyoung Yu: ESL teacher at Rosa Parks. PPS has a record of failure of serving students of color. PPS policy is to collaborate with students and families of color. Is it the districts intention to alienate and segregate the students? Other schools have calendars that do not align with PPS schedule and have been set up for success. Rosa Parks doesn't receive materials on time and struggles with attendance and test scores whether they are year round or not. They have 19 different language spoken, 85% student of color with a teacher of color in each grade, has a lower teacher turn over even though they are a Title 1 school, and provide social emotional support to a student body who is 95% free and reduced lunch a safe place to learn year round. Tried summer school before and it failed. Would like district to work with community partners to support a permanent year round calendar.

Marcus Mundy: President of Coalition of Communities of Color. Wanted to clarify that doesn't have a statement either way, because they were not consulted, and their organization has a consensus model that looks at information and comes to a decision by consensus.

Tony Jones: Chair of the Coalition of Black Men. He doesn't support because they haven't had the opportunity to review the plan or information.

Resolution 6069 Increasing Pass-through

Korrina Wolfe introduced the resolution. Tara O'Neil noted that they compiled an analysis to approximate the cost to Portland Public Schools to oversee Charter Schools and that it was noted currently the district is bringing in more money than it costs to run. Director Lowery shared that the committee recommends the approval of the resolution. There was discussion regarding whether all charter schools should receive an increase in pass-through, and it was stated that there is a responsibility of the district to make sure that there are strong neighborhood schools available to charter schools students if needed. Additionally, not giving it to all charter schools incentives increasing student diversity. It was suggested that the committee look at creating a ladder of funding from 80% - 95% to further incentivize when getting to 50% may a long reach.

KairosPDX Renewal Request

Tara O'Neil and Korrina Wolfe introduced the KairosPDX Renewal Request, including an overview of the renewal request and school data. She noted that they requested a ten year renewal to allow them to apply for low interest loans, for an increased pass-through and an increased enrollment.

Public Comment

Marcus Mundy: Proud of KairosPDX. Looking forward to extension of the charter.

Resolution 6071 Opal School Extension Request

Tara O'Neil and Korrina Wolfe introduced the Opal School extension request, including an overview of school data. Director Bailey noted that the district is monitoring each charter school annually, regardless of the length of renewal or extension.

Resolution 6072 Portland Arthur Academy Extension Request

Tara O'Neil and Korrina Wolfe introduced the Portland Arthur Academy extension request, including an overview of school data.

Resolution 6073 Portland Village School Renewal Request

Tara O'Neil and Korrina Wolfe introduced the Portland Village School extension request, including an overview of school data, noting that the school is on an improvement plan and has made significant strides towards their goals.

Topics Relating to Board Goals: Mid-year Progress Report

Dr. Russ Brown shared an overview of the four board goals, noting that three of the four goals include racially specific measures. He noted that the mid-year progress indicator for the goals is the winter Map results, which is typically a good indicator of where they will be at the end of the year. He went over each goal and the progress. He stated that while the students are scoring overall 67% better than the nation's average, that less than 50% of students are at grade level proficiency as defined by the SBAC, noting that 70% of the students in the country are not meeting the SBAC standards. He noted that overall the results are in line with what was expected, as it's still very early in the process and changes and improvements are still being put into place. There was discussion regarding the discrepancy in data for each student groups. Dr. Valentino provided an updated on the middle school redesign, noting that they have hired a consultant and as they come on the district will hire a director. He shared that all large districts who have recently completed a middle school redesign suggested starting with an empathy tour, where leaders hear directly from middle school students about their experience. They will then create a plan and then measurement tools.

Resolution 6074 Student Investment Account Application

Claire Hertz and Kregg Cuellar shared that they focused on creating an investment package that was student focused, specifically focusing on historically underserved youth, mental health supports and expanding student experience. Claire Hertz provided an overview of the process to put together the package. She shared that after board approval of the application, the next step is to submit the application to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), where it will be reviewed for approval. ODE may require edits, which would be a staff function, and would not require board approval. After any revisions requested have been made and are approved by ODE, then the final approved package will be brought back to the board for adoption. There was discussion regarding the Tier 1 and Tier 2 plans, noting that they are more like a plan A and a plan B. Claire Hertz explained that if staff is unable to spend funds on a Tier 1 item, such as not being able to hire as many counselors they would like, they would use those funds on a Tier 2 item so that that all funds are spent in the time frame allowed. She added that staff would be looking at the spending progress quarterly so that no funds are left of table.

Public Comment

Amy Henry: Benson counselor. Collective concern that there is no increase in counselors in high school. High schools are seeing escalations as well as K-8. High School counselors' caseloads are almost all over 300 with some at 375. The Benson counselors tracked and have received over 1000+ visits last month, not including parents, or IEP/504 meetings. A social worker is highly specialized and limited but doesn't replace the work of the school counselor. Many of metrics that the district is being judge emerge from high school counselors. Urge to commit to 250 to 1 in high school as well.

Marcus Mundy: Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC). CCC members have partnered with PPS to provide culturally specific services to students and families at PPS, including culturally specific family engagement, wrap around serves, leadership and mentoring and extended learning opportunities for thousands of students. They were instrumental advocacy that led to passage of SSA, which would provide historically and currently underserved students the resources they deserve. Commend Superintendent for leadership and for engaging with CCC members. Happy to see PPS support of Kairos, NAYA, and POIC. They are in support of focus on: Additional funding to support Racial Equity and Social Justice partnerships, focus

on additional mental and behavior health supports, additional POC representative educators, counselors and social workers, and additional funding for arts, middle school redesign, culturally responsive curriculum and supports and special education.

Stephanie Schiavo: School Psych at Benson. They have historically understaffed. They have been staffed with a formula to add supports to special needs students. The staffing is the same as it has been but there has been an increase by 16% in SPED students. Asking to get staffing at the same level as before.

Kellogg and Multiple Pathways

Director Brim-Edwards shared that the Multiple Pathways to Graduation Design Advisory Group met on February 27, 2020 where they received a master plan update and went through some image boards, with the master plan being brought to the bond committee soon.

The Kellogg Design Advisory Group received a recap what happened in regards to the build, noting that they are still on budget and still on track for fall of 2021. There was a question regarding whether it'd be a regional special education school which will affect the enrollment and capacity needs. She added that they are looking at a name and mascot change.

Following Items were Approved by the Board

- Business Agenda: Resolutions 6060 through 6066
- Resolution 6067: Resolution to Recognize Classified and Non-Represented Employee Appreciation Week March 2-6, 2020
- Resolution 6068: Adoption of the Traditional PPS Calendar for Rosa Parks in 2020-21 school year
- Resolution 6069: Resolution Approving Increase of Pass-through Rates to 95% of Charter School Rate for Charter Schools Serving Populations of 50% or Greater Historically Underserved by Race/Ethnicity
- Resolution 6070: Resolution Approving the Request for the Renewal of the Charter Agreement with KairosPDX Charter School
- Resolution 6071: Resolution Approving the Request for the Extension of the Charter Agreement with Opal Public Charter School
- Resolution 6072: Resolution Approving the Request for the Extension of the Charter Agreement with Portland Arthur Academy Public Charter School
- Resolution 6073: Resolution Approving the Request for the Renewal of the Charter Agreement with Portland Village School
- Resolution 6074: Student Investment Account Application 2020-2021
- Resolution 6075: Resolution to Recognize March 1-7, 2020 as School Social Work Week
- Resolution 6076: Resolution to Recognize March 2020 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Following Items were Not Approved by the Board

None

Adjourn

Chair Kohnstamm adjourned the meeting at 10:12 pm.

The Next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled to be held March 17, 2020.

Submitted by:



Kara Bradshaw, Executive Assistant
PPS Board of Education