



Board Special Meeting

**State Auditor's Office Exit Conference; Limited Waiver of Policy No. 2415,
High School Graduation Requirements; Work Session: Budget**

Wednesday, May 24, 2017, 4:30 - 7:00pm

Auditorium, John Stanford Center

2445 – 3rd Avenue South, Seattle WA 98134

Agenda

Call to Order

4:30pm

State Auditor's Office Exit Conference

Limited Waiver of Policy No. 2415, High School Graduation Requirements

5:30pm*

- Discussion/Action

Work Session: Budget

5:40pm*

- Review work to date
- Legislative Session update
- Two Tier Transportation Update
- \$2.8M for High Needs Schools Update
- Wait List
- Outcome

Adjourn

7:00pm*

Special meetings of the Board, including work sessions and retreats, may contain discussion and/or action related to the items listed on the agenda.

**Times given are estimated*



Board Work Session Materials

May 24, 2017

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School Board Office
206-252-0040

The following pages are presentation materials reviewed at the May 24, 2017 Board work session.



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT

DATE: May 16, 2017
FROM: Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent
LEAD STAFF: Michael Tolley/ Associate Superintendent of Teaching & Learning/ 252-0017
Ronald Boy/ Senior Assistant General Counsel/ 252-0114

For Introduction: May 24, 2017*

For Action: May 24, 2017*

*Board Special Meeting: State Auditor's Office Exit Conference; Work Session: Budget

1. TITLE

Motion to waive Board Policy No. 2415 requirement to meet all state graduation requirements to allow participation in 2017 commencement exercises.

2. PURPOSE

This Board Action Report proposes a motion to waive the portion of Board Policy No. 2415, High School Graduation Requirements, which requires that a student must have met all state graduation requirements in order to participate in commencement exercises. This would allow students who have not passed the biology end-of-course exam to participate in commencement exercises with their class. This waiver would be for the graduating class of 2017 only.

3. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the School Board waive the portion of Board Policy No. 2415, High School Graduation Requirements, requiring that all state graduation requirements are met, for the limited purpose of allowing students who are scheduled to graduate in June 2017, and who have met all requirements with the exception of the biology end-of-course exam, to participate in commencement exercises with their class.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

a. Background

There are 109 high school seniors in Seattle Public Schools who have not passed the biology end-of-course exam, but have met all other assessment requirements. This is the first year that passing the biology end-of-course exam is a state graduation requirement and has been highly debated in all levels of the state. Right now, there is a good chance that the Legislature will act and eliminate passing the biology end-of-course exam as a requirement to receive a high school diploma. However, this action will likely not come in time for the affected students to walk in the graduation commencement exercise with their class. This motion will allow these students to participate in commencement, but they will still have to meet all state and district requirements to receive a diploma from Seattle Public Schools.

There is a movement across the state of Washington to compel the Legislature to eliminate the biology end-of-course exam as a graduation requirement. Notably, on May 11, 2017, the Washington State Board of Education adopted a resolution at its Board meeting in Walla Walla urging immediate action by the Legislature to eliminate the biology end-of-course exam as a graduation requirement. The State Board of Education endorses removing the graduation requirement effective immediately to include the high school graduating class of 2017.

Although the probability is favorable that the Legislature will act and allow students who have not passed the biology end-of-course exam to receive high school diplomas, the decision will not occur in time to allow students to plan for, and participate in, graduation commencement activities. If the Legislature does not act and remove passing the biology end-of-course exam as a state graduation requirement, students who were allowed to walk under this limited waiver will still need to meet the requirement to receive a high school diploma.

The high school principals of Seattle Public Schools were surveyed to inquire whether they supported seniors who have not passed the biology end-of-course exam to participate in the 2017 commencement exercises. Out of thirteen (13) high school principals, ten (10) high school principals support allowing the students to participate. Of the principals who did not support the participation, the general concern was that the concession was unfair to the students who worked hard to pass the exam.

b. Alternatives

Do not waive the policy requirement that all state graduation requirements, including the biology end-of-course exam, must be met to participate in 2017 commencement exercises. This is not recommended because there are 109 students who have met all other assessment requirements other than the biology end-of-course exam that would not be able to walk in commencement exercises with their class. Given the fact that the likelihood is favorable that the Legislature will change the requirements for the class of 2017, not allowing the students to walk in commencement would appear very unfair after the fact if the change in the law does occur as anticipated.

c. Research

109 high school seniors would not be able to participate in commencement exercises because they have not passed to biology end-of-course exam, but have met all other assessment requirements.

10 of 13 high school principals support student participation in commencement exercises.

The Washington State School Board of Education supports eliminating the biology end-of-course exam as a class of 2017 graduation requirement and passed a resolution to urge the Legislature to take action.

5. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

Fiscal impact to this action will be N/A.

The revenue source for this motion is N/A.

Expenditure: One-time Annual Multi-Year N/A

Revenue: One-time Annual Multi-Year N/A

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

With guidance from the District's Community Engagement tool, this action was determined to merit the following tier of community engagement:

Not applicable

Tier 1: Inform

Tier 2: Consult/Involve

Tier 3: Collaborate

If this motion is passed by the Board, school leaders would be informed and able to pass the message along to the affected students that they are able to participate in the 2017 commencement exercises.

7. EQUITY ANALYSIS

While staff did not put this question through the full racial equity toolkit, there is an equity component to this decision as Washington law allows for alternative assessments to fulfill the biology end-of-course exam requirement. The alternative assessments can be a financial burden for students and families in situations where there is a cost associated with the assessment.

8. STUDENT BENEFIT

If this motion is passed by the Board, students who would have not been otherwise able to walk in graduation commencement exercises with their class would be allowed to participate. Participation in graduation is an important occasion and lasting memory for students and their families.

9. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY

Amount of contract initial value or contract amendment exceeds \$250,000 (Policy No. 6220)

Amount of grant exceeds \$250,000 in a single fiscal year (Policy No. 6114)

Adopting, amending, or repealing a Board policy

Formally accepting the completion of a public works project and closing out the contract

Legal requirement for the School Board to take action on this matter

Board Policy No. _____, [TITLE], provides the Board shall approve this item

Other: _____

10. POLICY IMPLICATION

This motion implicates the application of Board Policy No. 2415, High School Graduation Requirements. The policy couples the participation in commencement exercises with the receipt of a high school diploma and this motion would allow students to participate in commencement exercises although they have not passed the biology end-of-course exam, which is a requirement to receive a high school diploma.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was not discussed at a Board Committee.

12. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Upon approval of this motion, students who have met all state and district graduation requirements except passing the biology end-of-course exam will be informed that they are able to participate in the 2017 graduation commencement exercises with their class.

13. ATTACHMENTS

- Board Policy No. 2415, High School Graduation Requirements

 <p>SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS</p>	<p>HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</p>	<p>Policy No. 2415 January 4, 2017 Page 1 of 3</p>
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It is the policy of the Seattle School Board that in addition to meeting all graduation requirements set forth by the State of Washington, all District high school students meet the following requirements in order to graduate:

1. Students in the class of 2020 or earlier must have a minimum of 21 credits in order to graduate; students in the class of 2021 or beyond must have a minimum of 24 credits in order to graduate. Students are urged to examine their post-high school plans, and to take the appropriate credits that will allow them to achieve their postgraduate goals. Additionally, students are encouraged to gain proficiency in many areas of the curriculum.

Individual schools may require additional credits for graduation; to do so, the school must receive a written waiver from their Executive Director of Schools, the Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, and the Superintendent.

2. The Board recognizes the importance and is supportive of community service by requiring students to participate in service learning activities, which are jointly developed by the District and school sites. Students are required to complete 60 hours of service learning before graduation.
3. In order to graduate, students will be required to have at least a 2.0 or above cumulative GPA and a 2.0 cumulative GPA or above in all courses in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. For purposes of this board-adopted graduation requirement *only*, the GPA will be calculated in a way that treats an “E” grade the same as an “N” grade.

Students Completing the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program

Beginning in Fall 2011, students who fulfill the requirements of an international baccalaureate (IB) program are considered to have met state high school graduation standards, so long as:

1. The student meets the requirements for the certificate of academic achievement or the certificate of individual achievement;
2. The student meets the provision regarding study of the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of Washington; and
3. The student meets all graduation requirements required by Seattle Public Schools or by the student’s school that are in addition to state minimum requirements, unless those requirements are waived by the student’s principal or designee.

	<p>HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</p>	<p>Policy No. 2415 January 4, 2017 Page 2 of 3</p>
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Fulfilling the requirements of an international baccalaureate program means the student has:

1. Completed and passed all required IB courses as scored by the school;
2. Passed all internal assessments as scored by the school;
3. Successfully completed all required projects and products as scored by the school; and
4. Completed the final examinations administered by the international baccalaureate organization in each of the required subjects under the IB diploma program.

A student and his/her parent or guardian will be required to sign the “International Baccalaureate Option Form” indicating that the student and family understand that the waiver from state minimum graduation requirements only applies for students who fulfill the requirements of the IB program; should a student fail to meet the requirements, or if a student leaves the program prior to completion, he or she may be required to fulfill state and Seattle Public Schools minimum graduation requirements.

Graduation and Participation in Commencement

1. Students must be enrolled and attending a school for the semester immediately preceding graduation to be eligible to graduate from that school. Students who are participating in Running Start or who have properly obtained dual-enrollment in another school district or approved program may graduate from their affiliated District high school.
2. A student must have met all state graduation requirements or fulfilled the requirements of the International Baccalaureate program, and have met or waived all District graduation requirements, in order to participate in commencement, unless the student has a right to participate in commencement as a matter of state or federal law.

Commented [BRD1]: This motion will waive this portion of the policy for students in the class of 2017 who have not passed the Biology EOC exam. All other state and District graduation requirements must be met for participation in commencement.

The Superintendent or the Superintendent’s designee(s) shall annually create, post, and distribute a *Graduation Requirements Bulletin* for each graduating class detailing all graduation requirements, including requirements set forth by the State of Washington, a breakdown of the areas in which students must earn credit, and a process by which district requirements may be waived. The *Graduation Requirements Bulletin* and the *K-12 Counseling Manual* serve as the administrative procedures to further implement this Policy.



HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS

Policy No. 2415

January 4, 2017

Page 3 of 3

Adopted: February 2012

Revised: January 2017; June 2014; August 2013

Cross Reference: 2420; K-12 Counseling Services Manual, Graduation Requirements Bulletin

Related Superintendent Procedure: N/A

Previous Policies: C15.00, G10.00

Legal Reference: RCW 28A.155.045 Certificate of individual achievement; RCW 28A.230 Compulsory Coursework and Activities; RCW 28A.230.090 High school graduation requirements or equivalencies - Reevaluation of graduation requirements — Review and authorization of proposed changes — Credit for courses taken before attending high school — Postsecondary credit equivalencies; RCW 28A.230.120 High school diplomas — Issuance — Option to receive final transcripts — Notice; RCW 28A.230.170 Study of constitutions compulsory - Rules; 28A.320 Provisions applicable to all districts; ; RCW 28A.600.300-400 Running start program; RCW 28A.635.060 Defacing or injuring school property — Liability of pupil, parent or guardian — Withholding grades, diploma, or transcripts — Suspension and restitution — Voluntary work program as alternative — Rights protected; RCW 28A.655.061 High school assessment system — Certificate of academic achievement requirements — Exemptions — Options to retake high school assessment — Objective alternative assessment — Student learning plans;; WAC 180-51 High school graduation requirements; WAC 392-121-182 Alternative Learning Experience Requirements; WAC 392-169 Special service programs - Running Start program; WAC 392-348 Secondary Education; WAC 392-410 Courses of studies and equivalencies; ESHB 1412
Management Resource: *Policy News*, June 2013, June 2012

Budget Work Session

May 24, 2017



Budget Work Session 5/24/2017 Presented
by JoLynn Berge

Agenda

1. Review work to date
2. Legislative Session update
3. Two Tier Transportation update
4. \$2.8m for High Needs Schools update
5. Decision on Waitlist work session
6. Outcome

Outcome for Meeting

- Provide update on legislative timeline and budget
- How do we plan for any last minute revenue
- Understanding of waitlist timeline and process
- Direction on restoration priorities

Restoration Summary To Date

Restoration Summary for \$74m Worst Case for 2017-18				
Beginning Budget Deficit	\$ (74,200,000)			
\$24.4m from levy cliff bill	\$ 24,400,000			
Amount of remaining deficit	\$ (49,800,000)			
2017-18 Cuts	Amount Cut	Amount Restored - \$24.4m Levy cliff bill	Amount Restored - anticipated Per Pupil Inflater \$6m	Balance - still being cut
Economic Reserve Fund*	\$ 11,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,500,000
WSS Formula	\$ 16,600,000	\$ 16,600,000	\$ -	\$ -
Equity Funding for High Need Schools	\$ -	\$ 2,800,000	\$ -	\$ -
24 Credits	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Central Office reductions	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 3,500,000
District contingency reserve	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Fall enrollment reserve	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Funding to reduce school splits	\$ 1,800,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800,000
K-5 ELA Adoption	\$ 4,800,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 3,400,000	\$ -
Middle School Math	\$ 1,800,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800,000
2017-18 Funding for curriculum	\$ 5,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000
Title II/STAR, etc	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
SMART Goals/EOG	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -
Other Needs (HCC, district goals, IB etc.)	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 52,500,000	\$ 24,400,000	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 30,100,000

* Plan for restoration of Economic Reserve Fund has been passed. Restoration begins in 2017-18.

Legislative Session Update

- Legislative delay leaves us with a \$50m deficit
- 1st Special Session started on Monday, April 24 has ended with no action
- Still expecting final budget at the end of June
- Predicting that McCleary is not solved in 2017 session (looking more and more likely)

Legislative Session Update

- Based on preliminary House and Senate budgets we anticipate at least \$6m in Per Pupil Inflator additional funding available for restoration.
- Even most hopeful budget costs more than what is funded.

What to do with Last Minute New Revenue?

When the state budget is passed, AND IF we receive more revenue than anticipated, what should be done with that increase?

- SMART Goal funding
- More for equity High Needs schools
- Fall enrollment/split classroom adjustments
- Middle School math
- Central admin restoration
- Other

Recommendations will be part of the June budget work session.

Reminder of additional funding for staffing in 2016-17

\$2.3m from \$11m one time funding

\$2.0m for fall enrollment adjustments

\$1.8m for fall class splits

\$6.1m additional staffing

- Currently not funded in 2017-18 budget

Two Tier Transportation update

- Waiting for action by the City
- June 15th – deadline for approval by the City to enable SPS to move forward for 2017-18
- Notification for families and schools on June 16th
- Ongoing cost beginning in 2018-19

\$2.8m for High Needs Schools Update

- Schools receiving funding have been identified as Tier I or Tier II in Equity High Needs funding (Attachment to January 11, 2017 budget work session) analysis
- Schools will receive additional FTE and must provide a plan as to what FTE they need, and it must align to:
 - Opportunity gap efforts
 - MTSS
 - CSIP
- Once all plans have been reviewed and approved, a summary will be compiled

WAIT LISTS



Background on Enrollment (not waitlist) Staffing Adjustments

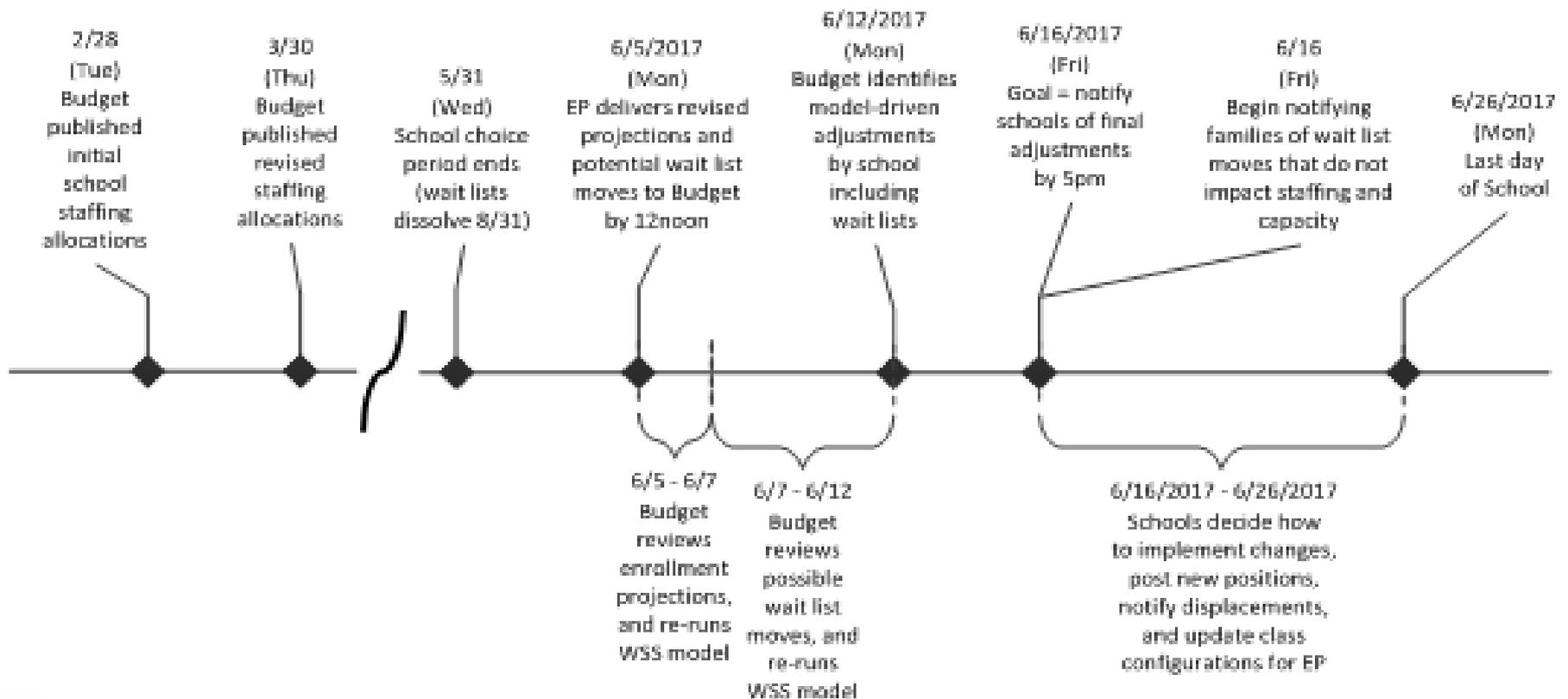
Background

- School staffing levels are historically examined three times each year:
 - February (initial budget allocations)
 - June (adjustments based on updated enrollment projections)
 - September (final adjustments based on actual enrollment)
- Our goal this year is to notify schools of any adjustments by 5 p.m. on Friday, June 16, 2017.
 - Last year, adjustments were announced on June 17, 2016.

Background on Enrollment (not waitlist) Staffing Adjustments

- Adjustments will be identified based on updated grade-level enrollment projections for each school:
 - Potential adjustments will include both adding and pulling FTE, in order to better match staffing with projected enrollment.
 - The June process will address both General Education and Special Education staffing.
 - As in previous years, we will leave Core staffing levels constant.
- Schools will not receive any additional staffing adjustments until June 16.

Timeline for Staffing Adjustments through June (DRAFT)



Wait Lists – What are our policies and practices?

- Attendance area policy
 - Implemented as a result of problems with Choice/Free Market previous policy
 - More equitable
 - More predictable for families
- Option School policy
 - Allows for families to have alternatives to attendance area schools
- Waitlist moves are predicated on staffing, not just space capacity
- Waitlists for Option Schools continue to be moved based on available seats in classrooms

Waitlist Considerations

- Is there capacity within the WSS staffing allocation?
- Is there room to add another teacher/class?
- Would it create more split classes? Overage costs?
- Would it negatively impact/deplete other schools?

Waitlists Move Impacts

- Small number of families positively impacted
 - To date about 6,000 of students were on waitlists for 2017-18.
 - 3,000 students have received their first choice!
 - 2,200 students currently on waitlists
- Larger number of families negatively impacted
 - These schools/families don't know that they would be impacted and we haven't heard from them, but we will

Waitlist – Budget Impacts

Moving 527 students on the waitlist (schools that have physical capacity), which would result in:

- 19 schools would lose staff
- 8 schools would gain staff
- Cost to backfill for all lost staff is \$1.9m/17.8 FTEs
- Need to have the whole picture, not incremental, so we can ensure its through an equity lens

Waitlist Move HR Impacts

- 19 schools would lose staff
 - These staff would need to be reassigned, likely not in the same school
 - Most of the school positions are now filled, and this would create significant movement
- 8 schools would gain staff
 - Likely would be some of the staff from the 19 schools above

Waitlists – Opportunities for Improvement

- What schools should have a waitlist (i.e. only those not already over physical space capacity), refine list of schools/grades
- Clarify what “capacity” means
- Clarify timeline for decisions

Waitlists – Other Considerations

- Community Engagement
- Race and Equity Tool
- Labor Partners
- Budget ramifications

Outcome

Outcome for Meeting

- Direction on restoration priorities
- Decision on work session for Waitlists