

**Seattle School District #1
Board Resolution**

Resolution No. 2018/19-15



A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 (“Seattle Public Schools”), King County, Seattle, Washington to request a waiver for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 academic years from the 180-day school year requirement (RCW 28A.150.220) from the State Board of Education pursuant to RCW 28A.305.140, as provided for in WAC 180-18-030, WAC 180-18-040, and WAC 180-40-050.

WHEREAS, Seattle Public Schools seeks a three (3) day waiver from the 180-day calendar for elementary schools and K-8 schools within the District for the purpose of implementing full-day parent/guardian/teacher conferences;

WHEREAS, Seattle Public Schools seeks a one (1) day waiver from the 180-day calendar for middle schools and high schools within the District for the purpose of implementing a full-day parent/guardian/teacher/student conference or classroom visitation schedule;

WHEREAS, the parents and staff have supported a three full-day parent/guardian/teacher conference schedule over the more traditional seven half-day schedule with early dismissals;

WHEREAS, the total impact on program hours between seven half-days and three full-days is not significantly different, with only two hours of educational instruction lost with the three full-day schedule;

WHEREAS, Seattle Public Schools’ educators believe that the extra full week of school without early dismissal disruptions, allowed by the three full-day schedule, creates a more productive teaching and learning environment;

WHEREAS, the Washington State Board of Education has recognized the importance of and has established waivers for restructuring purposes to permit schools to have schedules and programs that provide an effective educational system for all students or for individual schools in a school system (WAC 180-18);

WHEREAS, the waiver and conversion to a three-day conference for elementary schools supports increased academic achievement by: (1) eliminating seven days of schedule changes in favor of three days (less disruption for teachers and students and it protects instructional time); (2) allowing teachers to focus on teaching when teaching and conferencing when conferencing; (3) protecting schedules for vulnerable children, including those on IEPs and those receiving tutoring and supplemental services; (4) maintaining the focus on teaching and learning for an additional week each year; (5) allowing for longer and more meaningful parent/guardian/teacher/student dialogue and conferences; (6) permitting the inclusion or partial inclusion of students in conferences; and (7) reducing the burden of families to provide

alternative childcare arrangements in odd increments and for a greater number of days, mitigating financial impact and disruption of family routines and work schedules; and

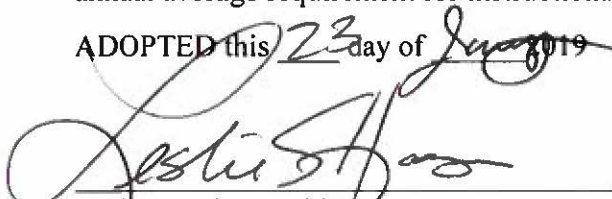
WHEREAS, the waiver and one full-day conference for middle and high school students supports increased academic achievement by: (1) allowing teachers to focus on teaching when teaching and conferencing when conferencing; (2) permitting the inclusion or partial inclusion of students in conferences; and (3) reducing the burden of families to provide alternative childcare arrangements in odd increments and for a greater number of days, mitigating financial impact and disruption of family routines and work schedules.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT,

RESOLVED, that the Seattle Public Schools' Board of Directors requests that three days from the 180-day school year requirement be waived for elementary school and K-8 schools of Seattle Public Schools for the 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years to permit these schools to have three full-day parent/guardian/teacher conferences and that students are not required to attend school on those days and that the dates for these full-day conferences be negotiated with the unions when the school calendar is negotiated; and provides assurances that the District will comply with the annual average requirement for instructional hours; and

RESOLVED, that the Seattle Public Schools' Board of Directors requests that one day from the 180-day school year requirement be waived for each middle school and high school of Seattle Public Schools for the 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years to permit these schools to have one full-day parent/guardian/teacher conference and that students are not required to attend school on that day; that the date for this waiver day be negotiated with the unions when the school calendar is negotiated; and provides assurances that the District will comply with the annual average requirement for instructional hours.


ADOPTED this 23 day of June 2019



Leslie Harris, President



Zachary DeWolf, Member-at-Large

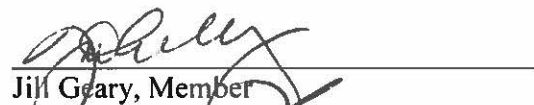


Eden Mack, Member




Scott Pinkham, Member


Rick Burke, Vice-President



Jill Geary, Member



Betty Patu, Member

ATTEST: 

Ms. Denise Juneau, Superintendent
Secretary, Board of Directors
Seattle School District No. 1
King County, WA