

Board Special Meeting
Curriculum & Instruction Policy Committee
Monday, April 3, 2017, 4:00 – 5:30 pm
Board Office Conference Room, John Stanford Center
2445 – 3rd Avenue South, Seattle WA 98134



Minutes

This meeting was called to order at 4:01pm. Directors Burke, Harris and Patu were present. Dir. Geary arrived at 4:12pm. This meeting was staffed by Associate Superintendent for Teaching & Learning Michael Tolley, Chief of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction Kyle Kinoshita, Director of Board Policy and Relations Nate Van Duzer, Chief of Student Support Services Wyeth Jessee, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction Cashel Toner, Director of Career and College Readiness Dan Gallagher, Skills Center School Principal Dan Golosman, Director of School Operations Misa Garmoe, Manager of School Operations Sherri Kokx, Executive Director of Government Relations & Strategic Initiatives Erinn Bennett, Senior Assistant General Council Ronald Boy, Math Program Manager Anna Box, and Communications Specialist Sean Duke.

Director Patu moved to approve the agenda. Director Harris seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Director Patu moved to approve the March 13, 2017 C&I Policy Committee meeting minutes. Director Burke seconded. The minutes passed unanimously.

Director Harris moved to approve the March 16, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes after attaching the Directors question/comment list to the minutes. Director Patu seconded. This motion passed unanimously as amended to attach the questions list.

Board Action Reports (Discussion and/or Action)

Waiver of two (2) school days at John Muir Elementary School due to a Norovirus outbreak

Michael Tolley provided an overview of this item, as listed in the Board Action Report regarding the waiver of two days at John Muir Elementary School, as required by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

DECISION: Director Harris made a motion to move this item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for approval. Director Patu seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Contract for New Library Collections for Edmond S. Meany Middle, Robert Eagle Staff Middle, Cedar Park Elementary, Olympic Hills Elementary School, Decatur Elementary and Licton Springs K-8

Eric Caldwell provided an overview of this action report and the request for proposal (RFP) that is currently out to bid. Dir. Harris asked what happens to the old books. Mr. Caldwell noted that they will be weeded through at the schools, then they may be distributed through the district or go to surplus. Dir. Burke asked what latitude the schools have to customize their collections or if they are standardized. Mr. Caldwell noted the process to select the collections.

Dir. Geary arrived at 4:12pm.

Mr. Caldwell noted that for 90% of the standard core collection, HW Wilson is the reference point. Mr. Caldwell discussed the process that the librarians go through to choose the collections by fiction/non-

fiction, topics, student and community population, local authors and characters that reflect the students and families so students see themselves in their communities and their schools.

Directors and staff discussed the vendors in the search process and noted the comparisons to years past. Staff discussed the factors that are being requested in the RFP process, including a quality check, books that are library bound, include a warranty, processing the books, and price. Once that minimum barrier has been met, there is a committee that looks at various factors for their community, including ethnically and culturally diverse materials, local publishers and award winning authors.

DECISION: Director Patu made a motion to move this item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for consideration. Director Geary seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Standing Agenda Items

Superintendent SMART Goals 1-3

Mr. Tolley noted that there is not an update for SMART Goal 2 at this time.

Wyeth Jessee provided a progress update for Goal 1, as outlined on the handout. He noted the depth of the tools to support schools. Mr. Jessee noted the three status reports on status, budget and progress. He noted collecting of information from schools, including the decision-making protocol feedback. Mr. Jessee noted that the schools are individualized, and there are Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) leads working with the schools. Mr. Jessee noted a SharePoint repository to share works of schools to replicate what is working. He noted professional development (PD) for schools. Mr. Jessee noted the balanced score card metrics and working with Dr. Eric Anderson in Research and Evaluation, to look at the social, emotional and behavioral data, not just the traditional academic side.

Dir. Burke asked if there is a date certain for the resources that will be posted on MySPS. Mr. Jessee noted that educators can see what is in Schoology and Executive Directors of Schools (EDS's) can see what is on SharePoint. Mr. Tolley noted the purpose is not an actual replication of the work, but it is to apply the tools that schools have found success with.

Dir. Burke asked what is the early warning indicator referenced. Mr. Jessee noted it is on course completion, attendance, behavior and discipline. Dir. Burke is concerned that these are not early warning indicators in order to react and intervene, and that he is interpreting that it feels like it is Band-Aid work that is not constructive in the classroom. Mr. Jessee noted there are elements to the strategy of working with the student.

Board Policies and Procedures

School Board Policy 2200, Equitable Access Quarterly Report

Sherri Kokx provided an overview of this quarterly report. She noted the changes since the January Quarterly Report, and the changes, which will be implemented in the 2017-18 school year.

Dir. Harris asked what we have done about the low enrollment at Skills Center to bolster it. Dan Golosman noted the advertising and marketing with the families that have been done from last year and this year, surveys, schools messengers, robo-calls, and visits to 8th grade family and curriculum nights. Mr. Golosman noted the visibility has increased, and the overall enrollment is higher than it has been, but historically some remain so low that it does not support half time teaching.

Directors and staff discussed perceived and true challenges with transportation in the city of Seattle and that more classes will be centrally located to ease this barrier. Directors and staff discussed the programs that are being eliminated versus downsized according to the report.

Ms. Kokx noted the Indian Education Program changes are due to moving out of Lincoln during the remodel and is moving in to a permanent home at Meany Middle Schools. She noted services changes to special education for the 2017-18 school year, which are temporary moves due to remodeling of Lincoln High School. Michaela Clancy noted the majority was conversions, and noted declines in need for distinct services. Dir. Harris asked for clarification at Thornton Creek due to communication from the community around putting preschool ahead of Special Education. Ms. Clancy noted the full continuum of services at Thornton Creek; the shift was made due to the reduction in needs for distinct services. There is no priority of preschool over K-12.

School Board Policies 2163, 2090, & NEW – Assessments and Program Evaluation

Mr. Tolley noted a memo and attachment within the packet, including feedback from the Committee of the Whole meeting on March 16, 2017. He noted the turnaround time from that meeting to this one was short, due to Spring Break next week. Mr. Tolley noted that staff is currently working on the stakeholder engagement, Director feedback and the additional work to come up with a new assessment draft of the policy. He noted that there will be a concurrent Superintendent procedure to bring to the next committee meeting, as much of the feedback has been procedural in nature, not what would normally be included in a policy.

Dir. Burke asked to see a draft between now and the next committee meeting to provide feedback, and asked that Policy E14.4, Test Administration, be listed as a cross reference. Directors discussed the comprehensive nature of the feedback document in the packet, as well as the emails that had gone out to Directors in regards to the questions, and thanked staff for their work. Dir. Harris asked about legislature updates. Erinn Bennett noted that is no longer on the table and she will give an update at the Executive Committee meeting later this week.

School Board Policies 2415, 2420, C16- High School graduation requirements and credits

Dan Gallagher provided an overview of three related policies regarding graduation requirements. He noted that this is an introduction for discussion at this time. Mr. Gallagher discussed research on other districts regarding changing schedules and increasing credit earning opportunities. Mr. Gallagher noted the differences between what the State requires for the policy and what is included in our policy and pointed out the issues that are worth consideration for change. Dir. Harris if community college and advanced courses are weighted toward grading, and asked if it is included in the policy. Mr. Gallagher noted grading is included in the counseling manual. Dir. Harris asked about valedictorian selection and class rank. Mr. Tolley noted years ago the administrative procedures were developed to ensure consistency and would research her request further for detail.

Mr. Gallagher noted that this will come back to committee for more feedback in May. Directors agreed to focus all changes at once, even if that means to delay, so as not have two changes within months to the same policies.

School Board Policy 2170, Career & Technical Education (CTE) Annual Plan

Dir. Burke noted that he asked Mr. Gallagher to provide an initial bite of the apple prior to when it fully comes to the Board for a better understanding. Mr. Gallagher highlighted changes to the CTE from what has been provided to the Board in the past. Dir. Harris asked if we work in conjunction with local colleges and with labor and apprenticeship programs in the city. Mr. Gallagher noted that information has already included in the plan that will be coming forward to the full Board. He noted the challenges with internships and apprenticeships in regards to finding ways to navigate Labor and Industry (L&I) laws.

Dir. Burke asked if Mr. Gallagher saw the Education Lab article that was featured recently. Mr. Gallagher noted a featured TV story, and the quotes from students and principals, which also included a direct link to the application for the Skills Center.

Special Attention Items

School Board Resolution 2016/17-17, Ethnic Studies Draft

Dr. Kyle Kinoshita and Ronald Boy provided an update to the draft. Dir. Burke noted that there was a short turn around between the March and April meetings due to spring break, and he asked staff not to put the draft in to the record in order to solicit feedback from Directors first. Dr. Kinoshita noted other city's resolutions that were researched to get clear ideas to strengthen the resolution. Dr. Kinoshita noted that he will be asking Directors for intermediate feedback prior to the next committee meeting. Mr. Boy noted this is a difficult topic to get in to a resolution format with an effective statement due to the budget constraints. Dr. Kinoshita noted that other cities have done resolutions with very little resources, the problem is figuring out what the Board wants to adopt. He asked the Directors for other suggestions for incorporation.

Dir. Patu noted that some schools have taught ethnic studies and asked where that curriculum is. Dr. Kinoshita said it is still out there and needs to be brought forward. Dir. Geary noted that she is looking for the thought process, how things align, and why things were included or not, not just the final product. Dir Harris would like to see an inventory of what course offerings we have, and what is the process for teachers to create a robust curriculum. Directors noted that they want to do this well, but that takes resources, and appreciates the work that staff is putting in to this. Dir. Burke is requesting that as they evaluate different approaches and think about the mindset of the passion of the individuals who brought the original resolution forward, and try to close the loop on our limitations and then reconcile the expectations of the community to find a balance point.

Math Adoption Update

Anna Box noted the Friday Memo last week regarding the adoption and noted the committee that has launched and had their first meeting. She noted the goals of the committee in the process of adoption the new math textual materials. Dir. Patu noted a previous curriculum that was purchased and not used, and she wants to ensure that does not happen again. Dir. Burke asked that to keep the Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) mindset, and that the program should meet 80% of our needs, as teachers will supplement, which will save the money overall for a better value point and not just looking at everything that the publishers recommend. Ms. Box also asked if committee members had any advice or input. Ms. Box noted as they think of things, she is available and interested in the feedback, and is enthusiastic about math education in this city.

Ms. Bennett clarified a comment she made earlier that there are still Legislative Bills alive regarding assessment, and they will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on Thursday.

This meeting adjourned at 5:27pm.