

Board Special Meeting

Executive Committee

October 12, 2017 8:30-10:30am

Board Office Conference Room, John Stanford Center

2445 3rd Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98134



Minutes

Call to Order

1. This meeting was called to order at 8:30 am.

Directors Peters, Pinkham and Harris were present. The meeting was staffed by Superintendent Larry Nyland, Deputy Superintendent Stephen Nielsen, Director of Policy & Board Relations Nate Van Duzer, Associate Superintendent of Teaching & Learning Michael Tolley, Assistant Superintendent of Operations Pegi McEvoy, Deputy General Counsel John Cerqui, Executive Director of Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives Erinn Bennett, Chief Engagement Officer Carri Campbell, and Chief Strategy and Partnerships Officer Brent Jones.

2. Approval of agenda

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

3. Approval of September 14 minutes. Director Harris moved to approve the minutes. Director Pinkham seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

I. Board Action Items

1. Approval of 2018 State Legislative Agenda

Ms. Bennett explained the various pieces of the 2017-18 legislative agenda, noting the main topic will be around budget, followed by capital projects and a policy section. District lobbyist Cliff Traisman provided some contextual detail for the upcoming session in Olympia. Director Geary explained the importance of keeping the agenda broad in order to work with the legislature, which allows Seattle Public Schools to find other districts to align with.

Director Peters and Geary discussed the areas of alignment with other districts. Director Harris noted an addition to the BAR language, amending 4c under research to insert words “who solicited feedback from the Directors.”

Directors and staff discussed requirements and flexibility around assessment alternatives.

Director Harris motioned for this item to be moved forward to the full Board for approval. Director Pinkham seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

II. Review of the October 18 and November 1 legislative session agendas

October 18th

Mr. Van Duzer provided an overview of this agenda. Directors asked questions about individual items on the proposed agenda, noting the need for additional language in the description about the Naviance BAR. Director Harris moved to approve the October 18 agenda as amended. Director Pinkham seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

November 1st

Mr. Van Duzer provided an overview of this agenda, noting the recognitions were tentatively scheduled for Communities in Schools and Native Heritage Month. Director decided to moved items 3, 7, 10, 11, 12 to the consent agenda and added a placeholder to introduce a BAR regarding the superintendent's compensation.

Director Harris moved to approve the November 1 agenda as amended. Director Pinkham seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

III. Special Attention Items

1. Discussion with Principals Association of Seattle Schools (PASS)

Erika Ayer, Paula Montgomery and Spencer Welch introduced themselves as representatives of PASS. Ms. Montgomery spoke about how PASS is organized and noted the main themes for PASS work this year, including Eliminating opportunity Gaps (EOG) work and to be immersed in the framework of the Association of Washington School Principals.

Ms. Montgomery noted several items that are on principals minds, including the budget, Student Assignment Plan, middle school math adoption, and the upcoming Seattle Education Association negotiation. She explained they are excited for the early release, passing of policy of racial equity and CORE 24.

Directors and PASS representatives discussed communication between PASS members and the Board.

Director Pinkham asked about the transition for the Executive Directors of Schools moving from a regional organization to a school level organization. Ms. Ayers spoke about the desire to continue some form of regional collaboration. Ms. Montgomery provided a perspective from the secondary level.

Directors and PASS discussed a mutual interest around more clarity and uniformity when it comes to site-based management decisions. Superintendent Nyland thanked PASS for all the hard work they are doing and ongoing communication they have with the District and the Principals.

2. Approval of December 2, 2017 Board Retreat

Nate Van Duzer reviewed the agenda with the committee. Dr. Brent Jones and Carri Campbell asked for input from the Board on outcomes for the communities of color partner panel. Directors provided feedback on content and potential invitees. Directors expressed a desire to have more time with the panel and it was agreed to include them in the lunch.

Director Harris moved to approve the agenda as amended and Pinkham seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously.

3. Frequency and Format of 2017-18 Oversight Work Sessions

Mr. Van Duzer explained previous discussion. Mr. Nielsen explained that he and Director Burke discussed work around current policy and a recommendation is not ready to be given yet.

4. ADA web accessibility

Mr. Van Duzer explained only 2-3 requests for committee materials have been made to the Board office for the October committees. Directors asked about requirements placed on other public agencies and requested the Legal department to explore whether the district could receive more flexibility in order to be more transparent with Board documents.

5. Organizational Review/Audit

Director Peters noted a meeting had taken place with Moss Adams about having a possible organizational audit. Mr. Nielsen explained the possible scope and possibility of narrowing it down to find greater efficiency and that another meeting will help discern a better judgement of time and cost. Director Peters added they would be reaching out to all Directors for input and feedback.

6. Superintendent - Board Communication

Following up from a September retreat conversation, Superintendent Nyland discussed how to get appropriate information to the Board. Dr. Nyland spoke about having alternate Friday Superintendent updates rather than every Friday and possible reports. Directors Harris, Pinkham and Peters agreed with the every-other-week update format.

IV. Standing Items

1. Community engagement

Carri Campbell summarized the upcoming community engagements around highly capable cohort pathways.

2. Government relations – No updates were given.
3. Board Calendar/ work plan – No updates were given.
4. Executive committee work plan – No updates were given.
5. Board 2017 goals – No updates were given.
6. Annual report – No updates were given.

The meeting adjourned at 10:32am.