

Board Special Meeting

Executive Committee

January 17, 2019 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Board Office Conference Room, John Stanford Center

2445 3rd Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98134



Minutes

Call to Order

1. Roll Call

Director Burke called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. Directors Burke and DeWolf were in attendance. Director Harris arrived at 3:10 p.m. Director Geary joined the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Staff Present were Superintendent Denise Juneau; Deputy Superintendent Stephen Nielsen; Ellie Wilson-Jones, Director of Policy and Board Relations; Michele Ramirez, School Board Office Administrator; John Cerqui, Deputy Chief Legal Counsel; Dr. Concie Pedroza, Director of Racial Equity Advancement; Stan Damas, Executive Director of Labor and Employee Relations; Sherri Kokx, Special Assistant to the Superintendent; Ronald Boy, Senior Assistant General Counsel; Dr. Clover Codd, Chief Human Resources Officer. Erinn Bennett, Executive Director of Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives, joined via phone.

2. Approval of agenda

Director DeWolf motioned to amend the agenda. He stated that he would like to add a Board Action Report to Section 3 of the agenda titled: Adopting Resolution No. 2018/19-17 To Declare that the Lives of Black Students Matter, as well as the Lives of All of Our Students of Color, and that We Encourage Participation District-Wide in the National Black Lives Matter At School Week from February 4-8, 2019.

Director Burke seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Directors suspended approval of the minutes until Director Harris could join the meeting.

3. Approval of November 8, 2018 Executive Committee meeting minutes

Directors decided to hold approval of minutes for a later date.

4. Approval of December 13, 2018 Executive Committee meeting minutes

Directors decided to hold approval of minutes for a later date.

5. Approval of December 11, 2018 C&I Committee meeting minutes

Upon Director Harris's arrival to the meeting, Director DeWolf moved to approve the minutes. Director Harris seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

I. Special Attention Items

1. March and June Board Retreat Agendas

Ms. Wilson-Jones explained that the Board will need to determine agenda topics for both the March and June Retreats. She suggested that the draft Board goals could provide topics, such as racial equity training. She reviewed the memo on Board Retreats and provided some logistical options for the Board to consider for their trainings.

Director DeWolf and staff discussed the options for racial equity training. Dr. Pedroza provided potential options for racial equity training as outlined in a draft Professional Learning Plan Proposal that was distributed during the meeting and included in the archive for the meeting maintained by the Board Office. Director DeWolf asked if a needs assessment could be done with the Board to determine what type of training is desirable for the Board. Director DeWolf asked if there is a training for those in governance to learn how to analyze policy with a racial equity lens. Dr. Pedroza explained that once Directors determine what type of trainings they would like, then her team can suggest a method for how that could take place. Director Harris asked that the Board connect with Dr. Pedroza in a week.

Director Burke requested that the Board spend 90 minutes during the retreat reviewing Policy No. 1620 and Board Procedure 1620BP, Board-Superintendent Relationship. Superintendent Juneau noted one of the goals included in her 18-19 Evaluation speaks to Board/Superintendent Collaboration. She suggested the Board spend two hours working on intra-Board communication and collaboration and two hours working on Board-staff collaboration. Director Harris noted her agreement and stated that an additional meeting of the Board should be scheduled in late February for Board racial equity training.

2. Selection of 2018-19 Oversight Work Sessions

Ms. Wilson-Jones noted that Directors had recently amended Board Policy No. 1010, and that per the policy, the Superintendent and Executive Committee shall work together to identify the oversight work sessions for the year. Ms. Wilson-Jones noted that Superintendent Juneau has provided five recommendations for oversight work session topics, and pointed out that Directors Burke, DeWolf, and Superintendent Juneau aligned in four topic areas. Additionally, Directors Burke and DeWolf suggested Athletics.

Directors discussed which oversight areas to review through oversight work sessions. Director Harris asked that they take Athletics off the list of oversight work sessions for now. Directors agreed to the following four oversight work sessions for 2018-19: Curriculum & Instruction, Special Education Services, Transportation, and Equity, Partnerships & Engagement.

3. District Equity Issues – Highlighting issues around equity

Superintendent Juneau highlighted that there are some very difficult conversations that are going to be happening around the Strategic Plan. Directors discussed how having a unified front is very important and powerful. Director Harris asked if there is anything media related that could be done to message the Strategic Plan.

Director Harris added that there should be a West Seattle, District 6 training for interview teams to interview principals. Dr. Codd stated that HR has been working on this and would like to provide a one-hour training on February 2.

Director Harris noted that locating training for interview teams on the district website is difficult and that she would like staff to look into that. Director Harris noted that advertising can be done on the West Seattle blog.

Director Harris advised that neither the locations nor times of interview trainings were highlighted or made available to families and the community and that they are often held during the week when working families cannot attend, thus cutting down on trust and engagement with our families for these important hires. She stated that this was the reasoning for her suggestion for a District 6 Saturday training. Director Harris stated that this is part of community engagement and building trust and we should be so lucky to have that type of robust engagement. Dr. Codd explained that the Seattle Education Association (SEA) is a partner in this work, and we do plan on hosting a Saturday training. She stated that the training will likely include information about teacher and principal hiring processes.

Director DeWolf asked for clarification on processes for making decisions that impact the budget. Directors suggested this be discussed at a later time. Superintendent Juneau suggested that the topic of decision making be added to a Board retreat agenda.

4. Executive Committee Scheduling

Ms. Wilson-Jones noted that the current Executive Committee meeting time does not work for all Executive Committee members. She suggested some alternative options. Directors discussed the options. Director Harris and Burke both stated that they prefer morning meetings.

Director Burke motioned to move the Executive Committee meetings to Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Director DeWolf seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

II. Board Action Items

1. Adoption of 2019 Board Goals and Objectives

Ms. Wilson-Jones reminded Directors that on December 12 they had a work session on Board Goals. She stated that there was general consensus in the room on the goals, with some refinements offered in the meeting and one follow up proposal provided by Director Burke. She reminded Directors that Director Burke proposed that the second goal be reframed to cover how the Board interacts with staff. Directors and the Superintendent discussed the adoption of the goals. Director Burke noted that November 2019 is when they will evaluate the Board's work toward the goals.

Director DeWolf moved the Committee move this item forward for approval. Director Burke seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

2. 2019-20 School Year Calendar

Dr. Codd explained that Human Resources reviewed the calendar and has had thoughtful conversations around the religious holidays. Deputy Superintendent Nielsen added that the last day of Jumpstart falls on a Hindu holiday. Dr. Codd noted that Jumpstart is a program in some schools that introduces Pre-Kindergarten students to the school.

Director Harris noted that it would be nice to include religious leaders and communities in the conversation early. Director DeWolf expressed the importance of being transparent at the Board meeting about the date falling on this holiday.

Mr. Boy noted that this action report is dependent on the next agenda item, Resolution 2018/19-15 Requesting a Waiver from the 180-Day School Year Requirement for Parent/Guardian – Teacher Conferences. Director Harris asked Mr. Boy to brief the subsequent action report before action by the Committee on the school year calendar action report.

Dr. Codd suggested that they add a piece to the school year calendar action report regarding the consideration of religious holidays.

3. Resolution 2018/19-15, Requesting a Waiver from the 180-Day School Year Requirement for Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences (5 minutes)

Mr. Boy reviewed this action report. He explained that this resolution requests a waiver from the Washington State Board of Education of three days from the 180-day school year requirement to allow district elementary schools and K-8 schools to have full-day parent/guardian/teacher conferences on three days that school is not in session and a waiver of one day from the 180-day school year requirement to allow district middle schools and high schools to have a full-day parent/guardian/teacher conference on a day when school is not in session.

Directors made one motion for both action reports. Director DeWolf moved that the Committee move both the 2019-20 School Year Calendar and the Resolution forward for approval. Director Burke seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

III. Review of the January 23 and February 6 legislative session agendas

Ms. Wilson-Jones reviewed the January 23 agenda.

Directors discussed the Compost action report. Ms. Wilson-Jones pointed out that two action reports were removed from the agenda, relating to Board Policies 2420 and Policy 2024.

Deputy Superintendent Nielsen highlighted that Director Mack has a few questions on the transportation service standards action report that have not been addressed yet. He noted that staff would work with Director Mack on these questions.

Ms. Wilson-Jones reviewed the February 6 agenda. Director DeWolf stated that he would like student speakers to come with some questions in mind to help shape their comments. He will provide some questions for the student commenters. Directors determined the following items should go on consent: 3, 4, 5.

1. Adopting Resolution No. 2018/19-17 to declare that the lives of black students matter, as well as the lives of all of our students of color, and that we encourage participation district-wide in the national Black Lives Matter At School Week from February 4-8, 2019

Director DeWolf stated that this action report is for introduction and action on February 6. He explained that he will make updates to the action report and resolution from last year.

Director Burke moved the Committee move this item forward for consideration. Director DeWolf seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Director DeWolf motioned to approve the January 23 and February 6 Regular Board Meeting agendas with the addition of the Black Lives Matter action report and resolution and additions to the February 6 consent agenda. Director Burke seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

IV. Standing Agenda Items

1. Strategic Plan Update

Ms. Wilson-Jones reviewed the upcoming Strategic Plan meetings.

2. Government Relations

Deputy Superintendent Nielsen noted that several bills on education have been dropped. He stated that Chief Financial Officer JoLynn Berge is going to Olympia to testify on Special Education funding and levy funding.

3. Board Calendar/Work Plan

Ms. Wilson-Jones noted there are now the four Oversight Work Sessions to be scheduled. She will also need to schedule the off-site work sessions. She stated that Director Mack has also requested three work sessions on Operations. Director Harris noted that she would like to schedule a Work Session meeting in early March.

4. Executive Committee Work Plan

Director Burke requested that Board Policy No. 1620/Board Procedure 1620BP, Board-Superintendent Relationship, be scheduled for discussion in February and action in March.

Ms. Wilson-Jones noted the request made during the January 16 Executive Committee of the Whole for an item on District SMART Goal 4 to be added to the February Executive Committee meeting agenda.

Adjourn

Director Harris adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.