

BOARD SPECIAL MEETING OPERATIONS COMMITTEE



2445 – 3rd Avenue South, Seattle WA 98124

Stanford Center, Board Conference Room
Thursday, December 15, 2016

Minutes

Director Stephan Blanford called the meeting to order at 4:30pm. Directors Jill Geary and Scott Pinkham were also in attendance. Associate Superintendent Flip Herndon and Capital Projects Director Richard Best staffed the meeting.

The agenda for the meeting and minutes from the November 17th meeting were approved.

2017 Operations Committee work plan: Nate Van Duzer reviewed the list of policies on the work plan. He also noted that the capacity management action is moving to March. In response to his request for input, committee members asked for:

- Stretching out the time for consideration of growth boundaries, student assignment, and transportation, rather than jamming them all at the end of the (calendar) year.
- If the growth boundary/student assignment and enrollment work starts in the spring and then community engagement happens in the fall, this could help.
- They said the board needs more time to hear from people. If the board has more time, this will help manage the number of amendments.
- Transportation has had major changes two years in a row due to bell times and contract negotiations. Going forward there will not be such major impacts
- They would like to see mapping out how long things take. Allow time for input, allow time for things to move.
- Reports on SMART goal 3, program mapping and evaluation, should be a standing agenda item or special attention item, as well as any other applicable Board goals. They felt this was a logistics tool as much as an academic issue, so there may need to be some decisions on which committee takes which part. This should happen with any applicable board goal over time. There should be time to think about it and process as a committee.

Monthly capital financial report: Melissa Coan said this September report is the first one for FY 2017. She noted that BTA IV has been added to this document, including the detail in the backup reports. She pointed out that the current estimated ending fund balance by program is \$6.7 million. In response to budget deficit questions, she said that this capital money cannot be used for general fund activities, other than interest earnings.

Discussion followed on the topic of this report vs. the report that is given to the BEX Oversight Committee. Melissa said this report is an accounting report, with actuals in the system. The conversation in the BEX Oversight Committee was about how funds are structured and about forecasting budgets for project completion, what realistically the district could project and when things become a true savings; that has not occurred in this report because it is not a real savings yet. Richard Best commented that all of the capital money comes fenced for projects. The HCC cohort located in Decatur is not currently in budget. He also described the struggles with equity

and parity and how new furnishings, technology, and curriculum are spread throughout the district for a more even experience for families between new and old schools. Levy budgets also build in a construction market premium. He said the district works hard to not use the contingency funds to help manage expectations so that families and voters feel like they got good bang for the buck.

Approval of the 2017-18 transportation service standards: Kathy Katterhagen described the updates from the 2016-17 school year in the grandfathering and amendments section. She said that things mostly stayed the same, but she has added statements in the standards to ensure that special needs students would not be let out early and would receive full instructional time. The statement was added to make sure schools and the contractor were on the same page regarding departure times. Director Blanford expressed appreciation for the affirmative statement in the standards so that both providers and buildings will not reduce instructional time for students. In discussing the move to two tiers, Director Geary urged all board members to help gain these funds for this one-time-only purpose. They also asked that the 20-minute community engagement be included and then moved this item forward to the full board for consideration.

Award of the transportation contract: Kathy Katterhagen described this as a placeholder for purposes of the committee meeting; negotiations are still underway for the January 18th introduction of this item. She said it was a competitive solicitation for a three-year contract with two one-year renewals. Cost, performance, safety, driver training, technology, wages and benefits were all part of the discussion so that a solid core staff of drivers could be maintained. They were talking with potential contractors about the number and type and condition of buses and customer service as well. In response to questions, she said that charter buses or yellow buses could be used by schools for athletic events, and schools generally try to use yellow buses because they are much cheaper. Committee members asked for acronyms to be spelled out and find the best intersection of high quality standards and some measure of benefits, getting the best deal the district could around school children. They then moved this item forward to the full board for consideration.

Approval of the joint use agreement with the City of Seattle: Bruce Skowyra said this was a clean-up of 30-year old language in the agreement with the City. The highlights include:

- Updating times to reflect changes in bell times
- Having the district provide field monitors at district fields/assets to ensure better care
- Having all revenues paid to the district and then meeting with Parks and financial staff to review costs to be paid to Parks
- Aligning fee schedules between the two organizations; adult users will pay the same for both
- Having the Athletics Office clear all events in all venues and book at the beginning of the year to lessen confusion
- Combining capital development plans and moving toward lit fields
- A shorter length of the agreement from five to three years to allow the district time to move on point of sales systems
- Continuing with a kids-first prioritization

The committee moved this item forward to the full board with a recommendation for approval.

Approval of the interlocal agreement with the State for use of cross laminated timber at Maple Elementary School: Richard Best said that this request by the State of Washington

Department of Enterprise Services is for them to design and construct a four-classroom structure using cross-laminated timber, a new forestry product made using sustainable practices. Seattle is one of six school districts being asked to pilot this, three on the west side of the mountains, three on the east side, as part of giving additional dollars for classroom size reduction and as an alternative to portables. He described this as a turnkey project and said the district would like to find more projects for this type of agreement. West Woodlands is hoping to get funding for a 10-classroom and multi-purpose room expansion. This method cannot be disassembled and moved elsewhere, unlike portables. In response to committee questions, he said the state said no to dual story structures, and it does not have the same lifespan as full construction. These structures will be highly efficient (he noted that portables have become much more efficient over the last decade) and meet LEED silver protocols. The committee moved this item forward to the full board with a recommendation for approval.

Approval of the GC/CM contract for the Loyal Heights modernization and addition: Richard Best said the district is just now opening bid packages with two scenarios: one with a childcare wing and one without to help address community angst about childcare, playground, and the size of the building. He said drawings will accompany the board action report for introduction. He said the recommended motion will be left blank for introduction, outlining the revised total construction amount and the second part a budget increase. He said the district will be recommending the second scenario that creates two additional classrooms for childcare use. He noted that scenario 1 does not have a defined space for childcare and would look to licensing for a provider in the multi-use space or for off-site childcare.

Discussion followed about the size of the school for 660 students, regardless of childcare; how the Webster side/museum will impact with its size, landmark status, and program challenges. The committee then moved this item forward to the full board for consideration.

Approval of a budget increase for the Magnolia Elementary School renovation and addition project: Richard Best said that the \$5.8 million request would come from the BTA IV program contingency for this BTA IV project. The reason for the request is to cover costs from the new educational specifications for the building that were effective after the original levy planning. The costs would be for sales tax, construction contingency, additional architect fees, furniture, and permits. The building is scheduled to open fall 2018.

Director Pinkham began a discussion about the racial imbalance in this neighborhood by asking if the school will open racially imbalanced. Richard Best said that the district will be in compliance with state guidelines on racial imbalance so that state funding can be received, but that the area is not diverse, and the district will not get much difference between schools in the neighborhood. No matter how you draw the lines, this area encompasses Magnolia and Queen Anne. From a district perspective in considering the three schools in the area, we are balancing a racial imbalance. Flip Herndon also noted that Seattle is one of the most segregated cities in the United States, and in trying to solve multiple issues, the district needs to support boundaries that look like they are gerrymandered. After some discussion, the committee moved this item forward to the full board with a recommendation for approval.

Final acceptance of contract K5060 for North Queen Anne School modernization: Richard Best said the project was completed summer of 2015 and that change orders for a historical building under 10% is very reasonable. The committee moved this item forward to the full board with a recommendation for approval.

Final acceptance of contract K5042 for the Cedar Park renovation project: Richard Best noted this is a Paul Thiery-designed historical building that does not have a library. The project was over budget, although change orders were in budget. The committee asked that a narrative paragraph be included on costs before introduction and moved this item forward to the full board for consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.

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