

Board Special Meeting

Executive Committee

September 14, 2017 8:30 am – 10:30 am

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, Harris, and Pinkham were present. This 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, General Counsel Noel Treat, Associate Superintendent of Capital, Facilities & Enrollment Flip Herndon, Executive Director of Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives Erinn Bennett, Chief of Student Support Services Wyeth Jessee, Director of ELL and International Programs Michelle Ota, Chief Engagement Officer Carri Campbell, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Clover Codd, and Director of School and Community Partnerships James Bush.

2. Approval of agenda

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

3. Approval of June 1, 2017 and August 24, 2017 meeting minutes

Director Harris moved to approve the June 1 and August 24 minutes. Director Pinkham seconded, noting his absence on June 1. This motion passed unanimously.

I. Board Action Items

1. Adopting new School Board Policy No. 4218, Speakers of Diverse Languages

Chief of Student Support Services Wyeth Jessee introduced the new Director of ELL and International Programs Michelle Ota. Mr. Jessee spoke about District translation and interpretation services and highlighted the importance of translating essential documents. He noted that this work has been resourced better for employees to translate and offer better oversight of consistency and quality of the services offered to schools. He highlighted that about 25% of SPS families do not speak English as a primary language at home.

Director Harris asked questions about translations for PTAs, how principals are alerted to available services, and asked for a report back in six months. Director Pinkham spoke about how this work is important and asked if staff could highlight the loss of indigenous languages. Director Peters and Harris asked clarifying questions about the net fiscal impact and asked for clarifying language in the action report.

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

2. Approval of a One-Year Extension to the 2013-18 Strategic Plan

Director Peters explained the strategic plan would be retiring next year and a lot of thought and more time is needed to get this started for a plan before 2018. Superintendent Larry Nyland expressed his support for the extension. Directors talked about the level of community engagement that would be necessary for the new strategic plan.

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

3. DACA Resolution

Superintendent Nyland presented the draft BAR and resolution asked for this to be moved forward for intro and action on the same day.

Director Harris expressed a desire for more time to review the language and asked for a better callout of previous district actions. She noted that she would like this distributed to other school districts once it is passed. Director Pinkham asked for a change in wording from “young women and men” to “young people.” Staff agreed to share the language with the rest of the Board.

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

II. Review of the September 20 and October 4 legislative session agendas

September 20th

Mr. Van Duzer explained the DACA resolution will be on the agenda as intro/action as previously discussed. Director Harris asked it to be at the top of the action item list on the agenda. Staff discussed the presentation from Hawthorne Elementary. Directors moved items listed as action items one and two to the consent agenda. Mr. Van Duzer explained a calendar link has now been provided at the end of the agenda instead of a list of meetings, noting that staff will have the list available for people at the meeting. Director Peters asked about the approval of a property sale item. Associate Superintendent of Capital Facilities and Enrollment Flip Herndon provided more details on this item.

Director Harris moved to approve the September 20 agenda as amended. Director Pinkham seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

October 4th

Mr. Van Duzer provided an overview of this agenda. Directors moved listed action items two, five, six and ten to the consent agenda. Director Pinkham asked if any of the heritage months will be represented at the meetings. Mr. Van Duzer reviewed which recognitions will be included in upcoming meetings.

Director Harris moved to approve the October 4 agenda as amended. Director Pinkham seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

III. Special Attention Items

1. Organizational Reviews/Audits

Deputy Superintendent Stephen Nielsen explained Request for Proposal (RFP) language is being developed to compare central administration costs in SPS to other districts. He requested the committee give feedback on a timeline. He clarified that this would not look at school funding, noting that different districts sometimes count things differently, so a closer look is required.

Director Peters explained how this will be helpful for budget discussions and will send a strong message to show the district is very careful with public funding. Mr. Nielsen requested to have one board member on the interview team for the consultant that is hired.

Directors and staff discussed the possibilities and limitations around a sole source contract. Staff agreed to call and see what the consultant who performed audit work for the district fifteen years ago (Moss Adams) might do for this project. The committee members agreed this would be a good idea, but asked that it not slow down the RFP timeline.

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

Mr. Van Duzer explained that, at the last committee meeting, Director Burke had an idea to reformat the selection of oversight work sessions, but that there has not been sufficient time to finish this discussion in the intervening time. Mr. Van Duzer will bring this back next month when more information is available.

3. ADA Web Accessibility for Board Documents

Mr. Van Duzer explained the pilot program of only having committee agendas available on the website, noting that individuals could request materials from the Board office. Director Harris asked if a standing request would be fulfilled and Mr. Van Duzer said yes. He also noted he has set up SharePoint for the board members to have access to older committee documents so they no longer have to look through their email.

The committee agreed to extend the pilot for another month.

4. Video Recordings of Board Meetings

Directors and staff had a short conversation about the video recording of board meetings. They agreed that if a form of BAR comes to a work session, the Board office would inquire with the Board president about whether the work session should be video recorded.

IV. Board Policies and Procedures

1. WSSDA Policy No. 1330, Administration in the Absence of a Policy or Procedure

Mr. Nielsen spoke to this policy that covers how staff communicate decisions to the Board when they fall outside of established policy parameters.

Director Harris asked for additional context of when it would be used. Ms. Bennett explained this policy is from WSSDA and staff provided several examples. Directors requested additional time to think about the policy. Director Harris requested this be presented to the entire Board with additional explanations. Mr. Nielsen agreed to send it out to the Board and request feedback.

V. Standing Agenda Items

1. Government Relations

Executive Director of Government Relations & Strategic Initiatives Erinn Bennett spoke about how district staff are meeting with legislators to go into further detail about the impacts on the state funding plan.

Director Harris asked whether the District is working with advocacy partners. Ms. Bennett explained staff are still in the fact-finding stage and are aware of the work partners are doing. Dr. Nyland provided a brief update on interactions with the City of Seattle.

2. Community Engagement (Superintendent 2016-17 SMART Goal #4 Update)

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Clover Codd explained Human Resources' plan within SMART Goal 4, which includes training and communication for managers and principals, in particular around conflict engagement. She spoke to different levels of conflict and what roles managers can play. General Counsel Noel Treat explained a pilot program being explored about how to have more restorative investigative practices.

Ms. Campbell explained next steps for the community engagement toolkit at the school level.

Ms. Campbell spoke about the recommended partnerships for recognitions. Directors and staff discussed several partners and the merits and timing for recognizing or holding off on each. Ms. Campbell highlighted the criteria for recognition.

Director Peters suggested an arts-focused organization for recognition. Ms. Campbell confirmed the outlier schools that would be recognized. Director Harris suggested Middle College be included on this list next year. Director Peters recommended that citizen service awards be recognized. Ms. Campbell agreed to ask the board for additional suggestions.

3. Board Calendar/Work Plan – No updates were given.
4. Executive Committee Work Plan – No updates were given.
5. Board 2017 Goals Update – No updates were given.
6. Annual Reports Status List – No updates were given.

Adjourn

This meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.