

Board Special Meeting

Work Sessions: Budget; Executive Session: To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment; To review the performance of a public employee.

RCW 42.30.110(1)(g).

January 7, 2021, 4:30 – 8:00 pm

Meeting held remotely



Minutes

Call to Order

Director Hersey called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Directors Hampson, Harris, Hersey, Rivera-Smith and Rankin participated with Microsoft Teams or by phone. Director DeWolf joined the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Work Session: Budget

This work session was staffed by Superintendent Denise Juneau, Chief Financial Officer JoLynn Berge, Budget Director Linda Sebring and Consultant Mr. Zithri Saleem from Zithri Information Associates, LLC.

Chief Financial Officer JoLynn Berge reviewed the agenda and introduced Mr. Saleem for the participatory budgeting process. Mr. Saleem explained the participatory budgeting process. He reviewed why participation matters and detailed Arch of Participation within the budgeting process. Mr. Saleem explained the stakeholders within the participatory budgeting process. He explained the approach was with a four-week goal to focus on three areas. Restorative Justice, Ethnic, Black and American Indian Studies and Dual Language. Four focus groups meetings happened within the community. Mr. Saleem reviewed the key findings from the focus groups. He provided discussion topics and recommendations from the participatory budgeting process. Form and fund, bridging the gap and setting up participatory framework and lastly, close the feedback loop. Directors asked questions and discussed the presentation.

Chief Berge explained possible next steps for the participatory budgeting process. She and Budget Director Linda Sebring will meet with Director Hersey prior to the next Budget work session on January 20th.

Chief Berge Reviewed the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 estimated financial gap. She explained outgoing expenditures are more than our incoming revenue and ongoing balancing needs to be considered. She reviewed the potential solutions and the three-year outlook and options. Ms. Sebring spoke about how to solve the remaining deficit. She reviewed the 2020-21 budget broken down between different parts of central office, Weighted Staffing Standard (WSS)/School Allocations and Central Administration. Ms. Sebring explained the potential two-year options. Ms. Sebring reviewed the current status of the FY21-22 and District Level recommendations. Staff and Directors discussed possible options and recommendations. Director Harris requested to have the CARES Act estimated amount footnoted in upcoming information.

Chief Berge asked for additional feedback on the 2021-22 enrollment projection methodology. The in person return projection is moderate and the remote instruction projection is based on the three-year average grade progression. She explained the projection trend for enrollment does show the District enrollment was lower this year as it was for all local districts. Most of the lower enrollment is due to kindergarten students waiting an additional year. Chief Berge explained the recommendations based on possible ongoing distancing requirements may continue in the Fall of 2021. This would require an A/B schedule and some learning to still be done remotely. The use the Remote Instruction model for February staffing is being recommended, with a reevaluation in June based on any new information. The recommendation is to use the In Person model for capital planning purposes. Staff and Directors discussed enrollment information. Enrollment Director and Planning Services Ashley Davies explained figures based on enrollment retention. Chief Berge reviewed the outcomes of this meetings and will bring back more information at the next work session.

This meeting recessed at 6:24 p.m. This meeting reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Executive Session: To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment; To review the performance of a public employee.

RCW 42.30.110(1)(g).

Director Hampson called the meeting back to order at 6:30 pm. Directors DeWolf, Hampson, Harris, Hersey, Rankin, and Rivera-Smith participated with Microsoft Teams or by phone.

At 6:31 p.m., Director Hampson announced that the Board was immediately recessing the Board Special Meeting into executive session to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment and to review the performance of a public employee, per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), and the session was scheduled for approximately 90 minutes, with an anticipated end time of 8:01 p.m.

Director Hampson called the executive session to order at 6:34 p.m. Directors DeWolf, Hampson, Harris, Hersey, Rankin, and Rivera-Smith were present. District staff John Cerqui and Greg Narver, as well as non-district staff Phil Talmadge were also present.

At 8:00 p.m., Director Hampson announced that the executive session to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment and to review the performance of a public employee, per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), was now expected to go an additional 10 minutes, with an anticipated end time of 8:11 p.m.

At 8:07 p.m., Director Hampson recessed out of the executive session.

Adjourn

The Special Meeting reconvened at 8:08 p.m. and there being no further business to come before the Board, Director Hampson adjourned the special meeting at 8:08 p.m.

This meeting was held remotely per the Governor's proclamations prohibiting public agencies from conducting meetings subject to the Open Public Meetings Act in-person to curtail the spread of COVID-19. Public access was provided remotely online and by teleconference.

Minutes submitted by:

The Office of Chief Financial Officer JoLynn Berge for the Budget Work Session and School Board Office staff for the Executive Session.