

Board Special Meeting



2445 – 3rd Avenue South, Seattle WA 98134

Work Sessions: 2017-18 SMART Goals
April 18, 2017, 6:00-7:00pm
Auditorium, John Stanford Center

Minutes

Call to Order

This meeting was called to order at 6:02pm.

Directors Blanford, Burke, Geary, Patu, and Peters were present. Director Harris arrived at 6:03pm. Directors Patu and Pinkham were absent.

This meeting was staffed by Superintendent Larry Nyland, Deputy Superintendent Stephen Nielsen, Associate Superintendent of Teacher & Learning Michael Tolley, Associate Superintendent of Capital, Facilities, and Enrollment Flip Herndon, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Finance JoLynn Berge, Chief of Strategy & Partnerships Brent Jones, Chief of Student Support Services Wyeth Jessee, Director of Research and Evaluation Eric Anderson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Clover Codd, Chief Engagement Officer Carri Campbell, and Executive Director of Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives Erinn Bennett.

Work Session: Review and Selection of 2017-18 Superintendent SMART Goals

Dr. Nyland introduced the work session and Ms. Bennett provided an overview of the structure of the discussion.

Goal 1: Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

Mr. Jessee discussed four specific elements that schools need to continue to work on for successful implementation of MTSS. He pointed to evidence that supports growth in the formula for success and noted the critical need to continue to focus on this initiative. Director Burke gave his perspective on MTSS and asked for more information on how these changes help the district systemically to build out core instruction. Mr. Jessee discussed diverse learners as well as other areas where this goal focuses on core instruction. Director Blanford pointed to the outlined problem statements on this goal and noted the potentially narrow focus. Mr. Jessee discussed the problems of practice and reason for stressing consistency in services. Directors discussed variables that affect the opportunity gap in regards to MTSS, such as inconsistency in services. Director Peters agreed that the District should define diverse learners and expanded on the need for consistency in services while maintaining the flexibility to fit the appropriate needs of the individual student. Directors noted they would send suggested language changes to staff.

Goal 2: Eliminating the Opportunity Gap

Dr. Jones discussed the six areas of focus within this goal and provided examples of how the work would continue if it were chosen as a SMART Goal. Director Blanford commented on the problem statement and noted that it should be refined to focus on the goal and a theory of action around the opportunity gap. Directors and staff discussed the differences and intersections of the opportunity and the achievement gap. Directors and staff discussed RULER and social and emotional curriculum. Staff clarified that the RULER goal is focused towards elementary schools. Directors and staff discussed the trajectory of the goal.

Goal 3: High Schools for the 21st Century/24 Credit

Dr. Kinoshita outlined the purpose and focus of this goal. He highlighted the changes to the rubric since the last meeting and discussed each area. Director Blanford commented on the language within the problem statement and requested an internal focus. Director Burke commented on the gap analysis aspects of this goal and noted some areas in which he would like to see clarity within the language as well as his apprehension to the use of “21st Century Skills”. Director Geary noted her concerns with a heavy academic focus at the elementary and middle schools and switching to an alternative learning and skills-centered focus at High School. She noted that this method might set up those schools for low enrollment. Director Harris discussed lost opportunities and mentorships with industry partners and noted that she would like to see more efforts towards leveraging our community resources. Directors and staff discussed the stigma around trade schools. Director Peters commented on the narrow focus of the term “Seattle ready” and noted that she would like to see a clear statement that the inception of this goal is due to an unfunded mandate from the State.

Goal 4: Mapping and program planning

Dr. Anderson highlighted the purpose and focus of this goal and what evidence would be used to help improve the program offerings over time. He commented on the problem statement and noted the how this goal will contribute to measurable outcomes. Director Burke provided his opinion on this goal and asked for more information on the objective. Dr. Anderson discussed managing expectations of the goal.

Goal 5: Budget

Ms. Berge discussed the changes to the rubric and how this goal will develop over the next year. She provided examples of evidence that will be used in obtaining measurable outcomes. Director Blanford asked how community engagement is linked to the budget shortfall. Ms. Berge discussed the importance of messaging and engaging constituents in the process. Director Blanford discussed the structure of a problem statement and the need for a direct connection to the activities that will be done. Director Peters commented on focusing on efficiencies and that she would like more specific language identifying how this will occur. Directors and staff discussed how the core of this goal is programs and the need for hard data that would provide evidence for keeping effective programs and cutting ones that have not shown measurable success. Directors discussed the need to provide the public with hard evidence for why some programs are being cut versus others. Directors and staff discussed the separation between a

budget focus compared to a program review focus. Directors commented on the need to find not only efficiencies but to identify what the funds do when they get to the classroom.

Goal 6: Engagement/Collaboration

Ms. Campbell provided an overview of the rubric and noted aspects of the problem statement that will be changed. She noted the communication response process and communication tool. She discussed elements of the goal and highlighted the evidence which will be used to measure the progress of this goal. Dr. Codd discussed the portion of this goal that focuses on staff and increasing the capacity of individuals within the work force. She discussed the progress of this goal and how the work would continue if this was chosen as a continuing SMART Goal. Director Blanford noted that this goal might require two problem statements due to the internal and external stakeholder components. Dr. Codd discussed how the two focuses complement each other and work toward the success of the overall goal.

Ms. Berge provided information on the preliminary budget estimates of each of these goals. Directors and staff discussed budget restraints and cost allocations. Directors and staff discussed the definition of basic education and how to approach the budget and program review needs.

Ms. Bennett noted the purpose of this meeting and noted that once the list of goals are initially narrowed they would go through the formal Board Action Report (BAR) process for formal action and adoption by the School Board.

Directors gave feedback on their preferences and provided reasons for each of their positions. Directors and staff discussed the budget and moving forward in the process with Goals 1, 2 and 5. Directors noted the need to get feedback from the Directors who were absent before moving forward with the formal Board action process.

Director Burke left at 7:27pm.

Directors and staff further discussed goals 3 and 6. Ms. Berge noted that even if there is not a focused SMART goal on a topic some of that work will continue. Ms. Bennett noted that she would continue to gather feedback from Directors to refine the goals coming before the Board for final action later this school year. Dr. Nyland noted that the final decisions could be made at the budget work session, if needed.

Adjourn

This meeting adjourned at 7:39pm.