Board Special Meeting

Work Sessions: Annual Enrollment Report and Capacity Evaluation; Budget

June 9, 2021 4:30 PM-7:30 PM

Physical location

Auditorium, John Stanford Center, 2445 – 3rd Avenue South, Seattle WA 98134

Remote access provided via Microsoft Teams and Teleconference

Minutes



Call to Order

Director DeWolf called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM. Directors Hersey, Hampson, DeWolf, Dury, Rankin, Harris, Rivera-Smith were present.

Work Session: Annual Enrollment Report and Capacity Evaluation

This work session was staffed by Superintendent Brent Jones, Deputy Superintendent Rob Gannon, Director of Enrollment Planning Ashley Davies, and Manager of K-12 Planning Rebecca Asencio.

1. Board Policies, Reports, and Committees

Ms. Davies reviewed the Board Policies related to Capacity Management and Enrollment Reporting. She explained the COVID19 pandemic impacts on enrollment and enrollment projections and provided an update on the status of the Capacity, Enrollment and Facilities Master Plan Advisory Committee. Ms. Davies discussed the content of Annual Enrollment Report that is posted to the district website each year for the previous year.

2. Enrollment Projections and Capacity Planning for 2021-22

Ms. Davies presented an update on the enrollment projections comparing actual 2020-21, projected 2021-22, and the projected change from one year to the next. She then provided data on the 2021-22 School Choice process.

Board Directors and Ms. Davies then discussed how projections were made for 2021-22 and whether they would change based on a full return to school for fall 2021. Ms. Davies said that there have not been significant change in assignments after in-person learning was announced.

Board Directors asked about choice assignments and whether there was more data available. Ms. Davies referred them to handout and reviewed the data included.

The Board Directors and Ms. Davies discussed the process of restarting the Capacity, Enrollment, and Facilities Master Plan Advisory Committee. Directors indicated that it would be important for the School Board to determine desired outcomes.

Directors and Ms. Davies discussed enrollment and waitlists that included the schedule for moving waitlists and the impact to other schools, especially moving students requesting assignment to an underenrolled school with a high equity tier. Ms. Davies offered to share more of the department's analysis and consequences of the impact of attendance area waitlist moves at a future work session. Directors expressed that waitlist discussions need to focus on student outcomes.

Rebecca Asencio, K-12 Planning Manager, then discussed 2021-22 capacity issues needing mitigation. Board Directors asked about distancing rules that might be in place in fall that could impact capacity. Ms. Asencio reported that the capacity numbers are based on having no required distancing and that

relocation planners are evaluating what would be required for 3-foot distancing. It appears that most schools would continue to have the necessary capacity.

3. Capacity Changes for 2022-23 and 2023-24

Ms. Asencio shared information on school capacity changes for 2021-22, with three additions and a new Wing Luke Elementary School; capacity changes for 2022-23 with three additions; and capacity changes for 2023-24 when three BEX V funded replacement schools and the Van Asselt interim site come online.

4. Capacity Management for 2022-23 to 2023-24

Ms. Asencio shared issues and potential solutions for elementary, middle, and high school capacity management.

Ms. Davies then reminded the Board Directors of the discussion at the work session on Monday and how the Board's approval of changes to the highly capable program will impact capacity and boundaries at all grade levels.

Director Harris asked for clarification on whether the weighted staffing formulas and the protection of nearby schools is not part of the policy but that it is a practice. Ms. Davies confirmed this to be the case.

Directors then discussed overcrowding at schools and potential options. Directors asked if John Marshall could be used as an attendance area school. Ms. Asencio said the district needs it as an interim site as it's the only one in the north end and is large enough for a middle school if needed in the future. Directors asked about the master planning for Green Lake Elementary School and the amount requested vs. received in the grant from the State of Washington. Ms. Asencio reported that \$7 million was received and \$19 million was requested. Directors asked about portable placement and how they are planned. Ms. Asencio replied that there is a staff person primarily focused on portables and placement including working with principals.

Directors and Ms. Davies discussed projections and enrollment including how families are notified about the need to enroll. The discussion included ideas on how to reach more families. Regarding projections, Directors asked what kind of support is provided by demographers from the City of Seattle and King County. Ms. Davies replied that there are meetings with the city about growth, and that the district demographer meets with the city demographer, talks to developers and meets with schools. Directors pointed out that future changes to zoning and increased density by the city would mean changes in where students live compared to where there is school space.

Director Hersey asked for an update what the ad portfolio for enrollment looks like and where ads are posted as well as how resources are being targeted. Ms. Davies will consult with the communications team on placement.

This meeting recessed at 5:47 PM. This meeting reconvened at 5:59 PM.

Work Session: Budget

Director Hersey called the meeting back to order at 5:59 PM. Directors Hersey, Hampson, DeWolf, Dury, Rankin, Harris, Rivera-Smith were present.

This work session was staffed by Superintendent Jones and Chief Financial Officer JoLynn Berge.

Chief JoLynn Berge reviewed the agenda and introduced Budget Director Linda Sebring. Ms. Sebring spoke about the current status of Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 budget recommendation. The Economic Stabilization Funds have been able to be freed up because Elementary and Secondary School Emergency

Relief (ESSER) funds can be used instead. She explained an estimated additional \$35M will be able to cover extra school and program staffing in FY20-21 for FY21-22. Ms. Sebring spoke about the Participatory Budgeting Process that will continue into 2022. The school-based counselors were reviewed and how the decision for increases and decreases are determined. Overall, it is an increase of counselors district wide. Ms. Sebring reviewed the \$740,000 savings for Transportation. Chief Berge reviewed the adjusted fund balance as of the end of April 2021. She reviewed the backfill for school stability with ESSER funds. Superintendent Jones spoke about the percentage of annual structural deficit.

Director DeWolf asked if the budget is based on current enrollment. Chief Berge explained it is based on the February projections.

Director Dury asked what the difference between counselors, social workers and Head Teachers is. Ms. Sebring explained that a Counselor may be an academic or mental health role and Social Workers are more social emotional resources and typically at the elementary level. A Head Teacher is a supervision role that helps with school management.

Capital Finance Manager Melissa Coan reviewed the capital fund for the FY 2022 budget. She spoke about the 167M capital budget to end for FY22. The anticipated collected revenue comes from taxes and levies. Ms. Coan spoke about the Distressed school funding, class size reduction and school construction assistance program. She reviewed the recommended use of capital funds in FY 21-22.

Director Hampson asked about class size reduction in King county and is that included. Ms. Coan explained the District has class size reduction funding from Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) noting these dollars are not linked to King county levy funds.

Enrollment Director Ashley Davies spoke about the enrollment projections for 21-22.

Deputy Rob Gannon spoke about the Superintendent ESSER priorities. The three areas are, Enhanced Responsiveness, Increase Wellness and Learning Outcomes. Deputy Gannon reviewed the early ESSER spending plan. Additional community and stakeholder engagement will be included in planning.

Chief Berge gave an overview of the ESSER budget planning revenue forecast. She explained these numbers will change over time. Deputy Gannon explained the key themes in the OSPI recovery plan.

Director DeWolf asked about the housing and instability line. Deputy Gannon explained that is a line reserved to assist our students in the current homelessness crisis and the District will be working with a third party to assist our homeless students.

Director Rankin asked about the change of policy for isolation and restraint additional costs. Chief Berge explained that cost is in the culture of care line.

Director Harris asked 19M for the transportation/stars algorithm. Chief Berge confirmed it is from that area.

Director Hampson asked if the District is limited for summer school due to the teacher shortage. Chief Berge confirmed the District is still looking for additional summer teachers.

Director Dury asked where is the rainyday funds. Chief Berge explained that is found in the Safe operations of school line.

Directors and staff discussed the K5 Math and Middle school ELA curriculum line item.

Adjourn

This meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

The Office of Chief Operations Officer Fred Podesta for the Annual Enrollment Report and Capacity Planning Work Session and the Office of Chief Financial Officer JoLynn Berge for the Budget Work Session.