



# **SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT**

**DATE:** February 23, 2017  
**FROM:** Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent  
**LEAD STAFF:** Angela Bogan/ Principal, Dearborn Park International School/ (206) 252-5550;  
Ronald Boy/ Senior Assistant General Counsel/ (206) 252-0114

## **1. TITLE**

Waiver of one (1) school day at Dearborn Park International School due to an emergency school closure after a mechanical failure

**For Introduction:** April 5, 2017  
**For Action:** April 19, 2017

## **2. PURPOSE**

State regulation WAC 392-129-140 requires that the Superintendent submit a signed statement to the Superintendent of Public Instruction indicating that “the school district board of directors have reviewed the application and supports its submittal” to request a waiver for an emergency school closure. This Board Action Report and the attached letter are the District’s application.

## **3. RECOMMENDED MOTION**

I move that the School Board approve the Superintendent’s application to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, which requests permission for Dearborn Park International School to not make up one (1) day of missed school for January 6, 2017 when it was closed due to a mechanical failure.

## **4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **1. Background**

On Friday, January 6, 2017, at about 8:15 a.m. a water main break stopped water service to Dearborn Park International School. The cause of the water break was identified to be subfreezing weather in the Seattle region, which put stress on underground pipes. Seattle Public Utilities repaired the water main and the school’s water service was restored by the end of the day. Unable to operate without running water, the school closed for one (1) day.

### **a. Alternatives**

Not approve the waiver request and have Dearborn Park International School open one day during the school year when school is not scheduled or after the regular school year ends. This would require the District to bargain with the Seattle Education Association to extend the work year and determine compensation.

### **b. Research**

The District has previously requested waivers for similar situations where one school had to close and others did not. Principal Friesen and the staff of Dearborn Park International support this waiver request.

**5. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE**

Granting the requested waiver does not increase expenditures. Denying the request would create some additional costs as most of the staff at the school worked on January 6, 2017 and the District would need to compensate school year employees with an additional day. Also, if only Dearborn Park International School were to be open on a certain day additional transportation costs would be incurred by the District.

If not approved by the Board and OSPI, the estimated costs of operating SES for an additional day would be:

Transportation:	\$1651.24
Certificated Staff:	\$8412.72
TOTAL:	<b>\$10,063.96</b> (estimated)

Fiscal impact to this action will be neutral if approved by the Board and OSPI.

The revenue source for this motion is N/A.

Expenditure:  One-time  Annual  Multi-Year  N/A

Revenue:  One-time  Annual  Multi-Year  N/A

**6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

With guidance from the District’s Community Engagement tool, this action was determined to merit the following tier of community engagement:

Not applicable

Tier 1: Inform

Tier 2: Consult/Involve

Tier 3: Collaborate

This is primarily an administrative decision because of the financial and compliance implications.

**7. EQUITY ANALYSIS**

NA

**8. STUDENT BENEFIT**

This action will allow students to receive the necessary instructional hours and remain on schedule for breaks with other District schools/students.

**9. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY**

- Amount of contract initial value or contract amendment exceeds \$250,000 (Policy No. 6220)
- Amount of grant exceeds \$250,000 in a single fiscal year (Policy No. 6114)
- Adopting, amending, or repealing a Board policy
- Formally accepting the completion of a public works project and closing out the contract
- Legal requirement for the School Board to take action on this matter
- Board Policy No. \_\_\_\_\_, [TITLE], provides the Board shall approve this item
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. POLICY IMPLICATION**

This motion implicates no policy. RCW 28A.150.220 & WAC 392-129-140 mandates this course of action.

**11. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

This motion was discussed at the Curriculum & Instruction Committee meeting on March 13, 2017. The Committee reviewed the motion and moved the item forward with a recommendation for approval by the full Board.

**12. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Upon approval of this motion, the District will submit the waiver request to OSPI for review. If approved by OSPI, Dearborn Park International School will follow the school calendar utilized by all District schools.

**13. ATTACHMENTS**

- Draft Letter from Superintendent Nyland:  
*School Emergency Closure – January 6, 2017*  
*Request to Waive School Days Under WAC 392-129-140 and WAC 392-129-150*

February 23, 2017

Chief Financial Officer  
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Old Capital Building  
P.O. Box 47200  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7200

Re: SCHOOL CLOSURE WAIVER REQUEST

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter and enclosed School Board Action Report as the application by the Seattle School District (“District”) under WAC 392-129-140 and 392-129-150 to waive one (1) day from the 180-day calendar without the loss of state funding for Dearborn Park International School (“DPIS”). This request is made pursuant to a school emergency closure caused by an unforeseen water main break that resulted in DPIS being closed on January 6, 2017.

To support the District’s request for a waiver, the following information is being provided:

1. Name of district: Seattle School District No. 1.
2. Name of the school district superintendent: Dr. Larry Nyland
3. A statement signed by the superintendent that the school district board of directors has reviewed the application and supports its submittal: The Board of Directors for the District reviewed the waiver request at open public meetings on April 5, 2017 and April 19, 2017. The Board of Directors, through the enclosed School Board Action Report, has reviewed and approved of the waiver application to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (“OSPI”). Please consider this letter and its attachments to be my signed statement.
4. The name of the individual school that did not operate: Dearborn Park International School.
5. The unforeseen natural events, mechanical failures, and/or actions or inactions by one or more persons, which caused the school emergency closure: On Friday, January 6, 2017, at about 8:15 a.m. a water main break stopped water service to Dearborn Park International School. The cause of the water break was identified to be subfreezing weather in the Seattle region, which put stress on underground pipes. Seattle Public Utilities repaired the water main and the school’s water service was restored by the end of the day. Unable to operate without running water, the school was closed for the day.

It would be a financial and operational hardship to ask one school to open when all the other schools are closed. This impacts family and staff plans, including day-care vacation, educational, and other plans that take place based on the adopted school calendar. This would also create unanticipated financial costs, such as staff salaries (paying school year staff to work an extra day or one-half day) and transportation costs to operate buses for only one school on one day.

6. The specific date of the school emergency closure: January 6, 2017.
7. The specific date that the school district has scheduled to make up the lost day:  
The District does not propose to make up this one day at DPIS. This waiver request is made pursuant to WAC 392-129-140 and 392-129-150. The closure was isolated (one school in our system was closed). It would be an expense to deliver central services (transportation) to just one school when other schools are not in session. The District can utilize the waiver and still comply with the district-wide annual average total instruction requirements contained in RCW 28A.150.220.

Thank you for your attention to the District's waiver application.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Larry Nyland  
Superintendent

Enclosure: School Board Action Report

cc: Michael Tolley, Associate Superintendent Teaching and Learning  
Pegi McEvoy, Assistant Superintendent for Operations  
Flip Herndon, Associate Superintendent for Capital and Facilities  
JoLynn Berge, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance  
Kelly Aramaki, Southeast Region, Executive Director  
Angela Bogan, Principal, Dearborn Park International School  
Ronald Boy, Senior Assistant General Counsel