

Board Special Meeting
Curriculum & Instruction Policy Committee
June 9, 2020, 4:30 to 6:30pm
Meeting held remotely



Minutes

1. Call to Order

a. Roll Call

This meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. Directors Rankin, Hersey, and Rivera-Smith participated with Microsoft Teams or by phone. Director Mack joined the meeting at 4:49 p.m.

Directors Mack and Rivera-Smith left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

This meeting was staffed by Chief Academic Officer Dr. Diane DeBacker, College and Career Readiness Executive Director Dr. Caleb Perkins, Chief General Counsel Greg Narver, Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction Executive Director Cashel Toner, Executive Assistant to the Chief Academic Officer Maria Gonzales-Millsap, Director of Investigations and Compliance Tina Meade, Board Office Administrator Tina Loeffelmann, Director of Policy and Board Relations Ellie Wilson-Jones, Executive Director of Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives Erinn Bennett, Chief of Schools and Continuous Improvement Wyeth Jessee, Chief of Human Resources Clover Codd, Assessment Development Program Manager Audrey Roach, Student Support Services Supervisor Erin Romanuk, Special Education Executive Director Trish Campbell, Emergency Management Specialist Benjamin Coulter, Communications Specialist Emily Nitz-Ritter, Highly Capable Services and Advanced Learning Program Supervisor Deenie Berry, Executive Director Coordinated School Health Pat Sander, Senior Legal Counsel Ronald Boy, and Chief of Student Support Services Dr. Concie Pedroza.

Director Rankin noted that the meeting was being held remotely consistent with the Governor's Proclamation prohibiting the meeting from being held in person due to COVID-19. Director Rankin noted that the public had been provided remote access.

b. Approval of agenda

Director Rivera-Smith moved to approve the agenda. Director Hersey seconded via text (due to audio technical difficulties). This motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of meeting minutes

Director Rivera-Smith moved to approve the May 19, 2020 meeting minutes as corrected. Director Hersey seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Director Rivera-Smith corrected the minutes under Item 2a "Board Action Reports – Amend Board Policy No. 3207, Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying" as follows: "Director Rivera-Smith suggested adding restorative practices under the list of interventions." It was previously noted that Director Rankin made the request.

2. Board Action Reports (Discussion and/or Action)

a. 2019-20, Student Rights & Responsibilities

Ms. Romanuk corrected the agenda to note the school year of the document as 2020-21 and not 2019-20. Ms. Romanuk provided a background of the Board Action Report. She highlighted that this year's document focused on student voice and engagement with over 175 students from grades 2 to 12, to provide input on the existing document and its implementation. Discussion ensued.

Director Rankin expressed appreciation in engaging with students. She asked how this document can be elevated and easily accessed. Ms. Romanuk provided examples of how it can be shared on a broader scale. Director Rivera-Smith asked for clarification of contradicting disciplinary procedures between the use and possession of marijuana in the Student Rights & Responsibilities and the new Board policy on parent/guardian administration of marijuana for medical purposes. Ms. Romanuk will work with General Counsel Ronald Boy to clarify this and remove any contradicting disciplinary procedures between the SR&R document and the Board policy on marijuana use for medical purposes.

Director Hersey made a motion to move this item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for consideration to discuss changes made. Director Rivera-Smith seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

b. Board Policy No. 3211, Gender-Inclusive Schools: Transgender and Gender-Expansive Student Rights and Supports (3210SP.C), Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action: Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students

Mr. Boy presented a stand-alone policy as a result of a new state law and to expand the rights and supports for gender-expansive students. He explained that if this policy is approved, a Superintendent Procedure will be created under the new policy. Discussion ensued.

Director Rankin read an excerpt from an email written by a parent expressing their appreciation for the new inclusive policy.

Director Rivera-Smith referred to page 2 of the Superintendent Procedure on Interscholastic Athletic Teams. She asked about the work we have done with the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) on this issue. Mr. Boy explained his work with a WIAA committee, charged with updating definitions and terminology in their current policy to align with their other policies acknowledging rights for students in sports.

Director Hersey made a motion to move this item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for approval. Director Rivera-Smith seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

c. Amend Board Policy No. 3207, Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

Ms. Meade presented the amended Board Action Report based on the discussion at the last meeting. The proposed revisions to Policy 3207 are as follows:

- Change the title of policy to Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation, *or* Bullying – *Students* (emphasis added) to highlight the delineation that harassment, intimidation, or bullying are three different behaviors, rather than promoting a conflation of all three behaviors into one category of HIB or “bullying”; and to differentiate between Policy 3207 and Policy 5207.

- Differentiating between Policy 3207 and Policy 5207 whereby Policy 3207 applies when students are the targeted person and Policy 5207 applies when the targeted person is a District employee or volunteer.
- Providing reference RCW 28A.642.010, the statute identifying the protected classes, rather than listing out the specific protected classes;
- Providing reference to RCW 28A.640.010, the statute prohibiting discrimination based on sex and inequality in the educational opportunities afforded to women and girls;
- Explicit statement that “harassment,” “intimidation,” and “bullying” are separate, but related behaviors and that each behavior must be addressed appropriately;
- Change of the label of person allegedly engaging in the negative behavior as “aggressor” versus “perpetrator”;
- Requirement to convene a 504 Team or Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team if the aggressor or targeted student is a qualified student with a disability to determine whether the alleged incident had an impact on the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE);
- Addition of the protected activity of participating in an investigation as possible grounds for a retaliation claim;
- Inclusion of explicit reference to restorative practices as a possible intervention;
- Mandatory training requirement for the designated HIB Compliance Officer to attend a training opportunity offered by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI); and
- Alignment with language of other District policies “directing” versus “authorizing” Superintendent to develop an associated procedure.

Discussion ensued. Director Mack asked if the Superintendent Procedures will be provided when the amendment returns to Committee. Director Rankin clarified that the policy must first be approved before the Superintendent Procedures could move forward. Director Mack remarked that the practice of policy revision has shifted a little whereas procedures in the past were presented alongside the policy. Director Rankin suggested to table the conversation and to have a discussion with the Executive Committee regarding current practice. Discussion ensued including explicit language in the policy about reporting and the investigation process. Director Rankin recommended moving the BAR for consideration and discussing the Superintendent Procedures as a full Board with Superintendent Juneau at a regular Board meeting. Ms. Bennett noted that she will flag this topic with Director DeWolf under Board Policy 1310, Policy Adoption and Suspension; Manuals and Superintendent Procedures.

Director Hersey made a motion to move this item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for consideration. Director Rivera-Smith seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

d. Approval of contract with Northwest Education Association (NWEA) to increase Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing and professional development

Ms. Roach presented the Board Action Report proposing an increase in MAP licenses and professional development to ensure there are common assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics in grade levels 1-8. The contract extension will result in a cost of \$425,000 for the 2020-21 school year. Discussion ensued.

Dr. DeBacker explained that with the absence of Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) data, there is a lack of baseline data point and recommended administering the MAP test district-wide to establish a baseline data point that will measure student learning and provide guidance in developing instructional strategies, plans, and tiered supports for all students in alignment with the Strategic Plan.

Director Rankin expressed her understanding of the absence of data, but also shared concerns about penalizing teachers, students, and schools, based on these data. She cautioned about using comparative data. Ms. Roach emphasized that these are low-stake tests, not a qualifier for services, and not be used for staff evaluation. Director Rankin asked for an update once the tests are completed.

Director Rivera-Smith asked if there was an assessment plan in place if the district is 100% remote in the fall. Ms. Roach responded that her team continues to have conversations and will pivot as necessary in support of students. Director Rivera-Smith requested a copy of the assessment calendar. Ms. Roach will provide the Board with the assessment calendar.

Director Rivera-Smith made a motion to move this item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for approval. Director Hersey seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

3. Special Attention Items

a. Advanced Learning Update

Dr. Pedroza provided an update for Advanced Learning services. Her report covered areas of focus related to the Strategic Plan and updates regarding the Student Support Services' response to COVID-19.

Director Rankin asked for clarification around Early Entrance to Kindergarten and middle school alignment. In the interest of time, Dr. Pedroza will provide information to the Board in a Friday Memo.

Director Mack expressed appreciation to Director Rankin for raising the question around scope and sequence for elementary and the alignment for middle school around math and science. Dr. Pedroza will schedule meetings to continue the conversation. She will also provide written communication to the Board via Friday Memo. Director Rivera-Smith also requested clarification around Highly Capable Cohort (HCC) to be included in the Friday Memo. Director Rivera-Smith asked which schools are piloting HCC. Ms. Berry replied that schools have not been chosen. Her team is developing a matrix to guide the decision. She explained that a school will be chosen from every five regions. Ms. Berry shared that piloting will begin in the 2021-22 school year.

b. High School Grading Update: Incompletes and Preview of Board Action Report Extending Temporary Grading Policy to Summer 2020

Dr. Perkins provided a verbal update on incompletes and a preview of a Board Action Report extending the temporary grading policy to summer 2020. Dr. Perkins reported that as of May 15, there have been 294 incompletes and as of the June 5 deadline, that number had decreased to 60 total incompletes. Those students will receive a letter for an opportunity to appeal. Discussion ensued.

Director Rivera-Smith expressed the importance of learning the geographic data of those numbers. She asked if there is a way to see the disaggregated data. Dr. Perkins replied that he will work with Mr. Narver and will share it with the Board via Friday Memo.

Director Hersey shared concerns he heard from West Seattle High School parents around the grading policy. Dr. Perkins will reach out to West Seattle High School to address the concerns.

Dr. Perkins alerted the Committee that a BAR requesting an extension of the temporary grading policy will be presented at the June 10 School Board Regular meeting. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) issued guidelines after the Board had already passed the grading policy

and the deadline for the BAR to be presented at the May C&I Policy Committee had also passed. Director Rankin supported the introduction of the BAR at the June 10 School Board Regular meeting to extend the opportunity for public reading.

Director Rivera-Smith emphasized the importance of having conversations about fall and the engagement process. Director Rankin agreed with Director Rivera-Smith.

4. Standing Agenda Items

a. Special Education Update

Dr. Pedroza provided a verbal update on Special Education. She highlighted the work of the Special Education team and their engagement on anti-racist work and their weekly communication to families and Special Education staff. Additionally, the Special Education team also engaged with the Special Education PTSA Board, and local, regional, and national organizations to hear impacts on students. Dr. Pedroza reported on summer learning, opening schools, and hiring for open positions. Discussion ensued.

Director Rivera-Smith asked if the five Special Education teams Dr. Pedroza mentioned included teachers or only central office staff. Dr. Pedroza responded that they are central office staff working on supports for students and schools.

Director Rivera-Smith requested an update on laptop distribution to Instructional Assistants. Dr. Pedroza responded that the goal is to provide a laptop for all Instructional Assistants, and they are currently working on this goal. They prioritized distribution to Special Education and English Learners Instructional Assistants. Chief JoLynn Berge is working on acquiring more laptops. Dr. Pedroza will provide the Board with an update via Friday Memo.

b. Since Time Immemorial Update

Ms. Morris provided an update on the first year of Since Time Immemorial (STI) on its first year of adoption. She reported on the success of professional development for middle school teachers in the 2019-20 school year. Ms. Morris also provided a look-ahead for professional development for the 2020-21 school year.

Director Rankin asked current measures to ensure that outdated and damaging materials are removed from schools. Dr. DeBacker explained that there has not been a middle school social studies curriculum adoption in many years. She added that the best ways to make sure schools have relevant and appropriate materials are to have approved curriculum materials similar to the science instructional materials adoptions, and not to allow waivers. Director Rankin asked for further discussion on this topic. Ms. Morris added that she is working with other content managers on approved lessons and story paths.

c. Science Instructional Materials

Ms. Toner provided an update on the Science Instructional Materials. She expressed her appreciation to the Board for supporting the K-12 Instructional Materials Adoptions. Ms. Toner provided some recent highlights including the creation of over 200 videos for students in grades K-11. The videos received over 100,000 views. Director Rankin expressed appreciation for the regular updates. Ms. Toner explained that for transparency on usage and implementation, they were encouraged to provide a monthly update. Director Rankin suggested having a conversation soon on the frequency of the updates, possibly repurposing that allocated time.

d. Strategic Plan Goals 4 & 5: On-Track Graduation and College and Career Ready

Dr. Perkins provided an update on the progress of the Strategic Plan Goals 4 and 5, On-Track and On-Time Graduation and Graduating Ready for College and Career. He reported on the work group's final meeting of the 2019-20 school year and a look-ahead for the 2020-21 school year.

e. C&I Policy Committee Work Plan

Dr. DeBacker and Director Rankin reported no changes at this time.

5. Board Policies and Procedures

a. Board Policy No. 2200, Equitable Access Quarterly Report

Mr. Jessee reported that no program changes occurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Directors Mack and Rivera-Smith left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

b. Discussion: Board Policy No. 3246, Restraint, Isolation, and Other Uses of Physical Intervention

Dr. Pedroza provided an update on Policy 3246 and Superintendent Procedure 3246P. Director Rankin noted that as she and Director Hersey reviewed the 2020-21 committee work plan, they determined this policy to be a priority as it relates to current issues on police violence and racism. Dr. Pedroza highlighted an update on current practices and data. Ms. Romanuk emphasized that data collection has improved. She explained that before 2019, data collection was done manually. With improved data collection, they can better identify which students are significantly impacted. Discussion ensued around accountability, resources, and supports where questions were asked and answered.

Director Rankin expressed her wish to ban isolation completely and is opposed to using isolation as a form of discipline or punishment. She stated that the focus should be on supporting students and not on corrective behavior. She stated that trauma-informed teaching and restorative practice should be in the policy.

Director Hersey agreed with Director Rankin's position around accountability on constraints and access to data. He requested further conversations with Director Rankin and an opportunity to review data before deciding on the support of removing isolation from the policy. Director Rankin suggested meeting with Drs. Pedroza and DeBacker to determine the next steps. Dr. Pedroza will report back to the Committee with recommendations for the next steps.

Director Hersey left the meeting at 7:05 p.m. With Director Hersey's departure and with only one Director present, Mr. Narver advised Director Rankin to adjourn the meeting.

Adjourn

This meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.