

Board Special Meeting  
Student Services, Curriculum, & Instruction Committee  
January 12, 2020  
*Meeting held remotely*



Minutes

1. Call to Order

- a. **This meeting was called to order at 4:30pm by Director Rankin. Directors Harris and Rivera-Smith participated with Microsoft Teams or by phone.**

This meeting was staffed by Chief Academic Officer Dr. Keisha Scarlett, College and Career Readiness Executive Director Dr. Caleb Perkins, Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction Executive Director Cashel Toner, Executive Assistant to the Chief Academic Officer Maria Gonzales-Millsap, Director of Policy and Board Relations Ellie Wilson-Jones, Chief Legal Counsel Greg Narver, Director of Board Relations and Strategic Initiatives Julia Warth, Advanced Learning Program Manager Deenie Berry, Remote Learning Task Force Contractor Zithri Saleem, Chief of Staff Sherri Kokx, Chief of Schools and Continuous Improvement Wyeth Jessee, Executive Director of Schools Mike Starosky, Assessment Development Program Manager Audrey Roach, Project Manager Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction Project Manager Antoinette Harrison, and Student Support Services Supervisor Erin Romanuk.

Director Rankin announced that the meeting was being recorded.

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

Director Rivera-Smith served as the third Committee member in the absence of Director DeWolf.

b. **Approval of agenda**

Director Harris moved to approve the agenda. Director Rivera-Smith seconded. This motion passed unanimously (Directors Harris, Rivera-Smith, and Rankin voted yes).

c. **Approval of meeting minutes**

Director Harris moved to approve the January 12, 2021 meeting minutes. Director Rivera-Smith seconded. Director Harris amended the minutes. She requested under Item 4a, to add that Director Harris requested the number of students receiving Special Education services in school and was advised that approximately 85 students were receiving in-person Special Ed services.

This motion passed unanimously. (Directors Harris, Rivera-Smith, and Rankin voted yes).

Director Harris moved to approve the January 12, 2021 meeting minutes as amended. Director Rivera-Smith seconded. This motion passed unanimously. (Directors Harris, Rivera-Smith, and Rankin voted yes).

## **2. Special Attention Items**

### **a. Remote Learning Task Force**

Chief Kokx provided a background of how the Task Force came to exist through the Substitute Resolution 2020/21-4 whereas the Board directed the Superintendent to convene a Task Force comprised of students, family members, educators, and other Seattle Public Schools staff, and community members. Contractor Zithri Saleem shared the development and outcomes-to-date of the Remote Learning Task Force (RLTF). He highlighted the RLTF design and launch, member engagement and activity, and next steps and preliminary recommendations. Discussion ensued between Directors and staff where questions were asked and answered on how the Task Force is helping move the work forward.

Director Harris inquired about summer learning. Chief Kokx will ask appropriate staff to provide more information on summer learning. Director Harris inquired about minutes from the RLTF meetings. Chief Kokx replied that the meeting minutes can be found on the Task Force website. Director Harris requested the link be shared via Friday Memo. Chief Kokx agreed to provide the link via the Friday Memo.

Director Rivera-Smith asked how the Board will receive regular updates on the work of the Task Force. Chief Kokx stated that updates will be provided through this Committee.

Discussion began around the Pulse Survey where questions were asked and answered. Chief Kokx offered to further discuss the survey results offline. Director Rankin offered to be included in the conversation with Mr. Saleem and Chief Kokx on the work of the RLTF.

### **b. 2021-22 Student Rights and Responsibilities**

Ms. Romanuk provided an update on the 2021-22 Student Rights and Responsibilities (SRR). She provided a preview of the draft of the SRR Remote Learning Companion. Ms. Romanuk highlighted the robust community engagement as part of the work in developing the handbook. Discussion ensued where questions were asked and answered.

Director Harris requested a redline version of the handbook via email. Ms. Romanuk will provide as requested.

### **c. Advanced Learning**

Ms. Berry provided an update on the 2020-21 Identification/Eligibility decision process. Discussion ensued between Directors and Ms. Berry where questions were asked and answered. Director Harris asked if updates have been provided to the HCC Task Force. Ms. Berry replied that there has been no recent communication, but she plans to reach out to the Task Force to inform them of recent developments.

### **d. Assessments**

Dr. Perkins shared an update on assessments, highlighting Early Literacy Screener (the Dyslexia Screener), WaKIDS, SBA Summative, ELPA21, School day SAT, and an update on the Assessment Committee. Director Rankin will hold her questions and asked for offline time with Dr. Perkins to discuss assessment and grading.

Director Harris asked if Ms. Toner will be presenting this information to the Special Education PTSA. Ms. Toner replied that they have met with some of the members of the group and will work on a targeted collaboration. Director Harris made a request to Chief Narver to closely identify and advise

regarding duties and responsibilities to follow-up to avoid any miscommunication. Chief Narver acknowledged the request.

**e. Continuous School Improvement Process**

Dr. Starosky provided an update to the Continuous School Improvement Plan (C-SIP) process. He highlighted the process to date, shared initial results from focus groups and current improvements implemented as of Fall 2020, and spoke about possible future C-SIPs goals for consideration. Discussion ensued between Directors and Dr. Starosky where questions were asked and answered. Directors commented on finding new ways and new ideas as evidence of learning and questioned how student learning can be measured without assessments.

**3. Standing Agenda Items**

**a. Ethnic Studies**

Ms. Al-ansi provided the committee an update on the hiring process for an Ethnic Studies Manager, Ethnic Studies Curriculum Specialists, and a Black Studies Curriculum Specialist. She noted that the NAACP Youth Council has been involved in the process and the Ethnic Studies Advisory Group was involved in drafting the job descriptions. Ms. Al-ansi also spoke to the work of Dr. Gholdy Muhammad and how Dr. Muhammad has been contracted to support the specific development of the Black Studies Course. Discussion ensued between Directors and staff where questions were asked and answered around engagement with the Ethnic Studies Advisory Group and Washington Ethnic Studies Now organization.

**b. Since Time Immemorial (STI)**

Ms. Morris provided the Committee an update on STI. She spoke to past and future trainings, webinars and other resources provided to teachers. She also noted outcomes from the work in December and January. Director Rankin spoke briefly about the upcoming Work Session on Ethnic Studies, Black Studies, American Indian Studies, and Social Studies. Discussion ensued around the participatory budgeting process and the email from Director Hampson around this topic. Director Harris requested that the email be shared with the entire Board. Director Harris also requested an update on Ms. Morris' title and position change from Manager to Director. Director Harris asked to be on record requesting to fund STI work as she has been requesting for the past two years. Director Harris also advocated for STI continuing education to be offered to State legislators. Further discussion ensued between Directors and staff where questions were asked and answered. Chief Scarlett acknowledged the requests and plan to meet with Ms. Morris to continue the conversation.

**c. Science Instructional Materials**

Ms. Toner provided an update on current professional development work to prepare teachers for their next science unit with a focus on how to maintain a culturally responsive classroom in their online platform. Discussion ensued between Directors and Ms. Toner where questions were asked and answered.

**d. Strategic Plan Goal 3: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Level**

Ms. Toner shared an update on the District's goal that 100% African American boys will be able to read at or above grade level by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. She highlighted progress updates by initiatives in family and community engagement, practitioner capacity, assessment portfolio, and P-3 pathways. Discussion ensued between Directors and Ms. Toner where questions were asked and answered. Director Harris expressed her appreciation for the SIPPS Kits and asked how to leverage targeted universalism to give access to the kits across the District. She asked for an update on direct phonics

instruction. Director Harris asked if the District has received any resources from King County in support of PK-3. She inquired if the District has ever asked the City of Seattle about the 25% hold back. Director Harris asked for these inquiries to be addressed offline.

**e. SSC&I Committee Work Plan**

Director Harris asked for an update on Policy No. 3246, Restraint, Isolation, and Other Uses of Physical Intervention. Director Rankin will communicate with Chief Pedroza for the update. Director Harris also asked about bringing forth a Board Resolution on a structure around principal hiring and placement. Director Rankin replied that principal hiring would be discussed in Executive Committee. Staff will send confirmation to Director Harris about the appropriate Committee to have this discussion.

Director Rankin is interested in adding assessment and grading to the work plan. Ms. Gonzales-Millsap noted that Director DeWolf had expressed interest at the previous meeting in adding grading to the work plan as well.

Connection was lost with Director Rankin at 6:44 p.m. Director Rankin regained connection and adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

**Adjourn**

This meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

**Minutes submitted by:**

*The Office of Chief Academic Officer Dr. Keisha Scarlett*