

Board Special Meeting



2445 – 3rd Avenue South, Seattle WA 98134

Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, August 13, 2015, 4:30-6:00pm
Auditorium, John Stanford Center

Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:33pm. Directors Carr, McLaren, Patu, and Peaslee were present. Director Patu left the meeting at 6:15pm. The meeting was staffed by Superintendent Larry Nyland, Deputy Superintendent Charles Wright, Acting General Counsel John Cerqui, Board Office Manager Theresa Hale, and Board Office Administrator Kathie Pham.

Approval of agenda

Director McLaren moved to approve the agenda, Director Peaslee seconded. **The agenda was approved unanimously.**

Approval of June 4, June 16, and June 24, 2015 meeting minutes

Director McLaren made the motion to approve the minutes and Director Peaslee seconded. **The minutes were approved unanimously.**

Review of the August 19th legislative session agenda

Supt. Nyland suggested including an update on the reorganization of District staff. Directors and staff reviewed the August 19 Board meeting agenda. Theresa Hale noted Director Martin-Morris requested to delay action on the Resolution 2014/15-35, Moratorium on Out-of-school Suspension for Elementary Grade Students, item to the September 23 Board meeting to accommodate the need for more discussion after the September Board retreat. Directors agreed to move action items #7-10 to the Consent Agenda, noting staff has the discretion to pull any items off from the Consent Agenda before the Board meeting.

Director Peaslee made the motion to approve the August 19 Board meeting agenda with the edits as discussed. Director McLaren seconded. **The agenda was approved unanimously.**

Review of the September 9th legislative session agenda

Supt. Nyland noted there may be recognition for the state legislators for their work on the Distressed Schools Grant during the last legislative session. Directors agreed to move action items #1, 3, 4 & 8 to the Consent Agenda. Charles Wright noted it is likely there would be an addition of an item for the Seattle Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, noting this item would be introduced and acted upon at the September 9 Board meeting.

Director Peaslee made a motion to approve the September 9 Board meeting agenda with the edits as discussed. Director McLaren seconded. **This motion was approved unanimously.**

Board Action Items

Amending Policy Nos. 1010, Board Oversight of Management, and 1240, Committees – Theresa Hale provided an overview of this item. She noted the Board met earlier this year in a work session and as a Committee of the Whole to review select Series 1000 policies and spoke about bringing forward amendments to Policies No. 1010 and 1240, which focuses on revisions based on input received from Directors, including the committee charter lists, to match Board practice, and to correct and update department references. She noted that after the documents were sent, a review of the committee charter lists brought up the need to reorder the charter lists to group like-items and create consistency between the lists.

Director Peaslee moved this item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for approval and Director McLaren seconded. **This motion was approved unanimously.**

ADA Website Accessibility Settlement: John Cerqui and Nazik Youssef provided an overview of the item, noting how the Board Action Report highlights the elements of the settlement. He also spoke about the need to have an audit and corrective action plan. Ms. Youssef spoke to the edit to the budget, which should range from \$665-\$815K. Mr. Cerqui noted this position will report to Charles Wright and called out the new department that he has created.

Director McLaren made the motion to move this item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for approval. Director Peaslee seconded. **This motion was approved unanimously.**

Special Attention Items

1. Public Access to District Records Annual Report (per Policy No. 4040): Director Carr noted this is a routine annual report as required by Policy No. 4040. Mr. Cerqui introduced Legal Assistant Natasha Walicki who is new to the Legal team. Ms. Walicki provided an overview of this report, noting the Public Records Office has received 501 requests for this year through August 1 with the anticipation of reaching over 550 requests by the end of the year, as compared to the 350 requests received last year. She noted 11% of those requests come from Media sources and 6% is related to Request for Proposals/Request for Qualifications requests. Ms. Walicki spoke about the difference between the staffing and number of requests received at the University of Washington and the District. Directors asked about the trend in the increase of requests received and Ms. Walicki noted there is a nationwide trend of increasing general requests. Mr. Cerqui noted initially all records were in hard-copy and now most are sent as electronic documents at no charge.
2. Seattle Preschool Program – Service Agreement: Director Carr noted Cashel Toner, Ronald Boy & Michael Stone joined the table. Cashel Toner provided an overview of this item and noted staff will be reviewing the handouts on the budget, space prioritization and the preschool policy draft. Directors noted this item had already been introduced to the Board as a proposal for the three classrooms and this is a supplemental information update this evening. Michael Stone reviewed the budget documents. Directors and staff discussed the Seattle Preschool Program funding document. Mr. Wright noted the reserve fund, which is the surplus, is referenced. Directors noted if the District gets the full amount, there is actually a surplus that begins to build that would mitigate a potential future risk. Supt. Nyland spoke about the two possibilities, if the District did not meet the milestone, and in addition to the 25% performance pay, there is a bonus of \$13K/classroom in excess. Directors requested staff to lay out the funding model to show what would happen over a period of 3-4 years, including the best case scenario and if we do not meet them all or hit the max amount. Directors suggested that the main criterion is that we would hire highly qualified teachers instead of teachers that meet the standard in order to qualify for the bonus. Ms. Toner spoke about the projected costs against the different reimbursements rates and they are different funding from both of the models. Directors asked staff what the Board is voting on and Ms. Toner noted they are voting on year 1 to add 3 preschool classrooms for 60 students. Directors noted the City's 25% performance pay framework seems inappropriate for the District to accept this kind of condition, even though it is a model that the Families & Education Levy (FEL) program and some schools have subscribed to. Directors noted they hope the District can enter in a different model approach for year 2. Cashel Toner asked Erinn Bennett to join the table to speak on the preschool draft policy. Ms. Bennett noted she was asked to help to look at the possible preschool policy and asked the Board to look at this policy as the umbrella preschool policy, which would cover all kinds of preschools, including SPS-run Seattle Preschool Program and non-SPS run Seattle Preschool Program. She spoke about compliance with the law, district policies and procedures, noted the complexity of this project and mentioned there will need to be a review of this policy in year 2 because staff may have missed components that they are unaware of. Ms. Bennett asked if Directors had any feedback on the next steps. Directors recommended scheduling a work session where the whole Board weighs in on the discussion points. Flip Herndon joined the table and spoke about how space would be prioritized and used. He spoke to Policy Nos. 4260, Use of School Facilities, and 6882, Rental, Lease and Sale of Real Property, noting how Policy No. 4260 speaks to the hourly rentals for before and after school, and how Policy No. 6882 mentions empty and surplus property, which he noted the District has less of, and commented on how these are long-term spaces, which is not applicable to the Seattle

Preschool Program. He also noted how Superintendent Procedure 4265SP, School and Community Partnerships, covers waiving rent or partial-rent for community partnerships. Director Carr asked the City of Seattle staff to introduce themselves. Holly Miller introduced herself, Erika Johnson and Monica Liang-Aguirre. Dr. Herndon noted Africatown and Nordic Heritage Museum follow Policy No. 6882. Directors asked if there are any other preschool programs that the District is giving space to and Dr. Herndon noted we have Head Start programs. Directors noted if the District were to charge rent in order to create a reserve, could it be used to cover the 25% in the event that the District did not get all 25% of the performance pay. Dr. Herndon noted he does not know if it is restricted from Capital levy dollars. Directors asked if there could be an analysis specific to how much rent has to be charged in order to create an adequate reserve. Dr. Herndon noted staff can look into a market analysis. Cashel Toner thanked Ms. Bennett & Dr. Herndon for their work. Ms. Toner reviewed the revisions to the Seattle Program Service Agreement.

3. Seattle Teacher Residency Program Update: Clover Codd provided an overview of this item, noting a decision on whether to pay for the 4th cohort and stay in this partnership must be made by November 15, 2015. Ms. Codd & Supt. Nyland spoke about the commitment of funding \$250,000 and how the District will not go over that amount. Ms. Codd noted the District does not have a current MOU agreement in place with Seattle Education Association (SEA), as it had already expired. Director Carr asked Jonathan Knapp from SEA to join the table to provide any comments. Supt. Nyland spoke about how the budget for this program is complicated, noting how SEA would prefer a rising contribution from the District in order to justify raising money. Mr. Knapp commented on his conversations with the Governor's office on possibly using state funding. Supt. Nyland spoke about what the District can contribute for this upcoming school year and having clearer expectations in the future around this partnership. Supt. Nyland spoke about how SEA is looking at other outside sources for funding that could help expand the Seattle Teacher Residency Program (STR). Directors commented on the need to have this program funded through other sources instead of the School District. Mr. Wright commented on the cost of recruitment and suggested the need to reevaluate the current model.
4. Resolution on Elementary Grade Suspensions: Supt. Nyland noted this item is similar to the process in which the resolution on assessments was brought before the Board. Directors suggested the need to schedule a work session on this item.
5. Communications Protocol: Ms. Bennett provided an overview of this item, noting there is an example provided in the handout on how Directors can bring a resolution to the Board, and indicated the Communications Protocol as it stands is also a discussion topic on the September 12 Board retreat agenda. Directors asked how to enforce the Communications Protocol and whether there is a Robert's Rules of Order tied to enforcing them. Directors suggested looking into how Mercer Island School District enforces their Communications Protocol.
6. September 12th Retreat Agenda: Ms. Bennett asked Directors to review the retreat agenda and provided an overview of this item. Directors asked to discuss the Resolution on Elementary Out-Of-School Suspension Moratorium on September 16 and move back the Alternative Calendar discussion. Directors and staff discussed ways in which they would organize the discussion topics on the retreat agenda.

Director Peaslee made the motion to approve the September 12 Board retreat agenda to include the topics of: Communications Protocol, 2015/16 Governance Priorities and Superintendent SMART Goals, and to include the discussion on the process for a Director to bring a resolution forward, and allow staff to work on the specific timing of the retreat. Director McLaren seconded. **This motion was approved unanimously.**

7. WSSDA Boards of Distinction Application: Supt. Nyland provided an overview on this item and noted staff will be working on this application which will require Board action. Ms. Bennett noted one of the requirements listed on the application was the need to indicate who the narratives were written by and asked if Directors would be willing commit to completing a piece of the application. Ms. Bennett also noted the narratives cannot be longer than 300 words, each one can include evidence, and the deadline is September 21. Directors Carr & Peaslee volunteered to work on the narratives with staff.

8. Strategic Plan Update Work Sessions discussion: Supt. Nyland provided an overview of this item, noting how last year's Strategic Plan, Board Governance Priorities and SMART Goals were all aligned.

Routine Items

1. Government Relations: Director McLaren spoke about Board SMART Goal #4 around Community Engagement, noting she plans to create a directory for community based organizations and noted she might end up reporting on what she has learned on community engagement and leaving it to the Board to determine what the next substantive goal is.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.