

# Board Special Meeting



2445 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South, Seattle WA 98134

Executive Committee  
Thursday, October 1, 2015, 4:30-6:00pm  
Board Office Conference Room, John Stanford Center

## Minutes

### Call to Order

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

### Approval of agenda

Theresa Hale asked if the Board Calendar/Work Plan could be discussed earlier in the agenda, as Pegi McEvoy needs to leave prior to that discussion topic. Directors discussed moving the item to after the approval of the minutes.

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

### Approval of August 13 and September 17, 2015 meeting minutes

Director McLaren moved to approve the meeting minutes for August 13, 2015 and September 17, 2015. Director Peaslee seconded. **The minutes were approved unanimously.**

**Board Calendar/Work Plan** – Pegi McEvoy noted that the community has been providing feedback regarding the Bell Times topic and recommended that this item come to the Operations Committee meeting on October 15, 2015 as a Committee of the Whole. Directors discussed the topic. Theresa Hale will modify the Operations Committee meeting agenda and send a notice to include the Committee of the Whole.

### Review of the October 7 legislative session agenda

Directors and staff reviewed the Board meeting agenda for October 7. It was discussed that during the Superintendent's comments, Gail Morris will provide an update on Indigenous Peoples' Day. Directors asked for an update on the professional development around the "Since Time Immemorial" curriculum. Directors agreed to move the Approval of the Washington State Auditor's Office Contract for 2014-15 Fiscal Year Audits to the Consent Agenda. Directors noted the addition of the 2015-16 Legislative Agenda for Introduction.

Director McLaren moved to approve the October 7 agenda with the edits as discussed. Director Peaslee seconded. **The amended agenda was approved unanimously.**

### Review of the October 21 legislative session agenda

Directors and staff reviewed the Board meeting agenda for October 21. Directors discussed the recognition of Susie Fitzhugh, who is retiring. Directors agreed to move the Meany Middle School Constructability Review, 5-year use/30-year Building Life Resolution and Intent to Construct Resolution items to the Consent Agenda. Superintendent Nyland noted the need to add an item for Introduction on the Alliance for Education.

Director McLaren moved to approve the October 21 agenda with the edits as discussed. Director Peaslee seconded. **The amended agenda was approved unanimously.**

### Review of the November 4 legislative session agenda

Directors and staff reviewed the Board meeting agenda for November 4. Directors agreed to move the OSPI Emergency Response Grant Resolution and the Loyal Heights Value Engineering Report items to the Consent

Agenda. Directors noted adding Governance Priorities, Superintendents Evaluation Instrument, Goals & Rubric, as well as the Superintendent's Salary & Contract Extension as items for Introduction. Directors discussed having an additional Executive Committee meeting at the end of this month to review the November 4th agenda again, due to the limited number of introduction items currently noted.

Director McLaren moved to approve the November 4 agenda with the edits as discussed. Director Peaslee seconded. **The amended agenda was approved unanimously.**

### **Board Action Items**

Collective Bargaining Agreement with Seattle Education Association – Supt. Nyland provided an overview of this item. He thanked the team for their hard work and mentioned the discussion at the last Executive Committee meeting, where it was decided to have the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) reviewed in its entirety prior to bringing to the full Board. This item will be introduced and acted upon at the October 7 Regular Board meeting. Directors are participating in 2x2 meetings with staff to discuss the CBA and ask questions in advance of the Board meeting. Directors asked for a presentation for the public at the Board Meeting to provide a visual overview of key items. They further discussed providing a timeline of the negotiation process as well as the tentative agreements reached along the way to show the progression of the negotiations. Directors also asked for a financial summary for public record. Geoff Miller noted that a summary document can be prepared and completed prior to the Board meeting. He also noted that the bargaining team and the Seattle Education Association (SEA) were invited to the Board meeting. Mr. Miller thanked his team and the way they came together with the bargaining team to find solutions and to help expedite the process. He also thanked Brent Jones and Superintendent Nyland for their work to engage in the bargaining process to help the team, and Sherry Carr for her assistance and leadership. Directors noted #11 on the CBA summary document regarding the Educational Staff Associates (ESA) staff-to-student ratios and that a verbiage correction is needed. Staff will have additional documentation to show a side-by-side comparison of the teachers' old and new contracts. The Directors thanked Jacque Coe for her communications during the strike, and John Cerqui for advising the School Board during the process.

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

Supt. Nyland requested discussing the Legislative Agenda next, as it frames the Network for Excellence in Washington State (NEWS) discussion.

Legislative Agenda – Supt. Nyland provided an overview of this item. He noted the attachments provided to the Executive Committee. Dr. Nyland noted that the Legislative Agenda is taking up work that was unfinished from last year, as the Legislature is on a biennial budget cycle. The items that Seattle Public Schools (SPS) will address are to amply fund salaries, do no net harm to state levies, and close the opportunity gaps. Directors and staff discussed the McCleary ties in the Legislative agenda, and that not all items have been addressed by the Legislature from the past year. Directors noted that the requirements for 24 credits for graduation and 1080 hours of instruction for grades 7-12 will require extending the school day. These requirements will impact salaries, transportation funding and school hours. Directors asked to add these items to the Legislative agenda. Supt. Nyland noted he would include this under the "close the opportunity gaps" line item.

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

Resolution from Network for Excellence in Washington Schools – Supt. Nyland provided an overview of this item. He called out the final "resolved" statement on the NEWS resolution handout. John Cerqui noted that this resolution is to inform the community who may not have known the impact of the Seattle Public Schools' tie to the State budget in regards to fully funding education per the McCleary decision. Directors discussed the entire state has the same blanketed compensation model, which does not take

in to consideration a regional salary model. Supt. Nyland noted that the Legislative Agenda covers the same language that is written in the Collective Bargaining Agreement regarding regional salaries.

Director McLaren made a 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**

State of the District – Jacque Coe noted that the State of the District is scheduled for Thursday, Nov 5. She discussed two times and locations to engage the public. One event in the morning at a high school in the north end with ample parking, anywhere from 7am-8am, so that parents can come in before work/school for a presentation and Q&A session. Then hold another event around 6:30pm at a south end high school or central location to give the same opportunity for families/community members in that region. Directors discussed attendees being parents, community members, elected officials, and media, as well as business partners, and discussed finding times and locations to reach a broad audience. Ms. Coe discussed logistics with scheduling the Superintendent. The Directors and staff considered factors such as traffic, parking, work schedules, and the breadth of attendees to determine the best plan of action. Ms. Coe stated she will pursue the options discussed to find viable options for the community to participate in the State of the District presentation(s).

September Retreat Follow-Up – Erinn Bennett noted the communications protocol edits are highlighted, as discussed at the Board retreat.

#### Communications Protocol

Directors discussed the amendment section of the protocol, regarding asking staff in advance if they will be speaking on an amendment, and allows for staff to have the option to decline and respond at a later time. Directors commented on trying this process to see how it works. Directors and staff discussed Superintendent SMART goals being assigned to Board committees and that each Director is to review the work plans of each committee. In the Due Diligence section on page 7, the language was updated in Point 5.a, to add “staff workload and calendar” to the statement in parenthesis. Directors and staff discussed the Superintendent Evaluation rubric that will be presented at the October 14th work session, and then presented to the full Board on November 4 for Introduction. Staff and Directors commented that there was not a final Protocol determined at the retreat, however, they felt like there was an agreement to the changes that had been discussed there. Directors asked that the Board Meeting Norms document be updated from the retreat and distributed to all Directors. Director Carr stated that it does not need to come back to the Board for review, and could be moved forward.

Director McLaren moved to approve the amended Communications Protocol. Director Carr seconded. This motion was approved by Directors McLaren and Carr. Director Peaslee was out of the room during the vote.

John Cerqui noted that they may want to take it to the full Board for approval. Ms. Bennett recommended that we move it as Introduction/Action at the Board meeting on October 21, to give time to make the corrections and send around a Board Action Report (BAR).

Director McLaren moved to rescind the earlier action on the Communications Protocol. Director Carr seconded. This motion was approved by Directors McLaren and Carr.

Director McLaren made a motion to move the Communications Protocol item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for approval at the October 21 Board meeting for Introduction/Action. Director Peaslee seconded. **This motion was approved unanimously.**

Board Transition Training – Dir. Carr noted that she proposed four elements for the new Director training: Governance at the December Board retreat, Series 1000 Policies, including hypothetical situations, the Board’s role in judicial settings related to appeal hearings, led by the General Counsel, and a short module on what the district oversight structure looks like. Directors discussed adding a fifth

item, on the role of ethics, conflict of interest disclosure and the Communications Protocol. Director Carr offered her support in training the new Directors.

John Cerqui noted the training in regards to the Open Public Meetings Act and the Public Records Act to ensure training compliance. Directors discussed the breadth of training and that it does not need to all be in one session. Ms. Bennett discussed building out a chronology of these topics in which progression of topics will make sense, and adding the training in the calendar over the first 6 months for the new Directors. The goal is to ensure success in their role as School Board Director.

Alliance for Education – Supt. Nyland provided an overview of the work on this item. He noted the progress made since the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) lapsed in March of this year and that the Alliance has noted a November 1 deadline to partner for the Seattle Teacher Residency (STR) for the 2016/17 year. Supt. Nyland discussed that there is a possibility that the STR may be included with the Alliance item, however, it may be presented as a stand-alone topic, to be decided at a later time. Directors discussed the next steps and timelines. Supt. Nyland will continue to engage the Alliance to move forward and discuss timelines on both ends to define next steps, with Introduction on October 21 and Action on November 4. Directors and staff noted that it will need to be brought to Executive Committee with a BAR, which may be done at the October 14 Executive Committee of the Whole.

## **Routine Items**

### **Government Relations**

- Director Carr noted she met with the Mayor in August prior to the strike and that he offered his support where he could.

### **Community Engagement**

- Theresa Hale noted the Bell Times community meetings today, tomorrow, and Monday. Also, the Student Assignment Plan community meetings today, tomorrow and Tuesday. Ms. Hale noted that the levy meetings are completed, and that the Family Universities Fall Cohort had started this week.
- Director McLaren discussed a professional learning group of 20-30 people from the Seattle School District that have attended a series of trainings. They have developed recommendations on incorporating a vision/plan for family engagement strategies within the community. Directors discussed a timeframe to have a presentation at a Board meeting. Clover Codd recommended the November 4 Board meeting to inform the public and advocate for family and community engagement and partnerships. Directors discussed the suggested timeframe, and that they would discuss at a future Executive Committee meeting if further presentations would be appropriate.
- Supt. Nyland requested the Board's guidance on final language for Goal 3 of the 2015/16 Superintendent SMART Goals discussed at both the Board retreat and the Closing Opportunity Gaps Work Session. He will email the three options and ask for responses as soon as possible.

### **SPS/City of Seattle Agreement Discussions**

- **Seattle Preschool Program**  
Cashel Toner provided an update on this topic. Ms. Toner noted that Bailey Gatzert opened a preschool classroom on schedule with the rest of the Seattle Public Schools, and reported that the families and the school staff have provided positive feedback. Current enrollment is at 19 children, with a final capacity of 20. There is a current wait list to fill the final spot. Van Asselt and the original Van Asselt preschools have 9 students, and 2-3 students respectively, with a 20 student capacity each. Ms. Toner reported that since the August 19 vote by the Board on the Service Agreement, they have hired instructors and assistants and developed materials. This was a tight timeline, and all three programs are still learning. The City is conducting a second round of enrollment to fill the two Van Asselt classrooms. The staff hired meet the highest reimbursement rate to drive the 25% performance pay milestones. Ms. Toner noted the programmatic milestones and standard practice items to help earn funds. They are currently building a professional development plan for staff at all three classrooms, to ensure a smooth transition and get up to speed. Directors noted how pleased they were to learn of the programs started and discussed further outreach to drive enrollment. At the next meeting, Ms. Toner will provide further updates on policy feedback, space prioritization and the vision/direction for the

Early Learning. Directors noted that they would like to renegotiate the terms of the agreement with the City for fully funding the program. They asked that John Cerqui research the implications, to address the point that Seattle Public Schools cannot divert any K-12 funds, citing a recent ruling on Charter Schools. Charles Wright made note of an approach SPS may take with the City to further engage in this discussion.

2. Board Self Evaluation 2014-15 Check-In

- Staff noted that in the Work Session yesterday, Director Blanford addressed Goal 5 of the Board's SMART goals on Closing Opportunity Gaps.

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm.