



INFORMAL MINUTES

A Board of Education Work Session came to order at 6:03 pm at the call of Chair Amy Kohnstamm in the Mazama Conference Room at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon.

There were present:

Board Directors

Chair Kohnstamm; Directors Bailey, Brim-Edwards, Lowery, Moore, Scott; Student Representative Latterell; with Director DePass absent

Staff and Community Partners

Dr. Russell Brown – Chief of Systems Performance
 Dr. Gregg Cueller – Deputy Superintendent, Instruction and School Communities
 Guadalupe Guerrero – Superintendent
 Claire Hertz – Deputy Superintendent, Business and Operations
 Dr. Ester Omogbehin – Regional Superintendent
 Dr. Keeley Simpson – Regional Superintendent
 Marie Sneed – Facilitator

Business Agenda

The Board of Education voted on the Business agenda, containing resolutions 5995 through 6000. The business agenda was approved by a vote of 6 (yes) – 0 (no); with Director DePass absent. Prior to the vote, it was confirmed that the approval of resolution 5996 would not result in additional district funds being allocated to Head Start. There was no public comment for the business agenda. The Board of Directors held a vote for the OSBA Elections.

Work Session

Claire Hertz introduced facilitator Marie Sneed. She stated that the district is looking at enrollment balancing and enrollment boundaries at this time in order to create student assignments that support academic programs, to align with middle school redesign projects and future bonds, and to create diversity in schools across the district. The goals of the work session are to frame the boundary and balancing work that will be done in the equity policy, to review the relevant board policies, and to begin to establish board values, priorities and policies that will guide the district work.

Racial Education Equity Policy 2.10.010

Facilitator Marie Sneed provided an overview of the Racial Education Equity Policy and asked the group to think about the policy in more than just racial equity and include special education, financial differences, and language differences. She noted that it is proven that in having diverse students learning together, their education becomes richer.

Ms. Sneed asked the group what issues and concerns they have with the policy, and which parts of the policy stands out. Responses to the policy include the desire to make sure to focus on changing actual practices, remembering who is not at the table and working to amplify and listen to those voices, and questioning what the structural changes that need to take place to align the district's enrollment balancing to the equity values.

Student Assignment to Neighborhood Schools Policy 4.10.010

Steve Buel: The district needs to create equity for all schools across the district, making sure that they all have the same access to programs.

Beth Cavanaugh: As the board is looking at Kellogg, remember that it's important it is to look at the concentration of focus options in south east Portland.

Jessica Colby: Adding focus options on the front end is important. Some schools are doing good work on helping students and some are not. She is a supporter of alternative options, however the focus options have become havens for privilege and do not offer diversity or inclusion, which needs to be changed.

Adjourn

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