

BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1J, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

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OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1J, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON
BLANCHARD EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
PORTLAND, OREGON

A Study Session of the Board of Education came to order at 6:08pm at the call of Co-Chair Greg Belisle in the Board Auditorium of the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon St, Portland, Oregon.

There were present:

Pam Knowles, Co-Chair
Ruth Adkins
Bobbie Regan
Tom Koehler
Steve Buel
Matt Morton
Greg Belisle, Co-Chair

Andrew Davidson, Student Representative

Staff

Carole Smith, Superintendent
Caren Huson, Board Clerk

Director Adkins provided a report on The Courageous Conversations Summit she had attended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bruce Scherer stated that he has not seen all Board members present at negotiations, only two. The District is not bargaining seriously and is eager for a crisis. Mr. Scherer asked who was pulling the strings for the District. \$240 thousand has been paid to date for a consultant who operates behind the scenes. All it helps create is more invoices to the District. The consultant is not a stakeholder in our District.

Paul Anthony reported that in his daughter's geometry class at Benson High School, the teacher created a new geometry course that is designed with built-in feedback which gives students a real growth experience. That class is an enormous accomplishment of which the District should be proud and management has shown excellent judgment. Teachers have to have the freedom to use their knowledge and experience.

Barb Macon, Roosevelt teacher, commented that she has discovered that the Long Range Facilities Plan is calling for teachers to share offices and classrooms. That will not work for good teaching. Classrooms that teachers have to share are bare as student work cannot be displayed. If teachers have to pack up all materials and student work, they will lose instructional time. If classrooms are shared, students will not know where to find their teachers. Ms. Macon asked the Board to push for the one teacher/one classroom model. Each teacher needs a classroom.

Jennifer Grimes stated that focus should be on the teacher's contract and that everyone needs to work together to reach an agreement that will benefit students.

Carmen Rubio, Executive Director of the Latino Network and Co-Chair of the Coalition of Color, urged the Board to keep the central focus on the children of PPS in regards to PAT negotiations,

and to keep the following values front and center: recognize and leverage the racial equity work, continued differentiation of District resources, and prioritize hiring teachers of color.

Bernie Bottomley, Portland Business Alliance, stated that the Alliance was in support of PPS. The vision is that all students deserve equal opportunity. Negotiations should be driven by doing what is best for our kids and the current labor contract makes it difficult to reach those goals. The current contract discourages innovation and new ideas. PAT has brought nothing of substance to the table; they do not want to settle. It is not reasonable to extend negotiations when only one side is making concessions. The Alliance was asking the Board to hold fast to their principles and encouraged the Board to declare an impasse.

DISCUSSION: BOND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

Kevin Spellman, Bond Accountability Committee, stated that their report had been included in the Board packet. Mr. Spellman commented that he had concerns about how the budget was being reported as it was not transparent. The Committee believes that staff has done what they have been asked to do. Some students have been involved, but not enough are involved and that was not the fault of the contractors. Help is needed from the educational side of the District to get students connected. The Committee also had concerns over the schedule; many milestone deadlines are coming up and the red flag is being raised. We are getting to the point where the consequence of not meeting key target dates could have implications on bringing everything in on schedule.

UPDATE: DISTRICT-WIDE BOUNDARY REVIEW

Judy Brennan, Director of Enrollment and Transfer, reviewed the Board enrollment framework. Jon Isaacs, Senior Policy Advisor reported that in May 2013, staff provided a report to the Board on district-wide boundary review. Three representatives from PSU were present tonight to present their proposal. Phil Kiesling, Director and Principal Investigator, Wendy Willis, lead on stakeholders and interviews, and Shannon Griskowsky, Project Manager and lead for data collection and analysis.

Mr. Kiesling stated that the district-wide boundary review was a wicked challenge. Phase 1 would include assessment and framework recommendations, stakeholder interviews and focus groups, recommending a decision-making framework to use and then enter into Phase 2 to be used in the years beyond. PSU hopes to have Phase 1 completed in three months.

Director Buel questioned if PSU will incorporate K-8's middle schools, etc. Mr. Kiesling responded that PSU staff has met with SACET who was looking at enrollment and transfer policy. Phase 1 will acknowledge everything that is going on in enrollment and transfer. In 2014, the Board will decide on a boundary map. The PSU team will develop a plan to take all complexities into account.

Co-Chair Knowles asked how PSU would work with SACET. Ms. Brennan responded that SACET will proceed in their deep dive of enrollment and transfer policy. At the end of three months, the Board should see results from both teams.

Director Regan commented that she appreciates PSU's expertise and for joining us in a partnership.

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DISCUSSION: REVISED RECOMMENDATION

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Personnel

The Superintendent RECOMMENDED adoption of the following items:

Numbers 4831 through 4834

Director Adkins moved and Director Knowles seconded the motion to adopt the above numbered items. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed unanimously (yes-7, no-0; with Student Representative Davidson voting yes, unofficial).

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RESOLUTION No. 4831

Election of First-year Probationary Teacher (Full-time)

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RESOLUTION No. 4833

Election of Second-year Probationary Teacher (Part-time)

RECITAL

On the advice of the Chief Human Resources Officer, the Superintendent recommends that the teacher listed below be elected as Second-year Probationary Teacher.

RESOLUTION

The Board of Education accepts the Superintendent's recommendation, and by this resolution

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Purchases, Bids, Contracts

The Superintendent RECOMMENDS adoption of the following item:

Number 4835

Director Morton moved and Director Koehler seconded the motion to adopt Resolution 4835. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed by a vote of 6-1 (yes-6, no-1 [Buel]; with Student Representative Davidson voting yes, unofficial).

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RESOLUTION No. 4835

Expenditure Contracts that Exceed \$150,000 for Delegation of Authority

RECITAL

Portland Public Schools ("District") Public Contracting Rules PPS-45-0200 ("Authority to Approve District Contracts; Delegation of Authority to Superintendent") requires the Board of Education ("Board") enter into contracts and approve payment for products, materials, supplies, capital outlay, equipment, and services whenever the total amount exceeds \$150,000 per contract, excepting settlement or real property agreements. Contracts meeting this criterion are listed below.

RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve these contracts. The Board accepts

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Other Matters Requiring Board Action

The Superintendent RECOMMENDED adoption of the following items:

Numbers 4836 and 4837

Director Adkins moved and Director Knowles seconded the motion to adopt Resolution 4836. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed unanimously (yes-7, no-0; with Student Representative Davidson voting yes, unofficial).

During the Committee of the Whole, Director Regan moved and Director Adkins seconded the motion to adopt Resolution 4837. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed by a vote of 6-1 (6-yes, 1-no [Buel], with Student Representative Davidson voting yes, unofficial).

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RESOLUTION No. 4836

Settlement Agreement

RESOLUTION

1. The authority to pay \$39,900 is granted in a settlement agreement for employee M.S. to

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We direct our bargaining representatives to continue using all the means at their disposal to reach a contract agreement in a timely manner.

2. The Board directs its bargaining team to continue to seek agreement from the PAT to develop a collaborative process outside of bargaining to address the issues of workload and class size.
3. The Board's highest priority is to increase our graduation rate, with students ready for college and careers. We believe that our current proposal provides strong and competitive salary and benefits as well as fa