



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

JANUARY 26, 2016 MEETING OVERVIEW

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*The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the actions taken by the School Board and to provide a listing of the reports given. Anyone interested in viewing the full meeting, please visit the website listed below.*

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education came to order at 6:02pm at the call of Chair Tom Koehler in the Board Auditorium of the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon St, Portland, Oregon.

**Attendance:**

Present: Chair Koehler; Directors Anthony, Buel, Esparza Brown, Kohnstamm, Knowles, and Rosen;  
Student Representative Davidson; Superintendent Smith

**Student Testimony**

Karina Autar, Kaiya Yonamine, Y Le, and Jessica Yu, all members of ALLY (API Leaders for Liberation of Youth), spoke on the importance of ethnic studies in order to learn the traditions and cultures of various ethnic peoples. Ethnic studies result in higher student grades and literacy skills, and also closes the achievement gap. ALLY launched their ethnic studies campaign in October 2015 and the students were currently drafting a resolution that they will present to the Board at a later date. They would like to schedule a meeting with each Board member to hear their perspectives.

**Public Comment:**

Ethan Medley: Board member for the Portland Village Charter School, provided an update on the school, adding that they were interested in working around issues they have with the District, and invited the Board to visit the school.

Jennifer Whitten: in regards to the proposed boundary changes on the west side, requested that Bridlemile remain in the Lincoln feeder pattern. Travel time would be much higher if students attended Bridlemile and then had to go to Gray Middle School and Wilson High School.

Matt Zaffino: parents in the Council Crest neighborhood have worked hard to come up with solutions to the overcrowding of schools on the west side. Boundary changes should happen sensibly, without destroying community schools, without eliminating walkability to schools and without creating additional, harmful and unnecessary traffic. He requested that the Board not make any changes to west side boundaries until 2017.

Demian Heald: requested that the protocol for boundary changes be altered. It would have been a great service if a formal process was decided on in advance. He asked the Board to consider the geography on the west side as the current proposals could result in the traffic for three schools being channeled into one road.

Hilary Evert: spoke on the disciplinary hearing her son had and the principal denying them due process.

**The following reports were presented to the Board:**

- 2015-16 Budget Amendment

**Public Hearings:**

- 2016-17 School Calendar  
Public Comment:  
Tracy Barton: in support of the Superintendent's recommendation.
- Civics Education (no public comment received)

**The Board approved the following items:**

- Resolution 5200: Adoption of 2016-17 School Calendar
- Resolution 5201: Resolution to Prepare Portland Public Schools Students for Civic Engagement
- Business Agenda

**Adjourn:**

Chair Koehler adjourned the meeting at 8:31pm.

*In accordance with ORS 192.650, the District's official School Board meeting minutes are maintained via video recording, which can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8CC942A46270A16E>. The agenda and back-up materials for this meeting can be accessed at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/board/7862.htm>. Please contact the School Board Office at 503-916-3741 for questions or help accessing information.*