



APRIL 9, 2019, MEETING OVERVIEW

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 6:01pm at the call of Board Chair Rita Moore in the Board Auditorium at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon.

Attendance

Present: Chair Moore; Directors Bailey, Brim-Edwards, Kohnstamm, Anthony, and Rosen. Student Representative Paesler; Superintendent Guerrero; Senior Legal Counsel Mary Kane. Director Esparza Brown absent.

Student and General Public Comment

Warda Hussein: Her counselor at Madison High School suggested she take a class in Mindful Studies to reduce the stress of high school. Ms. Hussein thought it would be an easy "A", but it was more complicated than that. It has helped her deal with stress inside and outside of class. Mindful Studies was powerful and useful for high school students,, and very effective.

Marie Taylor: teacher of Yoga and Mindful Studies at Madison High School, stated that it was important to provide adequate funding for Mindful Studies as it supports mental health needs in a classroom setting. Principals learned the contract would be canceled with Peace in Schools. For some, this class is a matter of life or death. It may be too late to restore the classes for fall, but this was a small piece of the budget. Ms. Taylor asked the Board to please look at a multi-year contract with Peace in Schools.

Anabel Munana and Justin Godoy, Rigler teachers, took their classes to visit Beaumont Middle School where the students will attend 6th grade. The students wanted to know about art and music at Beaumont, but he didn't know what to tell them. The District has created barriers where only wealthy white parents can have their children participate in the arts.

Laura Moulton: parent of a 6th grade immersion student at Beaumont, stated that equality was needed in the District with electives for all and music and art for everyone. Students from Rigler arrived last fall to discover they were not able to access music and art electives at Beaumont. Immersion students who had played in the Rigler Band were forced to quit when they reached Beaumont. This kills the band program at Madison High School. The District was off the mark when it came to equality.

Mary Darin: PPS Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) and parent, spoke of the reduction of the .6 Technical Assistant being reduced to .2fte next year. . Speaking about the reduction of the .6 Technical Assistant to .2. SLPs do not have a TOSA. The Technical Assistant position is critical for the SLPs as their supports have already been eroded. The Technical Assistant always answered questions quickly as topics were time sensitive. The cost to the district would be minimal.

Cynthia Velasquez: works as a Special Education/ESL TOSA and Bilingual School Psychologist. They cannot exist within best practices when working within the bare minimum of the law. They need the Technical Assistant. Ms. Velasquez listed all the duties that the Technical Assistant performs. The position is being cut from .6 to .2. fte; where will that leave 56 school psychologists? What are the repercussions of this decision – they are dire and great.

Ellie Baumgartner: advocated for two positions: the Technical Assistants for Speech Language Pathologists and School Psychologists. The Technical Assistants expertise is critical in communicating across departments. Administrators do not have the level of expertise as the Technical Assistants. They serve 4300 students and there are 95 Speech Language Pathologists across the district.

Student Representative's Report

Student Representative Paesler stated that the District Student Council worked really hard with him on the revised Student Representative Duties policy and that he greatly appreciated their work. d.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Guerrero reported on the following: statewide M.E.Ch.A Conference; All Born In Conference; ACCESS Academy: You be the Chemist competition; Oregon School Wellness Award to Jason Lee; James John: First Place Elementary Battle of the Books; West Sylvan: First Place Middle School Battle of the Books; National honors for Grant Magazine; National Assistant and Vice-Principal Week; and, Jefferson High School's production of *Clue*.

Action Items

- Proclamation:
The Board voted unanimously to proclaim April as National Arab American Heritage Month.

Reports to the Board

- Interdistrict Transfers
- Policy First Readings: Capital Asset Renewal Funds and Plan and Community Use of School Buildings and Facilities
- Local Option Levy

The Board Approved the Following Items:

- Business Agenda

Adjourn

Chair Moore adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm.

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.