



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 School Board website at <https://www.pps.net/domain/219>.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education came to order at 6:02 pm at the call of Board Chair Kohnstamm. The meeting was held virtually and stream live to <https://www.youtube.com/user/ppscomms/live>

Attendance

Present: Chair Kohnstamm; Directors Bailey, Brim-Edwards, DePass, Lowery, Moore, Scott; Student Representative Latterell, Superintendent Guerrero, Interim General Council Liz Large

Absent: None

Pre-meeting

The virtual meeting opened for attendees to arrive at 5:45pm. No deliberation or decisions were made prior to the start of the meeting.

Resolution 6107 to Celebrate Teacher and School Administrator Appreciation Week of May 4, 2020

Director Bailey introduced the resolution. There was no board discussion.

Resolution 6107 was approved by a voice vote.

Business Agenda

Resolution 6101 was pulled from the consent agenda for individual consideration. There was a question about the Teen Health Center being in portables at Lincoln High School. Dan Jung, Chief Operations Officer, provided an overview of the space and cost considerations.

Resolution 6101 was approved by a voice vote.

The Business Agenda, including Resolutions 6102 through 6111, was approved by a voice vote.

Student Comment

None

Public Comment

- Jon Coney: 2020 Census. There were technical difficulties and Mr. Coney was hard to hear.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Guerrero provided an overview of the shifts that have been made across the district in response to the Covid-19 shutdown. He thanked teachers and administrators for setting a good example by exemplifying the educator essentials, noting that it's Teacher and Administrator Appreciation Week. He

shared that it is Cinco de Mayo and that last week children were celebrated on Dia de los Niños. Mr. Guerrero noted that the pandemic is having a negative budgetary impact and that staff is working to implement cost savings plans to help mitigate the impact.

Update on Distance Learning

Dr. Shawn Bird, Chief of Schools, provided an overview of the framework that is being created for distance learning, detailing expectations, opportunities for growth, and next steps.

- Teachers are planning for synchronous and asynchronous sessions weekly. High School students will attend two of their classes each day. Teachers should track participation.
- Even though the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) directed schools to not grade students during this time, learning is still happening.
- Working to refine the remote delivery of the Special Education Model, and are working to help special education (SPED) teachers to manage their caseloads.
- Focusing support on seniors, historically underserved students, students with disabilities, and English language learners.

Student Rudy Duncan shared what his day looks like during remote learning and his thoughts on how it is going for him. He shared that he wishes that online classes were more interactive and that he could do chess club online. He shared that he has also been creating lessons for other learners.

Fourth-grade teacher Angela Bonilla shared her perspective on distance learning. She shared that distance learning has been a steep learning curve for teachers and families. She highlighted some of the tools that she has been using to keep the students engaged and to continue to build relationships. She is concerned for the students who are struggling to connect to distance learning.

Kristina Howard provided an overview of the community care message that has been shared with their school community. Ockley Green teacher Elise Hughes highlighted the things that she has been doing to provide consistency and keep students engaged, including having a dedicated schedule and virtual office hours, using fun programs like Kahoot. She noted that she has been tracking attendance and reaching out to students who are not attending, adding that some students are more engaged in virtual learning than they were in person. Ms. Hughes shared that they are already talking regularly in their staff meetings about what the next year could look like.

Revised 2020-21 Budget Calendar (Resolution 6108)

Deputy Superintendent Claire Hertz introduced the revised budget calendar, stating that they are preparing for a May 20th budget forecast. She noted there will be two budget meetings with opportunities for public comment. She noted that the governor might call a special session to address school funding, but that in the meantime the district will move forward with the budget as it is now. It was noted that staff is looking at how to engage the community in virtual meetings, and how to do targeted engagement with working families and families of color. There was discussion regarding public engagement. Ms. Hertz noted that they will have to start engaging now even though the budget will potentially change because of the tight planning timeline.

The Board approved Resolution 6108 by a voice vote.

Portland Public Schools Budget Update and Saving Strategy (Resolution 6109)

Superintendent Guerrero noted that the budget picture has changed significantly in the last two months and that they went from planning on additional funding to an anticipated reduction in funding. He listed some of the programming that could be affected by the projected underfunding, as well as the additional budgetary expenditures that are being used to support students and families in distance learning.

Ms. Hertz provided an overview of the current budget and the continued cost-saving measures they are taking. Noting that as soon as the Covid emergency happened a purchasing freeze was implemented, and yearlong contracts were scaled back.

May 05, 2020

Sharon Reese, Chief Human Resource Officer, shared that they are implementing a partial furlough to reduce costs. The furlough will include a 20% reduction in hours and leverage a federal work share program to ensure that all staff continues to receive full pay.

- All five unions voted to approve the plan.
- The district will be closed every Friday through the end of July 2020.
- Distance learning will continue Monday through Thursday.
- The three inclement weather days will be added to the end of the school year resulting in a net loss of 2 instructional days.
- The cost savings are expected to realize at least 10 million dollars in savings, which will be used to reduce classroom impacts in the 2020-21 school year.
- All senior leaders, including the superintendent and principals will be participating in the furlough, with the exception of the few staff who are not eligible to participate.

Board Directors asked questions about the plan.

- How will the furlough affect meal distribution?
 - Meals will be provided Monday through Thursday. On Thursday families will receive food for Friday through Sunday to take home with them.
- Will the Oregon Employment Department (OED) be able to process the claims in a timely manner?
 - Staff will complete a two-page form and then the district will process the weekly requests.

Director Scott added that taking advantage of the CARES act is using the funds the exact way it was meant to be used and that there will be a positive local economic impact because employees will have extra money to spend in the community.

The Board approved Resolution 6109 by a voice vote.

Bond Accountability Committee Appointments (Resolution 6110)

Director Scott provided an overview of the appointments to the Bond Accountability Committee (BAC) and introduced each of the appointees. It was noted that staff are working to recruit a more diverse pool of candidates.

- There are 10 total spots on the committee. There are currently only 7 people on the committee and three of the seven have terms that are up in a few months.
- Three people will be appointed today and three more in three months.

The Board approved Resolution 6610 by a voice vote.

Resolution to Advocate for and Approve Additional Federal Education Funding for Public Schools Due to Covid-19 (Resolution 6111)

Director Kohnstamm introduced the resolution, noting that there is a fourth round of relief packages being discussed. There was discussion regarding the federal relief funds, including what advocacy has already occurred and the need for further advocacy.

The Board approved Resolution 6111 by a voice vote.

School Improvement Bond Committee Preview

Director Scott invited the Board and community members to join the next School Improvement Bond Committee. He provided an overview of the agenda, noting that the committee will meet to discuss reducing the timeframe for the Bond program (four years instead of eight years) and identify some of the critical areas of need for funding such as devices and curriculum. No referral decisions will occur, it is the start of the conversations.

The following items were approved by the Board

- Business Agenda: Resolutions 6101 through 6110
- Resolution 6107: Resolution to Celebrate Teacher and School Administrator Appreciation Week of May 4, 2020
- Resolution 6108: Resolution to Amend the 2020-21 Budget Calendar aligned with Portland Public Schools Reimagined, Student Success Act and a Multi-Year Business Plan
- Resolution 6109: Resolution Approving 20% Furlough through July 2020 and Modifying 2019-20 School Calendar
- Resolution 6110: Appointment of Bond Accountability Committee Members
- Resolution 6111: Resolution to advocate for and approve additional federal education funding for public schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic

The following items were not approved by the Board

- None

Adjourn

Chair Kohnstamm adjourned the meeting at 8:52 pm

The Next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled to be held May 26, 2020.

Submitted by:



Kara Bradshaw, Executive Assistant
PPS Board of Education