

School District No. 1J, Multnomah County, Oregon
Board Work Session of January 31, 2017

INFORMAL MINUTES

A Work Session of the Board of Directors came to order at 4:40pm at the call of Chair Tom Koehler in the Mazama Conference Room at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon, 97227.

There were present:

Board of Directors:

Tom Koehler, Chair
Amy Kohnstamm, Vice-Chair
Paul Anthony
Steve Buel
Pam Knowles
Mike Rosen
Aliemah Bradley, Student Representative

Absent:

Julie Esparza Brown

Staff:

Bob McKean, Interim Superintendent
Amanda Whalen, Chief of Staff
Rosanne Powell, Board Office Manager
Caren Huson-Quiniones, Board Clerk

METRICS AND WORKFLOW

Superintendent McKean reviewed the work that had been done in the past five months as depicted in the Workflow document. Director Kohnstamm requested a list of intervals of when the Board will discuss each metric (e.g, how is staff/Board routinely checking in on the metrics and where. Superintendent McKean focused on the following work areas:

Reorganization of central administration – incoming Superintendent may change to suit their needs and the needs of the District
Completing the 2012 Bond
Responding to health and safety and preparing for the 2017 Bond
Union contracts and IBB bargaining. Possible Portland Association of Teachers contract

In response to a request from Director Kohnstamm, staff provided an overview of the multi-tiered systems of support being used in the schools. The Board asked for a copy of the Undocumented Student text. Deputy Superintendent Antonio Lopez stated that staff was still reviewing the document with principals and would get a copy to the Board.

BENSON ENROLLMENT

Deputy Superintendent Lopez stated that 292 students had been enrolled in Benson this year, and that he was recommending that for the coming year, due to the uncertainties in terms of the bond and enrollment balancing process, the cap at Benson would be left at 300. Director Anthony stated that he was not in favor of that plan. We do not need to move Alliance out to get the extra 65 students in, as proposed in the original 365 cap. It is the Enrollment and Transfer process that was hindering the growth of Benson; we have turned hundreds away who wanted to enroll. Director Kohnstamm commented that it was only a short-term issue that relies on the proposed bond; the plan makes sense in the short-term.

Director Buel stated that the number one problem in the District is that we take children from foreign countries and drop them in Physics class with no knowledge of English. We are not serving those children and they don't have a group of people lobbying for them. Those students were being screwed.

ADJOURN

Chair Koehler adjourned the meeting at 6:35pm.

Submitted by:

Caren Huson-Quiniones, Board Clerk