

#### **PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE and AGENDA**

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Portland Public Schools
BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
AND WORK SESSION
Monday, February 13, 2017

#### **BOARD AUDITORIUM**

Blanchard Education Service Center

501 N. Dixon Street Portland, OR 97227

#### **AGENDA**

SUPERINTENDENT'S BOUNDARY CHANGE RECOMMENDATION: 5:00 pm PENINSULA AND CHIEF JOSEPH – action item
 BUDGET UPDATE 5:30 pm
 BUSINESS AGENDA 6:15 pm
 ADJOURN TO MAZAMA CONFERENCE ROOM FOR BOND WORK SESSION

#### **Portland Public Schools Nondiscrimination Statement**

Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. The District is committed to equal opportunity and nondiscrimination based on race; national or ethnic origin; color; sex; religion; age; sexual orientation; gender expression or identity; pregnancy; marital status; familial status; economic status or source of income; mental or physical disability or perceived disability; or military service.

This meeting may be taped and televised by the media. Materials for this meeting are available at the following website: http://portland.schoolwires.net/Page/1791

#### Chinese

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#### Russian

#### ALIGNMENT WITH EQUITY POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

This recommendation is aligned with item #17 on the Equity Policy Implementation Plan: Balance enrollment through boundary changes, grade reconfigurations, policy updates, etc. to ensure that every student of color has access to a strong core program."

#### **BUDGET / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Enrollment changes related to this recommendation will be included in 2017-18 school staffing. Any budget implications for operational adjustments will be included in the upcoming budget process. Operational adjustments may include an additional transportation route for students in the boundary change area who live more than one mile from Peninsula school and facility changes at Ockley Green Middle School to improve use of common spaces.

#### **NEXT STEPS / TIMELINE / COMMUNICATION PLAN**

Families and school communities will be notified of the Board of Directors' decision and their enrollment options before the end of February 2017.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: Draft resolution

Attachment 2: 1/31/17 Recommendation memo

## Board of Education Informational Report

## **MEMORANDUM**

Date: January 31, 2017

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Interim Superintendent Robert McKean

Subject: Boundary change recommendation for Chief Joseph and Peninsula Elementary

Schools

In their January 13<sup>th</sup> memo, DBRAC describes a dilemma for their work and for the district: the desire to make one sweeping, holistic set of changes across the eastside of the district versus addressing immediate issues to complete the changes begun at Ockley Green and feeder schools last year. The committee chose to defer a number of major enrollment changes to the next round of enrollment balancing, including the possible relocation of the Beach Spanish Immersion program and conversion from a boundary system to an individual student assignment system. DBRAC would like to begin working on the next major round of enrollment balancing and middle school implementation in Spring 2017. That work should be timed to start after the outcome of a potential school modernization bond is known.

#### **Analysis of DBRAC options**

DBRAC offered two ways to address the most urgent issues left unresolved when Ockley Green and feeder schools opened this school year. Chief Joseph and Ockley Green had been a combined K-8 school split across two campuses, with grades K-3 housed at Chief Joseph and grades 4-8 at Ockley Green. The transition to K-5 and 6-8 structures was phased in this year, with Chief Joseph 5<sup>th</sup> graders remaining on the Ockley Green campus. Both options proposed by DBRAC moved the Chief Joseph 5<sup>th</sup> grade out of Ockley Green and added students to Peninsula, the smallest elementary school in the Ockley Green feeder pattern, but through different methods:

Boundary change: Shift the portion of the Chief Joseph boundary north of Lombard Street to Peninsula Elementary School. Beginning the change at kindergarten next year would cause only a small adjustment in enrollment, but would free up one classroom and make space for the 4<sup>th</sup> graders currently at Chief Joseph to remain for 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Over five years Peninsula would grow by approximately 64 students.

Grade-level change: Chief Joseph 5<sup>th</sup> grade would be held at Peninsula next year, doubling the size of 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Peninsula. Chief Joseph would remain a K-4 next year. The grade level move would likely be for one year only, until more comprehensive changes could be implemented as part of the overall east side process.

There are benefits and risks with both options. The grade level change would allow 5<sup>th</sup> graders from both schools to get to know each other before moving to Ockley Green the following year. However, the Chief Joseph students would be at Peninsula for only one year so wouldn't contribute to the long-term growth of that small school. Transportation costs would be higher with this option and student nutrition programs at Peninsula, such as free breakfast for all, would be jeopardized.

The proposed boundary change would directly impact only a small group of students next year and would allow both Chief Joseph and Peninsula to move toward the grade structures and sizes they were planned to be. However, many DBRAC members felt that any boundary lines in this area could be potentially redrawn next year, causing additional upheaval for the same families who already experienced change. They noted, as well, that Chief Joseph would become less racially and economically diverse with the boundary shift, while Peninsula would maintain higher rates of historically underserved students. Some saw the concentration of poverty at Peninsula as a concern, while others noted that the change may help the school maintain Title I funding.

#### Recommendation

After weighing the advice of DBRAC, as well as reviewing input from school principals, community members and district staff, I have decided to forward the boundary change option as my recommendation. While I see some advantages of moving the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, I am concerned

about the short-term nature of the change. Chief Joseph 5<sup>th</sup> grade students would have an additional school transition, and Peninsula would adjust programming to welcome and serve a cohort of students for only one year. All the while the same boundary change—or one very close to it—would very probably be implemented the following year. Making the boundary change now will set both Chief Joseph and Peninsula on more sustainable paths, and does not prevent either school from being involved in the larger set of changes that will be considered in the future

#### **Boundary change details**

The attached map shows the location of the boundary change area. This neighborhood has been part of the Chief Joseph and Ockley Green boundaries since Kenton Elementary School closed in 2004. Ockley Green will remain the middle school serving the Kenton neighborhood. Students will have a choice of enrolling in either Roosevelt or Jefferson Middle College for Advanced Studies for high school.

**Board Meeting Date**: February 13, 2017 **Executive Committee Lead**: Courtney Wilton

**Agenda Action**: X\_Resolution \_\_\_\_\_Policy

#### **BRIEF SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION**

Each year by March 1 school boards must decide whether to offer "Open Enrollment" transfers to students who live in other districts. Interim Superintendent McKean recommends that PPS opt-out of "Open Enrollment" for the 2017-18 school year. Non-resident students interested in enrolling in PPS schools will have the opportunity to apply for transfer through the standard inter-district process held in Spring 2017.

#### **BACKGROUND**

"Open Enrollment" is a limited transfer option during a specific lottery cycle, and does not affect students who move or seek transfer at other times. Approximately 100 PPS resident students have been allowed to transfer to other districts through "Open Enrollment" each year the

Department

# BOARD OF EDUATION SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1J, MUTNOMAH CONT, YOREGON

### INDEXTO THE AGENDA

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