



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

JULY 20, 2016 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 Special Meeting of the Board of Education came to order at 6:33pm at the call of Chair Tom Koehler in the Board Auditorium of the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon.

Attendance:

Present: Chair Koehler; Vice-Chair Kohnstamm; Directors Anthony, Buel, Esparza Brown, Knowles, and Rosen; Student Representative Bradley; Chief Executive Officer Yousef Awwad

Action Item:

Superintendent Search

Public Comment

Belinda Reagan: as President of the Portland Federation of School Professionals, asked the Board to make no rash choices in selecting an Interim Superintendent. The Interim Superintendent should make no significant moves to take PPS off course;; the person should just be a placeholder until a new Superintendent is hired. The Interim should hold no power to make changes of any great magnitude as that is the responsibility of the new Superintendent. Ms. Reagan reminded the Board that PPS was not Nike.

Suzanne Cohen: as President of the Portland Association of Teachers, she stated that the Interim Superintendent should have a commitment to public education and in raising student achievement. They should have lived a classroom life. Ms. Cohen commented that all unions should be involved in the process.

Roger Kirchner: requested that the Oregon PTA should have a place at the table when choosing a new Superintendent.

Greg Burrill: the new Superintendent needs many qualities, especially experience, history of change, and a management vision that allows PPS to humanely cut central office positions. He would like to see people who work in the central office placed back in the schools.

Mike Southern: PPS was at a critical crossroad and currently lacks diligent oversight and communication. Directors Buel and Anthony should be added to the Search Committee as they represent historically underserved areas in Portland. It was obvious that we need a leader with a serious management style. They need to be smart, honest and open.

David Crandall: stated that how the Board conducts themselves and proceeds with the hiring process was very important. We are facing a dysfunctional District. The District has fallen short due to implementation problems. The Board needs to check on hiring firms to see if they really earned their fees. The hiring firm should be invited to spend a week at PPS to assess things and see what they can bring to us.

The Board approved the following items: