

School District No. 1J, Multnomah County, Oregon
Study Session of November 18, 2014

INFORMAL MINUTES

A Study Session of the Board of Directors came to order at 6:05pm at the call of Co-Chair Pam Knowles in the Board Auditorium at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, OR, 97227

There were present:

Board of Directors:

Pam Knowles, Co-Chair
Ruth Adkins, Co-Chair
Bobbie Regan
Matt Morton
Tom Koehler
Greg Belisle
Steve Buel

Student Representative:

Minna Jayaswal

Staff:

Carole Smith, Superintendent
Caren Huson-Quiniones, Board Office

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marisha Childs stated her disapproval of the proposed Enrollment and Transfer Policy, stating that the recommendations were unacceptable and should be rejected. She was concerned about the impact the recommendations would have psychologically as it was important to keep siblings together.

Micah Grigonis stated that parents apply for a transfer with the idea in mind that siblings would continue all the way through to high school. That was the deal they applied under and now the Board wanted to change that.

Nicole Iroz Elardo commented that their community was one of diversity. Their principal informed them that she would be leaving in December and they want the next principal to build on what has been created. Parents want to be involved in the selection of the next Principal for Scott, but PPS administrators seem to find that policy messy and avoid it.

Richard Greensted stated that he was now embarrassed about his previous testimony to the board regarding Ockley Green, and he owes the Board and Ockley Green an apology. Both his kids love the school and have grown. Strong leadership was needed in every neighborhood school, along with the supports needed to succeed. We need to stand up for all students. He commended SACET on the work they performed for making the tough decisions.

SUPERINTENDENT'S TIMELINE FOR RECOMMENDATIONS ON ENROLLMENT AND TRANSFER

Superintendent Smith walked the Board through her recommendation memo.

Director Koehler stated that the number 1 recommendation was missing: making sure that the neighborhood schools were performing to the degree that they should and to face consequences if they don't.

Director Buel commented that it was a very fast timeline and sketchy. The Board was looking at massive changes. At least three public meetings should be held which allow for dialogue. SACET members should be present at the public meetings to answer any questions. The meeting locations should be Madison, Roosevelt and Wilson high schools. Co-Chair Adkins requested that suggestions be given tonight and then she and Co-Chair Knowles and Superintendent Smith will discuss at Board Leadership.

Director Koehler commented that PSU said they wanted to reach 40% of the people or not do it at all; he liked that suggestion. He would like to set an aggressive target on how we will reach out to all people in the district.

Director Regan mentioned that she would like interaction with the community on the SACET

