

Highline Public Schools | 2020.07.22.Board.Meeting

OK.

This recording is on now. So welcome, everyone, tonight to our regularly scheduled board meeting. I'd like for us to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, please.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Thank you, everyone. Welcome. Welcome again. It's a beautiful evening tonight. And thank you for spending it with us. So at this time, I'll ask Kyle to take roll call, please.

Director Van?

Here.

Director Dorsey?

Here.

Director Garcia?

Here.

Director Bradford?

Here.

Director Alvarez?

Here.

And so with that, I'm going to ask Kyle for any changes or additions to our agenda tonight. Seeing no-- I'm hearing no changes or additions. We'll move on to scheduled communications. Kyle, do I call for approving the agenda at this time?

No, that goes--

Later, yeah. That can--

The agenda is approved, and you just go through. The next thing is consent.

OK. Thank you. So we have a couple of scheduled communications, so members of the public can attend only remotely, not in person, or remotely online or by phone per the governor's proclamation 2028 to the Open Public Means Act and Public Records Act issued on March 24, 2020. Live public comment will not be available for this virtual special board meeting, but your comments, questions, or concerns are welcome.

And if you wish to have them be read during the board meeting, you need to email them-- email your statement to Kyle by noon the day of the board meeting. So we currently have two public testimony, and I'm going to go ahead and read them at this time.

So the written public comments for July 22, 2020, Sonja Spinarski? I hope I'm pronouncing that right.

"I'm writing to offer my support in removing the school resource officers from Highline School District and reallocating the funds to more productive and positive positions within the schools. As a family, we're also looking forward to seeing how the district is working to keep the children and families safe, and what their options during this upcoming school year transition. There doesn't appear to be much guidance from the federal government as of yet, but we trust and hope you will all keep-- that you all will keep the broad spectrum of socioeconomic circumstances and consideration as you lay out your plans. Thank you for your time."

The next step public written comment is from Jaime Flesher, and it states, "Hi, my name is Jaime Flesher. I'm a teacher at Highline School-- Highline High School, and I'd like to provide comment on two items today-- the role of SROs in schools and the plan for reopening school buildings.

First, I'd like to express my support for the motion to end all contracts with SROs throughout the district. I am excited to see that there is a motion to confirm Dr. Enfield's decision to terminate contracts at Highline and Evergreen Schools with the intention of reallocating resources towards community-driven alternatives for campus safety. I look forward to seeing the plans for engaging the community in this process and exploring the solutions generated. I hope that work is slated to begin soon.

I think it is important that all students in Highline Public Schools are able to attend school in a building where they feel safe. We know that SROs do not keep our schools safer. In fact, they increase the likelihood that our students will be funneled into the school to prison pipeline. We know that our black and brown students are particularly vulnerable to this reality. The removal of SROs doesn't just

make students feel safer. It actually makes them safer. We must eliminate contracts for SROs on all campuses immediately.

Second, I want to thank Dr. Enfield for today's decision to begin the 2021 school year in 100% virtual learning. We all want to get back in the classroom as soon as it is safe, but we know it's not safe now. It might not be safe for some time. Your decision today helps many of us breathe a sigh of relief, knowing that we will begin planning our virtual classroom spaces with intention. Once it becomes safe to begin opening buildings again, I want to voice my support for a hybrid plan that resembles the one published by North Shore School District yesterday, a plan that approaches reopening as a six-phased process that prioritizes in-school learning for the students who most benefit.

I appreciate this plan, because it mimics the phased reopening approach that Governor Inslee has taken for the state of Washington, and it allows for more intentional opening and closure as necessary. I have provided a link to this plan in my comments. Thank you for your time."

And that concludes our public-- our written public comments. And with that, we move on to our superintendent's updates.

Thank you, President Alvarez, and good evening everybody who's joining us. And this will be our final board meeting for July. Lots going on. And so I want to give an update a little bit on our announcement today regarding the fall, and then some comments from some principals regarding SROs, since there are two motions that the board will be considering tonight. And then I will end by sharing Sandy Hunt's comments.

So first of all, I think everybody knows by now that we made the very difficult decision to remain in distance learning for all students, for the most part, for the fall. This was not a decision that we made lightly. However, last week, in talking with my superintendent colleagues in the region and in just looking at the data around transmission infection rates in our region and hearing from staff, it became very clear that despite the hard work that we are doing to put every safety measure that is within our ability to do-- we're doing as part of our plan, our hybrid plan, there just still wasn't enough confidence, I think, among staff, primarily, but also some families that it would be safe to return in person. There are simply too many unknowns right now around this virus and how it will continue to spread in our community.

So after checking with the board, talking with colleagues, we made the decision to make this announcement now for the primary reason that we hope that it gives ample time for our staff and our families to plan accordingly for what I know is going to be challenging for many of them, child care

being paramount among those challenges. And so just, I want the board and the community to know while the district cannot solely take on the responsibility for child care, we are partnering with our child care providers, and we'll be communicating what options are available for families in Highline.

I want to be clear, as I said in my announcement today, this was one of the hardest decisions I've ever made. From an emotional standpoint, it was incredibly hard, because I heard loud and clear from so many families and students how much they want to be back in their school buildings. And I heard from staff, of course, who want to be back with their students, incredible anxiety around their ability to come back in person. And at the same time, the decision was somewhat easy in that the science spoke loud and clear.

And while I had hoped for clearer guidance from our state leadership, specifically OSPI and DOH, absent that, we were really left to make the best decision we could with the information we have. And I believe that we have done that. We are continuing to work with McKinsey to finalize the details of our hybrid plan so that when it is safe to do so, we will return in person in our hybrid model with, of course, the hope and the goal being that sometime in the 2021 school year, we will all be able to come back together. But that's not likely to happen in the fall, given where we are right now.

So onward, we will continue to plan. It is my hope that this announcement allows everyone to move from panic mode to planning mode, and we can actually start preparing and really making sure that we give our students the very best school year that we can beginning in September. And I want to thank my colleagues in the roadmap, who were also a part of this decision. I want to thank Catherine in our communications team, the board, and my team for really doing this work quite quickly. It was not easy, but I do believe it is in the best interest of our children and our families and staff given what we know today.

So any questions, comments from the board before I move on from reopening?

I just have a question, Susan. So as you said, we're partnering or communicating with our child care providers or are-- is there an opportunity for us to partner as well, so they know-- for instance, I'm assuming some of our students will be-- are not just preschoolers, but students that-- what I'm trying to get at is what kind of partnership we have where we can-- are we providing them with what we are learning-- what they're going to be learning in school? Because some of them, that's the only place their parents are going to be working that they might have support with their schoolwork.

Yeah, so fortunately, for nearly eight years now, Highline has had strong partnerships with our caregivers and early learning community. And we've done joint trainings so that our youngest

learners, even before they went to kindergarten, given that we can't provide pre-K for all of our students, we want our students to arrive in kindergarten as ready as possible. So we have a long history of that. That's not new to us, and we'll continue that to the degree that we can.

Now, of course, in-person trainings and things are not an option right now. But what we will do is sort of provide the list of all the child care opportunities. Some have fees. Some do not. And we will, of course, make-- our early learning team will absolutely make themselves available as a resource to share lessons, learnings, et cetera.

However, I do want to say this, and this is a very important point. What our distance learning looks like in the fall will be very different from what it looked like in the spring. So Susanne Jerde and her team are working very hard at basically outlining what the entire day will look like. There will be synchronous instruction. There will be times in the day where students are sitting down at their device with their class and their teacher learning. There will also be independent times.

We are also aware that while there is a need and a desire for synchronous learning, that is also difficult for some families, given scheduling. So we will, on August 11th, have two webinars for families to share what the school day will look like so that they can ask questions and weigh in.

But it will-- I guess what I'm saying, President Alvarez, is that there will be a much richer learning environment for our students come fall, because we learned a lot of lessons in the spring. And we know that our students and our families expect more from us, and we will deliver on that.

So more--

And so--

Yeah?

And just to follow up with that, knowing that we're hoping to have more synchronized teaching and learning hotspots, so have we gotten more hotspots? Are we connecting with families who really need or have limited access to internet or have no access to internet? So are we connecting with those families, and how are we doing?

I'm going to turn to Mark so he can update you on where we are in our talks with our city partners and others.

So Angelica, I am talking with the City of Burien I believe Scott or Catherine talked to City of Sea-Tac.

Burien has set aside some moneys from their CARE dollars that will be allocated to help with sponsorship of some internet connectivity. I've got a meeting with Eric from the city on Friday. I believe the PIO from the city is going to be involved, and Catherine will do a joint press release on that.

We're going to be sending out a school message or survey to parents, which is really only one question. But that one question will help us to identify the individual needs of each resident when it comes to the service and will allow us to be able to then reach back out to them with details.

And we also have 2,300 hotspots for your own use.

And so follow-up to that, Mark. When they say "sponsorship," what does that really mean?

Comcast's sponsorship is the city would actually pay for a year's worth of service for each of those residents, and it would be no charge for the resident.

OK, thank you.

I also wanted a flag on that issue. I know that King County Council recently allotted \$10 million towards tech accessibility. And I know White Center kind of falls under that unincorporated area, so it'd be good to peg them a little bit.

Yeah, so I have been talking with-- it's Darryl Hunt and another individual with King County. They're a little bit behind the cities, and they have quite a bit more red tape. So every time we talk, they go back, and they go over that information. Then we talk again. So that one's a little slower.

So--

Yeah.

Yeah, I don't have a question as much as just a comment. I do want to just thank-- thank you, Dr. Enfield. Thank the leadership, this board, the regional leadership. This is a hard decision, and I know that you said that emotionally. It just-- it continues to present to us the challenge of this year, where nothing is normal. And we continue to encounter the abnormalcy of this year.

And so I just want to acknowledge, again, that with any decision, there are going to be hardships for many people. And I just want us all to-- I know that we're all aware of that, but just that this is a-- this is going to take everyone. This is going to take the community. And I know that as a family member, we're reaching out across the families to see who needs to be deployed where at what times. And so

this is, again, unprecedented. It's never been, in our history, where we are starting the school year in this fully remote state.

And so again, I'm grateful for the leadership that we can devote the time that we have now on really trying to shore this up as much as possible so that, like you said, that we're not starting-- this fall isn't going to look like this spring. Spring caught us completely off guard, so we have some preparation now. And so knowing that we can devote the next six weeks or however many weeks we have until school, and that we can have all hands on deck to do that is at least encouraging.

And so again, thank you. It's a hard decision. I know that we're all feeling it, but the burden and the weight of this decision-- I just wanted to comment on that.

Thank you very much, Director Bradford. I will say, too, obviously, emotions are very high on this issue. I get that. And as is very common when we make a tough decision, I've gotten some very candid, passionate feedback today from some folks. And that's fair. You know, this is a big deal. As I've always said to people, school is a child's second home. They spend so much time there. So when you mess with a child's school life, you're really messing with their livelihood to some degree.

So I understand. I understand the deep impact that this has. I also want to just give people a little bit of context for those who are thinking that, perhaps, this was an overreaction. The superintendents in the South King County region in Seattle, we actually consulted with King County Public Health and with Patty Hayes. And she understands the difficult position we're in, but public health came out with a statement today supporting this decision.

And Patty was very clear with us. Given where our numbers are right now, it is very, very likely that had we made the decision to come back in a hybrid and open school in that way, we likely would have had cases every week in our schools. And we would have been shutting down constantly on a rolling basis, and the chaos and disruption that would have had on our families and staff, not to mention the health implications that it would have-- I just-- I just-- I just-- we couldn't subject our folks to that.

And so that was really the driving factor. And I also want to acknowledge I've also received some incredibly kind and generous emails of parents and staff in the community saying, how can I help? To Fa'izah's point, this is going to take a community effort. And I just want to thank those in the Highline community-- this is a special place-- who have stepped up and said, I'm ready to help another family. And I think we're going to see a lot of that.

So my thanks to those who are making that offer. We appreciate that. And as I said, we will get through this. It will be hard, but we will get through this.

Lastly, I just-- real quick-- I do think it gives us an opportunity to really lean in into knowing every child by name, strength, and need. And so I do think that this will give us that opportunity to do that.

Never waste a good crisis, right? So to that end, our whole child planning team, our task force, they have, actually, a recommendation for a process by which every student, pre-K through 12, will have weekly contact with an adult at their school on an ongoing basis so that in addition to their schoolwork-- I mean this is just someone checking in on them. How are they doing? Because we really do have an opportunity-- I would argue a moral responsibility-- to make sure that we are connecting with all of our kids, because this will be hard on them. And it's going to be important to them that they know that we are here for them and that they have that meaningful adult relationship with someone in their building. So yes, absolutely, we will do that.

So shifting now, the board is going to have discussion and vote tonight on the SRO issue, which has obviously been a very hotly debated issue in recent weeks and months. And as I explained to the board, this is-- we've heard from people on all sides of this issue-- those who want all SROs out, those who want us to keep SROs, and those who are somewhere in the middle.

And so there are two motions tonight, one which is to eliminate all the sorrows. The other would be to take a middle ground. And I want to provide a little context for that middle ground and where that proposal came from. I have tremendous, tremendous faith and confidence in our principals. And in fact, McKinsey today commented on how impressed they were with the work our principals have been doing around this hybrid model, really. And they said, you know, we work with people everywhere, and we've never seen the level of commitment and innovation and follow-through that your principals have exhibited. And so we have the best principals anywhere in this country.

And I trust them. I hired them, and I trust them. And I trust them to make decisions that are in the best interest of their community, and I trust them to know the needs of their community-- their students, their staff, their families. And so when the issue of SROs came up, I went to our four comprehensive high school principals. And I asked them, what do you want? You tell me.

And Evergreen, so Jacqueline at Evergreen, and Clint and Tremain at Highline both said, we'd like to take another path. I said, OK. And Victoria Terry and-- Victoria Terry from Tyee and Kyle Linman at Mount Rainier said, we'd actually like to keep our SRO.

So I thought that it would be helpful, since I know you've heard-- I know you've heard from people who are for and against, and you've heard a lot of people who want the elimination-- I thought that you should hear from the principals who do want to keep them, just the why. And it may not influence where you stand on the issue at all, but I felt it was important to give them a voice.

I'm going to read-- Kyle gave me a brief message that I'll read, but Victoria's was a little lengthier, and I felt that her voice in sharing it herself would be more powerful than my sharing it on her behalf. So I'm going to share Kyle's, and then I'm going to turn it to the fabulous Victoria Terry to share her leadership team's thinking on this issue, because all of us agree this is not an easy issue, and it's one that we've given a tremendous amount of time and thought to.

So this is what Kyle Linman shared. He said, "Our Mount Rainier SRO represents a decades-long relationship with the largest comprehensive high school and a small community police department. Our students and community use our SRO in a clinic type service model, meaning students and families rely on having a safe police representative at our school for reporting and support.

Students have started programs like the Coffee with a Cop that has historically included patrol officers, office staff, and the chief. The Mount Rainier SRO hires a position that has several applicants and not an assignment like some of the other larger departments. This has allowed us to have incredible relationships with our SRO, the Des Moines department, students, staff, and community." And so that's from Kyle.

And now, Victoria, I would like to give you a chance to share your thoughts on this, and you're welcome to read verbatim, or you're welcome just to share. It's up to you.

I'm going to read it verbatim. Thank you. "Dr. Enfield and honorable board members, first, we want to thank you for hearing and listening to Tyee High School administration. It's greatly appreciated. We must acknowledge that this conversation does not happen in a silo nor do the lives of our students. Our students' and families' well-being are greatly impacted by broad societal factors. The COVID-19 crisis has only exacerbated inequities of poverty, access, health care, housing, and other basic needs that impact life learning and outcomes.

As three administrators of color, we understand the long and complicated relationship between law enforcement and black, native, and people of color in the context of these broader societal factors. It has been our experience, however, that the role of the SRO has only been to support administration, learning, and to keep our campus safe. We acknowledge this has not been a shared experience between all campuses in our district.

To be completely transparent, though, it is important to note that we have experienced some challenges with our district's security, but nothing to dissuade us from having them on our campus. The safety of our students and staff is paramount. Safety must come first, as it is a basic need. And without it, learning is impossible. Students and staff will not want to attend a school that is not safe, nor will parents want to send their students to an unsafe school.

On our Tyee campus, we have developed consistent and well-understood systems of safety. Our experience with our SRO at Tyee is one of building and sustaining relationships with staff and students, collaboration, and educating our students. The SRO in Tyee follows the lead of administration and our directives. Thus, after much thought and dialogue, the administration at Tyee believes it is in the best interest of our staff and students to maintain an SRO on campus at this time.

We are writing this with the experience of a calm, competent, culturally responsive and collaborative SRO presence. Our hope is the next SRO that is assigned to our campus is like the one we had before that will get to know our students and staff and build relationships. As educators, we know that building relationships is where trust happens, and once trust is built, it serves to strengthen our community.

We hope you consider the above when making your decision. Thank you so much for taking the time to hear me out. I appreciate it."

Thank you, Victoria. I appreciate your being here and lending your voice. I just think that this is such a complex issue, and the feelings are so strong. And I just appreciate you sharing directly from your leadership chair, as a building principal, how complex it is for you as well, that it's something you had to give a lot of thought to.

And I, of course, after asking Victoria if she would do this, pretty much at the last minute, I also want to allow her an evening with her husband. So are there any questions that the board might have for her before I release Victoria to her evening?

Thank you, Victoria. Good to see you. Question is-- so you all of the Tyee campus, the current president of the SRO, I think the SRO, was promoted. If there is to be an SRO on campus, will you all have input, active input in who that is and being part of the hiring process?

Yes, actually, Scott Logan and I had a phone meeting this morning. He shared with me an individual he has in mind. And I shared with Scott that we all need to sit down, because I need to have-- we need

to all have an understanding. I need this SRO to know my expectations on campus. And I also want to ensure that he is able to do what we need him to do, like our anti-racist work. That's huge work this year. I need him right beside us. Like, he cannot be in a silo. He needs to be working right beside us in addressing these issues.

So yes, we are going to have a say. If I get this feeling that he can't do what I need him to do, Dr. Bradford, I already told Scott, it's a no go. And I think that's fair, because I need somebody that is going to work with me and understands what I need from them. So.

Good answer.

Question, Dr. Bradford?

Yeah, yeah, yeah. Thank you. And I appreciate the ascribed scholarship, but [LAUGHS] I'll just take [INAUDIBLE]. But thank you.

You're welcome.

You know, I get ramped up over this stuff, because it's important to me, because I'm a parent. You know, my sons went to Tyee, and I know that I want my sons to be safe. I wanted them to be safe. I'm not law enforcement, so I'm not equipped to deal with some of the things that happened on our campus the past three years that I was there. So thank you.

A question I had-- if the board decided not to have SROs, is there a vision of what would happen in its place?

Do I have that vision right now? I'm going to have to say no. If that does happen, yes, I'll be meeting with my co-principal and my vice principal so we can talk about what that's going to-- what that would look like on our campus. I haven't thought about it. My hope is I will have an SRO, but I know that's up to you guys. But yeah, but I haven't thought about it yet, so.

Thank you.

Mm-hmm. Any other questions for me?

Any other, directors? I don't think so. I just want to say thank you, Victoria, for taking the time to be-- to come to the board meeting. So go enjoy your evening. It's beautiful out. At least you get to go enjoy it.

Yeah, absolutely. Thank you. I appreciate it.

All right, have a good night, Victoria.

Bye bye.

Bye bye.

OK.

Any other updates?

yes I'm going to end with Sandy Hunt's comments, which I'll read right now. "Dear school board directors and Dr. Enfield. HEA leaders and members would like to express our appreciation for a clear science-driven decision about the safe return to learning in the fall. Opening with the hybrid model in full distance mode is the right decision.

Local labor leaders have been concerned that Superintendent Reykdal has been largely silent in the face of rising safety concerns. In contrast to his proactive stance in the spring, it has been disturbing that he has not exerted more leadership in the face of scientific evidence that, given current transmission rates, in person re-opening of buildings will endanger the health and lives of staff, students, and community.

Moreover, I would add that Governor Inslee's refusal to link the reopening of school buildings to the phased reopening of counties has politicized the process and potentially put lives in needless danger. We know that there is no ideal solution. All we can ask for is an ideal process.

Thankfully, the process used to determine the opening of school buildings by Highline and other districts in the area has been reasoned and sound. Schools do not exist in a vacuum. Thus, monitoring public health data, gathering feedback from staff and families, and considering the long term health impacts of this disease on educators, students, and community are important variables used to drive Highline's decision-making.

We all recognize that this decision was not an easy one to make and will bring its own set of challenges. Throughout this process, however, the HEA commits to working with the district in good faith to develop and implement a system that meets the needs of our most vulnerable students while safeguarding the health and safety of our members and those of our community. Finally, moving forward from today with this decision in place, we will be able to prepare for instruction in the fall with

renewed purpose and energy.

At the same time, this gives us an opportunity to find fresh approaches to addressing some of our most pressing problems. The school resource officer contract up for discussion this evening is one such example, where the board should consider whether this contract is necessary when operating in a remote or even hybrid model. I continually hear that our students need more social workers and counselors, and if we open buildings in hybrid, we will need more nurses.

With better clarity around our model and potentially new funding from the federal government, we hope the district will prioritize spending on the human capital we value the most. With much appreciation, Sandy Hunt."

Thank you. And so this-- that concludes your updates?

Yes.

And so with that, we're going to move on to school board reports. Do we have any legislative reports?

No. No.

None. So director reports, so we'll start with Mr. Director Van, Mr. Joe Van. Do you have any reports, director reports? You're on mute. You're still on mute.

There you go. Good afternoon. Can you hear me now?

Yes, we can hear you.

I am in Atlanta working right now, so I apologize. I just want to thank Dr. Enfield and staff and all of our regional leaders for making a really tough decision as part of that discussion this last few days. It is my family, my kids, my wife, they wanted to go back to school. But with the infectious rates going up in the majority of our cities, I think it is in the best interest of our community that we go with the virtual learning for the first-- through fall. So thank you so much.

I was surfing Facebook about a week ago, and I happened to come upon the HEA web page. And they had a program, and it was brought to us by the Prince George County Memorial Library System. And it was in regards to how to be an anti-racist. And Dr. Kennedy spoke on it. That was last Monday.

I listened to it. I had about 20 of my teammates, my co-workers listen to it as well. I learned so much from that. There was a lot of questions. Then that created a lot of discussion amongst my own

workers and teammates. So I just wanted to thank the HEA for having that on their Facebook. And there was over 77,000 viewers at one time, and it was crashing quite a few times. But I got a lot out of it, so I just wanted to thank our HEA for having that. Other than that, that's it.

Thank you, Director Van. Director Bradford, any reports?

No.

Thank you. Director Garcia?

Yeah, I'll do a quick update on the Highline forum. I'd shared the documents that were shared with us, some very interesting stuff when you guys have some time to go through it. But it was-- we got a good update from President Mosby from Highland College about how they've been managing through this pandemic and how hopeful they are for next year. And they're in lockstep with us in trying to do what's best for students and families. And that was good to just get an update from them.

Scott's going to walk us through a very fine update around the ultra fine particle study that the work will be-- has been doing. But it did bring up some interesting questions, and I think there is some like-- sincerely some things to think about in regards to air quality, especially in this post-COVID world, where we get back to school and what we're doing around that to make sure the air quality is good for our youth.

They had mentioned-- this is just good, kind of an update that they're going to be helping with the-- they're doing a \$10 million South King County fund opportunity around COVID response, but it's also grounded in race and equity as some of the guiding principles of how they want to allocate this funding, which is just a different approach that they've ever done when it comes to allocating funding. So it's encouraging to see other systems starting to do things differently, especially when it comes to the allocation of their resources.

And I had left before I got the final update, but yeah. Check out the notes, and I'll wait until Scott can give us a good 10-hour review of the ultra fine particle study.

Thank you, Director Garcia. I'm sure Scott will provide us with a 10-hour report soon. Director Dorsey, any updates?

Just real quickly, I know, President Alvarez, that you and I were also on that webinar on Monday. And I, too, got a lot out of it. I really enjoyed it, and I think this whole-- this last year has been so much learning in so many different ways. And so I was really glad that Director Van reminded me that it

was coming at like two minutes 'til, so I was able to get on there. And so thanks for that, Joe.

And I also appreciate how difficult he found this decision regarding schools and opening in the fall is. I think it's-- I truly think it's the right thing to do. I know it's not the easy thing, but it's like the right thing usually isn't. So I'm sure that we'll give it the Highline-- do it the Highline way and hopefully will be successful, but there's a lot that's going to need to happen between now and when school starts. And I know we're committed to it, and I have faith in our team and the leadership of the district. And so we'll get through it. We will get through it.

I mean resiliency is an important part of everything that we do as human beings, and now is the time where the adults need to model that for the students. And so I'm confident that we'll be doing that. So that's it for me. Thank you.

Thank you, Director Dorsey. I also don't have any updates, just some words of gratitude. I know that, finally, I've heard from some families that they finally can start making some choices now before school starts around what their plan is for their children. And one of the things I appreciate from Highline is the communication piece that has gone out.

Having several people that are in-- that we communicate regularly on a weekly basis, who are families that are in Kent and Federal Way and in Auburn and here in Highline. And for them, to our always asking, what's the latest? What's the latest? What's going to happen with schools?

So finally getting the message out has-- I've gotten lots of emails just thinking, whether they agreed with it or not, but that they at least have the opportunity to plan for when school starts. So I'm just thankful to our communications-- with our communication efforts and to Catherine for putting out communication. So just a thank you for the communication piece.

And with that, I think that concludes our school board reports, and we're going to move to our consent agenda. So I'm going to ask a motion to approve our consent agenda, and I'll need a second.

I move that we approve our consent agenda.

I'll second.

So all in favor, say aye.

Aye.

Aye.

Aye.

Any opposed? With none being our or consent agenda has been approved. So we'll move on to our introduction and action items. Our first 7.1 introduction item, it asked for a motion to direct the superintendent to end all current school resource officer contracts and not enter into new contracts for the '20-'21 school year. Approval of this motion would end all contracts for school resource officers. So any questions or comments before we get a motion?

Yep. I mean I'll share just my thoughts on this. You know, I really do think-- and I know I shared this before, but if we were to do a blank slate and give our students the ability to decide, like, what is it that makes us safe, and we kept SRO as an option, I don't think SROs would fall in that top three, top five, top 10 of the things that our young people want and need to make them safe.

I also think with us kind of going with distance remote learning to start off the year, it makes this decision a little bit easier. We don't really need them right now at the start of the school year. But also, bottom line, I think if we're going to rethink how we do this and how we have a relationship with this system, I think it starts with how we allocate our funding.

You know, last year, we spent 405k on this system, and I still haven't gotten the-- I guess the answer of knowing, was the return on investment there? Did our kids, did our students feel safer with that investment there? And I know if we put the money somewhere else, they would feel safer. So that's why I'm in favor of this.

I think we've heard from many, many people that they're going to stand up and make sure that this is successful, if we decide to move forward with this. And it's just, I think, we are at that place in our time, in our society, where we can make sure that our kids are safe without having to rely on this system.

And you know, I can go on and on and on on what I know to be true around what this system has done to hurt BIPOC children and how it keeps on perpetuating some injustice. I can spiel facts for days on that. But at the end of the day, I really do feel like we can build a better program to keep our kids safe if we didn't have this hanging over us.

Director Garcia, I do not pretend to think for a minute this will change your stance, because I know how strongly you feel about this, and I respect that. But I do want you to know that if the board does decide to keep SROs at two sites, we can prorate those contracts while we're in distance learning. So I think that's a very fair question, that there wouldn't need to be a presence on campus if we didn't

have students. So I just wanted to put that out there, so you know.

So knowing that, Dr. Enfield, are we able to be reimbursed for the proration of those contracts since March for this current school year?

That is a good question. I don't know that. Scott?

This may actually be a better Kate question, but there is not a specific allocation for SRO. There is a specific allocation for school safety that can be used toward SRO or internal school safety programs.

Yeah, I do think that that's worth investigating. And yeah, I would have a strong expectation that that does happen, since they were not working for us. Kate, were you going to say something? I could-- I see you.

We will look into it. We'll review the contract and see what reimbursements we can do.

And we won't have to pay for services while we're in the distance mode.

Any other questions or comments?

Yeah, I was just going to further comment. And I know that I appreciate this process. I appreciate the discussion that we've had. I appreciate the input, like I said. I think at this point, there's probably been close to 1,000 emails that I have received regarding this issue. I've said it before, and I still-- I'm still curious about how one person on campus has such an impact.

Yeah, I am curious about that, and how so much agency is given to one position. And so I just remain curious about how that position is used as an SRO. I continue to be curious as to if folks outside of the district or that don't work in the district truly know the landscape of SROs in middle and-- excuse me, not middle school, but in high school, high schools.

So again, I just don't know that-- yeah, I just-- I still don't-- I just remain curious as to how so much agency is given to one position-- yeah, and how we can think differently and if we are truly holding on to the status quo, because it's something that's just, then-- it's just what we've done. And so I think that, again, in order to change and overhaul a system, we have to be able to really interrogate what, where-- what and why we are holding on to anything.

We may find that it makes sense to hold onto something. We may find that it makes sense to let some things go. And I think that, as a system, as we continue to strive towards the very hard work of

systemic overhaul and becoming an anti-racist institution, we are going to have to be willing to interrogate, examine, and deeply what we're holding on to and what we're willing to let go.

Thank you for that comment, Director Bradford. I think I also just want to comment that we heard from Victoria from the Tyee campus and how that-- what they're-- why they made the decision as to them wanting their SRO. So I think, like you mentioned, we need to interrogate and also see how that-- I feel like we're not putting so much agency in one person.

I just feel like it is something that we all-- well, regardless, I think at this time, without any further comments or questions, I'd like to make a motion to direct the superintendent to end all current school resource contracts and not enter into new contracts for the '20-'21 school year. Approval of this motion would end all contracts for school resource officers. So I'm asking for a second on this motion.

Second.

So--

[INAUDIBLE]. Oh, thank you. I got it.

Oh, OK. Thank you. So roll call, Kyle?

Director Dorsey?

Nay.

Director Bradford?

Yea.

Director Van?

Nay.

Director Garcia?

Yea.

Director Alvarez?

Nay.

This motion fails 3 to 2.

So our next motion is to confirm the superintendent's decision to eliminate the school resource officer position at Evergreen High School and Highline High School and allocate financial resources to support community-driven alternatives for campus safety. The superintendent will evaluate the school resource officer at Tyee School and Mount Rainier High School. After conferring with those communities and otherwise complying with the requirements set forth in House Bill 1216, approval of this motion would eliminate SRO positions at Evergreen High School and Highline High school and evaluate the SRO positions at Tyee and Mount Rainier High School. So any questions or discussion?

I just have a question regarding-- is there-- are we identifying the financial resources? Are we-- is that the same amount that would be allocated for the SROs? Is it the entire amount? Is it our portion? I mean where-- I just feel like we should put some parameter around it. I think, to me, I think this is a-- I totally agree with Director Bradford. We, at some point, have to challenge the system. I think there's a great opportunity for us to look at, what does it look like? In the absence of SROs, what would it look like? And allow the community to help us determine what that is.

But I also want to listen to Principal or to Victoria, and I also want to listen to Kyle in a minute, Mount Rainier. So I would just-- with this, I'm just wondering if there is a dollar figure attached to this or not.

Can you speak to the-- so I had emailed the board what the amounts were for our budget, but Kate, can you speak specifically to what the amounts are?

So what we have budgeted is \$108,000. And where that comes from is that the two contracts that would be ending add up to \$198,000, but we had already budgeted an across the board cut of \$90,000. So when you put those together, we land at \$108,000 is what we currently have in the budget.

Is that for both or each?

All together, for both.

All together. Good.

So how do we go from paying 88 grand for an SRO, because wouldn't that be 160 grand?

Because we had some of that one-time funding in there, it was a total of 198 is how much we had already allocated. And we were making a cut of 90. because we were already planning on cutting 90

is why we're down to the 108. And we needed to make across the board cuts to balance the budget.

So any other questions?

So--

That's-- go ahead.

No, it just-- so we're still going to pay the salary rate of 80 grand for two SROs, and then we're going to give the two schools 60 grand to figure out what to do? Is that kind of how it's shaping out? Am I understanding that right?

No. Kate, could you please list what each-- so what the SRO budgeted amount and our budget for each campus is for next year?

It is around 80, 80 grand at the two remaining campuses, and then there's the 108 that would be split between the two-- the Highline and Evergreen. So Director Garcia is correct that there's about 108 for these two.

I mean I-- overall, this motion, I don't even feel like we have to do it personally. I'll kind of just list some reasons why. I don't like the precedent. It kind of feels like we're trying to micromanage a little bit. I think we have the superintendent's back if they do this, and I don't think it necessarily needs a motion. And really, I think what we should be trying to tackle a little bit is how much we want to fund this or not. And I don't know. I think it's just going to take more time. So I'm one to think that this motion doesn't even really need to happen.

So Director Garcia, let me-- before we get to, and I might ask Holly to weigh in on the motion or the other board members, but I would also offer this. The initial-- you know, we don't know yet, because we don't know what the decision is yet. We don't know yet what the Evergreen and Highline communities would come up with as an alternative. So you could look at this amount as seed money, if you will, for whatever the planning and community-based organizing and all of that is to come up with the alternative.

Once that alternative is sort of presented and decided upon, then we can revisit what that-- what it's going to cost to implement. Does that make sense? So you'd almost be looking at this as sort of the planning dollars to-- because we don't-- there is no plan right now. There's no plan. The community wants to develop that, and we want that to happen. So if you look at it that way, the board could always come back and say, the communities come up with this plan, and we're were authorizing the

superintendent to go into our fund balance or whatever to-- I'm just saying that's [INAUDIBLE].

Well, and the reason for my question was just that we typically put some fiscal parameters on something where we're going to do it. And that's all. If we don't feel as though we need those, I'm anxious to see what they come up with. But I think it's only fair to those that are doing the planning to have some idea of what their financial resources will be. That's all. That's the only reason why I ask, so.

So without any more questions or comments?

Yeah, I guess-- I guess I'm a little confused about this motion. And I think to Director Garcia's point, why does it need to be a motion, if 7.1 has failed? It does-- it would appear that folks can continue doing things as they have been doing, and the leadership of those buildings can make the decisions, that they may have that autonomy to make the decisions that they would like to make and engage the communities in the ways that they would like to engage.

So I am a little confused as to this motion, why we are voting on this motion.

Well, because this motion, the motion that you just voted on was to end all contracts for SROs. What this motion does is it ends it at Evergreen and Highline. So if we don't vote on this motion, the SROs remain there.

Well, that's-- I mean-- I just assume the power-- the decision making-- like, principals and you always had that decision making ability. Like, we can affirm it, I guess, if that's what you're looking for. But I didn't-- yeah. I guess if that's what it takes, I'm sure we can vote on it. But I thought you guys already had that ability to do it. I didn't think it really required board action.

Well, I'm [INAUDIBLE], so I'm doing what [AUDIO OUT] asked me to do.

Last meeting--

This was my-- this was my request as of the last meeting when we added it at the end of the meeting. From what I heard was that we wanted to define-- we wanted to vote on which direction we wanted to go. So based on the second motion here, it just defines what we are asking Dr. Enfield to move forward with.

Yeah, I--

So--

I think-- yeah, I think it-- I remember you introducing that at the last meeting, Director Van. And so I think it was then later decided that that 7.1 would then come as a motion for-- yeah, as an intro action item. So I think-- I think I'm understanding why it is here, and because there is an existing contract for SROs at each of those four schools, I do understand why we then would need to vote on this, on 7.2, because we do currently have an existing contract for SROs at the four core schools.

So as the motion is there, I recommend that we continue and move forward and vote for this motion at this time. So I make a motion to confirm the superintendent decision to eliminate the school resource officer position at Evergreen High School and Highline High School and allocate financial resources to support the community-driven alternatives for campus safety. The superintendent will evaluate the school resource officer at Tye High School and Mount Rainier High School after conferring with those communities and otherwise complying with the requirements set forth in House Bill 1216.

Approval of this motion would eliminate the SRO position at Evergreen and--

Hello?

--Highline High School and evaluate the SRO position at Tye High School and Mount Rainier High School. And I need a second.

I'll second.

So Kyle, roll call?

Director Van?

Yea.

Director Bradford?

Yea.

Director Dorsey?

Yea.

Director Garcia?

Yea.

This motion pa-- Director Alvarez?

Yea.

This motion passes five to none.

With that, we move to 7.3, motion to purchase one to one devices for the '20-'21 school year. Approval of this motion would purchase 1,500 Chromebooks, 300 ZBooks, and 300 x360 Windows devices aligned with digital and media literacy strategic goal. Any questions or comments?

I have a question, President Alvarez. Mark, could you let me-- or could you let us know if this was part of-- did we get a bid for-- three bids based on these purchases?

So we use state contracts, so we didn't have to go out through a formal bidding process for that as long as you have the bid requirement done by the vendor and meet certain requirements.

Thank you. I didn't want our auditors to come back and ding us for that like they did a few years ago, so I appreciate that. One other question. Motion 7.4 is to purchase iPads in addition to this. Is there a reason why we have two motions? Is it because of where the funding is coming from?

It's where the funding is coming from and the different vendors associated to that.

OK. I appreciate that. Thank you.

Any other questions?

I just wanted to clarify, because technology comes up for us quite a bit, it seems like, and so is this going to make certain that all students and staff have devices and are equipped for starting-- for remote and being fully remote for the fall?

Yes. What it's going to do is it's going to provide the pre-K, K, and 1 with the iPads, which, obviously, they need, the students who have IEPs and 504s access to the same technology, which is easier for them to use, and then the Chromebooks are going to actually be-- what we're doing, if you remember, you had a 4,300 Chromebook order that we did earlier.

We're moving that 4,300 Chromebook order down to the second, third, fourth, and fifth grade students to give them a touch-based Chromebook. And we're buying 1,500 to go into the high schools where we are short with the high school students.

So every student should have a device. Now it's just getting them the internet access.

OK, and so then will all staff that need devices have devices as well? Does this cover that?

Oh, I forgot to answer that one. So the 300 ZBooks and the 300 x360s are for the paraprofessionals, the specialists, and teachers who are in need of a device, because they do not have a device, one that is suitable for the virtual environment.

And then that will be-- that will cover everyone that we have determined needs a device in order to do their job?

That's where we are right now, yes.

Thank you.

You're welcome.

Any other question?

I have one more, Mark. Will all of the apps be compatible with all of our devices that are needed?

Yes, any of the applications that the teaching and learning department has approved through their curriculum sources-- Seesaw say, Google Classroom, we do use Canvas still, and then any of the blended learning applications that we use in support of math, science, social studies, arts-- they're all supported.

So we have a mass subscription for all those? OK, I appreciate that.

So any other questions? Hearing and seeing no other questions, I move that the Highline School Board approve this purchase to align with digital and media literacy strategic goal. I need a second.

I'll second.

Kyle, roll call, please?

Director Bradford?

Yea.

Director Dorsey?

Yea.

Director Garcia?

Yea.

Director Van?

Yea.

Miss-- Director Alvarez?

Kyle, I'm here. I'm here, Kyle. I promise.

Director Alvarez?

Yea. Yea.

Motion passes five to none.

All right, you can make a mistake once or twice, Kyle. It's all right. So we move on to 7.4, motion to purchase iPads for remote access. The approval of this motion would purchase 3,000 iPads for remote access. Any questions or comments?

Nope.

With seeing or hearing none, I move that the Highline School Board approve this purchase to align with the digital media and literary strategic goal.

Second.

Roll call, please?

Director Bradford?

Yea.

Director Van?

Yea.

Director Garcia?

Yea.

Director Dorsey?

Yea.

Director Alvarez?

Yea, I'm here.

This motion passes five to none.

Thank you, Kyle. So the next items we have are introduction items, a motion to approve the purchase order increase for Cumberland Therapy Services. Approval of this motion would increase the amount for the '20-'21 school year. Any questions, comments?

And since these are up for introduction, we had the opportunity to really connect with staff to get more information on this. So we don't have to get all our answers in tonight. Or all our questions, so you have time to think of those, unless something comes up to mind.

Item 8-- or item, yes, 8.2, motion to approve '20-'21 Copiers Northwest contract renewal. The approval of this motion would renew the Copiers Northwest contract, and this is just a renewable contract.

Director, you skipped 8.1.

No, I read 8.1.

Oh, sorry.

It's OK, Kyle. You can make three mistakes.

My internet's skipping.

And I'm not counting either, but so far, three mistakes, but you're all right. So 8.3, since we've done 8.1--

8.2, I'm just curious, is there-- and this is maybe just for the next meeting, but was there an increased cost because of all the packets that we had to make? And will-- like, I'm assuming we're going to maybe be in a more packet mode for next year, so this does this account for future packet-making?

So we did a special order for the packets, and so that's in it-- this is just like our regular day to day copying, and packets are done in a special order for which did actually cost more. But they'll be part of our CARES reimbursement.

Thank you.

Yeah.

Thank you. So 8.3, motion to approve revisions to policy 3242, close campus. Approval of this motion would revise policy 3242.

Also, just anecdotal, but is there-- I've just heard that some--

Uh-oh. You're frozen, Aaron.

Aaron, we lost you.

Can you type it in the chat? Oh, now you're back.

You're back.

OK.

Sorry, it was--

We still can't hear you. Oh.

I'm going to turn my camera off and see if it helps.

OK.

It's anecdotal, but I've actually heard requests for some staff to be able to work from their office. So would this limit their ability to work from the office?

Yeah, no. Thank you. Thank you for that, Aaron. So the closed campus will be when we actually are back in the hybrid model, and when students and staff are at school, we're not going to let people leave for lunch. That's really what this is about.

But you raise a good question around while we're in distance learning, yes, we are talking with staff around providing flexibility so that those teachers and staff who want to teach in their classroom, because they have their resources there and things, that they will have the ability to do that, or they

can do it from home. We're going to have to manage that a little bit, because we don't want tons of people in our buildings, so we're going to have to make sure we're keeping on top of cleaning. But we believe that we can provide the flexibility and the option for staff to do their work either at home or in the building.

Thank you.

Thank you for those questions. 8.4, motion to approve '20-'21 dairy purchases. The approval of that motion would agree-- would approve the agreement to spend up to \$500,000 with Dairy Fresh Farms for the '20-'21 school year. Any questions or comments?

So item 8.5, motion to approve food and produce purchases in '20-'21, approval of the motion would approve the agreement to spend \$450,000 with the delivery of Washington and spend \$3,261,175 with US Foods Inc for '20-'21 school year. Any questions or comments on that?

And item 8.6 to approve utilizing the USDA Commodity Food. The approval of this motion would approve the use of \$325,000 to utilize Commodity Food products as allocated from USDA for the national school lunch program. Any questions or comments?

And remember, these--

Oh, what were you going to say?

I was just going to say, these are intro items, so we have time for questions if we want to-- did you have a question, Director Bradford?

Yeah, I think regarding 8.4, 8.5, and 8.6, just how will this be-- will there-- how will these be impacted, with, again, a full remote model in the fall?

Yeah, I'm going to have Scott speak to that. But we will still be providing meals when our students are home, but I'll let Scott provide more detail.

And that really is the bulk of the answers. We're still going to be providing meals district-wide even while we're in the distance mode for learning. You'll see these were written in "up to," because there probably will be-- I won't say probably. Generally, when we do this, there's less participation, so we may have less food purchases required, so it doesn't say we're providing a contract for 450. It says up to 450. And each one is written in the up to approach.

Thanks, Scott.

So with no other questions, do we want to add any items to the consent agenda for our next board meeting, any of the intro items?

I would move that we-- you'd move items- all of the items except for 8.3, but all the other-- the remaining 8.1, 8.2, 8.4, 8.5, and 8.6 be moved to the next meeting's consent agenda.

So I need a second for that.

I'll second.

So all in favor? I say aye.

Aye.

Any opposed? No. So all items except 8.3 will be moved to our consent agenda for our next meeting. With that being said, that concludes our meeting, so I'll ask for a motion to adjourn this meeting.

I move we adjourn.

I'll second that. All in favor?

Aye.

Aye.

Aye.

Any opposed to adjourning? No opposed? OK, so we're adjourned. Thank you, everyone. Thank you.