

School District No. 1J, Multnomah County, Oregon
Board Committee Meeting of January 10, 2019

INFORMAL MINUTES

A meeting of the Board's Policy and Governance Committee meeting came to order at 8:41 am at the call of Chair Brim-Edwards in the Willamette Conference Room at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon, 97227.

There were present:

Committee

Julia Brim-Edwards- Chair
Amy Kohnstamm
Rita Moore
Mike Rose

Board Members

Paul Anthony

Staff

Emily Courtage-Director, Purchasing and Contracting
Joe Crelier-Director, Risk Management
Guadalupe Guerrero-Superintendent
Mary Kane-Senior Legal Counsel
Cynthia Le-Chief Financial Officer
Rosanne Powell-Board Manager

Paul Anthony
Julia Brim-Edwards- Chair
Amy Kohnstamm
Rita Moore
Mike Rosen

Proposed process for reviewing materials for board action

Director Kohnstamm would like to make sure responses to questions asked by board members are shared with everyone. Chair Brim-Edwards would like to make sure the public sees the board's oversight process and that draft resolutions are shared one week before a vote.

Purchasing and contracting rules

There was discussion about the Secretary of State audit. The auditors observed there should be more oversight for contracts under \$150,000. Cynthia Le suggested supervisors provide information on contracts in their departments for the appropriate chief to review, and provide some sort of report to the board. She agreed that clear guidelines, training and enforcement were needed. Director Kohnstamm would like to make visible the prequalification process if there is one. Chair Brim-Edwards stated that most concerns were on performance and contract oversight. Director Kohnstamm would like the ability to compare contract functions. There was discussion on how to maintain oversight on personal services contract. The committee would like to see the proposed recommendations for contract review which will be shared with the state auditors to see if it meets their requirements. Director Moore asked how many contracts under \$50,000 are direct negotiation. Emily Courtage stated that all personal service contracts under that threshold are direct negotiation.

Student assignment to neighborhood schools

Director Moore stated she has concerns about unintended consequences in revising this policy.

Policies in public comment

There has not been public comment received on the policies proposed for revision which will have a second reading at the January 29th meeting. There is a demand to bargain by the Portland Association of Teachers (PAT) on the Professional Conduct Between Staff and Students Policy. Once the ninety day window is up, the policy can go back to the board. There is an upcoming meeting with PAT to discuss the contract extension and to get feedback on the proposed policy.

Policies recommended for recession

There is a recommendation to rescind the policy on Teacher & Principal Assignment Selection in Schools, as there is another policy that addresses this same topic. The bigger concern is that the policy on community participation in principal selection has not been consistently followed. The committee agreed to move the recommended policies for rescissions to a first reading at the January 29th board meeting.

Recommendation on policies to review

Director Kohnstamm asked if the audit committee will be review the student activities audit. Chair Brim-Edwards confirmed it is calendared for discussion at an upcoming audit committee and it will include a management response.

Student representative policy

Student Representative Paesler will focus more on recommendations he would like to propose, but in the meantime, there is a need to revise the policy for legal purposes. Those changes will go to the board on January 29th for a second reading.

Off campus student activities policy

Director Moore stated the concern is for trips that are a long and have an impact on student learning. Superintendent Guerrero would like to make sure that if trips are part of a program, like immersion, than all are able to participate. There is a concern about staff inquiring about things like legal status. Yvonne Curtis shared that it is important to be mindful of cultural norms when planning overnight student trips. There was agreement there needs to be clear guidelines for exemptions for restricting student travel during the school year. There are opportunities like invitations and competitions that may not have the same ability to put parameters. There was public comment from Jason Trombley, regarding concerns about traveling with students within 100 miles of a foreign border and the ability to keep some students safe from detention. Mary Kane will do some research on this issue. The committee discussed adding a value statement to the policy. Director Moore agrees the limit to student travel during the academic year should be five school days and that finances should not be a reason that students cannot participate. There should be communication of this potential change out to the community.

Chair Brim-Edwards adjourned the meeting at 10:30am

Submitted by:

Rosanne Powell, Senior Board Manager
PPS Board of Education