

School District No. 1J, Multnomah County, Oregon
Board Committee Meeting of December 20, 2018

INFORMAL MINUTES

A meeting of the Board's Policy and Governance Committee meeting came to order at 8:32 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

Rita Moore

Mike Rosen

Board Members

Paul Anthony

Staff

Stephanie Cameron-Senior Director, Communications and Public Engagement

Emily Courtnage-Director, Purchasing and Contracting

Yvonne Curtis-Deputy Superintendent, Division of Instruction and School Communities

Guadalupe Guerrero-Superintendent

Mary Kane-Senior Legal Counsel

Liz Large-Interim General Counsel

Dani Ledezma-Special Advisor to the Superintendent on Equity

Rosanne Powell-Board Manager

Stephanie Soden-Chief of Staff

Proposed Purchasing and Contracting rules

Emily Courtnage stated the district is required to update the Purchasing and Contracting Policy every few years. Rules such as the Attorney General's rules on public contracting and federal procurement rules are mandated, while some are discretionary. Some examples include directly negotiated contracts for therapeutic placements and legal services. Emily Courtnage recommended changing the 125% cap for amendments for certain divisions, but still have it in place for personal services. Staff is proposing deletion of PPS 48-0220, the informal section procedure for architects, engineers, and other construction-related professional services which applies to contracts between \$100,000 and \$250,000. Chair Brim-Edwards had questions about the ability to request direct negotiation for community relations services and is concerned in areas that remove language that requires reporting to the board. She would like to see more board oversight of contracting practices. Superintendent Guerrero wants to make sure that work does not stall due to increased oversight. The committee approved moving to a first reading, but without staff's recommendation to repeal rules on board approved contract amendments that currently require single or cumulative amendments that would increase the cost of the contract by more than 125% over certain original contracts.

Equity in the policy and governance process

Dani Ledezma shared a copy of the equity lens for decision making and reviewed the question guide with the committee. She asked the committee to consider how the board will apply this lens in their policy and decision making process. There was discussion on how to consider this lens into the staff report template. Moving forward, Chair Brim-Edwards would like to see the lens at Policy and Governance committee meetings.

Off Campus Activities Policy

The committee discussed whether or not to include language that would prohibit trips where certain groups cannot participate, such as those students who cannot travel due to immigration status and the concern that it could lead to unintended consequences. Director Moore will offer an amendment to the field trip policy at the January 8th board meeting, with the policy moving forward for a second reading on January 29th.

Policy recommended for rescission

Liz Large shared that she is recommending rescission of the Maternity and Paternity Leave Policy since the language is outdated, and there are Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and Oregon Family Leave Act (OFLA) laws that address this. There is also language in the collective bargaining agreements that covers this. The committee agreed to move all policies recommended for rescission for a first reading. They also agreed that all policies recommended for rescission that are currently in public comment go for a second reading at the next board meeting.

Process for reviewing materials for board action

There was discussion on how the work-flow process for sharing items with the board prior to a vote.

Chair Brim-Edwards adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Submitted by:

Rosanne Powell, Senior Board Manager
PPS Board of Education