Bellingham Public Schools
a collective commitment

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 12, 2018

1.0 OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Meeting Date and Location:

September 12, 2018 - 1306 Dupont St., Bellingham, Washington

1.2 Call to Order/Roll Call:

Ms. Bashaw called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Present: Directors Kelly Bashaw (President), Camille Diaz Hackler, Douglas Benjamin, Jenn Mason, Quenby Peterson, Superintendent Greg Baker, and Sheri O'Day (recorder).

1.3 Audience:

- **Lisa Marx**: She would like to encourage students to pursue careers in apprenticeship programs. Lisa is an Outreach Specialist for the Northwest Carpenters' Institute and has been a resident of Whatcom County for 30 years. She noted that there will be many upcoming job openings in the field of carpentry.
- **Scott Ostlund**: He is a product of the Bellingham Public Schools who has lived here for his entire life and whose children now attend or have attended Bellingham Public Schools. He is curious about responsible bidder language and concerned that our community provides good, living-wage jobs for our community members. He is interested in the local hire requirements for the companies who are bidding on Bellingham Public Schools' construction jobs.
- **Miguel Perry:** He is an organizer with the carpenters' union who began his apprenticeship in 1980, became a journeyman and continued with his education, eventually earning his bachelors and masters degrees. He noted that pensions, benefits, wages and training are important to employees. Responsible bidder language protects against unscrupulous contractors. He asked that the district consider creating opportunities for young people to graduate and work in the construction field.

1.4 Superintendent's Announcements and Report: Summary of Dr. Baker's comments:

- Dr. Baker welcomed everyone back to the new school year.
- Regarding the new Bellingham Education Association (BEA) contract, both bargaining teams have worked for months under difficult circumstances with a changing state funding landscape. The new two-year contract was agreed upon on Aug. 24, which enabled us to start school on time. The 2018-19 budget was built based on advice from many parties across the state, and things quickly changed over the last month regarding clarity about funding. Most districts in the state anticipate making fairly dramatic cuts beginning next year. Dr. Baker anticipates that the district will need to reduce spending by $5 to 6 million in order to sustain a healthy fund balance. It may be that the legislature will make changes this spring that will alter the

budgeting forecast. He anticipates that will include staffing reductions by attrition, increasing class sizes (grades 4-12), and decreasing some investments such as nursing, special education and counseling. In addition, inevitably when one employee group receives an increase in compensation other employee groups will need to be recalibrated. The district cares about all employee groups and wants to make sure they are fairly compensated. In order to balance letting the community know and not raising anxiety, Dr. Baker has begun visiting all school staff meetings and parent group meetings to tell this story. He thanked the staff involved in bargaining for giving up much of their summer in order to negotiate the contract and to be sure we were able to start school on time. Ms. Peterson requested a brief description of how the Bellingham Public Schools is affected by the funding changes prior to attending the Legislative Assembly in Spokane this month.

- We have had a smooth beginning to the school year and staff is busy getting students acclimated to being back in school.
- The 1:1 initiative has been expanded to all middle and high schools this year. All schools now have tech coaches supporting teachers.
- Options High School now has three classrooms for children of students in the GRADS program, including a new preschool.

2.0 CONSENT ITEMS:

Ms. Diaz Hackler said her husband works for Construction Supply Co., Inc. and Ms. Peterson indicated that an immediate family member is working with two firms (Dawson Construction and Dykeman Architecture) that the district has retained for the Sehome High School construction project. To avoid a conflict of interest per RCW 42.23.030, Ms. Diaz Hackler and Ms. Peterson will recuse themselves from voting on Item 2.3 (Approval of Expenditures and Payroll). Ms. Peterson made a **motion** to vote on item 2.3 separately. Ms. Mason seconded the motion. Unanimous affirmative vote.

Ms. Mason made a **motion**, seconded by Mr. Benjamin, to approve the following consent agenda items:

2.1 Approval of Minutes of the August 8, 2018 Regular Board Meeting
2.2 Approval of Investments – August 2018
2.4 Resolution 23-18, Request to Transfer Funds from the Capital Projects Fund to the General Fund
2.5 Salish Sea Deaf School Contract (#1819-006)
2.6 Cerium Networks Support Agreement (#1819-016)
2.7 Whatcom Community College Inter-Agency Agreements (#1819-036, #1819-037, #1819-038)
2.8 Opportunity Council-Early Support for Infants & Toddlers Program Interagency Agreement (#1819-039)
2.9 Opportunity Council-Early Support for Infants & Toddlers Program (#1819-040)
2.10 Whatcom Discovery Program Interlocal Addendum (#1819-042)
2.11 Northwest Educational Service District 189 Highly Capable Program Cooperative Agreement (#1819-044)
2.12 Franklin Covey Client Sales, Inc. Agreement (#1819-046)

2.13 Bellingham Technical College Running Start Program Agreement (#1819-047)
2.14 University of Washington-College in the High School Agreement (#1819-048)
2.15 Homeless Student Stability Grant (#1819-050 and #1819-051)
2.16 Everett Community College Interagency Agreement (#1819-055)
2.17 Hub International, Northwest, LLC (#1819-056)
2.18 Northwest Evaluation Assessment Agreement (#1819-057)
2.19 College Board's College Readiness and Success Contract (#1819-058)
2.20 Agreement for Services with Bridget Walker
2.21 Authorize Negotiations Architectural Services for Shuksan Middle School Auxiliary Gym Project
2.22 Award Bid for Sehome Stage Lighting Equipment
2.23 Minimum Basic Education Requirement Compliance 2018-19
2.24 Personnel Recommendations
2.25 Personal Services Contracts

Unanimous affirmative vote.

Ms. Mason made a **motion**, seconded by Mr. Benjamin, to approve the following consent agenda item:

2.3 Approval of Expenditures and Payroll – August 2018

Affirmative votes: Ms. Bashaw, Mr. Benjamin, Ms. Mason.
Abstention: Ms. Diaz Hackler, Ms. Peterson.

3.0 STUDY SESSION – EARLY LEARNING

3.1 Study Session Re: Early Childhood

Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Kristi Dominguez facilitated a presentation to the board regarding early childhood in the district. Contributing as panel members for the presentation were:

- Isabel Meaker, Special Assistant to the Superintendent for Family Engagement, Bellingham Public Schools
- Barb DelWraa, PK-3 Early Learning Specialist, Bellingham Public Schools
- Maureen Hodge, Opportunity Council
- Debbie Haney, Birth-5 Early Learning Specialist, Bellingham Public Schools

Following the presentation, the panel answered questions from the school board members.

4.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4.1 School Board Directors' Reports: Highlights of comments:

- Ms. Diaz Hackler volunteered at Parkview and Carl Cozier on the first two days of school. She is concerned about Parkview buses being blocked due to the number of parents parking in the bus loop.
- Ms. Peterson attended two cross country meets.

- Ms. Mason expressed appreciation for the microphones this evening, as it will increase accessibility for all.
- Mr. Benjamin purchased tickets for the Sept. 21, 2018 Bellingham Public Schools Foundation dinner.

4.2 GP-7.2 – 2018-19 Annual Board Agenda, Revised – General review.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 New Business (as needed):

- There was discussion regarding a location for the Sept. 26, 2018 dinner meeting. Ms. Diaz Hackler will make reservations and confirm the location with board members.
- The board discussed the WSSDA Boards of Distinction application, which is due Sept. 20, 2018.
- There was discussion regarding the addition of a "Resolutions" section to the School Board Handbook.

6.0 CLOSING ITEMS

6.1 Board Assessment of Meeting: Ms. Peterson assessed the meeting, with an overall rating of 4 *(commendable).*

6.1 Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Approved:

Kelly M. Bashaw

Kelly Bashaw, Board President

Attest:

Greg Baker

Greg Baker, Secretary to the Board

Minutes approved: October 17, 2018