Bellingham Public Schools
a collective commitment

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
WITH STUDY SESSION
BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 14, 2017

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Meeting Date and Location:
6:15 p.m. – 1306 Dupont St., Bellingham, Washington

1.2 Call to Order/Roll Call:
Mr. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Present: Directors Kelly Bashaw, Douglas Benjamin (President), Camille Diaz Hackler, Quenby Peterson, Steven Smith, Superintendent Greg Baker, and recorder Ruth Rasmussen.

1.3 Audience – n/a

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

- **Freeman High School**: One student was killed and several wounded during this week's shooting incident at this Spokane high school. Dr. Baker sent a message to families, staff and community regarding the incident and has reached out to the school with offers of support.
- **Enrollment**: Our district's enrollment is currently over original projections by approximately 200 students.
- **2017-18 Budget update**: Dr. Baker met last week with State Superintendent Chris Reykdal and a group of district superintendents to discuss the recently approved state budget. Educators around the state continue to analyze the impact to their districts. Interpretations of various key provisions of the state budget – for example, the enrichment levy – vary significantly.
- **1:1 Technology**: The rollout at the three pilot schools (Kulshan Middle School, Options and Squalicum high schools) is going well, thanks in part to the district's investment in professional development, the hiring of technology coaches, scheduling of family informational nights, and creation of a handbook for students and families with common Q&As. Dr. Smith asked that Dr. Baker continue to keep the board informed on this topic, either through periodic updates or a study session at the end of the school year.
- **Start/End Times**: As evidenced by comments on Dr. Baker's blog, the new high school schedule has yielded positive comments in general; however, some families are still challenged by the elementary start times, particularly if they have been impacted by changed bus schedules. The district will continue to work on addressing these concerns by analyzing and refining bus routes where possible.
- **4x8 High School Schedule**: Students and families are continuing to adjust to the new schedule, but overall this initiative is going well.
- **Drivers Education Course**: The administrative team is exploring the possibility of offering this to students beginning in the 2018-19 school year.

2. CONSENT ITEMS – Ms. Diaz Hackler requested that consent agenda item 2.3 be voted on separately, per RCW 42.23.030, because it includes a $56.15 invoice from Construction Supply Company, where her husband is employed.

- Ms. Diaz Hackler made a **motion**, seconded by Ms. Bashaw, to approve all **consent agenda items (listed below), with the exception of item 2.3.** Unanimous affirmative vote.
- Ms. Bashaw made a **motion**, seconded by Dr. Smith, to approve **consent agenda item 2.3 (listed below)**. Affirmative votes: Ms. Bashaw, Mr. Benjamin, Ms. Peterson, and Dr. Smith. Abstention: Ms. Diaz Hackler.

2.1 Approval of Minutes of the Aug. 24, 2017 regular meeting
2.2 Approval of Investments - August 2017
2.3 Approval of Expenditures and Payroll - August 2017
2.4 Resolution 27-17, Request to Transfer Funds from the Capital Projects Fund to the General Fund
2.5 Whatcom Community College tennis courts (#1718-035)
2.6 Qualtrics Service Order (#1718-042)
2.7 Bellingham Technical College Dual Enrollment (#1718-047)
2.8 City of Bellingham - District Resource Officer Agreement (#1718-049)
2.9 AVID College Readiness System Services and Products Agreement (#1718-061)
2.10 Opportunity Council-Early Support for Infants & Toddlers Program (#1718-062)
2.11 Opportunity Council-Early Intervention Services Contract (#1718-063)
2.12 YMCA swimming pool (#1718-072)
2.13 YMCA Before and After School Care (#1718-073)
2.14 Personnel Recommendations
2.15 Personal Services Contracts

3. ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Resolution 25-17, Bond Election Resolution

Following discussion, Dr. Smith made a **motion**, seconded by Ms. Bashaw, to approve Resolution 25-17. Unanimous affirmative vote. Mr. Benjamin read the following statement:

> *Volunteers are now invited to participate in the voter education process for the proposed bond. Citizens for Bellingham Schools has established itself as the committee "for" the bond proposal. Interested citizens are encouraged to contact community members Brad Swanson or Hannah Stone by calling (360) 676-6520. Per SHB1919, we also give this official notice that volunteers may form a committee "against" the bond proposal by contacting the Whatcom County Auditor's office.*

3.2 Policy Updates – 1000 Series

The directors agreed to change the "*Revised Dates*" section at the end of Policy 1400 as follows:

- *Revised Dates: March 20, 2008; August 25, 2016; ~~September 14, 2017~~ November 1, 2017*

Ms. Peterson made a **motion**, seconded by Ms. Bashaw, to incorporate the revision to Policy 1400, referred to above, and to approve the proposed policy updates as outlined in Dr. Baker's August 31, 2017 memo to the School Board. Unanimous affirmative vote.

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4.1 School Board Committee Reports

- **Policy Governance Enhancement Committee:** The committee submitted a proposed Executive Limitations Policy, EL-9.1, for board consideration. Dr. Smith and Mr. Benjamin provided background information, noting that the new EL represents codification of the process that was followed to pass the bond resolution on this evening's agenda. The effective date on the proposed EL does not affect the bond referred to in Resolution 25-17. Following further discussion, Ms. Bashaw made a **motion**, seconded by Dr. Smith, to approve EL-9.1. Unanimous affirmative vote.
- **Board Handbook Committee**: Mr. Benjamin asked that proposed edits be reviewed by the Nov. 1 board meeting.

4.2 School Board Directors' Reports:

- The directors reported on their attendance at various school-related activities.
- Ms. Diaz Hackler will attend the **WSSDA Legislative Assembly** (Sept. 22-23).
- Senator Kevin Ranker has accepted the board's invitation to tour Options High School on Oct. 13. Senator Ranker will also meet with Dr. Baker on Oct. 18 to discuss education funding.
- A WSSDA Regional Meeting is scheduled for Nov. 2 at Mt. Baker School District.

5. Policy Governance

5.1 GP-7.2-updated Sept. 8, 2017 – Brief review of additions/revisions.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Emergency Notification System for Families: The board requested that Dr. Baker provide an update on this topic at a later date.

7. SCHOOL BOARD STUDY SESSION

7.1 Study Session: Overview of Recent Legislative Changes: Attorney Buzz Porter provided an overview of EHB 2242 and SSB 5883 with a focus on changes in revenue streams and funding formulas, and he answered questions from the board.

8. CLOSING ITEMS

8.1 Board Assessment of Meeting: Mr. Benjamin assessed the meeting with an overall rating of 4 (good).

8.2 Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Douglas Benjamin, School Board President

Attest:

Greg Baker, Secretary to the Board

Minutes approved: *Oct. 19, 2017*