



FEBRUARY 28, 2017 MEETING OVERVIEW

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the actions taken by the School Board and to provide a listing of the reports given. Anyone interested in viewing the full meeting, please visit the website listed below.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education came to order at 6:09pm at the call of Chair Tom Koehler in the Board Auditorium of the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon.

Attendance

Present: Chair Koehler; Directors Anthony, Knowles, Buel, Kohnstamm, Rosen and Esparza Brown; Interim Superintendent Bob McKean

Absent: Student Representative Bradley

Student Testimony

Gwen Kaliszewski, Lauren Yanase, and Mako Barmon all testified on the importance of the Japanese Research Residency and asked the Board to maintain the academic trip during the school year as opposed to over the summer. Interim Superintendent McKean thanked the students for their testimony and added that the topic would be heard at a future Board Teaching and Learning Committee meeting with recommendations then passed on to him.

Jasper Bolivar-Sargent: he was supposed to be an 8th grade student at Ockley Green, but he stopped going to class to weeks ago as the teacher had a mental breakdown during class. Teachers were not getting the support they need, and students were not getting the resources they need. A competent principal was needed to run the school and support the teachers. Interim Superintendent McKean commented that Senior Directors have been asked to come up with directions for him no later than March 14th to determine moving forward with Ockley Green.

Public Comment

Inger McDowell, Suad Elmi, Sadie Bare, and Faduma Naji all testified on the lack of bus service at 92nd and Powell. Young, elementary-age students had to cross three busy streets (Powell, Division and 92nd) and it was very dangerous. They used to have bus service, but it stopped suddenly for no reason. The lack of a bus affects 40 families. Interim Superintendent McKean responded that staff would look into the situation right away.

Kayla Gulbranson, Julie Rudin, and Meeka Kullberg all testified that class sizes were getting larger at Duniway and children were falling behind in their capabilities. The 1.5 fte counselors have played an important part at Duniway, but additional fte to the formula was needed for academic support in the school.

Comments from Portland Federation of School Professionals (PFSP)

Belinda Reagan, President of PFSP, stated that PFSP represented the 1400 classified employees at PPS. Ms. Reagan asked the Board to please help the classified staff by forgiving three days that were lost to snow. The PFSP contract includes 5 paid days for inclement weather, but this year saw 10 days of snow. Two days have already been removed from PFSP paychecks, and she would like to see the three remaining non-paid days forgiven.

