



## Board of Directors Business Meeting Meeting Minutes

The Tacoma School Board is meeting in-person at an open meeting that will also be live-streamed pursuant to the Governor's Proclamation 20-28.14 Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act dated December 7, 2020 [https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/proclamations/proc\\_20-28.14.pdf](https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/proclamations/proc_20-28.14.pdf) and the Miscellaneous Venues COVID-19 Requirements dated February 1, 2021: <https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/COVID19%20Misc%20Venue%20Guidance.pdf>

Live Streaming Open Meeting	In-Person Open Meeting
<p>Attend at <a href="http://www.tacomaschools.tv">www.tacomaschools.tv</a>, <a href="https://www.facebook.com/tacomaschools">www.facebook.com/tacomaschools</a>, Click Channel 25 and Comcast Channel 26</p> <p>Those at increased risk for COVID-19 are encouraged to watch via live-streaming</p>	<p>Central Administration Building 601 South 8th Street Tacoma, WA 98405 4th Floor Auditorium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign-up for free entry tickets in advance: link on board webpage</li> <li>• Masks required</li> <li>• Attest to no COVID symptoms and temperature check before entry</li> <li>• Contact tracing information required</li> <li>• Capacity 30 members of the public</li> </ul>

*Tacoma Public Schools acknowledges that we are on the traditional ancestral and historical lands of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Puyallup Tribe. This acknowledgment serves as a first step in honoring our nearest tribal neighbors and partners who have inhabited this region since time immemorial, and to whom we give thanks for allowing us passage to their lands. We shall intentionally create inclusive and respectful partnerships that honor Indigenous cultures, histories, identities, and sociopolitical realities.*

Thursday, April 22, 2021 06:00 PM

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Board met in regular session on Thursday, April 22, 2021 in the fourth floor auditorium of the Central Administration Building located at 601 South 8th Street in Tacoma, Washington. Board President Cobb called the meeting to order at 6:08PM.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

Board President Cobb led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Directors Bonbright, Cobb, Keating, and Strozier were present. Director Leon was excused. Student representatives Essman and Pearson were also present.

**4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Director Keating moved that the Board of Directors adopt the agenda as presented. Director Strozier seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 4 yeas.

**5. RECOGNITION OF STAFF, STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY**

**5.1 RECOGNITION OF GOLD STAR COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD TO GRAY LUMBER COMPANY**

The Board of Directors recognize Gray Lumber Company as being awarded the Gold Star Community Partner Award for their

long-term partnership and support of Whitman Elementary School.

## **6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **6.1 COVID-19 UPDATES**

Deputy Superintendent Garcia gave the district's COVID-19 related updates, including reminders of the health and safety protocols, status of classes, high school sports, traditional spring activities, in-person graduations (based on current state guidelines), exploration of COVID testing (for 4th season of sports) and vaccinations, registration for sports, and summer learning opportunities.

### **6.2 MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION**

Superintendent Santorno asked the Board of Directors to proclaim May 2021 as Mental Health Awareness Month in the Tacoma Public Schools community.

Director Bonbright moved that the Board of Directors proclaim May 2021 as Mental Health Awareness Month in the Tacoma Public Schools community. Director Strozier seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 4 yeas.

## **7. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

*Spoken public comments:*

- o LeRoy W. Crawford Jr. addressed the Board regarding academic equity.
- o Layne Alfonso addressed the Board regarding Track and Field Championship

*Written public comments:*

- o None

## **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Keating moved that the Board of Directors approve the Consent Agenda. Director Strozier seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 4 yeas.

### **8.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **8.1.a APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 1, 2021 SCHOOL BOARD BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

#### **8.1.b APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 15, 2021 SCHOOL BOARD STUDY SESSION MINUTES**

### **8.2 AUTHORIZATION OF CERTIFICATE TO PIERCE COUNTY TREASURER**

### **8.3 APPROVAL OF THE PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT**

## **9. POLICY MATTERS**

There were no policy matters.

## **10. FINANCIAL REPORT**

A quarterly presentation on the financial health of the district will be made during regular board meetings on a quarterly basis. The next quarterly report is planned for May 2021.

Monthly financial statements can be found on the district website at

<https://www.tacomaschools.org/departments/businessandfinance>

## **11. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

There were no curriculum and instruction items.

## **12. BUSINESS MATTERS**

### **12.1 APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN PIERCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THE SALISH SEA HEROES PROJECT**

Director Strozier moved that the Board approve the Interlocal Agreement between Pierce Conservation District and Tacoma Public Schools for the Salish Sea Heroes Project. Director Bonbright seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 4 yeas.

### **12.2 APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR 33 ECEAP SLOTS AWARDED BY PUGET SOUND ESD**

Director Keating moved that the Board of Directors approve submission for FY2020 in the amount of \$197,202.39 and approve expenditure of funds according to accepted guidelines. Director Bonbright seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 4 yeas.

### **12.3 APPROVAL OF BID ACCEPTANCE FOR BROWNS POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RIGHT OF WAY IMPROVEMENTS**

Director Keating moved that the Board of Directors accept the bid for the Right of Way improvements at Browns Point Elementary School from Tucci & Sons in the amount of \$996,000.00 excluding sales tax. Director Strozier seconded the motion. A voice vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 4 yeas.

### **13. OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **13.1 APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT ELECT JOSHUA J. GARCIA'S CONTRACT**

Director Bonbright moved that the Board of Directors ratify the attached contract with Superintendent Elect Joshua J. Garcia effective July 1, 2021. Director Keating seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 4 yeas.

#### **13.2 MUTUAL AGREEMENT MODIFYING CARLA SANTORNO'S CONTRACT**

Director Keating moved that the Board of Directors accept Carla Santorno's offer to serve as a Superintendent on Special Assignment and modify her existing contract as follows:

1. Santorno and the Board agree that for a term commencing on the 1st day of July 2021 and ending on the 30th day of June 2022, she will relinquish the role of Superintendent and instead, Santorno shall perform the duties of Superintendent on Special Assignment of Tacoma School District No. 10.
2. Santorno will report to the Superintendent of Tacoma Public Schools and shall be considered an Exempt Cabinet Member. Santorno's duties shall be assigned by the Superintendent but may include providing transition assistance to the new Superintendent and furthering the District's equity initiatives.

Director Strozier seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called, and the chair declared the motion carried with a vote of 4 yeas.

### **14. REPORT TO THE BOARD**

There was no report to the board.

### **15. BOARD COMMENTS/REPORTS**

- o Student representative Essman shared about how the track season is going. He also asked questions about how graduation ceremonies are going to be handled.
- o Student representative Pearson shared updates on how the return to in-person classes has been.
  
- o Directors Bonbright and Keating, with support from Deputy Superintendent Garcia and Whole Child Director Laura Allen, gave a presentation on the WSSDA statewide webinar regarding how Tacoma Public Schools is addressing social-emotional learning and mental health in the district, especially during COVID.
- o Directors Bonbright, Keating, and Strozier attended the Downing Elementary School groundbreaking.
- o Director Bonbright shared that the JMAC committee is continuing their work with Rainforest Strategies consultants on how to build a more equitable community. She also attended the Graduate Tacoma Equity Conference.
- o Director Keating attended the Washington Wellness Campaign event, where students were able to share the impact that COVID has had on them from a mental health perspective, which was very powerful.
- o Director Strozier recognized students who recently completed CTE training and received certifications in the separate areas of forklift operations and child care basics, and commended them for enhancing their skills and building their resumes for life after high school.
- o Director Cobb shared information from the recent Board retreat where topics included doing policy reviews with an equity lens and strengthening their roles on different committees, both within the district and the community, that they serve on. She also commended the district for promoting mental health awareness.

### **16. ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS**

Thursday, May 13, 2021  
6:00PM Business Meeting  
(In-Person at CAB)

Thursday, May 20, 2021  
6:00PM Study Session  
(Virtual Meeting)

Thursday, May 27, 2021  
6:00PM Business Meeting  
(In-Person at CAB)

### **17. ADJOURNMENT**

Board President Cobb adjourned the meeting at 7:17PM.

Minutes approved by the Board on: \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Carla J. Santorno

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Board President, Andrea Cobb