Board of Directors Committee of the Whole Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Central Administration Building
601 South 8th Street – Tacoma, WA
4th Floor Auditorium

Meeting will NOT be live-streamed. Video will be posted at a later time.

Thursday, July 25, 2019 05:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

The board met as a Committee of the Whole on Thursday, July 25, 2019 in the fourth floor auditorium of the Central Administration Building located at 601 South 8th Street in Tacoma, Washington.

Board Vice President Heinze called the meeting to order at 5:08 PM.

The board had a moment of silence to honor School Board President and colleague, Karen Vialle, who passed away on July 21, 2019.

2. BOARD MEMBERS DISCUSS PRIORITY ISSUES

Director Cobb identified the following as potential priority issues for the coming year:
- Attracting and recruiting substitute teachers more competitively, to address the shortage. Collecting data on our fill rate, and their experiences when working for TPS would be valuable. Director Winskill added that the hiring process/timeline should be looked at, as well as having dedicated subs for buildings.
- Enhancing our partnerships and community engagement capacity to keep moving forward. Specifically, family engagement in a very strategic format, such as a long-term framework that includes language access, whole child, college/career planning, behavior support, etc.. Director Heinze added that focusing on the family unit in addition to just parents/guardians is important.

Director Winskill identified the following as potential priority issues for the coming year:
- A school start time study to research if later start times for secondary levels/earlier start times for elementary would be appropriate and feasible. Director Cobb added that identifying the reason for considering the change would be an important first step, such as being responsive to adolescent biology or to impact a strategic benchmark, etc. Director Heinze added that establishing greater clarity regarding potential outcomes for the study is imperative, as well as the incorporating the consideration of public transportation issues.
- Athletic issues to include consultation on decisions regarding state championship games being played local or not, and middle school athletic changes such as combining basketball and baseball seasons and the effect on student-athletes. Director Cobb added that insight into how these decisions are made would be beneficial for the board.
- Math scope and particularly algebra for 8th graders and whether its working as intended.
- Curriculum usage for Title I, English Language Learners and Special Education to ensure their needs are being met, specifically with recently adopted curriculum.

Director Heinze identified the following as potential priority issues for the coming year:
- Student discipline, specifically in greater detail and and increased transparency, with the intent of determining root cause in disparities. Balancing less exclusion from school with addressing issues of harassment, intimidation and bullying should be a priority.
- Potentially establishing benchmarks around student mental and physical health should be considered.
- Resource conservation including how we’re achieving energy efficiencies, and potential cost savings.

Director Leon identified the following as potential priority issues for the coming year:
- Student and staff safety, including discipline, harassment, intimidation and bullying, physical health and wellness, nurse and counselor capacity, and impacts on student success.
- Capital bond planning
- Budget issues. Directors added that being more involved in the development and review of proposals would be preferred.
- Whole Child initiative and Social, Emotional Learning curriculum roll-out pace.
- A school start time study for later start times for secondary levels.

The board agreed to hold a study session regarding school start times.

The board discussed future formats for study sessions, including inviting subject matter experts present information, not just CAB staff. Director Heinze will work with the superintendent on schedule and format.
The board scheduled another Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, August 12, 2019 at 5:00pm, for the purpose of identifying the goal and preparation for the school start time study session.

3. **ADJOURNMENT**

Board Vice President Heinze moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:11pm.

Minutes approved by the Board on: __________________________

Signed by: _______________________________________________

Superintendent Carla Santorno

By: _____________________________________________________

Board Vice President, Scott Heinze