

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 20, 2022

Call to Order

President Rivera called the Regular Board Meeting of the Shoreline Board of Directors to order in the Board Room of the Administrative Offices at the Shoreline Center at 6:00 p.m. on September 20, 2022. This meeting was also available to the community via Zoom.

Roll Call

Rebeca Rivera, President; Emily Williams, Vice President; Sara Betnel, Member; Sarah Cohen, Member; Meghan Jernigan, Member (*attended remotely*); Luke Smith, Shorecrest Student Representative; and Helen Murphy, Shorewood Student Representative.

Land Acknowledgement

President Rivera took a moment “to collectively recognize that we are meeting this evening on the traditional lands of the Coast Salish people and here in Shoreline, that includes our local tribes, the Tulalip and the Snoqualmie Tribes, who have been stewards of this land since time immemorial.”

Celebrations, Recognitions, Introductions and Gratitude

Introduction of New Principals

Brian Schultz, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, presented.

Mr. Schultz spoke about the hiring process that took place over the spring and summer and then very enthusiastically introduced the following new principals to the Board, each of whom shared interesting facts about themselves:

- Cristi Camp, Interim Shorecrest Assistant Principal
- Jamila Gordon, Einstein Assistant Principal
- Daniel Natividad, Ridgecrest Principal
- Aram Osterlye, Meridian Park Principal
- Maria Serka, Einstein Assistant Principal
- Becca Thompson, Kellogg Principal

Additionally, there are new assignments for the following administrators: Melyssa Stone will be the new Shorewood Assistant Principal; Rebbecah Emanuel will be the new Cascade K-8 Principal, and John Green will be the new Interim Shorecrest Principal.

Administration of Oath of Office to Student Reps

Dr. Susana Reyes, Superintendent, presented.

Superintendent Reyes administered the oath of office to student representatives Helen Murphy (Shorewood) and Luke Smith (Shorecrest).

Highlights of First Week of School (video)

Rachel Belfield, Public Information Officer, presented.

Ms. Belfield shared a video highlighting the first week of school at all of the District’s schools. It can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/752320144>.

Agenda Review

No changes.

Comments from the Community

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July 19 Study Session and July 19 Regular Board Meeting had been submitted to the Board for review and approval.

MOTION NO. 2: Director Betnel moved that the Board approve the minutes of the July 19 Study Session and July 19 Regular Board Meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Director Cohen and carried unanimously.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

President Rivera announced that the Board had an opportunity to ask questions on the consent agenda and have them answered prior to this meeting. The following consent agenda was presented for adoption:

- a. Adoption of Resolution 2022-10, Interdistrict Cooperative Programs for Students with Disabilities
- b. Adoption of Resolution 2022-11, Purchase of Educational Services for Students with Disabilities
- c. Renewal of Contract – Fuel Bid
- d. Acceptance of Gifts, Grants, Donations
 - Shorecrest High School - \$7,500.00 – Kevin Hansen – Shorecrest Cross Country Program
- e. Approval of 2022-2023 SEIU Bargaining Unit Pay Rates for Custodial/Grounds/Warehouse Employees
- f. Approval of 2022-2023 SEIU Bargaining Unit Pay Rates for Transportation Employees
- g. Approval of Extended Field Trips
- h. Approval of Personnel - Certificated
- i. Approval of Payroll and Vouchers

MOTION NO. 3: Director Cohen moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, items 7a through 7i, which is attached hereto and becomes a part hereof. The motion was seconded by Director Betnel and carried unanimously.

As of September 20, 2022, the Board, by a unanimous vote, approved for payment, those vouchers described as follows: Payroll Warrants #447907-447993 and Electronic Transfers totaling \$11,844,362.94; Reconciliation of Warrants Issued Between August 5 and August 26, 2022 – General Fund Warrants #96641-96700, 96713, 212201255, 96716, 96717-96779, 96786, 212201257-212201294, 967688-96864, 96899-96913, 96915-96986, 97001-97014 and 212201305, totaling \$1,751,327.02; Capital Projects Fund Warrants #96701-96705, 96865-96870, 96914 and 96987-96989, totaling \$1,377,624.88; and Student Body Fund Warrants #96706-96712, 96714-96715, 212201295-212201302, 96871-96898, 96990-97000 and 97015-97017, totaling \$103,085.66; for a grand total of \$15,076,400.50.

Reports and Presentations

Informational Presentation: City of Shoreline 2022 Proposition 1, Maintenance and Operations for Public Safety and Community Services

Presenters:

- Debbie Tarry, City Manager, City of Shoreline*
- Sara Lane, Administrative Services Director, City of Shoreline*

The City of Shoreline is scheduled to hold an election for a levy lid lift on November 8, 2022 for Proposition 1: Maintenance and Operations Public Safety and Community Services. The presenters shared a recorded video that provided an overview of the City’s property taxes, levies and levy lid lifts, the operating budget and how this measure will impact Shoreline residents. Property tax systems can be either rate based or levy based. Washington State is one of only two states that uses the levy-based property tax system. Under Washington’s levy-based system, state law allows a taxing district to collect a specified total dollar amount per year, which is the levy. The money collected from the levy helps pay for the operating expenses of the

tax in the district. State law limits levy increases to 1% per year. The exception to this rule is a levy lid lift, which allows taxing districts to go to the voters to ask that the levy rate be increased to the amount equal to or less than the statutory maximum tax rate, which is currently \$1.60.

The full presentation can be viewed at: <https://vimeo.com/752320144>

Director Betnel asked if this was something that was reviewed every six years. Ms. Tarry responded that the maximum period for a levy was six years, so yes it would typically be reviewed after that amount of time.

President Rivera expressed the appreciation of the Board for sharing this information. Director Betnel thanked Ms. Tarry for her service to the City of Shoreline.

July 2022 Financials and September 2022 Enrollment Report

Presenters:

Jennifer A. Farmer, Assistant Superintendent, Business and Operations

Mark Spangenberg, Director of Finance and Business Services

Mr. Spangenberg shared a number of enrollment/budget (actual and budgeted) charts comparing the years 2018-2019 through the current year, 2022-2023. The September 2022 enrollment does not yet include Running Start numbers. However, September enrollment is off to an encouraging start at 189 FTE above budget. Do to the usual attrition we experience for grades 9 through 12, it is estimated that the District should finish 2022-2023 at 140 students above budget for the annual average. However, October is usually the highest enrollment month and additional verifications will occur as Running Start is added to the enrollment reporting in October.

Director Cohen, in noting the attrition in the enrollment charts, asked if we knew what caused that slope and was there anything the District could do to keep students engaged. Ms. Farmer replied, that in some cases for the high schools, this is actually good news. It means that students have been well-educated, they have finished their studies early and have moved on with their college or career-ready next steps. This is something we wouldn't want to slow down. However, obviously we would want to work with our teaching and learning staff to discern what could be done to re-engage those students who may have disengaged.

Director Betnel asked how the reinstatement of K-5 out-of-district boundary exceptions had affected the enrollment. Ms. Farmer responded that there had been an increase which made the good news about the enrollment even better news.

The General Fund Cash Flow Report for July included three new charts—monthly fund balances going back for 60 months, five years of July fund balances and a graphical version of the Cash Flow Report. The increase in revenues and expenditures for July is mostly due to National Certification stipend payments, the related state reimbursement, and the apportionment scheduled payment of 12.5%.

Director Betnel asked if the Board could receive information later in the school year that tracks the numbers and the reasons for the spring decline in enrollment in grades 9-12, e.g. students who have completed their studies early vs. those who may have disengaged. Ms. Farmer responded yes.

First Reading: Revisions to Policy 3122, Excused and Unexcused Absences

Brian Schultz, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, presented.

After hearing from youth across the state of Washington, the Legislature recognized that students' mental health is a component of their physical health and that students' mental health can affect their ability to learn. The Legislature found that school districts are not consistently recognizing student absences for mental health reasons as excused absences. Therefore, through House Bill 1834 the Legislature required

that student absences for mental health reasons be categorized as excused absences. As a result, the District has updated Board Policy 3122, Excused and Unexcused Absences, to reflect this change and to update all areas of our policy.

Mr. Schultz highlighted page 2 of Policy 3122, where the specific revisions related to mental health were listed under Excused Absences, section A after “The following are valid excuses for absences:

1. Physical health or mental health symptoms, illness, health condition or medical appointment for the student or person for whom the student is legally responsible. Examples of symptoms, illness, health conditions, or medical appointments include, but are (including, but not limited to, medical, counseling, mental health wellness, dental, optometry, pregnancy, and behavioral health treatment (which can include in-patient or out-patient treatment for chemical dependency or mental health) for the student or person for whom the student is legally responsible.

The revised language corresponds closely (but not exactly) with the WSSDA sample policy and has been reviewed by the District’s legal counsel. Once the policy revisions are adopted, this information will be disseminated broadly to families. Building principals have already been informed of these changes. Additionally, the accompanying procedure (3122P) will be updated and provided in a Friday Briefing. Typically, the procedure has more details as to implementation; however, this particular policy is more detailed than others.

In response to a question from Director Williams regarding consequences for tardies and/or absences, Mr. Schultz responded that firstly, a small change had been made (top of page 2) prior to the packet going out based on a similar question from President Rivera and secondly, the District does not withhold credit for absences, excused or unexcused. There are, however, natural consequences; if students miss school, they have missed the conversations and experiences, but neither of our high schools [or middle schools] will penalize students with loss of credit or anything that prohibits graduation.

The student reps were asked for their feedback. Student Rep Smith asked about the process in terms of whether or not a doctor’s note was required. Mr. Schultz responded that he would call it trust. “If someone says they are absent because of the flu, we are going to accept it. If someone says they are absent because of mental health reasons, we are going to accept that as well. We want kids at school. The idea of trying to create a greater penalty, that past practice from days gone by is just not progressive in any way. . . Our responsibility is to keep kids in school, help them get the finest education possible and keep them safe in doing so.”

Student Rep Murphy thought these policy revisions would be well received by students. The general sentiment within her school community is a desire to have accommodations for the mental health of students and this is a positive step in that direction. She asked if there was any plan in place for tracking the number of absences attributed to mental health issues vs. other causes once this is implemented. Mr. Schultz responded that there wasn’t at this moment but we absolutely want to learn from this data. It will impact our organization in a number of different ways, e.g. how resources are allocated. This revision will allow for a specific code to be entered into the system that can be shared with the Board as time goes by.

The Board and student representatives engaged in further discussion about various absence and tardy scenarios; however, there were no suggestions made as to additional revisions to Policy 3122. Mr. Schultz clarified that absence notes are received by the Attendance Office, but these are not passed on to students’ teachers. Additionally, there are some impacts to extracurricular activities for excessive absences, but not academically.

Director Jernigan shared a recent personal experience with an excused absence and suggested that it would be helpful if some of these initiatives from the Legislature could come with additional resources for school

districts in their implementation. Director Betnel will share this observation further in her legislative work on behalf of the Board.

These revisions were presented for a first reading and would be brought back for recommended adoption at the Board's October 18 regular meeting.

Board Requested Discussion and Future Topics

Director Williams requested additional information on students who disengage with the District and pursue outside local programs to re-engage in order to receive their GEDs.

Action Items

None

Reports and Communications – Board Members, Superintendent

Director Betnel expressed her appreciation for the two new student representatives as this was their first meeting. Their presence and representation is of great value. She also commented on the joyful, smooth and cohesive start to the new school year. She also lifted up the work of the Equity Department in facilitating the Nakia Academy prior to the start of school. Nakia is a professional development opportunity for educators of color and conducted entirely by educators of color. Director Betnel shared the experience of a teacher who felt it was an important and transformative experience, and one of only three instances in her entire career where she had been in a learning situation surrounded by fellow educators of color. At the end of the month (September 30 and October 1), Director Betnel would be the Board's representative at the WSSDA General Assembly. She encouraged board members to reach out with any additional thoughts or questions beyond what had been discussed in the previous week's study session.

President Rivera attended the all staff back to school event at the Shoreline Stadium; the energy and excitement was quite palpable and she was proud to be a part of it.

Student Rep Smith reported that next week would be Shorecrest's Homecoming Week; the leadership classes were working hard to prepare for the various events.

Student Rep Murphy reported that Shorewood was also working on Homecoming Week but that they had an extra week to prepare. Fall sports were in full swing and the teams were doing well. The senior class held a very successful fundraiser on September 10, and the sophomore class held the first dance of the year (swing dance, which will now be an annual tradition).

Superintendent Reyes echoed President Rivera's comments about the back to school event. The ASB presidents from both high schools were quite amazing and "set us up to the absolute best start we could have possibly imagined!" "Our partners, Matt Reiman (SEA) and Eileen Wood-Lim (SESPA, also shared wonderful words with our staff." She also praised the incredible staff from all employee groups for making it a fantastic start to the school year.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment: 7:40 p.m.

Dr. Rebeca Rivera, School Board President

Attest: November 1, 2022

Dr. Susana Reyes, Secretary
Shoreline Board of Directors

All documents referenced in the minutes may be viewed in the Superintendent's Office during normal business hours.