

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

January 24, 2023

### **Call to Order**

Vice President Williams 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 January 24, 2023. This meeting was also available to the community via Zoom.

### **Roll Call**

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

### **Land Acknowledgement**

Vice President Williams provided a brief land acknowledgement.

### **Celebrations, Recognitions, Introductions and Gratitude**

In recognition of School Board Recognition Month, Superintendent Reyes acknowledged and honored the work of the Shoreline School Board in supporting our students. Their gifts of time and talent are much appreciated.

### **Agenda Review**

No changes

### **Comments from the Community**

The majority of the following individuals (exceptions noted) spoke regarding their displeasure with the Board's desire to recover the recommended 4% ending fund balance in a single year. The Board was urged to reconsider the charge to a longer timeline for restoring the ending fund balance. The following individuals were in the room to make comments:

- 1) Barb Cruz, Staff Member for 26 years, Former SESPA Co-President and BAT Member
- 2) Nigel Keiffer, Community Member – Expressed concern with the amount of his property taxes going to a “bloated administrative state”, public employee union, OSPI, PSESD and the District’s Equity and Family Engagement Department. (Handout was provided)
- 3) Roopali Taneja, Highland Terrace Parent (first of five) (Handout was provided)
- 4) Alastair Matheson, Highland Terrace Parent (second of five) –
- 5) Roxanne Gundlach, Highland Terrace Parent (third of five) –
- 6) Malorie Larson, Highland Terrace Parent (fourth of five) –
- 7) Ben Larson, Highland Terrace Parent (fifth of five) –
- 8) Corinna Sullivan, Cascade K-8 Parent
- 9) Marci Caruso, Shorecrest Staff Member and Kellogg Parent – Asked six questions for the public record and hopes others will continue to ask them: 1) How did the district really get into this budget crisis and how and where can we get specific, honest answers? 2) In recent years, was there levy money left on the table? 3) Where exactly did the ESSER funds go? 4) What is/was the long-term financial plan for recovery as we anticipated student enrollment going down? 5) How can current parents, teachers, students, voters, community members, taxpayers, trust the current Board to make decisions about cuts and budget plans going forward when we can’t get transparency around how we got here? 6) What are you going to do to regain our trust?
- 10) Brad Cox, Cascade K-8 Parent
- 11) Julia Cox, Cascade K-8 Parent
- 12) George Whiteside, Cascade K-8 Parent
- 13) Maria Fischer, Parent – Shared personal experience regarding home instruction for her son while undergoing cancer treatment; very well supported by school staff.

- 14) Kiana Whitmer, Shorecrest Student
- 15) Harrison Rohs, Shorecrest Senior – Won't be able to graduate with his special needs sister.
- 16) Jill Jackson, Highland Terrace Parent – Urged all to write legislators regarding school funding.
- 17) Naya Owusu, District Audiologist

The following individuals made comments over Zoom:

- 18) Marianne Stephens, Shorewood Staff Member and Parent
- 19) Lily Fredericks, Shorecrest Student
- 20) Jordan Robertson Modell, Shorecrest Senior
- 21) Adjinji, Shorecrest Student
- 22) Rhonda Okozoki, LFP Teacher and Parent of Former Students
- 23) Susie Moore, LFP/Kellogg Family Advocate and Parent
- 24) Kylene Glasser, Highland Terrace Teacher
- 25) Ryan Ferguson, Einstein Counselor, Parent
- 26) Josh Rosenau, LFP Parent and PTA

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the December 13 Study Session had been submitted to the Board for review and approval.

MOTION NO. 25: Director Jernigan moved that the Board approve the minutes of the December 13 Study Session as submitted. The motion was seconded by Director Betnel and carried unanimously.

### **Adoption of Consent Agenda**

President Cohen 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. Acceptance of Gifts, Grants, Donations
  - Echo Lake Elementary- \$7,209.09 – Echo Lake PTA – Classroom Enrichment, Student Experiences, Class Projects and School Equipment
- b. Adoption of District Instructional Materials Committee (DIMC) Recommendation
- c. High School Projector/Speaker Replacement Project – Final Acceptance – Advanced Classroom Technologies
- d. Shoreline Center – Abatement and Removal of Underground Storage Tanks – Final Acceptance – DH Environmental, Inc.
- e. Adoption of Resolution 2023-1, Annual Write-Off of Uncollectible Accounts Receivables
- f. Approval of Renewal Agreement for Legal Services with Porter Foster Rorick
- g. Approval of 2022-2023 Non-Represented Pay Rate Schedule
- h. Approval of Extended Field Trips
- i. Approval of Personnel
  - 1) Certificated
  - 2) Classified
  - 3) Administrative
- j. Approval of Payroll and Vouchers

MOTION NO. 26: Director Betnel moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, items 7a through 7j, which is attached hereto and becomes a part hereof. The motion was seconded by Director Jernigan and carried unanimously.

As of January 24, 2023, the Board, by a unanimous vote, approved for payment, those vouchers described as follows: December 2022 Payroll Warrants #448039-448070 and Electronic Transfers totaling

\$12,265,299.07; Reconciliation of Warrants Issued Between January 6 and January 13, 2023 – General Fund Warrants #98758-98761, 98762-98835, 222300340, 222300343-222300391, and 98848-98885, totaling \$604,974.44; Capital Projects Fund Warrants #98836-98839, 222300341, and 98886-98892, totaling \$180,141.13; and Student Body Fund Warrants #98840-98847, 222300342, 222300392-222300424, and 98893-98915, totaling \$56,257.34; for a grand total of \$13,106,671.98.

### **Reports and Presentations**

#### **Enrollment and Financial Presentation: November and December Financials Update, December and January Enrollment**

*Presenters:*

*Jennifer A. Farmer, Assistant Superintendent, Business and Operations*

*Mark C. Spangenberg, Director of Finance and Business Services*

Mr. Spangenberg reviewed the enrollment, stating that we are tracking above budget, although not sharply. Typically, high school enrollment tapers downward over the course of the year but that is not the case this year. Expenditures are tracking closely to what was budgeted. Mr. Spangenberg also reviewed the typical trends that occur throughout the year with revenues and levy collections as well as fund balance. This year, we will not have any significant ESSER funds as we have had over the past few years.

Director Rivera reflected on the challenges and subsequent changes that occurred last summer during the budget development process. She praised the budget team for the work they did to ensure that there was a higher unreserved fund balance than what was anticipated.

#### **High School Graduation and Postsecondary Data Report**

*Dr. Dan Gallagher, Director of Secondary Academic Programs and CTE*

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction has recently updated high school graduation reports to include the Class of 2022. High school graduation rates for the District, disaggregated by subgroups were presented. Additionally, postsecondary data for recent high school graduates, such as enrollment and completion rates in 2-year and 4-year colleges were presented in disaggregated fashion. Also discussed were the factors affecting these rates, including ongoing COVID-19 impacts.

Graduation rate is based on a cohort of students. The cohort is made up of all students who start 9<sup>th</sup> grade together. Students who transfer into or out of a school are added or removed from the cohort. If students stop attending school, they are counted as ‘drop outs’. If students have met graduation requirements, they are counted as ‘graduates’. If students don’t graduate but are still attending, they are considered ‘continuing’. Students are tracked through their 7<sup>th</sup> year in high school. The five-year graduation rate includes students that graduated in 4 years and those that graduated in 5 years. A student that graduates high school is more likely to earn a higher income, less likely to be incarcerated, and have greater economic mobility across generations. Mr. Gallagher gave particular attention and explanation to slide 6 of the PowerPoint for an explanation of graduation rates.

The larger portion of this presentation related to postsecondary data. A number of data-rich charts and graphs were reviewed and discussed with the Board. The full PowerPoint presentation can be viewed at: <https://app.eduportal.com/documents/view/856606>. The video recording of the entire meeting can be found at: <https://vimeo.com/792690631>.

Director Betnel asked for a demographic breakdown of slides 4 and 5. However, Mr. Gallagher explained that due to the small sample size, the information would likely be suppressed. He indicated he would look into it and provide what he could.

In conclusion, Mr. Gallagher explained how the District is using the information as well as next steps, which include:

**Continuing to LEARN**

- Verifying stories, what students actually do after high school
  - National Student Clearinghouse data
  - LEAVER survey of special ed students
- *Why* patterns exist as they do
  - Course-taking patterns, existence of research-based influences
  - Identifying barriers to postsecondary completion (SCC)
- What students and families want and need
  - Student/family focus groups, surveys
  - Student/family co-design
  - High School and Beyond Plan development

**Taking ACTION**

- SCC partnership
  - Direct service, case management
  - Resource development
  - Responding to barriers
- Counseling practices
  - Comprehensive School Counseling Program
  - High School & Beyond Plan Development
- Program development
  - High school subject area pathways
  - Meaningful, valuable dual credit opportunities
- School-based inquiry and action teams

Legislative Update

*Sara Betnel, School Board Legislative Representative, presented.*

Director Betnel began by correcting a revenue amount that was shared at the previous meeting on January 10 in regard to the state’s revenue. It should have been that the state’s revenue increase was \$681 million, for a total of \$66.5 billion for the biennium.

Key bills reviewed included: Universal meals for schools (SB 5339, HB 1238); Dual credits and notification of options (HB 1003, HB 1146 and HB 1136); Increase in school transportation (HB 1248); Increase local levy authority (HB 1244); Fully funding special education (HB 1436).

Director Betnel expressed deep gratitude to the community for reaching out to her regarding legislative advocacy. Contact information has been added to the website to assist the community in that process.

**Board Requested Discussion and Future Topics**

None

**Action Items**

Approval of Board Letter to Legislature

*Sara Betnel, School Board Legislative Representative, presented.*

Director Betnel drafted a letter of advocacy to the Washington State Legislature in support of the urgency around the current significant funding shortfall facing our district for the 2023-2024 school year, and in

solidarity with the many other districts across the state facing a similar situation, which will be impacting our students, schools, families, and communities and the education we are here to provide them. The full letter can be viewed at: <https://app.eduportal.com/documents/view/856513>

Board members expressed appreciation and support for the letter and suggested that possibly the letter could be shared with others beyond our legislators.

It was the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the Board's letter of advocacy to the Washington State Legislature, as presented.

MOTION NO. 27: Director Jernigan moved that the Board approve the Board's letter of advocacy to the Washington State Legislature, as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Rivera and carried unanimously.

### **Reports and Communications – Board Members, Student Reps and Superintendent**

Student Rep Smith thanked the many Shorecrest students who were in the audience at this meeting. This included the applicants for the Junior student rep position. He is currently working on advertising the budget input meeting, which was scheduled to take place on February 1 in the Shorecrest theater and open to all students. He thanked Superintendent Reyes for attending the recent MLK, Jr. assembly at Shorecrest. The pancake breakfast that occurred the previous week was very well received. Particularly after this evening's presentation on graduation rates and listening to community comments, he felt compelled to advocate for the AVID program.

Student Rep Murphy gave a shout out to the ASB and BSU students who organized the recent MLK, Jr. assembly at Shorewood and to the board members who attended. Students were looking forward to the next fundraising opportunity, the winter dance in February. The search for the Junior student rep position would begin in early February in order to sync with the student council elections.

Director Betnel wished the student reps a happy end to their "second to last" semester of their high school career. It was a pleasure to attend the Shorewood and Kellogg MLK, Jr. assemblies. It was heartwarming to share space with students and community.

Superintendent Reyes also commented on the amazing MLK, Jr. assemblies held across the district. She visited Echo Lake for the kickoff to Kindness Week the previous day; the students introduced her in both Spanish and English. She also met with students at Shorecrest that same day to share information about the school board processes and student rep positions. The legislative conference was coming up on February 26. Student Reps Helen Murphy and Luke Smith would be attending with Director Betnel. WSSDA would be covering the cost for Director Betnel and the State Board of Education would be covering the costs for Superintendent Reyes. A joint meeting with the LFP City Council was scheduled for Thursday, February 2 at 5:30 p.m. A draft calendar of school board meetings for next school year was placed on the board tables. Board members were encouraged to review and let Superintendent Reyes know if any adjustments to the schedule needed to be made. It would be brought back for approval on the consent agenda at the February 14 regular meeting. The Board was scheduled for a school board retreat on Sunday, January 29 at the Shoreline Center in Room D105 for three hours—either 10-1 or 11-2. The Board had consensus on a 10-1 timeframe. The agenda includes board operating principles and a review of the recent board self-assessment process.

Director Betnel expressed appreciation for Superintendent Reyes' recent work on presenting the budget information in the schools and the community.

Regular Minutes – January 24, 2023

**Executive Session**

None

Adjournment: 8:37 p.m.

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Dr. Sarah Cohen, School Board President

Attest: March 21, 2023

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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.**