



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
November 7, 2018**

1.0 OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Meeting Date and Location:

November 7, 2018 - 1306 Dupont St., Bellingham, Washington

1.2 Call to Order/Roll Call:

Ms. Bashaw called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Directors Kelly Bashaw (President), Camille Diaz Hackler, Douglas Benjamin, Jenn Mason, Quenby Peterson, Superintendent Greg Baker and Sheri O'Day (recorder).

1.3 Audience:

- **Chris Smith** – Is a paraeducator in the Life Skills program at Wade King Elementary. Although paraeducators are hourly workers, they are not unskilled, and it is not a job that just anyone can do. They are skilled in de-escalation and put students' needs above their own wants. They have learned their skills from co-workers. These are not skills that can be picked up on the street. He challenges everyone to live on a paraeducator's salary for a month.
- **Cathy Riber** – Is the principal's secretary at Silver Beach Elementary and loves her job. The staff is hard working and are always looking for ways to better serve the students. All district staff deserve to be treated as one schoolhouse. We all work hard, and we are all necessary to give the students what they deserve. We should be treated with dignity and respect.
- **Connie Kelly** – She started 18 or 19 years ago as a 1:1 paraeducator at Roosevelt Elementary and now works at Bellingham High School. She is also a co-president for the Bellingham Association of Service Employees (BASE). She read a statement from a high school head secretary who has worked for the Bellingham School District for many years and who previously worked at an elementary school. She is a single mom and the cost of living is too high in Bellingham, so she resides in Whatcom County. Her position requires responsibility and leadership. Her daughter, who recently started college, qualified for a state need grant. Please spend time considering this reality. Is this what you mean by a fair, equitable distribution of resources? We ask that the contract be opened.
- **Shelly VanEpps** – She has worked in Special Education for 11 years and is a single mom of two girls, one in high school and one in college. She has an early childhood degree. She is starting a second job and will be working 55 hours per week. She has had to stand in line at the food bank many times, and she has no choice but to work two jobs so that she can pay her bills.
- **Chris Smith** – Is here to share statements from other BASE members who are not here or choose not to speak. One of those works at Roeder and at two other jobs to

make ends meet. The BASE raffle pays out \$3000 per year in scholarships for students for college, and we care about our community. Another BASE member was sitting with a student who had a six-minute seizure, and they were seconds away from calling 911. Can you imagine going to your second job after a day like that?

- **Alex McLean** – Spoke in opposition of the location of the bus garage. He has had conversations or exchanged emails with several people including Bellingham City Councilpersons, City of Bellingham employees, Bellingham Public Schools employees and the architect. He has a background in environmental science, environmental journalism and sustainable design. He is disappointed that no other sites were considered for the location of the bus garage. He asked the board to scuttle the present plan and find a better long-term outcome for the community.

1.4 Superintendent’s Announcements and Report: Summary of Dr. Baker’s comments:

- **Budget/Finance** - The legislature has developed different funding structures for different employee groups. State Superintendent Chris Reykdal will hold a community forum at Options High School on November 20 to talk about OSPI’s priorities and his vision for transforming K-12 education. Dr. Baker has shared with the board the Budget Reprioritization Guiding Principles that was shared with the district leadership team today. Leadership, as well as the entire staff and the community, will be engaged in the process. There is some awareness of budget concerns among staff and parent groups that Dr. Baker has met with, but not everyone is aware of the challenges the district may face.
- **Central Kitchen** – We are close to getting all the equipment installed at the Central Kitchen location. A tour will be arranged for the school board as the opening for the kitchen gets closer.
- **Facilities** – We are down to the last few weeks of construction for Sehome High School. Staff will begin moving into the new facility over winter break. Because it is a new school, there will be new furniture, and staff will slowly begin to move their materials to the new school as their rooms are ready. There will be events to commemorate the closing of the old school, including a tour during the last week of December. The first day of second semester will be focused on students and staff becoming acquainted with the new building.
- [*The Bellingham Promise*](#) is in the process of being updated. Equity, diversity and inclusion will be imbedded into the Key Strategies. The leadership team has been working on language changes and how equity, diversity and inclusion might be referenced in the document. Dr. Baker shared different formats for the updated document. Once we have a draft it will be shared to gather feedback.

2.0 CONSENT ITEMS:

Mr. Benjamin made a **motion**, seconded by Ms. Mason, to approve the following consent agenda items:

2.1 Approval of Minutes of the October 17, 2018 Regular Board Meeting

2.2 Approval of Investments – October 2018

2.3 Approval of Expenditures and Payroll – October 2018

2.4 Resolution 25-18, Alderwood Elementary School Educational Specifications

2.5 Resolution 26-18, Parkview Elementary School Educational Specifications

- 2.6 **Resolution 28-18, Adopting Order Dispensing with Records Index, Policy 4040R**
- 2.7 **Resolution 30-18, Certifying District's Levy Collections for 2019 Calendar Year**
- 2.8 **NWESD 189 New Pedagogies for Deep Learning Framework Contract (#1819-074)**
- 2.9 **Sendan Center Agreements for Services (#1819-077 and #1819-078)**
- 2.10 **Allied Arts of Whatcom County Contract (#1819-079)**
- 2.11 **Whatcom CTE Dual Credit Consortium MOU (#1819-088)**
- 2.12 **Sound Strategy Agreement for Services**
- 2.13 **Approve Updated Policy 6215**
- 2.14 **Personnel Recommendations**
- 2.15 **Personal Services Contracts**

Unanimous affirmative vote.

3.0 BOARD RESPONSE TO MONITORING

3.1 Board Response to Monitoring – EL-1 Expectations of Superintendent

A discussion was held about whether changes should be made to the policy. Ms. Peterson will make some suggested changes that can be discussed at the December 5, 2018 regular meeting. Mr. Benjamin acknowledged the amount of work that goes into staff monitoring and updating district policies.

3.2 Board Response to Monitoring – EL-5 Communication and Counsel to the Board

Following discussion, Mr. Benjamin made a **motion**, seconded by Ms. Diaz Hackler, to approve the monitoring response document as presented (Attachment A). Unanimous affirmative vote.

4.0 POLICY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

4.1 B/SR-1 Board/Superintendent Connection

No changes.

4.2 B/SR-2 Delegation to the Superintendent

No changes.

4.3 B/SR-3 Superintendent Evaluation

No changes.

4.4 B/SR-4 – 3.1.1 Monitoring Response Document

There was discussion regarding whether the board president should refine all board members' comments into a final summary and bring it to the full board for approval. The initial compilation that contains individual board members' comments would be attached to the meeting minutes. Mr. Benjamin will send examples from other school districts, so the board can review them together at the next board retreat. There will be no changes to the policy at this time.

5.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5.1 School Board Directors' Reports

- Mr. Benjamin thought the principal's presentation during this week's board visit to Northern Heights was terrific. The staff and students have embraced the 1:1 technology program, and they are doing remarkable work with students on the autism spectrum.

- Ms. Mason appreciated the staff and students who participated in the visit and especially enjoyed the AIMS (Access in the Mainstream Setting) program presentation.
- Ms. Peterson thinks the ELL linkage meeting went well and good feedback was received. Regarding the Northern Heights school visit, she is hoping that some of the resources available in the AIMS program can be offered to students who do not have a formal autism diagnosis. She also shared that of the 15 national merit scholars, three came from employees in the Whatcom County Prosecutor's office.
- Ms. Diaz Hackler believes great families were chosen to attend the ELL linkage, and the families did a wonderful job sharing their experiences. She shared that she has witnessed friends and family members being belittled for speaking a different language, and she believes we all need to give people the space to speak in their native language. Regarding the Northern Heights school visit, the principal's intentional language was very appreciated, and she was also impressed with Autism Specialist Beth Nelson's presentation.
- Ms. Bashaw was impressed with the eighth grade student who translated for her parents at the ELL linkage. She has spoken with a co-worker at Whatcom Community College who believes there may be online programs available for families who are interested in learning English at home. Ms. Bashaw noted that the board could have spent hours with the families who attended. Regarding the visit to Northern Heights, she thought the jobs program and the buddy bench are impressive, as well as how students are welcomed to school each morning.

5.2 GP-7.2 – 2018-19 Annual Board Agenda, Revised

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

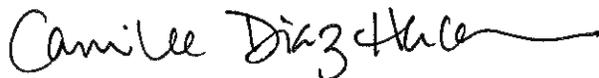
- **WSSDA Annual Conference: Nov. 14-17, 2018 (Spokane, WA)** – Ms. Bashaw, Mr. Benjamin, Ms. Diaz Hackler, Ms. Mason and Dr. Baker will attend.

7.0 CLOSING ITEMS

7.1 Board Assessment of Meeting: Ms. Bashaw assessed the meeting, with an overall rating of 4 (*commendable*).

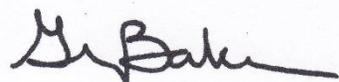
7.2 Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Approved:



Camille Diaz Hackler, Board President

Attest:



Greg Baker, Secretary to the Board

Minutes approved: December 5, 2018