



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

1.0 OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Meeting Date and Location:

6 p.m. – Feb. 7, 2018 - 1306 Dupont St., Bellingham, Washington

1.2 Call to Order/Roll Call:

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

1.3 Audience: Daniel Hagins: Referencing the superintendent’s recent [message](#) regarding a new Traffic Safety and Financial Education course beginning in 2018-19, Mr. Hagins said he wants to encourage the district to address the cost of insurance in future communications to families.

1.4 Superintendent’s Announcements and Report:

- Traffic Safety course: Dr. Baker said this course is included in the [2018-19 High School Course Catalog](#). Response to Dr. Baker’s recent message has generally been positive. Administrators welcome opportunities to meet with families or community members who have questions or wish to provide feedback.
- Promise K: The first day of school was Jan. 29. The program, offered at six sites, has 100-plus students enrolled. Administrators from other districts interested in starting similar programs are calling on a regular basis to learn more about our district’s experience.
- School Board Special Meeting: Dr. Baker briefly reviewed the agenda for this two-day meeting scheduled for Feb. 23 & 24 at North Cascades Institute.
- Despite the Best Intentions by Amanda Lewis and John Diamond: The entire leadership team is reading this book and finding it highly relevant to the district’s work on equity.
- 2018-19 Bond: The Herald featured an [article](#) on the bond and Dr. Baker’s blog has an updated [message](#). Volunteers with *Citizens for Bellingham Schools* have been engaged in a variety of tasks as Election Day approaches. Dr. Baker has given informational presentations at staff meetings as well as to all PTA groups and to many civic and community organizations. Mr. Benjamin reflected on the process involved in placing a bond measure on the ballot, noting that the directors carefully study the bond’s full impact before accepting the superintendent’s recommendation to approve a bond resolution. He said it is important that this process is emphasized when communicating to the public on future bonds and levies.

- Central Kitchen Work: The board heard an update from Ron Cowan, Executive Director, Capital Projects and School Facilities; Patrick Durgan, Executive Chef and Director of Food Services; and Jessica Sankey, Director, Teaching and Learning – Wellness. The group summarized the work done to date on the Central Kitchen and discussed how the [Bellingham Good Food Promise](#) informs that work. The Bellingham Public Schools Foundation and community partners, including Whatcom Community Foundation, have been key supporters of this work.

Dr. Baker noted that minor revisions have been made to the attachments in Consent Agenda Items No. 2.5 and 2.6.

Following discussion, Mr. Benjamin made a **motion**, seconded by Ms. Diaz Hackler, to approve the following consent agenda items. Unanimous affirmative vote.

2.0 CONSENT ITEMS:

- 2.1 Approval of minutes of the Jan. 9, 2018 school board visit and the Jan. 10, 2018 regular meeting.**
- 2.2 Approval of Investments - January 2018**
- 2.3 Approval of Expenditures and Payroll – January 2018**
- 2.4 Resolution 4-18, Request to Transfer Funds from the Capital Projects Fund to the General Fund**
- 2.5 Modify Easement to City of Bellingham for Waterline Facilities**
- 2.6 Vision Plus Equipment Rental Agreement (#1718-115)**
- 2.7 Unity Care NW Memorandum of Understanding (#1718-123)**
- 2.8 Whatcom Tech Prep Consortium Memorandum of Agreement (#1718-126)**
- 2.9 Approve Updated Policy 6210 Purchasing: Authorization and Control, Policy 6215 Voucher Certification and Approval, Policy 6216 Reimbursement of Goods and Services: Warrants**
- 2.10 Personnel Recommendations**
- 2.11 Personal Services Contracts**
- 2.12 EL-4 Monitoring Report: Staff Treatment, Compensation & Evaluation**

3.0 POLICY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

3.1 Monitoring Report [Ends 2.1](#) (part 2) – Student Competence

Dr. Mike Copland, Deputy Superintendent, and Brian Rick, Director of Research and Assessment, discussed the [report](#) and [data set](#) and answered questions from the board. The report focused on *Student Advancement Toward On-Time or Extended Graduation and Reduction in Drop-Out Rates*. Dr. Copland and Mr. Rick noted that overall trends are positive and affirm the efficacy of strategies that have been in place for several years. These include the district’s investments in ELL instruction, hiring of success coordinators in each of the schools, and the work of the family engagement team. The focus of the leadership team on reducing suspensions, along with the “94 project” (engaging with former students who did not complete high school) also contributed to positive trends. Dr. Copland acknowledged Mr. Rick’s contributions to these reports and expressed appreciation for the level of integrity he brings to the process.

3.2 Board Response to Monitoring – Ends 2.1 part 1:

- At the January 10, 2018 regular meeting, the board heard a monitoring [report](#), which included a [data set](#), on Ends 2.1 (part 1) Student Competence. In accordance with Policy Governance, the board discussed whether the superintendent has achieved the goals established in the policy. (See Attachment A for a summary of comments.) The directors agreed that at a future meeting, when revisions to the policy are considered, they would explore further whether the wording relating to “comparable high-performing districts” should be clarified.

4.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4.1 School Board Directors’ Reports/Board Visits: The directors discussed their participation in various school-related activities and the recent WSSDA Legislative Conference. Discussion items included:

- **Linkage Meeting with Business Community Representatives:** 7 a.m., Mar. 20, Options High School. Ms. Peterson is the lead.
- **WSSDA Director Area 1 Regional Meeting:** 6-8:30 p.m., Mar. 1, Mt. Vernon High School
- **WSSDA Policy Governance Summit:** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mar. 31, Olympia, WA

4.2 School Board Visit – Cordata Elementary School: General discussion. The directors praised administrators and staff for a meaningful visit and noted the in-depth focus on Social/Emotional Learning was particularly informative.

4.3 GP-7.2: 2017-18 Annual Board Agenda, Revised – General review

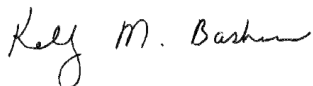
5.0 NEW BUSINESS: n/a

6.0 CLOSING ITEMS

6.1 Board Assessment of Meeting:

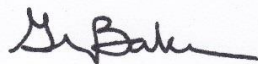
- Mr. Benjamin assessed the meeting with an overall rating of 3+ (good).

6.2 Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.



Kelly Bashaw, School Board President

Attest:



Greg Baker, Secretary to the Board

Minutes approved: 2/28/18