



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
November 9, 2022**

1.0 OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Meeting Date and Location:

November 9, 2022 – Options High School, 2015 Franklin St., Bellingham, WA.

1.2 Call to Order/Land Acknowledgment:

Ms. Bashaw called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She acknowledged that this meeting is being held on the ancestral homelands of the Coast Salish people.

1.3 Roll Call:

Present: Directors Kelly Bashaw (President), Douglas Benjamin, Camille Diaz Hackler, Jenn Mason, Katie Rose, Superintendent Greg Baker and Sheri O'Day (recorder).

1.4 Audience:

- Jeremy Kiniry is the parent of three students attending Carl Cozier Elementary, Kulshan Middle School and Options High School. In the collective 19 years that his children have attended the Bellingham Public Schools, they have experienced two lockdown situations, both being within one week at Carl Cozier. There are great things going on inside the walls of Carl Cozier, but there are serious safety concerns outside of the building including public nudity, open drug use and crime. He is appreciative that the school district and the Whatcom Transit Authority are willing to take measures to mitigate the concerns but is disappointed that the City of Bellingham is not. He would like to see someone take on the role of a liaison between the entities.

1.5 Superintendent's Announcements and Report: Summary of Dr. Baker's comments:

- Congratulations to the school board for receiving the Board of Distinction award from WSSDA. The board will be recognized during WSSDA's annual conference next week in Spokane, WA.
- Tonight's consent agenda includes a [report](#) on EL-5, Communication and Counsel to the Board. The report contains evidence of the various ways that the board participates with our school community.
- 17 members of the [Dual Language Program Planning Task Force](#) attended the La Cosecha conference last week in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The conference is considered the premiere conference for dual language programs. The task force will soon begin its second year of meetings.
- Two publications will be going out soon, the Fall 2022 Inside Schools and the 2022-23 Priorities for Progress.
- Dr. Baker shared photos that were captured yesterday by the new district office construction webcam.

- The [15th Elementary School Educational Specifications/Design Advisory Committee](#) will be meeting for the second time this week.
- Dr. Baker acknowledged the work of Director of Health Services Kim Niederhauser and Director of Athletics and Activities Laurel Peak this fall on air quality concerns. There were many nuances involved for school recess, athletics and activities.
- The [Sustainability Advisory Committee](#) has formed three subcommittees: facilities and operations; teaching and learning; and habits and culture.
- Dr. Baker shared photos from last week's purple Friday professional development sessions, which was a good day of learning across the district.
- Fall sports for middle school have just concluded and Dr. Baker shared photos from the middle school track meet and girls' soccer.
- Our high school cross country teams swept the state cross country championships in Pasco, with Bellingham High School receiving first place, Sehome High School second place and Squalicum High School third place.
- Veterans Day assemblies are taking place at schools this week.
- Dr. Simone Sangster, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, has accepted a position with another school district beginning in 2023, and Dr. Baker thanked her for her past leadership with the budget work and publications.
- Dr. Baker responded to questions from the school board.

2.0 CONSENT ITEMS:

Ms. Diaz Hackler indicated that a family member is employed by Construction Supply Co., and agenda item 2.2 contains an invoice from Construction Supply Co. To avoid a conflict of interest per RCW 42.23.030, Ms. Diaz Hackler will recuse herself from voting on item 2.2 (Approval of Expenditures and Payroll). Ms. Diaz Hackler made a **motion** to vote on item 2.2 separately, which was seconded by Ms. Mason. Unanimous affirmative vote.

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

- 2.1 **Approval of Minutes of the Oct. 12, 2022 Regular Meeting**
- 2.3 **Resolution 20-22, Transfer of Funds from Capital Projects Fund to General Fund**
- 2.4 **Resolution 21-22, Certification of 2023 Excess Property Taxes**
- 2.5 **Resolution 22-22, Alderwood Elementary School Building Commissioning Report**
- 2.6 **Resolution 23-22, Parkview Elementary School Building Commissioning Report**
- 2.7 **Policy Update 1400 – Meeting Conduct, Order of Business and Quorum**
- 2.8 **Policy Update 1410 – Executive or Closed Sessions**
- 2.9 **Policy Update 3205 – Sexual Harassment of Students Prohibited**
- 2.10 **EL-5 Monitoring Report – Communication and Counsel to the Board**
- 2.11 **City of Bellingham Modification to Agreement for Carl Cozier Resource Center (#2122-202B)**
- 2.12 **North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization Contract (#2122-207)**
- 2.13 **Whatcom Family YMCA Childcare Facilities Use Agreement (#2223-078)**
- 2.14 **Northwest Career & Technical Academy Agreement (#2223-080)**

- 2.15 **Accent Counseling, Inc. Memorandum of Understanding (#2223-085)**
- 2.16 **Whatcom County Mobile Response Team Interlocal Agreement (#2223-086)**
- 2.17 **Lacrosse Clubs Agreement (#2223-088)**
- 2.18 **Common Threads Farm Agreement for Services (#012-2223)**
- 2.19 **Personnel Recommendations**
- 2.20 **Personal Services Contracts**

Unanimous affirmative vote.

Ms. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rose, to approve the following consent agenda item:

2.2 Approval of Expenditures and Payroll – October 2022

Affirmative votes: Ms. Bashaw, Mr. Benjamin, Ms. Mason, Ms. Rose.
 Abstention: Ms. Diaz Hackler.

3.0 BOARD RESPONSE TO MONITORING

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

The board discussed the feedback contained in the combined monitoring responses for EL-1 ([Attachment A](#)). Ms. Bashaw will provide a final summary version of this document which will be submitted for approval at the December 14, 2022 regular meeting.

3.2 Board Response to Monitoring – EL-10, Race and Equity

The board discussed the feedback contained in the combined monitoring responses for EL-10 ([Attachment B](#)). Ms. Bashaw will provide a final summary version of this document which will be submitted for approval at the December 14, 2022 regular meeting.

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-3.1.1 Monitoring Response Document

No changes.

5.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5.1 School Board Directors’ Reports. Highlights of comments:

- Ms. Mason enjoyed hearing at yesterday’s Options High School visit how they approach things differently than most schools. She is impressed with the work at Options and appreciates that the staff is dedicated to the students and the school community, often needing to help students work through challenging circumstances. The school-based health clinic will be a help to many students. As a Carl Cozier

parent, she appreciated the recent communications and the district's work to move quickly toward some concrete resolutions of safety concerns.

- Ms. Diaz Hackler was disappointed when she watched the Oct. 26 City Club meeting regarding the Prop 5 – Children's Initiative. She knows there will be many families who will appreciate the health clinic at Options.
- Mr. Benjamin agreed that the City Club meeting was not a good replacement for the planned linkage meeting. He has asked Dr. Baker and Ms. Bashaw to discuss rescheduling the board's childcare linkage. He attended two WSSDA board meetings in the past month, one being a planning meeting for the equity caucus at the upcoming WSSDA conference. The Options High School visit had a casual conversational feeling, which was good, but he missed hearing from students. He is happy to know that we are close to seeing the opening of the school-based health clinic at Options.
- Ms. Rose has some wonders about the school-based health clinic, but believes it is the right thing to do. She shared that while meeting with an ADHD coaching group recently it was agreed that the conscious effort of the district to see all students and let them learn how they learn best would have been an impactful experience for the adults in her group. She is proud to be part of a district that is changing that experience for neuro-divergent people.
- Ms. Bashaw agreed that the school-based health clinic is the right thing to do for students and families. The visit to Options was great, but she agreed that it is challenging because high school students don't start school until 8:30 a.m. She also agreed that it was disappointing that the recent children's initiative appears to not have been approved by the voters. The group who worked on it are very dedicated to the well-being of all children in the community.

5.2 GP-7.2 – 2022-23 Annual Board Agenda, Revised – general review.

6.0 NEW BUSINESS


6.1 n/a

7.0 CLOSING ITEMS

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

7.2 Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Approved:



Camille Diaz Hackler, Board President

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Baker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Greg Baker, Secretary to the Board

Minutes approved: December 14, 2022

Monitoring Response Document – INITIAL COMPILATION

Policy Monitored: EL-1, Expectations of Superintendent

Date Report Submitted: 10/12/2022

Date of Board’s Monitoring Response: 11/9/2022

Below are my responses in connection with the report:

<u>Ends Reports:</u>	<u>Executive Limitations Reports</u>
<p>1. The Board finds that the Superintendent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. has achieved the goals established in the policy. b. is making reasonable progress towards achieving the goals. c. is making reasonable progress towards achieving the goals, but a greater degree of progress is expected in some areas.* d. is <i>not</i> making reasonable progress in achieving the goals established. * e. cannot be determined* 	<p>1. The Board finds that the Superintendent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. is in compliance. KB DB CDH JM KR b. is in compliance, except for items(s) noted.* c. is making reasonable progress toward compliance.* d. is <i>not</i> in compliance <u>or</u> is <i>not</i> making reasonable progress toward compliance.* e. cannot be determined*
<p><i>*see comments below (No. 3)</i></p>	

2. Please note commendable progress over the last year.

KB:

- Thank you to all who continue to refine and update these reports.

DB:

- The report shows that there are a number of successful efforts to keep the superintendent, staff and the Board in touch with the policy climate on a state level to ensure alignment with best practices.
- The report shows evidence, as it has for a number of years in the past, that the superintendent has an ongoing and very robust process for policy review, update, screening and adoption.

CDH:

- Recently updated policies in October.

JM:

- Continued to stay up to date with essential and encouraged policies, with appropriate accompanying processes.

KR:

- Report shows continued commitment to staying current with reviewing and adopting policies.

3. Please note areas for additional improvement.

KB:

- None.

DB:

- None.

CDH:

- None.

JM:

- None.

KR:

- None.

4. Comments on the report itself.

DB:

- EL-1 makes reference to preserving and protecting the district's public image and credibility. While the current report shows that the superintendent is clearly in compliance with the primary focus of this policy, there are many other efforts observed throughout the year which reinforce the district's positive public image and credibility that could also be included. It would be nice to see some of this evidence as well.
- Thank you for including the very detailed spreadsheet overview of policy review and monitoring.

CDH:

- Great job. The report was detailed just enough and easy to read.

JM:

- None.

KR:

- Really appreciate the spreadsheet presentation of policies – helps give a better big picture view of the scope of what it is to manage and monitor so many policies.

5. Possible changes to the policy.

KB:

- None.

DB:

- None.

CDH:

- None.

JM:

- None.

KR:

- None.

Monitoring Response Document – INITIAL COMPILATION

Policy Monitored: EL-10, Race and Equity
 Date Report Submitted: 10/12/2022
 Date of Board’s Monitoring Response: 11/9/2022

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<i>*see comments below (No. 3)</i>	

2. Please note commendable progress over the last year.

KB:

- The district safety tipline has had an increase in the number of students knowing how to access this in ensuring confidentiality in reporting the incidents of safety.
- BIPOC job fair.
- Dr. Velazquez-Farmer and Mr. Oliver working on the two-year planning grant to increase and sustain diversity in the workforce.
- Partnership with University of Washington’s Haring Center.
- Continued support of LGBTQ+ through an expansion of our student clubs.

DB:

- Significant increase in students who know how to access the tipline.
- There is evidence of continued progress engaging with job fairs, collaboration with the ESD and others, and developing more diverse hiring practices; all to promote a well-trained and culturally diverse workforce.
- There is evidence that the superintendent has worked to engage student voice.
- There is ample evidence of community involvement and dialogue to elevate multicultural perspectives. Among others, the cited example of our mature and growing Family Engagement program stands out. Not mentioned in the report are the many emails shared with the Board where the superintendent is engaging and dialoguing with parents/community members around equity issues.

- There is specific evidence of new and growing implementation of culturally responsive practices and curriculum. Of note is the dramatic increase in students enrolling for Ethnic Studies classes.

CDH:

- Increased knowledge in how students can access the district safety tip line.
- Ongoing collaboration with Lummi Nation and WWU to increase knowledge and refine Since Time Immemorial curriculum.

JM:

- Increased awareness of bias tipline
- BIPOC job fair saw great results
- Extensive work around expanding and supporting workforce diversity
- Recognizing bilingual language skills for BASE employees
- Working by Dr. Farmer and the District as a whole to host more community and school-based events that represent the cultural diversity of our families
- Continued excellent work from the Family Engagement Team
- Expanded Promise-K
- There is ample evidence on both the ground and policy-level of work around EDI. Literally from crayons to map boundaries, the District is showing a commitment to EDI.

KR:

- Marked increase in tipline and awareness.
- Numerous instances of very proactive inclusion efforts – multicultural and inclusive art supplies, inclusive extracurricular activities, social media, playgrounds, community coalition focused on culturally relevant community events.
- Expansion of Promise K.
- Recruitment, retention and professional development efforts for staff are all indicative of a deep commitment to lasting change and reflective of the values of the promise.

3. Please note areas for additional improvement.

KB:

- None at this time.

DB:

- In the future it would be helpful to hear some details on the work of the district’s “Bias Team.”

CDH:

- None, continue to do what you are doing.

JM:

- None.

KR:

- None.

4. Comments on the report itself.

KB:

- Excellent in showing all the Evidence of Compliance.

DB:

- Appreciate the clear outlined item by item format reporting on each element of the policy.
Clear and concise.

CDH:

- Great job.

JM:

- Appreciate the new/update.

KR:

- None.

5. Possible changes to the policy.

KB:

- None.

DB:

- None.

CDH:

- None.

JM:

- None.

KR:

- None.