



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
November 10, 2021**

1.0 OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Meeting Date and Location:

November 10, 2021 via remote Zoom meeting.

1.2 Call to Order/Roll Call:

Ms. Mason called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. She acknowledged that this meeting, while attended from various locations, is being held on the ancestral homelands of the Coast Salish people. Present: Directors Kelly Bashaw, Douglas Benjamin, Camille Diaz Hackler, Jenn Mason (President), Katie Rose, Superintendent Greg Baker and Sheri

1.3 Audience:

Ms. Mason noted that, because of our current emergency status due to COVID-19, public participation is limited to written submissions only, and all written comments received will be shared with the school board directors. Each board member has seen all messages received.

1.4

:

The district continues to follow the precautions recommended by health officials as it pertains to the COVID-19 pandemic. Children ages five to eleven were recently approved to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, and as vaccination rates increase there will likely be updated guidance from health officials. Executive Director of Family Engagement Isabel Meaker and her family engagement team have been supporting [Operation School Bell](#) as they plan to coordinate student vaccination clinics. Executive Director of Operations Jessica Sankey shared that the district has partnered with the [Learn to Return](#) program, which gives the district access to COVID-19 rapid tests for staff who may have symptoms and would like verification that they do not have COVID-19. Dr. Baker, Ms. Sankey and Ms. Meaker responded to questions from board members. The [Facilities Planning Task Force](#), which has been meeting this fall, held its fourth meeting last week

upgrading HVAC and air circulation at some of our schools. Dr. Baker shared some initial thinking regarding the proposed structure of a bond and noted that an upcoming Inside Schools issue will include information about the proposed bond planning.

2.0 CONSENT ITEMS:

Mr. Benjamin made a **motion**,

The board discussed whether changes are necessary to B/SR-1, B/SR-2, B/SR-3 and B/SR-3.1. After discussion, Mr. Benjamin made a motion that the current board reaffirm these policies and update the policies with the current date and signatures. Ms. Bashaw seconded the motion. Unanimous affirmative vote.

5.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5.1

Highlights of comments:

Ms. Diaz Hackler congratulated Ms. Mason and Mr. Benjamin on their re-elections. She enjoyed board visit to Fairhaven Middle School and noted that it was interesting to see the outside eating areas.

part about being back in school is access to the school library. She was impressed by the students who spoke with the board.

Mr. Benjamin shared that the re-elections of he and Ms. Mason are an indicator that the community is pleased with how our schools are doing. That confidence is due to the competent work of the superintendent and his team. Today Mr. Benjamin emailed a document to the board regarding WSSDA board standards. He also recently attended the WSSDA Area 1 meeting and forwarded his meeting notes to board members. The term of the Area 1 representative is coming to an end, and he encouraged the board members to consider applying for this position. The visit to Fairhaven Middle School went very well, and he found the students to be very articulate. He believes that board members to hear from the students. He also respects how the school has taken a closer look at its heritage.

Ms. Bashaw attended the virtual WSSDA Legislative Conference last weekend. It was her first time attending the conference, so she did not know what to expect.

When she receives information about the outcome of the conference, she will share it with the other board members. She found the introduction outlining the history of Fairhaven Middle School given by Principal Steve Ruthford to be very interesting.

She also thought it was impressive that the middle school students, who do not begin school until 9:15 a.m.,

6.2 Dr. Baker shared that, after nine years with the Bellingham Public Schools, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Bob Kuehl announced his retirement this week. Board members congratulated Mr. Kuehl, and he noted that it has been his pleasure to serve the board and Dr. Baker.

7.0 CLOSING ITEMS

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

7.2 Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Approved:

Monitoring Response Document INITIAL COMPILATION

Policy Monitored: EL-1, Expectations of Superintendent
Date Report Submitted:

DB:

None.

CDH:

None.

JM:

Monitoring Response Document INITIAL COMPILATION

Policy Monitored: EL-10, Race and Equity

Date Report Submitted 10/13/2021

Date RI % RD UG ↑ V 0 R Q L: W 1 R 1 0 2 0 2 1 J 5 H V

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 toward achieving the goals. c. is making reasonable progress toward achieving the goals, but a greater degree of progress is expected in some areas d. is not making reasonable progress toward 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 JM b. is in compliance, except for item(s) noted c. is making reasonable progress toward compliance* CDH d. is not in compliance <u>or</u> is not making reasonable progress toward compliance e. cannot be determined*
<p>*see comments below (No.3)</p>	

2. Please note commendable efforts /F

- x The board is impressed with the prevention/intervention work that provides individual support for students.

JM:

- x The development of a bias and hate related incident reporting system as an important part of Punjabi communities.
- x The Employee Resource Groups seem like such a useful tool for creating connection among our staff and reducing isolation.
- x Appreciate the Peer Centered Outreach groups as part of the district mental health.
- x The continued two way communication around EDI work is impressive and appreciated.
- x The relationship building/workgroup with BPS, Lummi Nation and Nooksack Tribe shows a commitment to delivering education about our communities and supporting Native distribution that more accurately represents diversity of our families.
- x Glad to see the plethora of PD opportunities for staff and our community around EDI.

3. Please note areas for additional improvement

KB:

- x Ongoing support for the EDI team.

DB:

- x Not so much improvement as additional information would be great to hear more in the future about the outcomes of the PCOs and PCs.

CDH:

- x None at this time.

JM:

- x that there are areas being overlooked at this time.

4. Comments on the report itself.

KB:

- x Thank you for all of the evidence of new projects and updates on current ones.

DB:

- x

DB:

- x Given the extensive national politicization recently ~~and~~ ~~of~~ equity issues and the ~~opting~~ of notions like critical race theory, I am curious if the superintendent and the staff close to the implementation of this policy feel there are changes that might be considered ~~to~~ ~~EL~~

CDH:

- x None.

JM:

- x None.