



MAY 23, 2017 MEETING OVERVIEW

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the meeting. If anyone interested in viewing the full meeting, please visit the website

Meeting began at 6:00pm at the call of Vice-Chair Amy
Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street,

Present: Chair Koehler; Vice-Chair Kohnstamm; Directors Anthony, Buel, Esparza Brown, Knowles, and Rosen; Student Representative Bradley; Superintendent McKean

Valedictorian Recognition

The Board recognized the 2017 Valedictorian. .

Student Testimony

Sammus Prehn: Classes are not the place for policy; School Resource Officers were not needed. A small protest the previous day ended up with students and parents being locked out of the BESC, and PPS staff shoved students out of the administrative spaces.

Public Comment

Dana Hepper: asked the Board to please reconsider the layoffs of Counselors and Assistant Principals before they approve the 2017-18 budget.

Meeka Kullberg: supports around student services and Special Education staff need to work together. We need to work harder with the resources we have.

There is no law in the United States that says a child with disabilities has the right to bully others. The Board needs to do their job and supervise the Superintendent. Superintendent McKean stated that Ms. Paul-Pruett could appeal his decision to the Board.

Matt Purvis: spoke in regards to a letter that a Grant teacher wrote regarding rape culture. The teacher has not been given his day in press and he has become a villain by the media. We are censoring and condemning a teacher.

Gabrielle Mercedes Bolivar: Ockley Green Middle School is not a disaster. With the placement of Senior Director Karl Logan as the interim principal, systems and structures were finally being implemented that support students and staff. In addition, she encouraged PPS staff to explore placing Alliance at Jefferson High School.

Comments from the Portland Association of Teachers (PAT)

Suzanne Cohen, President of PAT, stated that the 2017-18 proposed budget does not honor PAT contracts and agreements. PAT would be filing an Unfair Labor Practice on May 25th, listing the following four areas:

workload, prohibitive subjects of bargaining, Snow Days, and Appendix F of the contract. Ms. Cohen stated that the District was doing bad faith bargaining. Bargaining has changed in its tone and she was afraid that they were heading to the battle lines; however, her bargaining team was willing to have a reset. PAT has offered many proposals, but the District team needs to respond to them and the need to bargain in good faith.