

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1J, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

JUNE 26, 2018 MEETING OVERVIEW

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The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the actions taken by the School Board and to provide a listing of the reports given. Anyone interested in viewing the full meeting, please visit the website listed below.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education came to order at 6:16pm at the call of Board Chair Julia Brim-Edwards in the Board Auditorium at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N. Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon.

Attendance

Present: Chair Brim-Edwards; Vice-Chair Esparza Brow

Superintendent Guerrero's report included: new hires Claire Hertz and Gregg Quaog who would be joining his Leadership Team; visioning; COSA attendance; and, that the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission had approved PPS 201-19 budget.

Student and Public Comment

Alberto Chavez: PPS Maintenance Department, stated that rumors were spreading that the Board wanted to get rid of the Maintenance Department. In the 2012 Bond, you promised taxpayers you would hire more maintenance workers, yet they have seen no new hires. Where did that money go? Will it be coming back to them? The Department is not able to maintain the schools; they are reactive, not proactive. On her previous time on the Board, Chair Brim-Edwards had voted to get rid of custodians. That move cost PPS millions of dollars by losing a lawsuit.

Chris Nelson: KairosPDX Board Member, commented that Kairos had submitted a formal grievance to the PPS Board related to a long non-response treatment of Kairos and their lease negotiation of Humboldt School. They feel ignored and disrespected. He asked if all tenants of PPS buildings treated that way? Was it because they are a charter school or black school? After six months of waiting, they have lost their patience and would like to return to negotiating the lease.

Nathan Smarek: a litigation associate and interested resident of NE Portland, mentioned that PPS has a Racial Education Equity Policy and that the District was bound to follow that policy Kairos is an important partner to address the achievement gap. PPS renewed their charter earlier this year, but Kairos is concerned that their children are not being seen. Humboldt School is the ideal location for Kairos' work.

Zalika Gardner: co-founder of Kairos, reported that their K-4 students took the SBAC and national assessments and were doing their best in delivering what they said they were going to do. They want kids to be successful. Of their 121 students, 75% gained 4 or more percentage points against kids across the nation. 75% kids of color, 40% free or reduced lunch, and 11% of their black students were exceeding the SBAC.

