



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
June 18, 2024**

1.0 OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Meeting Date and Location:

June 18, 2024 District Office, 1985 Barkley Blvd., Bellingham, WA.

1.2 Call to Order/Land Acknowledgment:

1.3 Roll Call:

- x Juneteenth will now be a paid holiday for staff whose work schedules include June 19 as a regularly scheduled workday.

2.0 CONSENT ITEMS:

Mr. Ritchey shared that consent agenda item 2.17, Personnel Recommendations, contains a change in employment status for a family member who is a district employee. To avoid a conflict of interest per RCW 42.23.030, Mr. Ritchey will recuse himself from voting on item 2.17. Mr. Ritchey made a **motion** to vote on item 2.17 separately. Ms. Mason seconded the motion. Unanimous affirmative vote.

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

- 2.1 Approval of Minutes of May 16, 2024 Regular Meeting; May 22, 2024 Community Linkage; June 4, 2024 School Visit**
- 2.2 Approval of Expenditures and Payroll ±May 2024**
- 2.3 Resolution 14-24, State Capital Grant for Health Center at Options High School**
- 2.4 Resolution 15-24, Delegation of Authority to WIAA**
- 2.5 Resolution 16-24, Deposit of Debt Service Fund Investment Earnings**
- 2.6 Resolution 17-24, Transfer of Funds from Capital Projects Fund to General Fund**
- 2.7 Approve Donation**
- 2.8 Declaration and Agreement of Easement**

3.0 BOARD RESPONSE TO MONITORING

3.1 Board Response to Monitoring EL-6, Academic Standards and Provisions

There was discussion regarding the summary of the board responses to the EL-6 report that was prepared by Mr. Benjamin. Following discussion, Ms. Mason made a **motion**, seconded by Mr. Ritchey, to approve the monitoring response document ([Attachment A](#)). Unanimous affirmative vote.

3.2 Board Response to Monitoring EL-8, District Calendar

There was discussion regarding the summary of the board responses to the EL-8 report that was prepared by Mr. Benjamin. Following discussion, Mr. Ritchey made a **motion**, seconded by Ms. Mason, to approve the monitoring response document ([Attachment B](#)). Unanimous affirmative vote.

3.3 Board Response to Monitoring Ends 2.1 (Part 2), Student Competence

There was discussion regarding the summary of the board responses to the Ends 2.1 (Part 2) report that was prepared by Mr. Benjamin. Following discussion, Mr. Ritchey made a **motion**, seconded by Ms. Rose, to approve the monitoring response document ([Attachment C](#)). Unanimous affirmative vote.

3.4 Board Response to Monitoring EL-2, Organizational Continuity

The board discussed the feedback contained in the combined monitoring responses for EL-2 ([Attachment D](#)). Mr. Benjamin will provide a final summary version of this document which will be submitted for approval at the July 18, 2024 regular meeting.

3.5 Board Response to Monitoring Ends 1, 2, 3 (Combined)

The board discussed the feedback contained in the combined monitoring responses for Ends 1, 2 and 3 Combined ([Attachment E](#)). Mr. Benjamin will provide a final summary version of this document which will be submitted for approval at the July 18, 2024 regular meeting.

4.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4.1 Annual Affirmative Action Progress Report general review.

4.2 6 F K R R O % R D U G ' L U H I G H W I R U V O J 5 H S R U W V

x Ms. Mason shared that today was her last day as the parent of an elementary student, as her daughter will be moving on to middle school in the fall. She commended the s team for their coordination of graduation and the retirement

Wade King Elementary, she enjoyed hearing 792.77 349.97 Tm0 g1uu

transparency and consistency with policy governance. They will do some additional research so the topic can be During the visit

Attest:



Greg Baker, Secretary to the Board

Minutes approved: July 18, 2024

Monitoring Response Document

Policy Monitored: EL6, Academic Standards and Practices

Date Report Submitted 4/17/2024

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)ROORZLQJ WKH %RDUG ¶V UHYLHZ DQG GLVFXVLRQV ZLWK

Board makes the following conclusions

<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 policy or is making reasonable progress towards achieving the goals. b. is making reasonable progress toward achieving the goals, but a greater degree of progress is expected for policy items noted.* c. is not making reasonable progress achieving the goals established. * d. cannot be determined* 	<p>1. The Board finds that the Superintendent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. is in compliance with the acknowledgement that there is always more work to be done b. is making reasonable progress toward compliance except for item(s) noted* c. is not making reasonable progress toward compliance* d. cannot be determined*
<p>*see comments below (No.3)</p>	

2. Please note commendable progress over the last year.

The report shows active progress in developing academic practices and standards that meet policy expectations, as the Board has come to expect from this superintendent and his team. Some notable examples of commendable efforts include, but are not limited to expanded inclusionary efforts, more focus on behaviorally dysregulated students and mental health supports, use of AI tools, new math curriculums, alignment with Boards, STI integration, expanding IB schools and broad stakeholder involvement. The board is impressed with the work done on coming up with a new inclusion definition. It seems like a lot of work went into it. The board is also

Monitoring Response Document

Policy Monitored: EL6, Academic Standards and Practices

Date Report Submitted 4/17/2024

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3. Please note areas for additional improvement

None identified.

4. Comments on the report itself.

Organized and very readable. We appreciate the clear indication of new efforts. The report was very informative, and the links to specific additional resources and reference materials was much appreciated. That this report highlights new and updated practices so helpful and demonstrates the commitment to progress and ongoing learning.

5. Possible changes to the policy.

None identified.

Monitoring Response Document

ATTACHMENT B
6/18/24 board meeting minutes

Monitoring Response Document

Policy Monitored: Ends 2.1, Part 2-Student Competence

Date Report Submitted 3/14/2024

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3. Please note areas for additional improvement

The graduation gap with multilingual learners increased, though it is recognized these numbers fluctuate significantly. The report indicates that come is perhaps the most significant contributor to graduation rate gap. Our interpretation of the testing impacts to grade 10 students is that these anomalous scores may be the result of COVID era effects due to reduced student familiarity with the standardized tests and a lack of understanding for the use of these standardized tests specific to this cycle of measurement. We were glad to learn that we will likely see improvement in this area in future cycles. Our district stands out for our strong focus on proficiency gaps and WKH GLVW ofU ^ëñ ñ ...8TSE N@ yän P p `` 0 RQLWRULQJp yäÐ

Monitoring Response Document INITIAL COMPILATION

Policy Monitored: EL

KR:

- x Work around organizational continuity and leadership development highlight not just the work to preserve the nitty gritty function of the district and leadership staff retention and development but work around Universal Design and Brain Development also highlight that the districts inclusionary work is a priority at every level and across the district.
- x Impressive work around school safety and community response to emergencies.

3. Please note areas for additional improvement

DB:

- x None.

CDH:

- x None.

JM:

- x None.

SR:

- x None.

KR:

- x None

4. Comments on the report itself.

DB:

- x Clear, concise, appreciate the bolding of new information.

CDH:

- x Nicely done.

JM:

- x None.

SR:

Monitoring Response Document INITIAL COMPILATION

Policy Monitored: Eds 1, 2, 3 (combined)

Date Report Submitted 5/16/2024

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Below are combined responses in connection with 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 policy or is making reasonable progress towards achieving the goals SDH JM SR b. is making reasonable progress towards achieving the goals, but a greater degree of progress is expected for policy items noted. * DB KR c. is not making reasonable progress achieving the goals established. * d. cannot be determined* 	<p>1. The Board finds that the Superintendent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. is in compliance with the acknowledgment that there is always more work to be done b. is making reasonable progress toward compliance except for item(s) noted c. is not making reasonable progress toward compliance* d. cannot be determined*
<p>*see comments below (No.3)</p>	

2. Please note commendable progress over the last year.

DB:

- x From a broad perspective, it is impressive to see how Birmingham Promise continues to be instilled and integrated into the fabric and culture of every school, with daily reference by staff and students, from curricula to leadership.

CDH:

- x There are so many good things to highlight. The board is impressed with the higher percentage of students meeting standards on the Smarter Balanced Assessment. We are also pleased with the support many students and families have been given, all over the district.

JM:

- x Inclusion work at Columbia, including all students learning to use a Core Board at Columbia.
- x Prioritizing inclusionary work across the district, even through budgetary challenges.
- x Graduation rates post-COVID look promising. The long-term improvements continue to be impressive.
- x Minor (but important!) improvement in math scores.
- x Work to improve learning around outdoor education and sustainability.
- x Significant, continued work around meaningfully implementing the Since Time Immemorial curriculum and Treaty Day learnings
- x So many arts offerings and highlights, Q F O X G L Q J W K H 3 U, H Q B L H C & H O S R U P create access for audiences with sensory or other needs
- x Impressive work around multilingual learners across multiple schools

- x Great to see Latinos in Action leading assemblies at all high schools and how that class is so successful in its work
- x Heartwarming stories of being principled at Northern Heights (and across the district).

SR:

- x The explicit teaching of pro-social thought and self regulation is a commendable example of the tactical efforts required to advance the broader goals of the Promise.
- x The tremendous commitment to improving educational equity is evident in the Columbia elementary example provided and other district activities where teaching staff have committed to improving differentiation and redesigning their practices to be more effective for all students. These efforts are commendable for their creativity and drive towards continuous improvement.
- x District growth in reading, based on the ready report shows commendable growth and achievement broadly.
- x The option for middle school compacted math is a good example of providing additional challenge to students interested and motivated to do so. The use of online tools is a commendable creative complement to class instruction within the budget constraint of the system.
- x The district commitment to helping students engage through inquiry complex topics with multiple developing skills is outstanding and the work on identity, compassion, and historical understanding of tribal sovereignty is commendable.
- x The 5th grade strings program is an example of Bellingham leadership in music education and a commendable commitment of the district and community to outstanding depth in this effort.

KR:

- x 2 Y H U D O O L W T V L Q V S L U L Q J D Q G K X P E O L Q J W R V H H 7 K H
Bellingham Public Schools at seemingly every level from the day-to-day, to leadership, curriculum, etc.
- x Appreciate strength of seven year graduation rate.

3. Please note areas for additional improvement

DB:

- x There is evidence that the district is back on track increasing progress in many areas following the impact of the pandemic. We look forward to this continuing.

CDH:

- x None.

JM:

- x While an issue across the State as a result of COVID, will be interested to see how attendance rates can be improved over the coming years.

SR:

- x While real challenges exist and efforts have been made to facilitate continuity in music education through middle school, the district has opportunity to continue consideration of creative approaches that support students with simultaneous interests currently covered by electives.

KR:

- x While there are obvious broader issues at play, would like to see attendance rates reflect at least the state average.

ATTACHMENT E
6/18/24 board meeting minutes