

President Brian Deagle called the Issaquah School Board special meeting to order on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 4:25 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Service Center. With Mr. Deagle were board members Chad Magendanz, Suzanne Weaver, Connie Fletcher, Jan Woldseth and Superintendent Steve Rasmussen.

The purpose of this meeting is to conclude the policy monitoring the board began on February 28th. If time permits, future agenda topics, i.e., parking lot items, will also be considered for calendar planning.

It was clarified that the policies are being studied with an eye toward the board's self-reflection/performance and monitoring rather than reviewing for modifications. The board looked at each policy carefully and reflected on how well the board worked within the policy parameters. The following policies were monitored:

- GP-7 Board Committee Principles – differentiation between a “board committee” and a sub committee of the board was discussed. It was agreed that board committees should be used sparingly and with a very clearly defined role.
- GP-8 Board Committee Structure – a necessary update was noted: The second paragraph contains the date of 10-10-07 and the date should be removed and just the word “None” should be in that place.
- GP-9 Cost of Governance – The Board agreed training opportunities have been missed and will be considered in the future; more intentional training should be scheduled for all board members, as well as more conscience intent with new members. Clarified that the Board's Budget Guidelines refer to the District budget as a whole – not the section that is a part of the District budget informally called “the board's budget.” That section contains primarily required expenditures for such items as elections, fees, and audit costs and contains minimal supplies and memberships that refer to the board specifically.
- GP-10 Process for Addressing Board Member Violations – the Board discussed whether the policy is weak between the initial step “a” private conversation, and step “d.” Board censure. There was no conclusion.
- GP-11 Legislative Representative Job Description – the Board felt the policy served well, and complemented Ms. Fletcher on doing an excellent job carrying out the duties outlined in this job description.
- B/SL-1 Global Governance-Superintendent Connection – Board members reaffirmed the importance of communicating with staff through the superintendent in order to be sure that information is shared with all and that work/time balance is maintained. Requests for information from staff should be sent with a cc to the rest of the Board as well.
- B/SL-2 Unity of Control – Agreed that the board has performed well within this policy. Strong communication exists between Board and Superintendent.
- B/SL-3 Accountability of the Superintendent – Communication is key, and the Board/Superintendent are working well within the policy. It was agreed that within Policy Governance, a half-yearly evaluation conversation with the Superintendent is not necessary.
- B/SL-4 Delegation to the Superintendent – the board discussed “reasonable interpretation” and how it is used in this policy.
- B/SL-5 Monitoring Superintendent Performance – the Board's responsibility to maintain clear policies that enable the superintendent to meet the Board's needs was discussed. While working well within the policy, it will be continuing work.
- B/SL-5E Annual Summative Evaluation (form)

GP-4E – Annual Board Calendar

Superintendent Rasmussen handed out a drafted annual calendar based on the current calendar but providing additional space for long-range scheduling and including some of the current calendar events the Board has accomplished.

It was agreed that it was most helpful to have as much information as possible included in this calendar on events/actions/direction and meetings the Board will need to attend to for the year. Some points that need to be considered/remembered/included:

- Additional linkage opportunities, in the form of special meetings, should be considered with district stakeholders.
- Scheduled policy monitoring and policy review opportunities should be scheduled throughout the year
- Include candidate information meetings prior to election filing dates
- Quarterly budget reviews need to be incorporated
- AYP information should come to the Board earlier
- Consider better order and compression of the Board's policy monitoring schedule
- The calendar should be one that is reasonable and balanced in terms of people's "other" lives as well as responsive to the work that needs to be accomplished
- Remember – this is the Board's work calendar
- All items on the "parking lot" list are not necessarily still worthy of further time – further evaluation is likely needed on some items

President Deagle will work on developing an annual calendar based on the discussion for the Board to consider for 2009-10.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

These minutes were approved as presented at the regular ISD school board meeting held March 25, 2009.