

Executive Session:

At 5:00 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140 related to collective bargaining. Superintendent Thiele and ISD administrators were in attendance. Executive Sessions are not open to the public and no action was taken. The session ended at 6:30 p.m.

Please note: Because regular Issaquah School Board meetings are recorded and made available in their entirety, minutes will reflect board action/direction and general topic discussion only.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – 6:35 p.m.

President Suzanne Weaver called the March 2, 2021 special meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Present along with Ms. Weaver were Board Directors Harlan Gallinger, Marnie Maraldo, Anne Moore, Sydne Mullings, Superintendent Ron Thiele and ISD Administrators.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Public Input

None at this time.

Establishment of the Agenda – 6:37 p.m.

No Changes

Update on Reopening and OSPI Reopening Progress Report- 6:38 p.m.

The Board and Administration discussed the continued reopening to in-person learning and completed the Reopening Progress Report required by OSPI to include dates for reopening to in-person learning. After public input and board discussion, the form included the following dates:

March 25 for the return of 4-5 grades

March 29 for the return of 6-12 grades

Comment section: when the cases drop 50 or below per 100,000 over 14 days provide an option for in person learning

Public Input

Linda Luis – Return of students to in-person learning

Kelly Stone – read her daughter’s statement in favor of in-person learning

Katherine Swanberg – Return of students to in-person learning

Kathie Arnesen – Return of students to in-person learning

Emily Melograna – Concerns about equity with hybrid in-person learning

2021-2022 School Year Calendar- 8:42 p.m.

Ms. Moore moved the Board approve the School Year Calendar for 2021-2022 school year, as presented. Ms. Maraldo seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Public Input

Derona Burkholder, IEA President, spoke in support of the 2021-22 calendar as presented.

Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA) – 8:46 p.m.

The Board discussed the directives and guidance regarding open public meetings in light of the pandemic. There is new guidance from Governor Inslee and the Washington State School Directors Association to School Board Directors.

In light of the ability to begin in-person meetings, Dr. Gallinger expressed a desire to schedule the final IEA teacher listening session with the IHS feeder pattern, possibly at IHS. He would also like to schedule the Issaquah Schools Foundation joint meeting with the School Board.

Update on Homework and Grading Practices – 9:03 p.m.

The Board and Administration discussed the current homework and grading practices during the 2020-21 school year.

EL-2 Treatment of People and EL-12 Treatment of Students were discussed.

A first reading of revisions to Board Policy EL-12 will be included in the March 11th board meeting agenda.

Public Input

Keri Kiefer Concerns about secondary homework

Camille Wright Teacher's perspective on homework, various ways homework is interpreted

Adjournment: 10:02 p.m.