

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Written comments were accepted by online form submission from 12 p.m. on Friday, September 13 through 12 p.m. on Tuesday, September 17, 2024. The following comments followed all the posted guidelines listed on the form and below.

- Comments are limited to 1,000 characters. One comment per person.
- The board will not hear charges or complaints against any district employee. District staff and board members cannot be named specifically in testimony.

| First Name | Last Name | Association with BSD | Comments |
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| Ginger | Jay | Staff Member | For the record - not ALL of our 53 schools have access to "climate control" aka- air conditioning. I have worked in my building for 8 years and my room is consistently 74-80 everyday- even in the winter. None of my windows open- and it's miserable teaching 20 wriggly 5 year olds in those conditions. Because the temp is in the "acceptable range" nothing is done. The rest of my building is the same- stale warm air flooding into most rooms- except for the two rooms that are freezing. If you check the union Facebook page- my experience is not unique- this should be addressed! |
| Sarah | Hawks | Parent/Guardian | It's embarrassing to be both a parent and teacher in this district and know that there are truly appalling, sometimes inhumane work conditions thrust upon our staff and students. If you take care of teachers at FLEX, they will also take care of the students. Quality education demands quality environments for people to do their jobs and support students. Also, we know extreme temperatures in learning environments disrupts any potential for learning or operating in the self actualization zone for education. It's time to do right by all stakeholders. |
| Taylor | Morrison | Staff Member | How do we address issues with the current middle school schedule? Thank you. |

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| Miriam | Hernandez | Parent/Guardian | Closing and selling our publicly-owned school buildings and land can have significant environmental drawbacks. Demolishing schools creates waste and contributes to landfill overflow, while constructing new facilities or developments has a substantial carbon footprint. Maintaining existing buildings allows for sustainable reuse and minimizes environmental impact. Additionally, schools provide valuable green spaces and tree canopy that support local biodiversity and serve as community gardens or recreational areas. Selling these properties will lead to their redevelopment, which would obliterate natural habitats and green space. Preserving our school buildings and grounds aligns with environmental stewardship and supports a more sustainable community. Never sell off our public lands - preserve our schools and everything they bring to Beaverton. Closing, destroying and selling off schools would cause far more damage to neighborhoods than the short-term savings are worth! |
| Meaghan | M | Staff Member | Growing up in BSD, I was always taught that this district was the gold standard of the state, when I decided I wanted to work in schools, BSD was still the gold standard in my mind. I hope BSD can continue to be the gold standard by supporting students by supporting educators. The best way to support educators is by agreeing to a fair contract including compensation and safe learning environments. The cost of living in Beaverton and surrounding areas continues to skyrocket in addition to inflation everywhere. I'm encouraging the district to agree to a fair COLA that matches the reality of our increased living costs. Additionally, I'm hoping our district agrees to safe learning environments. During the heat wave, many of our buildings were without cool air because of HVAC issues. Speaking of unsafe, the buildings our FLEX staff are forced to work from. Staff can't teach with multiple people all teaching from the same room and students can't learn. Even the FLEX video felt overwhelming. |
| Cassie | Misegades | Other Community Member | As a community member with the intention of raising a family in the Beaverton School District, I want the district to agree to a fair contract with the union. A fair contract includes matching what the union considers a fair cost of living adjustment to match inflation and cost of living increases in the area and providing safe learning environments for staff and students. Agreeing to the union's cost of living improvement helps us keep high quality educators and attract more to teach our students. In the best interest of students, I also want to emphasize the importance of social workers in school buildings. Social workers work hard to create a safe space for all students to share their feelings, developing vital relationships, and providing several community resources for families. Additionally, students thrive in small neighborhood schools because it builds community and staff are able to provide more individualized and one on one support compared to large 800+ student schools. |
| Laurel | Hiestand | Other Community Member | As a future parent in the Beaverton School District, I urge the district to agree on a fair contract with the union. Educators deserve a cost-of-living adjustment that reflects inflation and rising living costs, ensuring they can live in the communities they serve. Fair compensation will help retain and attract high-quality teachers for our children. |

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| | | | <p>We must also prioritize safe learning environments and maintain reasonable class sizes. Social workers are essential, providing vital emotional support and connecting families to community resources. Their presence helps students, especially those facing trauma, to thrive.</p> <p>Small, neighborhood schools foster strong community bonds and allow for personalized attention. Expanding elementary schools to 800 or more students risks diluting that sense of community, overwhelming teachers, and leaving students feeling overlooked. We need to preserve these smaller, supportive environments to give every child the best chance to succeed.</p> |
| Wasuki | Senthil Kumar | Parent/Guardian | <p>I would like to take a moment to honor and recognize Ishana Senthil, a remarkable student in our district, for her outstanding contributions to youth entrepreneurship and education. Ishana's initiative, Youth-preneurs, has empowered over 200 students of color in the Beaverton area, providing them with opportunities to develop their business skills and confidence through engaging workshops and pitch competitions. Her program has been instrumental in fostering a spirit of innovation among young students, preparing them to become future leaders in our community.</p> <p>Recently, Ishana's work with her organization Youth-preneurs was featured in the Portland Tribune, a testament to the positive impact she has had not only within our district but also in the wider Portland community. Her vision for accessible education and youth empowerment has been widely acknowledged and celebrated.</p> <p>I encourage the board to formally recognize Ishana Senthil's dedication</p> |