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RESOLUTION No. 7296

Resolution to Direct the Superintendent to Begin a Rightsizing Process for Portland Public Schools

RECITALS

A. Whereas Portland Public Schools (PPS) is committed to well-resourced schools so that every PPS student has equitable access to a robust and high-quality educational experience;

B. Whereas the Student Assignment to Neighborhood Schools Policy 4.10.045-P directs the Superintendent to regularly monitor enrollment, program demand and demographic trends; and

C. Whereas PPS enrollment has declined steadily for the past five (5) years and is forecast to continue to decline for at least the next five years. At the same time, our facilities are aging and costs have increased, forcing resource strains across schools;

D. Now, therefore, to continue to ensure well-resourced, sustainable schools and equitable access to opportunities for all students across the District, be it resolved that in April 2026, the District will launch phase three of Growing Great Schools, focusing on the school and program rightsizing process. This third phase represents the beginning of a multi-step, rigorous, and community-focused effort at rightsizing PPS schools.

   a. All district schools and programs will be included in the process.

   ~~b. An enrollment advisory committee of stakeholders including union representatives, principals, and staff community members, families, and staff will provide input and guidance to the Superintendent.~~

   ~~c.~~b. The District will involve the community in virtual and ~~in~~ in-person meetings and conversations to help inform the process, rightsizing options and implementation of potential changes.

   ~~d.~~c. The Board will receive regular updates on the process,

   ~~e.~~d. Implementation of ~~Board~~ Board-approved changes will be initiated no later than the 2027-28 school year and will be completed within a three-year period.

E. The result of this process will include school and program closures and/or consolidations. The District is committed to ensuring that students, families, and the community are at the forefront of decisions that are made.

RESOLUTION

The Board of Directors directs the Superintendent to launch the districtwide rightsizing process within the Growing Great Schools District-wide process to consider school and program consolidations, boundary adjustment, special program changes, and grade reconfigurations subject to the following:~~.~~

A. Decision Criteria and Analysis: The Superintendent shall present to the Board, for approval, clear decision-making criteria prior to developing proposed scenarios.

B. Equity Impact: Each scenario shall include a standardized equity impact analysis assessing effects on student access, opportunities, and outcomes, with specific attention to historically underserved students.

C. Community Engagement: The Superintendent shall publish a structured community engagement plan with multiple phases aligned to key decision points, including opportunities for input before and after draft scenarios are developed. Engagement shall include accessible meetings, language access, and public posting of materials and summaries of feedback.

D.Timeline: The Superintendent shall provide a detailed timeline with key milestones, including analysis, scenario development, community engagement, and presentation of recommendations, aligned with operational feasibility.

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E. Financial Transparency: all proposals shall include clearly stated assumptions, one-time implementation costs, and ongoing financial impacts, and shall be made public prior to Board action.

F. Policy Alignment: The provisions above do not supersede existing Board policies governing school closures, program changes, and boundary adjustments, and are not intended to alter the provisions herein.

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