

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES – BOARD WORK SESSION SEPTEMBER 9, 2025**Board Members Present:**

Sunita Garg, Chair
Justice Rajee, Vice Chair
Dr. Vân Truong
Dr. Karen Pérez
Dr. Melissa Potter
Syed Qasim
Dr. Tammy Carpenter

Absent:**Staff Present:**

Dr. Gustavo Balderas
Dr. Shelly Reggiani
Michael Schofield
Casey Waletich
Kerry Delf
Steffanie Frost
Steve Langford
Shellie Bailey-Shah
Todd Corsetti
Robin Kowbrowski

Superintendent
Associate Superintendent for Teaching & Learning
Associate Superintendent for Business Services
Associate Superintendent for Operations & Support Services
Chief of Staff
Chief Human Resources Officer
Chief Information Officer
Public Communications Officer
Executive Administrator for High Schools
Executive Administrator for PK–8 Schools

The meeting was open to the public to attend in person or via livestream on YouTube.

I. OPEN MEETING

Board Chair Sunita Garg called the work session to order at 5:50 p.m. She noted that all seven board members were present.

II. STUDENT PERSONAL DEVICES

Associate Superintendent Dr. Shelly Reggiani and Executive Administrators Todd Corsetti and Robin Kowbrowski provided an update on restrictions on student personal device use during school hours.

In 2024-25, in order to support student learning and well-being, BSD secondary schools implemented stop-gap measures for the school year requiring phones to be turned off and put away during class, while the district undertook a community engagement and decision-making process to develop a consistent districtwide approach for each school level to address student personal device use during the school day. After reviewing research and best practices and considering input from 17,600+ constituents including students, parents and teachers, the district planned to implement rules requiring elementary and middle school students to “pack or park” (turn off and put away) their personal mobile devices including phones, earbuds and smart watches from the start of the school day until the end of the school

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day. High school and option school students would be required to pack or park devices during instructional time but would be able to use them during passing periods and lunch breaks.

A few months after the district's community-informed plan to restrict student personal devices was determined and announced, Governor Tina Kotek issued Executive Order 25-09, directing all public K-12 schools to ban student use of cell phones and other personal devices from "bell to bell" during the school day. The Governor's order does not allow devices to be used between classes or during lunch.

In response to the Governor's order, the district has revised its rules on device restrictions to comply with the law, and has begun the school year with bell-to-bell restrictions in place. Early feedback includes some parents appreciating the policy, some parents and students expressing concerns about the change, and some teachers and administrators reporting that students are engaging more with one another, showing stronger focus during lessons, and spending less time distracted by devices.

III. CLOSE MEETING

Chair Garg adjourned the work session at 6:29 p.m.