



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
February 27, 2019**

**1.0 OPENING ITEMS**

**1.1 Meeting Date and Location:**

February 27, 2019 - 1306 Dupont St., Bellingham, Washington

**1.2 Call to Order/Roll Call:**

Ms. Diaz Hackler Bashaw called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Directors Kelly Bashaw, Camille Diaz Hackler (President), Douglas Benjamin, Jenn Mason, Quenby Peterson, Superintendent Greg Baker and Sheti O'Da (recorder). She acknowledged that this meeting is being held on the ancestral homelands of the Coastal Salish people.

**1.3 Audience:**

**Chris Smith** is a paraprofessional working in the Life Skills program at Wade King Elementary and a member of BASE. He is grateful for the IPAC hours that were given to BASE members. It is nice to feel that their concerns have been heard.

**John Blethen** is a community member here to speak about the bus garage and the district administration building. He would like to see the buses relocated off Whatcom Creek in order to protect the creek. He believes the district administrative offices should be moved to the site of the current transportation facility.

**Todd Lagester** is a community member who is concerned about emergency management as it pertains to the bus garage. Following a recent fire in downtown Bellingham, there was a large amount of water and debris, and he believes that should be an impetus for the district to relocate the bus garage away from the creek. He also heard that the district is looking at a site in the Barkley district for the district administration offices. He believes it would be in the best interest of the City of Bellingham for that property to be used by another business, which would generate additional tax income for the city.

**Alex McLean** is a resident of the Happy Valley neighborhood and will continue to attend board meetings to voice concern about the location of the bus barn. He stated that the City of Bellingham is co-owner of the property where the buses are parked. He encourages the district and the community to find an alternative location for the buses.

**1.4 Announcements and Report:** Summary of Dt. Baker's comments:

Dr. Baker acknowledged that as a part of their superintendent course.

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**Capital Projects:**

Since the last board meeting, Sehome High School has opened to students.

A community meeting was held last evening regarding the location of the district office. Three neighbors and one community member attended. Those in attendance understood that the current space will not serve the district well in the future, and they were interested in what would go into the Dupont Street property if sold. Dr. Baker briefly shared the slides and photos from the meeting.

Executive Director of Capital Projects and School Facilities Ron Cowan reviewed the location of the [transportation facility](#). He noted that the City of Bellingham will be commissioning a survey to locate the property line between the property owned by the district and that owned by the City of Bellingham. No alternative sites have been identified for the transportation garage. The current central location helps to minimize emissions, time and costs.

A planning and design committee met in November and December regarding the new [Shuksan gym](#), and a student forum and neighborhood forum also took place. The new gym will be located at the back of the school adjacent to the bus loop. The gym will contain a full-sized basketball court, two middle



**7.0 NEW BUSINESS**

**7.1 New Business (as needed):**

There was general discussion regarding the roles for the March 13 board orientation meeting.

There was general discussion regarding board linkages.

**8.0 CLOSING ITEMS**

**8.1 Board Assessment of Meeting:** Ms. Peterson assessed the meeting, with an overall rating of 4 (*commendable*).

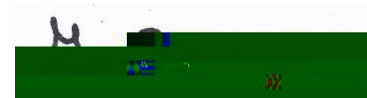
**8.2 Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

**Approved:**



Camille Diaz Hackler, Board President

**Attest:**



Greg Baker, Secretary to the Board

*Minutes approved:* March 13, 2019