



# Poudre School District Board of Education

2407 Laporte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521 • 970-490-3607

## Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Board of Education Business Meeting  
November 8, 2022

### **DINNER SESSION – 5:30 PM Information Technology Center Training Room**

PRESENT: President Rob Petterson; Vice President Kristen Draper; Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Assistant Superintendents Traci Gile and Scott Nielsen; Chief of Staff Lauren Hooten; Chief Officers Matt Bryant, Marlena Gross-Taylor, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dwayne Schmitz and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: Director Nate Donovan

LATE: None

Dinner session began at 5:30 p.m.

#### **1.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics**

- Superintendent Kingsley expressed appreciation to Board members for showing continued gratitude and support to staff in both word and action.
- Congratulations to Chief Operations Officer Matt Bryant for his new employment opportunity; he will be greatly missed.
- Members volunteered for Recognitions.
- Director of Curriculum John Passantino introduced Director of Teaching & Learning Kate Canine, spoke about his department and provided an update on the curriculum process.

Board discussion included:

- Recommendation was made to clarify definitions and terminology.
- Explicit foundational skills are represented in the rubric and all four components are present.
- All six curricula being evaluated are quality products; nuances of each are being evaluated.
- High level of community engagement is critical; dates and information will be forthcoming.
- Pre-K follows a different curriculum.
- Options for students who struggle to read beyond grade 3 were discussed.
- Superintendent is responsible for final decision on curriculum selection.

#### **2.0 Agenda Planning**

- November meeting is scheduled for the 29<sup>th</sup> due to the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Recommendation was made to move BOE meetings in March 2023 to avoid spring break.
- CASB will host virtual meetings December 6 and January 10; contact Director Anderson if interested in attending.
- Mental Health team may be in attendance during November 29 meeting.

Dinner session ended at 6:18 p.m.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 6:30 PM**

**PRESENT:** President Rob Petterson; Vice President Kristen Draper; Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Assistant Superintendents Traci Gile and Scott Nielsen; Chief of Staff Lauren Hooten; Chief Officers Matt Bryant, Marlana Gross-Taylor, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dwayne Schmitz and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

**ABSENT:** Director Donovan

**LATE:** None

### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

President Petterson called the regular business meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

### **2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Petterson led the Board of Education, staff, and community members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There were no changes to the agenda.

### **4.0 RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS**

#### **4.1 Canvas Credit Union**

Director of Athletics Brandon Carlucci spoke about the hard work involved with production and execution of the Canvas Community Classic Football Game, thanked contributors for their support, and introduced the following representatives from Canvas Credit Union.

- Garry Ozzello, Director of University Relations
- A.J. Baer, University Relations Representative

#### **4.2 Teacher of the Year Award**

Poudre High School Principal Kathy Mackay introduced teacher Erin Austin, recipient of the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers 2023 Teacher of the Year award and spoke about her accomplishments.

### **5.0 ACTION ITEMS**

#### **5.1 Resolution in Support of National American Indian Heritage Month**

Vice President moved that the Board approve the resolution in support of National American Indian Heritage Month.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Coordinator Delhia Mahaney introduced Principal Tommi Sue Cox who spoke about her Indian heritage, the importance of the resolution and gratitude to Board members for support.

The following students spoke about their individual tribes and experiences with Native American culture:

- Chebon Dawes, Eyestone Elementary
- Nizhoni Noorwood, Leshar Middle School
- Shane Maes, Preston Middle School

Board discussion included:

- Vice President Draper read the resolution aloud.
- Gratitude was expressed to students who spoke about their heritage.
- Superintendent Kingsley thanked family members for partnering with the district while trusting PSD with their children.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

## **6.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Kingsley said he was inspired by the community partnerships and students in attendance tonight, talked about recent school visits, informed attendees about participation in the upcoming *Eliminating Barriers* conference, urged parents to get students involved in extra-curricular activities, acknowledged the significance of Veteran's Day and spoke about the importance of recognizing veterans and service members every day.

## **7.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Ashley Bollinger stated one in five children in America are clinically obese and asked the Board to increase the amount of physical education and playtime for students.

Jeff Aufderheide requested the date PSD terminated a relationship with the SPLASH organization.

PSD Psychologist Melanie Potyondy thanked her colleagues and spoke about the importance of meeting the mental health needs of all students to make them feel safer and more connected.

## **8.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Director Brokish provided an update on the District Advisory Board.
- Important to acknowledge School Psychologist Week; gratitude was expressed to all school psychologists for incredibly hard work performed on behalf of students.
- Seeking help for mental health is a sign of strength, not weakness.
- Board members acknowledged receipt of emails from staff struggling with excessive workloads and limited staffing in the mental health field.

## **9.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

### **9.1 Personnel Action**

### **9.2 Meeting Minutes: October 4, 2022, October 11, 2022, and October 25, 2022**

### **9.3 Approval of CCSP 2022 Grant Application for Liberty Common School**

### **9.4 Student Fee Schedules**

Vice President Draper moved that the Board approve and adopt the recommended actions for the items on the Consent Agenda.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

## **10.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **10.1 Adoption of the 2023-24 School Year Calendar**

Principals Melanie Mierzwa and Alicia Bono represented the Calendar Committee and provided the 2023-24 calendar recommendation.

Director Brokish moved that the Board approve and adopt the 2023-24 School Year calendar as submitted.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Vice President Draper moved that the Board amend the 2023-24 calendar to change the February and March Board of Education meetings to the first and third Tuesdays of the month, making the meetings February 6 and 20, March 5 and 19, to avoid spring break and give cabinet members a week off.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to the Calendar Committee for evaluation of multiple options, including a school start after Labor Day.

- Appreciation for the highly competent and passionate individuals leading the committee was conveyed.

The voting for an amendment to the calendar was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

The voting for the calendar was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

## **11.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **11.1 Strategic Plan Framework Draft - Revised**

Chief Equity and Academic Officer Marlena Gross-Taylor provided an update.

Board discussion included:

- Important to be transparent about the focus on cybersecurity safety without publicizing details due to a need for confidentiality.
- Appreciation was conveyed for shining a light on dyslexia.
- Gratitude was expressed for work completed by a large number of staff members and for extensive stakeholder involvement.
- Redline documents were appreciated.
- Request was made for inclusion of basic definitions for literacy, mental health and belonging to increase public understanding of the plan.
- All feedback will be reviewed to ensure inclusion.
- Thousands of comments provided by community is greatly appreciated.
- Next Board of Education meeting is November 29; legislators will be in attendance to discuss education and work at the capitol.

## **12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner  
Secretary to the Board of Education