



Poudre School District Board of Education

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

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Board of Education Retreat
September 19, 2022

SPECIAL MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 5:30 PM

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

REMOTE: Director Brokish attended via TEAMS

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Petterson called the regular business meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

2.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

2.1 The New Teacher Project (TNTP) Literacy Update

TNTP Director Katy Mazz and Partner Vanessa Valencia provided an update.

Board discussion included:

- Board members and staff presented observations and concerns related to school sites and curriculum.
- Opportunity exists for improvement with no association of blame or finger-pointing.
- Automatic feedback is not currently part of the culture.
- Staffing is lean; 'all hands on deck' approach is often required to meet the needs of students.
- Learning gaps were a trend prior to covid and have increased since covid.
- Clarification was requested on specific data.
- Explicit vision combined with wrap-around support would be ideal.
- District leadership and Principals may be ready to move toward district-wide curriculum instead of site-based; teacher voices are critical and need to be included.
- Vision-building and engaging stakeholders is the best way to start.
- Results indicate student ownership in high school is lower than middle and elementary.
- Discussion surrounding potential teacher apprehension to administer challenging work occurred.
- Need to support teachers with the right materials.
- Parent focus-group results will be forthcoming.
- Analysis was based on Literacy classes only; student engagement was not measured.

- Aligning academic structures and systems to a single vision will help replicate into other content areas.
- Important to be aligned within each school across grade levels as well as across the district.

Chief Equity and Academic Officer Marlena Gross-Taylor and Assistant Superintendents Traci Gile and Scott Nielsen presented Literacy Next Steps.

Board discussion included:

- Vision statement was distributed to principals; copy will be sent to Board members.
- Principal meetings have increased in frequency and offer opportunity for more consistent training.
- Feedback over next three months will be focused on principals; transmission to teachers will be utilized throughout the process as well as through Professional Development.
- Themes delivered by leadership can ensure Professional Development is consistent throughout the district.
- Additional negotiated time allows for training.
- Will continue to leverage technology in support of alignment to instructional vision.
- District Curriculum Teams are working on a shared learning and district curriculum.
- Alignment to the vision is critical to success.
- Staff seem enthusiastic about a unified curriculum and direction.
- Finding the Professional Development time required to implement into the system will be a delicate balance.
- Board is interested in the new adoption process.
- Important to listen to staff and take strategic steps forward.
- Gratitude was expressed to all who presented on the topic.

3.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education