



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
August 22, 2023

DINNER SESSION - 5:30 PM Superintendent Conference Room

PRESENT: President Rob Petterson; Vice President Kristen Draper; Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Chief Officers Lauren Hooten and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: Director Jessica Zamora arrived at 5:36 p.m.
Director Nate Donovan arrived at 5:38 p.m.

Dinner session began at 5:33 p.m.

1.0 Executive Session

Director Brokish moved that the Board enter into executive session to receive legal advice on specific legal questions relating to a grievance filed by the Poudre Education Association (PEA) as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b). Invited to join the Board in the executive session is General Counsel Autumn Aspen.

Vice President Draper seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 5-0

Executive Session began at 5:37 p.m.
Executive Session ended at 5:47 p.m.

2.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics

- Heat has been an issue; some complaints from parents, staff, and students.
- District will need to solicit funds from the community to move forward with air conditioning.
- Calendar changes would affect seat time for 1st semester and change the schedule for finals.
- Strategic Plan Committee was discussed.
- PSD solicited an outside agency to help improve Professional Development.
- Retreat is scheduled for October 9, 2023, and will include Superintendent performance feedback.

Dinner session ended at 6:07 p.m.

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 6:30 PM

PRESENT: President Rob Petterson; Vice President Kristen Draper; Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Assistant Superintendents Julie Chaplain, Traci Gile and Insoon Olson; Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dwayne Schmitz, and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Petterson called the regular business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

3.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Kingsley presented a 'Welcome Back' video that displayed photos of the first few days of school, spoke about the enthusiasm and contagious excitement from students and staff, thanked Operations Department staff who worked to ensure the district was ready, and relayed stories about his encounters on the first day of school.

The Superintendent acknowledged the hot conditions in schools, conveyed sympathy as well as gratitude for the professional outlook of staff who do their best to lead in uncomfortable circumstances, detailed measures taken to mitigate heat issues in the short-term, and said long-term plans to mitigate heat issues will require community-wide support.

4.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Jeff Aufderheide conveyed disapproval of the Superintendent in multiple categories.

Rev. Dr. Marta Fioriti expressed appreciation to the district for continued support of LGBTQIA+ youth rights.

Teacher Megan Woodrich spoke about extreme heat in her classroom and invited board members to continue to think outside of the box for solutions.

Fred Kirsch stated there were inconsistencies in methodology in the McKinstry study that should be considered.

Roger Hageman said the early sexualization of children promoted by this Board is a sinful, destructive practice that needs to stop.

Teacher Becky Woodcox communicated frustration with hot temperatures inside schools and asked the Board to find a way to update older buildings.

Aaron Green cited multiple areas of concern.

John Meyer said mutilating children through gender identity changes is criminal and must be stopped.

Teacher Skye Marsh described the environment caused by excessive heat in her school, requested equity between all schools, and asked for a stop gap for extreme conditions.

5.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Vice President Draper talked about school visits to Lincoln Middle School, Tavelli Elementary, and Webber Middle School on the first day.
- Student Advisory Committee held the first meeting of the school year and had a strong turnout.
- Board Members and Administration recognize heat is a significant issue in schools; study is currently underway, but lack of money and time pose significant challenges.

6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

6.1 Personnel Action

6.2 Approval of Temporary Construction Easement and Permanent Exclusive Water Pipeline Easement Relating to the Montava Development

6.3 Employee Self Insurance Expenditures (in excess of \$250,000)

Director Donovan moved that the Board approve and adopt the recommended actions for the items on the Consent Agenda.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

7.0 ACTION ITEMS

7.1 CASB Resolutions

Director Anderson moved that the Board approve the proposed Poudre School District resolutions that we are submitting to CASB.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Director Donovan summarized Legislative Subcommittee viewpoints on four legislative items.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora
Those voting NO: None
Motion passed: 7-0

7.2 Board Determination on Recommendation from Arbitrator Regarding Poudre Education Association Grievance

Vice President Draper moved that the Board approve and adopt the recommendation from the arbitrator on the grievance filed by the PEA.

Director Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Arbitrator ruled in favor of Poudre School District.
- READ Act is an unfunded mandate set by the State.
- State should fund required mandates so teachers and staff do not absorb costs.
- Board members agree with the findings of the arbitrator and support teachers; may be appropriate to bring the issue to the negotiations process.
- State continues to put extra requirements on teachers with no consideration of added time or money.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora
Those voting NO: None
Motion passed: 7-0

8.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Board Consideration of Revision to Policy IC/ICA – School year/ School Calendar / Instructional Time

General Counsel Autumn Aspen provided information on the proposed changes.

Board discussion included:

- Suggestion was made to keep language 'November' instead of changing language to 'end of school year'.
- Intent is for staff for bring the new calendar forward at the end of the calendar year, not the end of the school year.
- Board requested wording 'end of calendar year' instead of 'end of school year' to ensure early family notification.

8.2 Proposed Revisions to Board Policy EL 2.9

General Counsel Autumn Aspen provided information about the proposed changes.

Board discussion included:

- Changing word 'citizen' to 'community' in the policy.

8.3 Strategic Plan and Unified Improvement Plan

Superintendent Kingsley, Assistant Superintendents Julie Chaplain and Traci Gile, Chief Officers Madeline Noblett and Dwayne Schmitz, and Senior Executive Director of Student Services Liz Davis presented the Strategic Plan.

Board discussion included:

- Important to recognize adult accountability in student success.
- Frequent updates to parents and community members were requested.
- Appreciation was expressed for strong team participation and ownership of work.
- Gratitude was shared for taking a complex subject and breaking it down into digestible pieces.
- Energizing presentation; encouraged by progress and direction.
- Focus on literacy, mental health and belonging, and graduating with options is good.

9.0 ACTION ITEMS

9.1 Poudre School District Unified Improvement Plan 2023-2024

Director Donovan moved that the Board approve the 2023-2024 Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) as presented.

Director Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed for a thorough report.
- Level of specificity regarding absenteeism/truancy was discussed.
- Important to address bullying with consistency across the district.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Secretary to the Board of Education