



# 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

May 8, 2018

### **DINNER SESSION - 5:30 PM**

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre, Vice President Susan Gutowsky; Directors Kristen Draper, Cathy Kipp, Rob Petterson, and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser, Assistant Superintendents Jinger Haberer and Todd Lambert; Executive Directors Danielle Clark, Pete Hall, Dustin Reintsma and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb

ABSENT: None

LATE: Dave Montoya arrived at 5:33 p.m.  
Scott Nielsen arrived at 5:56 p.m.  
Nate Donovan arrived at 6:06 p.m.

The dinner session began at 5:30 p.m.

### **1.0 DISTRICT INFORMATION AND BOARD DISCUSSION TOPICS**

- Craig Horton may be formulating the upstart of a charter school.
- Compass Charter School enrollment numbers are due to the District by May 16.
- Negotiations went well and will finish Friday, May 11. The 6-year guarantee committee proposed a rewrite and it was approved. Principals were encouraged to meet with Classified staff to talk about the change.
- The School Finance Act passed. PERA is still outstanding but we should hear tomorrow.
- Colorado Supreme Court granted Eric Sutherland's extension provided he pays the \$200 late fee by May 11 but have not agreed to hear the case yet. PSD Executive Director of Finance Montoya will bundle response documents and distribute to the Board.
- Need to discuss the contract for custodial supplies at the next Board meeting. Bids determined there would be cost savings through outside vendors and PSD may need to change purchasing practices moving forward. Warehouse staff are concerned about employee loss. Lots of steps involved and process will take some time. The Board supports the direction and approach.

### **2.0 AGENDA PLANNING**

- Confusion was expressed regarding payment of the PSD Foundation employee. Original Board conversation provided for a first-year payment of \$40,000 from PSD with gradual reduction in District funds. Foundation employee was to work toward acquiring enough donations to pay their own salary over a 5-year period. Current contract states the employee is paid \$40,000 for 5 years ending July 21, 2021. The change in contract without Board communication is not ideal. An expectation to be self-funded by 2021 should be communicated.
- Questions were raised regarding a proactive strategy for closing the equity gap. The Board requested an update from staff. On-line diversity training is still in effect for PSD employees. Equity surrounding fees is included in the May 22 meeting agenda.

- Legislative topics will remain on the Retreat agenda due to need to inform CASB of PSD Board positions in June.
- Collection of accurate behavior and discipline data with focus on equity in subgroups was requested.

### **3.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no reports discussed.

The dinner session ended at 6:27 p.m.

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

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre, Vice President Susan Gutowsky; Directors Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Cathy Kipp, Rob Petterson, and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser, Assistant Superintendents Jinger Haberer, Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen; Executive Directors Danielle Clark, Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, Dustin Reintsma, and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

#### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

President Febvre called the regular business meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

#### **2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Febvre led the Board of Education and audience 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 Master FCCLA Adviser State Award**

Rocky Mountain High School Principal Craig Woodall thanked the Board for the recognition and spoke about Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher Kelsey Mauch, adding the Family, Career and Community Leaders Association Spirit of Service Award is given to one chapter state-wide for the commitment to service in their community. Mr. Woodall stated Ms. Mauch is incredibly deserving of the recognition.

On behalf of PSD and the Board, Director Kipp presented a certificate to Kelsey Mauch.

##### **4.2 Ocean Science Bowl and Science Bowl Regional Champions**

Fort Collins High School Principal Mark Eversole spoke about Coach Angela Morris and the two winning teams she coached at nationals this year. Ms. Morris introduced the members of the Ocean Science Bowl team including Nathan Sima, Larry Chen, Antonio Izzo and Suhaas Narayanan. Coach Morris then introduced the Colorado High School Science Bowl Champions including Nathan Sima, Larry Chen, Suhaas Narayanan, Henry Cafaro and Edward Lim.

On behalf of PSD and the Board, Director Petterson presented a certificate to Coach Angela Morse and thanked them all for their hard work.

#### **4.3 Boettcher and Daniels Fund Scholarships**

##### **Boettcher:**

Fossil Ridge High School Assistant Principal Mark Barry introduced Jay Chandra and Chelsea Wang, two recipients of the Boettcher Scholarship, stating it is a merit-based scholarship for seniors in the top 3% of their student body. Jay Chunga thanked the Board for the recognition and said he will be attending Harvard next year. Chelsea Wang thanked the Board for the recognition and said she will be attending Yale next year.

Poudre High School Principal Kathy Mackay introduced Maddy Schink and spoke to her many accomplishments while in high school. Maddy thanked the Board for the recognition and stated she will be attending Colorado College next year.

##### **Daniels Fund:**

Poudre High School Principal Kathy Mackay introduced Grace Wankelman and spoke to her many accomplishments. Grace stated she will be attending the University of Denver next year.

Liberty Common High School Principal Torgun Lovely introduced Laura Rencher and spoke to her many accomplishments in high school. Laura stated she will attend Colorado State University next year.

On behalf of PSD and the Board, Vice President Gutowsky presented a certificate of recognition to scholarship recipients and thanked them for their hard work.

#### **4.4 Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Smyser stated she would not itemize her full report and said the report is included in the meeting packet for those interested. One item of importance was the following:

- This week is Teacher Appreciation Week and we honor those who work so hard for our students. From figuring out where and when blended learning is most useful to trying new approaches with new technology, counseling students, directing world class high school performing arts events, helping athletes get scholarships, providing time for little people to brush their teeth, calling parents, meeting with teams and parents to discuss services

available, grading, meeting with instructional teams to revise plans, calling home for field trip permission slips and making sure seniors get to walk at graduation. For this and much more we thank our dedicated and hard-working teachers.

Board discussion included:

- Blended learning refers to a combination of being in person with a teacher and being on-line with a teacher; being in a physical classroom versus in a virtual classroom.

#### **4.5 Board Report**

Director Petterson reported on some of the activities Board members have been a part of this month.

In the District:

- Tavelli
- National Technical Honor Society Awards
- Poudre Retired Employees Association Awards
- Presentation of Learning at FCHS
- Exit interviews at FRHS
- Student Environmental Leadership Summit at FRHS
- Innovation discussion at Olander
- Spectrum Book Club at PHS
- 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam Spelling Bee at PHS
- Wizard of Oz at Liberty Common MS
- Rice Track and Field Day
- Arbor Day at Rice
- ACE Awards Dinner
- Mary Hull awards
- Parent Academy
- District Accountability Committee
- District Advisory Board (plus DAB executive team)
- Head Start/Early Childhood info meeting at Fullana
- Audit Committee
- Presented to PSD Insight on legislative advocacy
- Early Childhood Policy Council
- PSD Foundation meeting (plus meeting new director)
- Employee negotiations

Board Development:

- Informal Board lunch
- Community Outreach
- Active Board Subcommittees

- Outreach
- Legislative

In the Community:

- Day of Action rallies in support of education and teachers in Denver and Ft. Collins
- Masonic Public School Recognition Night
- Project Smile luncheon
- Center for Family Outreach breakfast
- El Centro awards banquet at CSU
- Museo de Tres Colonias at Cinco de Mayo
- PFLAG
- One-on-one meetings with constituents
- Legislators' Town Halls (incl. school safety)
- CASB Legislative Resolutions Committee
- Lobbying for more funding for public education
- Colorado School Finance Project Advisory Committee
- Colorado Conundrum at Bud Center
- Presentations to groups on Initiative 93 and collecting signatures

The next community engagement session is scheduled for May 21, 2018 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Mulligans, 2439 S. College Avenue, Ft. Collins.

## **5.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Eric Sutherland spoke about SB-248, stating the bill gets you 2/3 of the way to a solution to the problem with school bonds. The remaining 1/3 is the Ft Collins DDA and is unconstitutional. Courts are the worst place to settle disputes.

## **6.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

- 6.1 Personnel Action**
- 6.2 Meeting Minutes for April 10, 2018 and April 24, 2018**
- 6.3 Addendum to Liberty Common First Amended Charter School Contract**
- 6.4 Engineering Exploration, Woods and Metals Instructional Materials Adoption for High Schools**
- 6.5 Chemistry and Advanced Placement Chemistry Instructional Materials Adoption for High Schools**
- 6.6 Advanced Placement Government Instructional Materials Adoption for High Schools**
- 6.7 Temporary Construction Easement Agreement**

Director Dononvan moved to approve and adopt the recommended actions for the items on the consent agenda.

Vice President Gutowsky seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson, and Reed  
Those voting NO: None  
ABSENT: None  
Motion passed 7-0

## **7.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **7.1 Resolution in Support of Teacher Appreciation Week**

Director Dononvan moved to adopt the Resolution in Support of Teacher Appreciation Week.

Director Petterson seconded the motion.

PEA President Tom List thanked the Board for their support and spoke about the teachers in the District, stating everyone who works with students is an educator and deserves recognition. Public education is the foundation of our democracy. Teachers change lives every day and sometimes don't even know it. Teaching is a calling that cannot be denied and he expressed gratitude for all those who choose to enter into this profession.

Board discussion included:

- Thank you to Tom List for representing teachers.
- Qualified and dedicated teachers are entrusted with the educational development of our children. Our community places value in education and teachers play an integral role in helping children to reach their full potential.
- Some parents are stating 'say it with signatures'.
- Teacher Appreciation Week is May 7-11, 2018.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson, and Reed  
Those voting NO: None  
ABSENT: None  
Motion passed 7-0

## **8.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

### **8.1 PSD Foundation Annual Report**

PSD Foundation Executive Director Gary Rogers and Foundation Board President Mistene Nugent presented the annual report.

2018 Traditional Programs

- SPIE grants
- Excellence In Education
- Breakfast

- Teacher Externships

#### 2017-18 Wins

- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> StratOp sessions with Otter Box Company
- Development of relationship with Buell Foundation resulting in large grant
- 1<sup>st</sup> large individual donation enabling MAC bus (mobile academic classroom)
  - Anticipated launch June 11, 2018
- Largest breakfast attendance ever
- Implementation of mobile giving platform enabling consolidated fund-raising programs across the District, providing more central visibility of campaigns, donor intent and ease of engagement for donors

#### 2017-18 Return on Investment

- PSD invested \$40,000 in the foundation and made \$281,000 for a 603% return on investment.

#### Looking forward:

- Further develop partnership between Foundation and PSD
- Work collaboratively with the District to continue to build upon strategic vision
- Broaden and deepen the relationship between the community, the Foundation and PSD
- Take the summit meetings to the next level through more thoughtful conversations and direct interactions
- Identify funding opportunities through connecting donor passions with District needs and visions
- New pathways to bring mission and vision to life

#### Board discussion included:

- Appreciation was expressed for the work the Foundation is doing, inclusion of financial information and financial transparency. Broader financial statements are available on the Foundation website.
- Thank you to the PSD Foundation Board with acknowledgment of the commitment.

### **8.2 Revisions to Policy EL 2.6, Asset Protection**

There was no discussion on this item.

### **8.3 Revisions to Policy EL2.8, Communication and Support to the Board**

Board discussion included:

- Language is being removed because the primary job of a supervisor is monitoring employees. The characterization as a 'significant violation' is usually determined by the consequence and not the violation of the policy.
- General perception is 'when in doubt, report it to the Board'. The change reflects an understanding that people make mistakes and if caught and corrected in a timely manner there is no action requiring punishment.
- Revision wording will come back at the May 22 meeting.
- The definition of 'repeated' is easier to measure and report than the definition of 'systemic'. Refers to the violation of a policy and not the person who does it. Language comes down to interpretation. This language covers the intent.
- The Board agreed to leave wording of 'repeated'.

#### **8.4 Board of Education's Budget**

Executive Director of Finance Dave Montoya presented the annual review of the Board of Education budget, stating now is the time to look at expenditures from the current year and compare to next year.

##### FY2017-18 Summary

- Budget was \$138,000.00
- Expenditures year-to-date \$88,925.84
- Remaining balance \$49,074.16
  - Anticipate increase in legislation coalition

##### FY2018-19 Budget

- \$138,000.00

Board discussion included:

- A request was made to change the wording from 'legislative coalition' to 'legislative committee'.
- The Board has the discretion to reallocate funds wherever deemed necessary. Potential one-time funds to reinstate the Board contingency fund would allow more options.
- Board contingency funds could be used for AV components.
- PSD Channel 10 is broadcast on Comcast who in turn gives the District \$15-20,000 a year to maintain servers and broadcasting equipment.
- The question was raised if \$5,700 a year for Novus included an unlimited number of users.

#### **8.5 Legislative Discussion**

Colorado State legislative session lasts 120 days and ends in 27 hours. As of this morning 223 bills were still in play indicating some bills will get rushed through. The following legislative updates were given:

- PERA is still in the conference committee.

- SB-1 is a transportation bill in conference committee.
- School Finance passed the house and may be on the way to the Governor.
- The PSD Board Legislative Subcommittee began the process today for the next legislative session. Funding will continue to be a priority.

Some items may come back in the next legislative session, such as:

- Allowing the Board of Education to meet in Executive Session with Superintendent for purpose of negotiations.
- Loss of governmental immunity as with the Claire Davis bill.
- Social Studies bill that eliminates the high school exam.
- Updated language surrounding student fees.
- Language around blended learning separate from on-line learning.

Staff are welcome to bring information or concerns to the subcommittee before the May 22, 2018 BOE meeting. Board members need to provide input by June 12 in order to get suggestions to CASB in a timely manner.

Board discussion included:

- Initiative 93 would give \$1.6 billion per year, and the state budget is \$28.9 billion for next fiscal year. 38% of the budget goes toward education but it used to be 43%. Colorado has the only state legislature in country that cannot raise taxes and 38% for education will continue to decline unless we can get this on the ballot.

Business session ended at 8:19 p.m.

## **9.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **9.1 Superintendent Job Performance Feedback**

Vice President Gutowsky moved that the Board go into executive session in the Superintendent's office/conference room as authorized under C.R.S 24-6-402(4)(f) to discuss personnel matters related to feedback on the Superintendent's job performance. Individuals invited to join the Board in executive session are Superintendent Sandra Smyser, Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb and Assistant Board Secretary Jill Brunner.

Director Donovan seconded the motion.

The Executive Session began at 8:29 p.m.  
The Executive Session ended at 10:40 p.m.

## **10.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner  
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education