



Poudre School District Board of Education

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

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Board of Education Business/Work Session Meeting
February 26, 2019

DINNER SESSION - 5:30 PM

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre; Vice President Rob Petterson; Director Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser; Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen; Executive Directors Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dustin Reintsma and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb

ABSENT: None

LATE: Director Draper arrived at 5:32 p.m.; Director Donovan arrived at 5:33 p.m.

Dinner session began at 5:30 p.m.

1.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics

- Committee assignments were discussed with emphasis on the District Advisory Committee, PSD Foundation, Liaison Committee and the Early Childhood Council.
- New member training will cover basics.
- Group photo of the Board will be taken on March 12 after the dinner session.

2.0 Agenda Planning

- Questions were raised regarding GED student participation in graduation.
- Reading curriculum will be covered during the meeting.
- District Advisory Board is interested in providing feedback surrounding social/emotional and equity results.
- Charter schools will be addressed at retreat.

3.0 Committee Reports

- Superintendent Evaluation Goal 3 language will be amended and placed on the Consent Agenda for the March 12 meeting.
- Legislative committee reported on testifying at the Capitol on HB1201.
- Directors Anderson and Johnson have indicated interest in joining the legislative committee.
- Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb provided an update on the URA meeting and stated details will be discussed at the March 12 Board meeting.

Dinner session ended at 6:17 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING/WORK SESSION - (BOARDROOM) – 6:30 PM

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre; Vice President Rob Petterson; Directors Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser; Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen; Executive

Directors Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dustin Reintsma and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Febvre called the work session meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

3.0 OATH OF OFFICE

3.1 Oath of Office: Director Districts A and G

- Judge Thomas French performed the Oath of Office ceremony for D.J. Anderson for District A.
- Judge Thomas French performed the Oath of Office ceremony for Naomi Johnson for District G.
- Newly appointed Directors signed appropriate paperwork and assumed their seats at the dais.

Board recessed at 6:32 p.m.

Board reconvened at 6:38 p.m.

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre; Vice President Rob Petterson; Directors D.J. Anderson, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Naomi Johnson and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser; Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen; Executive Directors Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dustin Reintsma and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb

4.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

RMHS student Sydney Anderson spoke about her positive experience in the Teacher Cadet Program and expressed support for her dad as a newly appointed Director, stating has been an advocate of the education system since she was in elementary school.

PSD President of the Association of Classified Employees Tony Rowland asked the community to support a mill levy override to help finance and provide an improved salary structure, a sustainable income and livable wage for teachers.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Personnel Action

5.2 Revisions to District Policy FE

5.3 Head Start/Early Head Start Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Approval

5.4 Purchase of School Buses

5.5 School-Based Student Fee Schedule

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

Director Draper seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Anderson, Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Johnson, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7-0

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Instructional Materials Adoption for Elementary Reading

Director Donovan moved that the Board adopt the proposed elementary reading adoption materials that staff has brought to us.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Robert Beauchamp discussed the new instruction materials for elementary reading, adoption process and implementation plan.

Board discussion included:

- K-5 adoption includes flexibility for teaching through the lens of social studies and science while continuing to serve student needs.
- Rubric used has strong foundational skills in literacy through phonics, comprehension and other areas.
- A multicultural approach to the material exists.
- No significant division or disagreement exists on the adoption.
- Teacher training is designed to minimize removal from classroom time with students.
- Core adoption is grade level with tiered support for struggling students.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Anderson, Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Johnson, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7-0

6.2 Futures Lab Site Acquisition

Director Donovan moved that the Board of Education approve the contract to buy and sell real-estate (commercial) between Poudre School District R-1 and Oakridge Innovation, LLC, attached as an exhibit to Action Item 6.2, and authorize the Board President to sign the contract attested by the Board Secretary.

Vice President Petterson seconded the motion.

Assistant Superintendent Scott Nielsen and Director of Innovative Learning Environment Design Scott Elias provided an update on the Futures Lab Site acquisition.

- Staff looked at multiple properties in Fort Collins.
- Currently interested in buying the property at 4862 Innovation Drive.
- Purchase price is \$6.4 million dollars.
- Will not impact \$375 million-dollar bond.
- PSD will have 90 days to ensure building meets necessary requirements.
- Goal is to open the building Fall of 2020 with an enrollment of up to 400 students.
- Opportunity for K-12 grades to utilize space.
- Five courses being offered next year at FCHS:
 - Entrepreneurship
 - iOS App development
 - Unmanned aerial systems (drones)
 - AP seminar
 - Building trades
- Transportation options will be addressed.

Board discussion included:

- Goal of participation from 100 students at FCHS next year is based on 20 students for each program.
- New site could accommodate 300 students at one time, with 4 different time slots during the week.
- Currently working with high schools to accommodate student schedules.
- Career cruising for grades 6 through 12 allows students to express interests and ensure alignment of education and passion.
- Community employer input on workplace needs will impact course offerings.
- Neutral location allows students to maintain school identity while benefiting from common learning.
- Initial and continued funding sources were discussed.
- Front Range Community College is communicating with PSD about course offerings.
- Fee-based after school adult programming, use by the City and use by Charter Schools are all possibilities. PSD will focus on school needs first.
- Primary goal continues to be student readiness for life after PSD including careers and college.
- Courses anticipated to be 2 hours twice a week.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Johnson, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: Director Anderson

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 6-1

7.0 WORK SESSION TOPICS

7.1 Technology 1:1 Refresh Purchase Update

Director of Professional Development Kate Canine and Director of Information Technology Infrastructure and Technical Services Dan Starke provided an update on the technology refresh. Purchases for 2019-2020, Choice Model updates and stories of leveraging technology were addressed.

Board discussion included:

- Cost difference between devices is expected to be minimal.
- Impact Analysis contains guiding questions to help anticipate issues.
- Futures Lab will accommodate multiple forms of technology provided by schools.
- Current technology program cannot continue to be financed due to cost and increasing number of students.
- Staff are analyzing costs and examining the budget to explore options.
- Aging classroom displays and staff devices are important to address.
- Analytical inventory of tools and usage by schools will be provided at a future meeting.

Board recessed at 8:37 p.m.

Board reconvened at 8:48 p.m.

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Monitoring/Policy Review: DE1.0, General District Ends

Director Donovan moved that the Board determine that the Superintendent has reasonably interpreted Board of Education policy DE 1.0 in her Internal Monitoring Report dated February 26, 2019, and that the evidence presented supports the Superintendent's conclusions stated in the Internal Monitoring Report.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Director of Research and Evaluation Dwayne Schmitz provided an overview of the DE1.0 Monitoring report, which is available to the public on the PSD website.

Board discussion included:

- Achievement gaps are not improving but are better than like-districts. Staff continue to research causes and address gaps to reduce them.
- Identification of additional support students is an important focus.
- Gap improvement exists for additional support students in some schools, but not all.
- Putnam Elementary School results indicate new growth model for additional support students is effective.
- PSD students are out-performing their state academic peers but graduation rates are lower than state peers, indicating PSD may have higher graduation requirements.
- Secondary teachers govern one subject while elementary teachers govern multiple subject areas.
- IEP students perform lower than competing districts. Staff are aware and seeking a solution.
- Unified Improvement Plan matches big themes with actions.
- Due to data visualization tools, study of additional support students is now available.

- Above and Beyond Survey recently closed with thousands of parents responding. Data will be processed soon and a report provided. Survey was distributed in four languages and was accessible by phone and computer.
- Questions were raised about the potential for soft skill measurement options and feedback.
- Essential skills rubric exists and could guide staff on measurement.
- Staff are studying the thirteen categories for students with IEPs and will report findings to the Board.
- DIBELS is an elementary reading assessment chosen from the choices offered by the Colorado Department of Education.
- Remedial education at the secondary level is on a downward trend.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Anderson, Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Johnson, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7-0

9.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports were discussed.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

Board meeting adjourned at 10:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education