



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 14, 2018

DINNER SESSION - 5:30 PM

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre, Vice President Susan Gutowsky; Directors Kristen Draper, Nate Donovan, Cathy Kipp and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser; Assistant Superintendents 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: Director Petterson

LATE: None

The dinner session began at 5:31 p.m.

1.0 DISTRICT INFORMATION AND BOARD DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Executive Director of Communications Danielle Clark was recognized for her work in Poudre School District and the Board wished her well in the future.
- Three of the five fee schedules in the meeting agenda packet did not contain required attachments. Board members were electronically emailed missing schedules prior to meeting.
- Consistent fee schedules across the district would not allow flexibility for teachers.
- Fee schedules are listed by school, and upon approval will replace 2017-2018 schedule.
- School visit worksheets were handed out to Board members.
- Current areas of focus for the Finance department are child nutrition contracts, concurrent enrollment contracts and health insurance contracts.
- Next retreat is set for September 24, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at JSSC.

2.0 AGENDA PLANNING

- A communication plan is in place to inform Board members about bonds.
- Planned discussion of fees and equity, Amendment 73 (formerly Initiative 93), internal monitoring report process, strategic plan for cultural and other equity and incorporation of cultures into classroom activities.

3.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- DAB members Rachel Olsen and Julie Wenzel are currently reviewing by-laws and may request Board approval of changes.
- Board members recommended DAB elect one or two members to attend legislative committee meetings and bring information back to DAB members.
- DAB perspective is valued by the Board and steps are in place to develop a feedback model to ensure timely and precise information exchange.

- Legislative committee members will continue to meet Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. prior to Board meetings.

4.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Director Draper moved the Board go into executive session as authorized under C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) to confer with the District’s attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on issues concerning the litigation in Denver District Court Case Number 2018CV32901. Individuals invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session are Legal and Policy Counsel Crabb and Assistant Board Secretary Brunner.

Vice President Gutowsky seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Petterson

Motion passed 6-0

Executive session began at 6:14 p.m.

Executive session ended at 6:27 p.m.

Dinner session ended at 6:28 p.m.

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

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre, Vice President Susan Gutowsky; Directors Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Cathy Kipp and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser; Assistant Superintendents 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: Director Petterson

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

Director Donovan moved to pull Action Item 7.2 from the Agenda.

Director Kipp seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Petterson

Motion passed 6-0

4.0 RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

Superintendent Smyser and the Board of Education commended Executive Director of Communications Danielle Clark for her work with Poudre School District, stating she will be missed and very hard to replace.

4.1 PSD 2018 Externship Partners

Community Partnership Coordinator Beth Higgins spoke about the PSD 2018 Externship Partners, stating the program places teachers with experts in the business community to better inform students of expectations and requirements in the working world.

Those in attendance were:

Gary Rogers - Poudre School District Foundation
Madeline Noblett, Chief Tom DeMint and Chief Ryan McLean - Poudre Fire Authority
Joyce Saffel - Columbine Health Systems
Timalyn O'Neill and Heather Daniels - CSU Admissions
David Kress - RB+B Architects
Amy MacNaughton and Kelly Roberto – Woodward, Inc.

On behalf of PSD and the Board, Director Kipp thanked the members for giving teachers and students opportunities.

4.2 MAC the Bus Partners

Tavelli Elementary Principal Christine Hendricks spoke about the success of Mac the Bus this summer, stating the bus served an average of 12 students with four staff members over an eight-week period. Fort Collins Public Library and Healthy Kids Club both participated once a week and student improvement was measurable. Mac the Bus will serve new neighborhoods next summer.

Community Partnership Coordinator Beth Higgins presented a plaque containing community and business partner names to Principal Hendricks for display on the bus.

Those in attendance were:

Gary Rogers – PSD Foundation
David Kress – RB+B Architects

Kris Soltis – Intel
Dave Sandlin, Rodney Rogers and Dan Dirksen – Saunders Heath Construction
Jackie O’Hara – Jet Marketing
Dawn Paepke – Kaiser Permanente

On behalf of PSD and the Board, Vice President Gutowsky thanked all involved and stated tangible innovation like this is truly exciting.

4.3 Superintendent’s Report

- Superintendent Smyser welcomed everyone to the 2018-19 school year.
- Staff and community continue to embrace the Board Ends as demonstrated by high impact teams and focus on collective efficacy.
- Superintendent Smyser welcomed new teachers and classified employees last week.
- Secondary schools are talking about the student experience and student transformation in the classroom.

4.4 Board Report

No formal report was given.

Director Kipp reported Initiative 93 officially became Amendment 73 and is hopeful it will pass to provide necessary funding for Colorado school districts.

5.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

D.J. Anderson talked about Amendment 73 and is excited it is on the ballot, stating based on signature collection percentages Fort Collins will lead the way with proponents. Passage of the bill will give 1.6 billion dollars to the State of Colorado for education.

6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

6.1 Personnel Action

6.2 Meeting Minutes for June 12, 2018 and June 14, 2018 (Special Meeting)

Director Donovan asked to pull Consent Agenda Item 6.2 Meeting Minutes for June 12 and June 14 and have those brought back at the next meeting.

Director Donovan moved to approve and adopt the recommended actions for the item remaining on the consent agenda.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Petterson
Motion passed 6-0

7.0 ACTION ITEMS

7.1 School-Based Student Fee Schedules

Director Kipp moved to amend the agenda to add revised schedules of school-based student fees at Fort Collins High School, Fossil Ridge High School and Traut Core Knowledge Elementary School that were inadvertently omitted as attachments under agenda item number 7.1.

Vice President Gutowsky seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Students unable to pay FCHS Math National Society Dues will be able to participate.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Petterson

Motion passed 6-0

Director Kipp moved to approve the revised schedules of school-based student fees at Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School, Rocky Mountain High School, Fort Collins High School, Fossil Ridge High School and Traut Core Knowledge Elementary School.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Three of the fee schedules were not included in the Novus packet but were emailed to the board today.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Petterson

Motion passed 6-0

7.2 Monitoring/Policy Review: EL2.5, Emergency Superintendent and Executive Session

Director Donovan moved that the Board determine the Superintendent has reasonably interpreted Board of Education Policy EL 2.5 in her Internal Monitoring Report dated August 14, 2018, and that the evidence presented supports the Superintendent's conclusions stated in the Internal Monitoring Report.

Vice President Gutowsky seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Assistant Superintendents will inform Board members of line of succession in the Friday update.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Petterson

Motion passed 6-0

8.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Long Range Planning Update

Assistant Superintendent Scott Nielsen and Interim Construction Manager Ed Holder presented the long-range planning update.

- Gratitude was expressed to the community for the bond process. Many plans are on hold until litigation ends and bonds can be sold, but progress is being made to ensure quick action once funds become available.
- Zach Elementary additions are still recommended.
- Bidding for site infrastructure work on the southeast elementary school is underway. Architect selection will occur late 2018/early 2019. Design to begin early 2019 and continue to early 2020 with an anticipated open Fall of 2021.
- Preliminary design work for the middle and high school projects will begin August 2018 and will include input from the Design Advisory Group and Wellington community. Anticipated open Fall of 2022 with the Athletic Complex at the Prospect Site anticipated to open Fall of 2021.
- Determination about size of school to build will be made on bid day in mid-2020 based on enrollment data and other factors.

Ongoing Facilities:

- 40 million dollars in ongoing facilities improvements.
- List of needs was developed in 2015 and have changed since then.
- Transportation facility scheduled to open in Fall 2022.

PSD Futures Lab Timeline:

- 2019: Educational programming to begin in temporary location with 2 classes (business incubator and application development).

- 2020: Expand educational programming in temporary location with additional classes and begin construction/renovation of a permanent facility for the Futures Lab.
- 2021: Anticipated opening of Futures Lab in the Fall.

Potential Bond Releases:

- Fall 2018: Litigation needs to be resolved to do this.
- Fall 2020: Continue work already in process.
- Remaining bonds will support additional ongoing facilities improvements in existing schools and the Futures Lab.

Next Steps:

- Middle and high school design work starts next Tuesday.
- Bond issuance.
- Ongoing management of growth.
- Become creative with use of space as population grows in some buildings.
- Timelines can be difficult to predict until litigation is over. PSD has worked hard to ensure readiness at a moment's notice.

Board discussion included:

- Construction is expected to take 18 months. If litigation forces a shortened timeline the Bethke model may be implemented.
- Design to avoid a mid-year opening.
- Design process and magnitude of facilities dictates order of design requests.
- Buildings to be designed for ability to add-on in the future.
- Delay due to litigation makes costs difficult to predict.
- Funding to support construction/renovation will come from multiple sources.
- Transportation needs are included in funding and city might partner with us to support.
- Important to have innovation in teaching methods, thinking and skill development that have application in a variety of areas or circumstances.
- Releases are based on construction cycle and a balance of interest rates.
- Litigation delay has allowed staff opportunity to process design and build on a deep level.
- Interest rates continue to increase and costs continue to rise as we await an end to litigation.
- Finance department is anticipating costs to the best of their ability.
- Board appreciates taking the time to think about the design process deeply and creatively.

Board recessed at 8:19 p.m.

Board reconvened at 8:31 p.m.

8.2 School Start Times

Assistant Superintendent Scott Nielsen provided an update on School Start Times, stating PSD is exploring the possibility of changing school start times for the 2019-2020 school year.

- Research indicates high school students perform better and are safer when they get more sleep.
- PSD recognizes this change will have a large impact and is trying to consider all scenarios.
- Parent survey response rate was high and 85% of respondents were favorable in moving start times back. Ideal start times were between 8:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.
- Concern was expressed regarding potential late release for high school students.
- Childcare logistics and costs are being considered, particularly for elementary.
- Committee members include parents and guardians, community members, sleep science representative, Base Camp representatives, licensed, classified and administrative staff.
- PSD used information from committee to identify three to four start time scenarios.

Transportation facts:

- PSD services 1,900 square miles serviced by four bus terminal locations.
- 600 runs and 128 routes.
- \$100,000 to purchase one bus.
- Tiered bus routes started in 2009 and are efficient.
- Hiring and retaining bus drivers is challenging.
- Due to driver shortage all transportation staff with CDL licenses are asked to drive routes, which is not sustainable.
- Starting the current school year short 2 drivers for routes; overall short 6 drivers. This is up from last year.

Four scenarios developed by the team:

1. Current Bell Schedule (no changes)
2. Option A
 - High schools start at 8:30 a.m.
 - All other schools remain the same
 - Cost increase of \$822,000 for one year
3. Option B
 - High schools start between 8:55 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.
 - Middle schools start between 8:05 and 8:15 a.m.
 - Elementary schools start between 7:45 a.m. and 8:50 a.m.
 - Cost increase of \$685,000 for one year
4. Option C
 - High schools start between 9:00 and 9:05 a.m.
 - All middle schools start at 8:35 a.m.
 - Elementary schools start between 7:45 a.m. and 8:40 a.m.
 - Cost increase of \$1,096,000 for one year.

Next Steps:

- Send out scenario survey.
- Community Engagement Sessions September 6, 13, 20 and 27.

- Presentation of survey findings to the Board in November with a decision by the Board in December/January.

Board discussion included:

- Annual growth over last three years added three routes per year.
- Difficult to employ enough drivers.
- PSD raise in driver salary helped and applications went from 4 to 50 for the summer. Job fairs have also helped.
- Recruitment and retention is of high importance right now.
- 5.75 hours a day allows an employee to receive benefits.
- Other school districts that implemented later school start times have been forthcoming with data and information.
- Thank you to community members and all who serve on the Later Start Time committee.
- Next survey will go out through email (to parents, volunteers, community members and alumni), the Coloradoan, Facebook and social media.

Board recessed at 9:33 p.m.

9.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Director Draper moved that the Board go back into the executive session begun during the dinner session as authorized under C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) to continue conferring with the District's attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on issues concerning the litigation in Denver District Court Case Number 2018CV32901. Individuals invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session are Legal and Policy Counsel Crabb and Assistant Board Secretary Brunner.

Vice President Gutowsky seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Petterson

Motion passed 6-0

Executive session began at 9:37 p.m.

Executive session ended at 10:39 p.m.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education