



## 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  
January 14, 2020

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

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre; Directors DJ Anderson, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Naomi Johnson and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser; Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen; Executive Directors Matt Bryant, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dustin Reintsma and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: Vice President Petterson arrived at 5:33 p.m.

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

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

- Retreat confirmed for June 11 at 5:00 p.m.
- PSD Foundation is currently hiring a new Director.
- Executive Director of Operations Matt Bryant provided a Security/Traffic Study update.
- Director of Construction Services Earl Smith provided an update on the Futures Lab and stated zoning issues were recently discovered. Updates will be forthcoming.
- February 27 Board retreat start time was changed from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Members expressed interest in student voice inclusion to the Board. Directors Anderson and Johnson will head the committee.

### **2.0 AGENDA PLANNING**

- Meeting scheduled for Thursday to discuss the LGBTQIA March recognition.
- Long Range Planning discussion scheduled for February 11.
- Kindergarten registration is this week.

### **3.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Legislative Sub-Committee:

- Request was made for a PSD representative to attend the Revision of Academic Standards discussion at the State Capitol on January 28.
- Director of Curriculum Robert Beauchamp may attend.

URA

- President Febvre provided an update on the recent URA meeting.

Dinner session ended at 6:22 p.m.

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

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre; Vice President Rob Petterson; Directors DJ Anderson, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Naomi Johnson and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser; Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen; Executive Directors Matt Bryant, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dustin Reintsma and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Autumnn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

## **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

President Febvre called the regular business meeting to order at 6:30 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 CDE School Awards**

The Colorado Department of Education recently awarded 19 Poudre School District schools with a total of 23 awards.

*Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award:* Bennett Elementary, Livermore Elementary, McGraw Elementary, Rice Elementary, Shepardson Elementary, Werner Elementary, Zach Elementary and Mountain Sage Community School

*John Irwin Award:* Werner Elementary, Dunn Elementary, Traut Elementary, McGraw Elementary, Bennett Elementary, Bethke Elementary, Zach Elementary, Kruse Elementary, Fort Collins Montessori, Liberty Common Charter, Kinard Middle School, CLP Middle School, Fossil Ridge High School

*High School Academic Growth Award:* Ridgeview Classical

*Centers of Excellence Award:* Putnam Elementary School

On behalf of the Board of Education, Director Johnson congratulated the award recipients.

### **4.2 Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Smyser introduced a new Student Experience video highlighting PGA student Justine.

### **4.3 Board Reports**

#### In the District

- Negotiations Circle
- Poudre Spectrum Club
- Fullana Committee Meeting
- Beattie Choir Performance
- Fundraising Meeting at Beattie
- Beattie Action Team
- Buddy Meetings with PEA Reps
- District Advisory Board

#### Board Development

- Active Board Subcommittees
  - Legislative

#### In the Community

- Meet with constituents
- McBackpack
- PFLAG Meeting
- Center for Family Outreach Board
- Wellington Community Meeting with John Kefalas
- URA Finance Committee

Next Community Engagement session will be Saturday, January 25 from 11:45-12:45 at the Old Town Library (after the Legislator Town Hall)

### **5.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Fort Collins Montessori Charter School Principal Paul Vincent spoke about the recent purchase of new property for the future home of the school. Groundbreaking is scheduled for Saturday, February 1 and Board members are invited to attend.

### **6.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

- 6.1 Personnel Action**
- 6.2 Meeting Minutes from December 6, 2019 (Special Meetings) and December 10, 2019**
- 6.3 Designation of Posting Location for Public Meetings**
- 6.4 School-Based Student Fee Schedules**
- 6.5 Site Plan Advisory and Review (SPAR) Response to the City of Fort Collins Planning & Zoning Board**
- 6.6 Contractor Selection for the Southeast Elementary School Construction**
- 6.7 Design-Build Team Selection for the Futures Lab Project**

Director Petterson requested Consent Agenda Item 6.7 be pulled.

Director Donovan moved to approve and adopt the recommended items remaining 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

## **7.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7.1 District Ends: Graduation Rates and Connections Data**

Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools Scott Nielsen and Director of Research and Evaluation Dwayne Schmitz provided an overview of graduation and completion rates for the graduating class of 2019, as well as Connections Data.

Board discussion included:

- On-time graduation target is 85% but principals strive for 100%.
- Concern was expressed that sub-group graduation rates are declining.
- PSD increased graduation credit requirements from 220 credits to 240 credits in 2015.
- Graduation credit requirements vary across the state.
- Bridge program was implemented at four comprehensive high schools.
- February Monitoring Report will provide more detailed information.
- Connections Survey opened in October and 12,000 students responded.
- Changing from a survey to an assessment may improve staff ability to help specific students.
- Survey data is available to the public in multiple locations on the PSD website.
- Appreciation was expressed for hard work completed on behalf of students.

## **8.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **8.1 Monitoring/Policy Review: EL 2.0, General Executive Limitations**

Director Donovan moved that the Board determine that the Superintendent has reasonably interpreted Board of Education policy EL 2.0 in her internal monitoring report dated January 14, 2020, and that the evidence presented supports the Superintendent's conclusions stated in the internal monitoring report.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Petterson

Motion passed 6-0

## **8.2 Monitoring/Policy Review: EL 2.4, Financial Planning and Budgeting**

Director Draper moved that the Board determine that the Superintendent has reasonably interpreted Board of Education Policy EL 2.4 in her Internal Monitoring Report dated January 14, 2020, and that the evidence presented supports the Superintendent's conclusions stated in the Internal Monitoring Report.

Director Donovan seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed for the hard work involved with financial planning.

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**

There were no reports discussed.

## **10.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **10.1 School District Negotiations Related to the 2020-2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement or Employment Contracts**

Director Johnson moved that the Board enter executive session for the purpose of developing the strategy of the school district for negotiations related to the 2020-2021 collective bargaining agreement or employment contracts, as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6—402(4)(e)(III). Those invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session are Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen; Executive Directors Vicki Thompson and Dave Montoya; Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen; Budget Director Brett Parsons; and Board Assistant Secretary Jill Brunner.

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

Executive session began at 9:00 p.m.

Executive session ended at 10:08 p.m.

## **10.2 Superintendent Evaluation**

Director Johnson moved that the Board enter executive session to discuss personnel matters related to the Superintendent's performance appraisal, goals, annual evaluation and possible contract revisions, as authorized under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f). Individuals invited to join the Board in executive session are Superintendent Sandra Smyser, Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen, and Assistant Secretary Jill Brunner.

Vice President Petterson 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

Executive session began at 10:13 p.m.

Executive session ended at 12:13 a.m.

## **11.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner  
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education