



Poudre School District Board of Education

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

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Board of Education Retreat
February 27, 2020
6:00 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING – 6:00 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; and Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Febvre called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

Director Donovan moved that the Board add an Action Item for the approval of AIA Document A133-2009 Exhibit A Interim Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for the Prospect MS/HS Project.

Director Reed 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

2.0 ACTION ITEMS

2.1 Approval AIA Document A133-2009 Exhibit A Interim Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for the Prospect MS/HS Project

Director of Construction Services Earl Smith discussed the language changes to the Interim Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment.

Director Donovan moved that the Board approve the AIA Document A133-2009 Exhibit A Interim Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for the Prospect MS/HS Project.

Director Johnson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Appreciation was expressed for language clarification.
- 3% contingency is based on the final GMP amount; 5% contingency is for the interim amount.
- Proposed contract originally signed on February 25, 2020; new contract to include language changes and date of February 27, 2020.
- Liquidated damages are assessed as delays occur.
- \$200,000 specified for liquidated damages.

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

3.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

Board will meet Tuesday, March 3 at 5:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's office for a special meeting.

3.1 Board Norming Discussion

Board discussion included:

- Evaluation process for Legal and Policy Counsel was discussed.
- Superintendent is expected to evaluate Legal and Policy Counsel while soliciting informal feedback from Board members.
- Client is the District, not individuals.
- Members may contact counsel with questions and attorney will guide about appropriateness if necessary.
- Counsel will alert Board to any concerns or conflicts of interest.
- CASB offers legal advice to Board members.
- Current Board policy states the Board may only review the Superintendent.

3.2 Mental Health and Social Emotional Learning Support

Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen provided an overview of the information gathered during listening/learning sessions, and shared plans for utilizing the \$2,000,000 for Mental Health and Social Emotional Support along with plans for training for staff members in the future.

Board discussion included:

- Physical exercise is beneficial to mental health.
- Question was raised regarding the history of the Health requirement for PE101.
- Conversation regarding graduation requirements for Health could be postponed until a further date.
- Health requirements are one piece of a big puzzle.
- Truancy with secondary students remains a struggle.
- Truancy Court in Weld County is used more frequently than in Larimer County due to a punitive strategy.

- Larimer County is less punitive due to a philosophy of connections to foster engagement for long term progress.
- When teachers are equipped with increased skills, behaviors are expected to align.
- Coordinating a model of mental health/social emotional leadership is critical.
- Common language across the District is possible through training.
- Tier I Instruction and Staff Development will allow for provision of skills for student self-management.
- Expected outcomes should be defined up front.
- Management structure will remain the same.
- Hiring of mental health professionals should start soon.
- Typical high school has eight counselors who are connectors to the mental health team.
- \$2 million from 4A for mental health support may go toward professional development as well as staffing.
- Gratitude was expressed to voters for allowing the opportunity for increased mental health support.
- Importance of strengthening partnerships was addressed.
- Building for the future of mental health means responding with a strong team at the elementary level.
- Appreciation was expressed for the development of a plan that seems sustainable and makes sense.
- Teachers will likely feel heard and empowered by this plan.

Board recessed at 8:27 p.m.

Board reconvened at 8:37 p.m.

3.3 Start Times Implementation Update

Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen and Executive Director of Operations Matt Bryant provided an update on Start Times Implementation.

Board discussion included:

- Overall response from principals was positive.
- Reports of high school students arriving more rested are frequent.
- Student athletes seem to miss more class time at the end of the day.
- Fewer absences and tardies for 1st period in middle and high school have been reported.
- Elementary schools report adjustment at the beginning of the year as well as childcare frustrations.
- Academic performance, engagement and behaviors have improved at all three levels.
- Transportation Department engaged in creative routing.
- Planning for 2020-2021 bus routes begins in March.
- Some elementary parents reported frustration with children waiting for the bus in the dark in the morning.
- Utility costs have increased in high schools due to heating later in the day.
- Anticipated \$100,000 increase in utilities.
- City of Fort Collins reported PSD is contributing 2,000 more drivers to rush hour traffic, which has caused issues.
- Traffic engineers are considering timing studies and traffic flows.
- Child Nutrition lost approximately 20 employees due to start time change.

- PSD currently interested in hiring 20 food service workers and six bus drivers.
- Loss of instructional time for athletes due to schedules at other schools and driver shortages/routes exists.
- Overall feedback was encouraging.
- Appreciation was expressed for the hard work involved.
- Recommendation given to continue with late start schedule.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT

Special meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education