



Poudre School District Board of Education

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

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Board of Education Special Meeting
April 14, 2020

ELECTRONIC BUSINESS MEETING (VIA ADOBE CONNECT) – 3:00 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; Executive Directors Matt Bryant, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dustin Reintsma and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Adams

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Febvre called the special meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Assistant Board Secretary Brunner called roll for Board members and Cabinet members.

Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen stated this Board meeting will be held electronically. Per C.R.S. 22-32-108 and Board Policy 3.12, a Board meeting may be held by electronic means in circumstances in which a public emergency exists or there is an extended closure of District facilities due to an emergency. In consideration of Governor Polis' Executive Order ordering Coloradans to Stay at Home Due to the Presence of COVID-19 and the updated Public Health Order 20-24 Implementing Stay at Home Requirements, and PSD's decision, in consultation with the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment, to continue remote learning through the remainder of the school year, this meeting is being held by electronic means only and is open to the public through this live stream.

2.0 BOARD TOPIC DISCUSSIONS

- Request was made to place the reading of the preamble to the Constitution of the United States at the second meeting of each month on the upcoming retreat agenda.
- Board members received emails stating some members of the public were unable to join the online meeting.
- Future presentation on government reimbursement for grants and general money flow was requested.
- Question was raised about the financial relationship with Front Range Community College for the last quarter in light of COVID-19.

3.0 CONSENT AGENDA

3.1 Personnel Action

3.2 Meeting Minutes from March 2, 2020 (Special Meeting), March 10, 2020 and March 24, 2020 (Special Meeting)

3.3 East Larimer County Water District (ELCO) Off-Site Agreement

- 3.4 2020-2021 Renewal Application for Alternative Campus Designation for Centennial High School**
- 3.5 2020-2021 Renewal Application for Alternative Campus Designation for Poudre Community Academy**
- 3.6 Spending for Concurrent Enrollment/Approval of Career Pathways MOU: Front Range Community College**
- 3.7 Fossil Ridge High School Boiler Replacement Project**
- 3.8 Microsoft Licensing Renewal**
- 3.9 Montava Planned Unit Development (PUD) and PUD Master Plan Development Agreement**

Director Donovan moved that the Board 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

4.0 ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Elementary School-Based Child Care

Director Donovan moved adoption of the staff recommendation that we enter into a contract for elementary childcare services with AlphaBest.

Vice President Petterson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Apologies were issued for a lack of communication regarding the contract change.
- Staff followed a good and appropriate process.
- Disappointment was expressed in communication to the community.
- While process was followed, the process may be flawed.
- Policy discussion may be necessary in the future.
- Appreciation was expressed to Base Camp for the history of service to the PSD community.
- Acknowledgement of disappointment and loss for families who did not have closure with Base Camp was conveyed.
- History of the partnership may not be relevant to hiring a company more beneficial to students and families.
- Difficult to include emotional factors in a formal process.
- AlphaBest contract represents an excellent product and financial value for PSD families.
- Clarification was requested regarding drop-in student care rates.
- Board will monitor progress of AlphaBest and requested staff updates.

- Contract is for one year, renewable up to four years.
- Ongoing evaluation is known and expected.
- Question was raised about possible CCAP limits.
- Summer child-care coverage is uncertain due to current COVID-19 restrictions.

The question was raised about the option to vote "Present" instead of "Yes" or "No" on this item. After conferring with Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen, it was determined that voting "Present" would be allowed for this item.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Those voting PRESENT: Directors Anderson and Reed

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 5-0

5.0 INFORMATION

5.1 Update on PSD Response to COVID-19

Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen, and Executive Directors Dave Montoya and Matt Bryant provided an update.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to State and local authorities and other school districts for cooperation, collaboration, support and great work responding to the COVID-19 crisis.
- High school student grade point averages will be kept in a 'hold harmless' phase.
- Third-quarter grade will be the baseline and students can continue to improve their grades.
- Teachers are reaching out to individual students.
- Movement to online learning has been fast with no playbook.
- Some concurrent enrollment classes follow a pass/fail grading system.
- Geothermal work will continue at the Prospect site.
- 245 students registered for the Futures Lab next year.
- Plan to lease a site for two years and then move to the Prospect site remains in place.
- Human Resources implemented a pause on hiring until finances are established.
- Virtual hiring fair was successful.
- Student connection during this time is important.
- Construction on the Transportation building is scheduled for August 2020 and due to open August 2021.
- Student voice will be included in high school graduation decisions.
- Extended school year, camps and activities are affected by restricted access to buildings.
- ELL student support is important.
- Ensuring every student has a laptop and internet access is primary goal.
- Extreme gratitude was expressed to all staff for the hard work involved in getting remote learning operational.

Board recessed at 6:03 p.m.
Board reconvened at 6:13 p.m.

5.2 Budget Update

Executive Director of Finance Dave Montoya and Budget Director Brett Parsons provided a budget update.

Board discussion included:

- Unknown length of the international pandemic makes planning difficult.
- Economic forecast will be released May 12.
- Gratitude was expressed to the Finance Department for work done during a challenging and dynamic situation.
- Mill Levy Override funds come from property taxes; some community members may not be able to pay taxes due to COVID-19.
- Larimer County Assessor is providing daily updates on tax collection.
- May 10 is the final date for property taxes to be paid.
- Updates will occur as information becomes available.
- May have financial uncertainties when final budget is due on June 30; staff may have to act quickly.

6.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

6.1 School District Negotiations Related to the 2020-2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement or Employment Contracts

Director Donovan moved that the Board go into executive session to discuss ongoing employee agreement negotiations, and staff invited to join the Board and Superintendent would be all those relevant, which would be Scott Nielsen, Dr. Todd Lambert, Vicki Thompson and Dave Montoya.

President Febvre added that Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen and Jill Brunner should be invited to join the meeting, and stated this is authorized by C.R.S. 24-6—402(4)(e)(III).

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 6:55 p.m.
Executive session ended at 7:25 p.m.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education