



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
May 12, 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 3:06 p.m.

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

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Donovan moved to amend the agenda to include an Action Item for the possibility of sending a communication to the governor and members of the State legislature regarding the Colorado State budget.

Director Anderson 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

President Febvre added Action Item 5.2 Resolution Regarding State Funding to Support Education to the agenda.

3.0 BOARD TOPIC DISCUSSIONS

- Gratitude was conveyed by parents for the placement of celebratory yard signs.
- PSD Foundation update:
 - Two new members were voted in.
 - Executive Director position is still vacant.
- Legislative Committee update:
 - Due to COVID-19 the State is experiencing a large financial deficit which negatively impacts education.
 - Promotion of Initiative 271 would be beneficial to school districts.

- Out-of-the-box thinking may be necessary to secure funding.
- District Advisory Board (DAB) requested participation in the next Board meeting to provide an annual report.
- Request was made to include DAB, PEA and other associations in lobbying for funding so many voices can be heard on behalf of the District.

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 4.1 Personnel Action**
- 4.2 Non-Renewal of Employee Contracts**
- 4.3 Meeting Minutes from April 14, 2020 (Special Meeting) and April 28, 2020 (Special Meeting)**
- 4.4 Quarterly Financials 3/31/2020**
- 4.5 Cancellation of Regular Board Meeting on May 26, 2020**
- 4.6 Development Agreement to Secure Public Benefits for Montava Planned Unit Development Master Plan: No Funds Required**
Approval of Payment to Boxelder Sanitation District for Plant Investment Fees
- 4.7 (PIF) for the Prospect MS/HS Project: Bond**
- 4.8 Approval of AIA Document A133-2009 Exhibit A Interim Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for the Building Automation and Controls portion of the Rocky Mountain High School HVAC/BAS Project: Bond**
- 4.9 School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP) Contract**
- 4.10 Student Device Purchase for 2020-21: 2010 MLO**
- 4.11 Amendment to AlphaBEST School-Based Childcare Agreement**

Director Draper moved that the Board approve and adopt the recommended actions for the items on the Consent Agenda.

Director Donovan 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

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Resolution Regarding Federal Funding to Support Education

Director Johnson moved that the Board approve and adopt the Resolution Regarding Federal Funding, and read the Resolution aloud.

Director Donovan seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Request was made for Board leadership to compose and sign a cover letter on behalf of all members.

- Legislative Committee will assist with distribution of letter and Resolution to State Representatives, CASB, Colorado Superintendents and President Trump.
- In-person follow up with legislators is ideal to emphasize importance.
- Staff will compose IDEA information for a future Board presentation.

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

5.2 Resolution Regarding State Funding to Support Education

Director Donovan moved that the Board provide a letter in support of education to State Representatives.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Director Donovan read a proposed draft aloud.
- Letter provides an opportunity to recognize the difficulty legislators face and give specific requests.
- Discussion surrounding content of letter and signature process occurred.
- Senators have indicated awareness of a need to prioritize education.

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 INFORMATION

6.1 Budget Update

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

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to Principals and staff for the hard work involved with reduction identification.
- Sweeps involve gathering revenue from budgets leftover at the end of the school year.
- Central Office staffing and operating cuts will be detailed at a future date.
- Request was made for detailed information from Principals on site reductions.
- Board contingency reserves could take multiple years to build back up once used.

- Reductions over multiple years are likely.
- 25% funding for Counselors comes from grants.
- First budget details will be available May 26.

Board recessed at 5:04 p.m.

Board reconvened at 5:13 p.m.

6.2 Futures Lab Plan Discussion

Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools Scott Nielsen provided an update.

Board discussion included:

- 220 students are registered for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Partnership Center may provide learning space next school year.
- PSD Warehouse may provide office space.
- Advanced Manufacturing class will be temporarily removed due to equipment and storage needs.
- Disappointment was expressed at the lack of learning opportunities for trades next school year.
- Programs offered at high school sites are strong but not equitable across the district, and do not include certificates due to a limited number of trained staff.
- Student data was requested on Future's Lab participants.
- Students are leaving PSD to attend innovation school in other cities; need to retain students by offering learning opportunities in desired content areas.
- Investment in the future is important.
- Request was made for information on the total cost for Futures Lab combined with reimbursements.
- Multiple paths exist for students to participate with Front Range Community College.
- Exploration of alternatives to spending money on a lease or remodel was appreciated.
- Future's Lab Program was initiated by the Board several years ago.
- CTE reimbursement programs can be increased at high schools.

6.3 Discussion of Upcoming Purchases

Executive Directors Matt Bryant and Dustin Reintsma, and Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Robert Beauchamp reviewed upcoming purchases.

Board discussion included:

- Curriculum update every 10 years is preferred.
- Social Studies/U.S. History curriculum is 13 years old and the digital platform will expire June 30, 2020.
- Middle School reading adoption occurred 22 years ago.
- Question was raised about spending funds on curriculum during a tough economic environment.
- Goal remains to keep budget cuts as far away from students as possible.
- New materials would provide a range of reading opportunities for students.

- If curriculum is not purchased, staff will find other avenues online but teaching may not be equitable.
- Test results indicate challenges exist in Middle School reading; new curriculum may improve outcomes.
- Funds are designated for the intercom system and a decision for use should be made soon.
- Clarification was requested on intercom use for Safety and Security.
- Replacement of AstroTurf and running tracks during the current fiscal climate must be balanced with safety issues due to condition.
- Board members requested a list of expenditures and funding sources including staff recommendations.

Board recessed at 7:18 p.m.

Board reconvened at 7:26 p.m.

6.4 Update on PSD Response to COVID-19 and Planning for 2020-2021 School Year

Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools Scott Nielsen provided an update.

Board discussion included:

- Appreciation was expressed to staff involved with coordinating the COVID-19 remote learning response.
- 1400 teacher trainings have occurred since March 13.
- Remote learning has been stressful for some families.
- Many scenarios are being considered for learning next school year including hybrid models.
- Survey is being sent to parents and staff regarding comfort level coming back into buildings next school year.
- USDA gave PSD permission to provide food through June 30.
- Plans are in place to continue offering food to students after June 30.
- Summer Institute has been paused; some funds will go toward “Just in Time” training driven toward the model chosen for fall.
- Remote learning uncovered student inequities.
- Consideration of staff needs during scenarios and models is appreciated.
- Gratitude was expressed to staff for performing at a high level in the interest of children while in the middle of the budget crisis.

7.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

7.1 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; Budget Manager Brett Parsons; Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen; 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

Board recessed at 8:22 p.m.

Board reconvened at 8:26 p.m.

Executive session began at 8:29 p.m.

Executive session ended at 9:30 p.m.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education