



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 26, 2020

ELECTRONIC BUSINESS MEETING (VIA ADOBE CONNECT) – 3:00 PM

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre, Vice President Rob Petterson; Directors DJ Anderson, 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: Director Donovan

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.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

3.0 BOARD TOPIC DISCUSSIONS

- Director Johnson provided an update on Early Childhood and stated Federal grant money looks likely with no planned cuts at the Federal level.
- Director Anderson provided an update on the Legislative Subcommittee and stated the letter approved at the last Board meeting was mailed to State legislators; feedback indicated a lack of support for Initiative 271.
- Request was made for an update on the guidelines of the CARES Act spending.

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 4.1 Personnel Action**
- 4.2 Commercial Insurance Renewal for 2020-2021**
- 4.3 Cancellation of Regular Board Meeting on June 9, 2020**
- 4.4 Contractor Selection for Fire Alarm Replacement Projects at Leshar MS and Werner ES**
- 4.5 Approval of Payment to the East Larimer County Water District (ELCO) for Water Service Fees for the Prospect MS/HS Project**
- 4.6 Award of Bid for the Athletic Turf Replacement Projects at Fort Collins HS and Poudre HS**
- 4.7 Mountain School Kitchens Remodel Project**
- 4.8 School to Work Alliance (SWAP) Contract for 2020-2021 - REVISED**

Director Johnson requested Item 4.6 be pulled and placed on Action Items.

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

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Donovan

Motion passed 6-0

5.0 INFORMATION REPORTS

5.1 District Advisory Board (DAB) Annual Report

District Advisory Board Chair Julie Wenzel provided the annual report.

Board discussion included:

- Appreciation was expressed for prioritizing equity gaps.
- Gratitude was conveyed for hard work done by the DAB.

5.2 Student Services Update

Student Services Director Ruben Chacon and Mental Health and Prevention Coordinator Melanie Voegeli-Morris provided an update on student mental health supports.

Board discussion included:

- Mental health team members, safety teams and counselors are off-contract over the summer.
- Support for students will come from community partners like Summit Stone, Telehealth and other local organizations.
- Letters were mailed to all parents and included information regarding what to expect from their student, available resources and contact information.
- Request was made for professional development opportunities for educators designed toward student connection during virtual learning, identification of trauma due to virtual learning, trauma response and behavior awareness.
- Parents or legal guardians must request a student name change in order to make the change in the computer system.
- CARES Act limits the ability to use funds for mental health; ESSER funds may provide more flexibility.
- Gratitude was expressed for the hard work involved with limited funding in a short amount of time.
- Staff are considering creative ways to support at-risk students.
- Mandatory professional development requires funds, and optional training may not reach everyone.

5.3 Revisions to Student Rights & Code of Conduct Policies (First Reading)

Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen addressed questions regarding revisions to the Student Rights & Code of Conduct Policies.

Board discussion included:

- Three policies are being revised effective the 2020-2021 school year.
- Request was made to change wording from 'on a District vehicle' to 'in a District vehicle'.
- Policy revisions will return next Board meeting on the Consent Agenda for a second reading.

5.4 Proposed Budget for FY2020-21

Executive Director of Finance Dave Montoya and Budget Director Brett Parsons lead a discussion on the proposed budget.

Board discussion included:

- Striking a balance in cuts from ongoing funds and one-time money is ideal.
- District budget will be adopted June 23.
- Request was made for guidance on use of CARES funds.
- CDE will publish a formal matrix for fund use soon.
- Gratitude was conveyed for the hard work involved with identifying cuts while maintaining integrity and thought for the benefit of students and the system as a whole.
- Budget development is fluid and more cuts may be required in the following years.
- Request was made for detailed information on cuts and reductions.

Board recessed at 5:28 p.m.
Board reconvened at 5:40 p.m.

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Middle School Reading Instructional Materials

Director Draper moved that Board adopt Heinemann, *Units of Study in Reading: A Workshop Curriculum for Middle School Grades* for use in the middle school reading courses.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Concern was expressed about spending money on curriculum while finances are tight and classes may not resume in-person in the fall.
- New middle school curriculum is needed and overdue.

- Some of the current curriculum expires and will be unavailable after June 30.
- Suggested curriculum is suitable for a hybrid learning environment.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Anderson, Draper, Febvre and Petterson

Those voting NO: Directors Johnson and Reed

ABSENT: Director Donovan

Motion passed 4-2

6.2 Secondary Reading Intervention Materials

Director Draper moved that the Board adopt three instructional programs to support secondary reading intervention:

- Houghton Mifflin - *Read 180 & System 44*
- Pearson – *iLit Suite*
- Achieve 3000 - *TeenBizPro, Boost Colorado, Access Colorado*

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Anderson, Draper, Febvre and Petterson

Those voting NO: Directors Johnson and Reed

ABSENT: Director Donovan

Motion passed 4-2

6.3 Futures Lab

Director Draper moved that the Board approve the Futures Lab build out of opportunities for students with eight pathways at the Partnership Center beginning Fall 2020.

Vice President Petterson seconded the motion.

Board recessed at 6:30 p.m.

Board reconvened at 6:36 p.m.

Board discussion included:

- Futures Lab provides equity for students through a centralized location.
- ELL and IS students will be supported.
- Inclusion of trade education is important.
- Opportunity to accrue credits at the Futures Lab is high.
- Similar opportunities within the District will be enhanced by the Futures Lab.
- Program will provide student engagement and learning relevant to their passion.
- Equitable opportunities may not exist without this venue.
- Potential exists for additional resources from community businesses, neighboring districts and charter schools.
- All District ends are met through this plan.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Donovan

Motion passed 6-0

6.4 Initiative 271

Director Johnson moved that the Board approve and adopt a Resolution in Support of Initiative 271, and read the resolution aloud.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Legislative sub-committee will forward the Resolution to State Legislators.
- More information is available at www.fairtaxcolorado.org.
- Suggestion was made the Initiative requires more thought before supporting.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Anderson, Draper, Johnson, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: Director Febvre

ABSENT: Director Donovan

Motion passed 5-1

6.5 Award of Bid for the Athletic Turf Replacement Projects at Fort Collins HS and Poudre HS

Director Draper moved that the Board approve an award of bid for the Athletic Turf Replacement project, including Add Alternate #1 at Fort Collins HS to ECI Site Construction Management, Inc. and the Athletic Turf Replacement project at Poudre HS to American Civil Constructors, Inc.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Funding comes from bond money.
- Recommendation was made to wait for financial information prior to spending resources.
- Safety issues due to current condition should be considered.
- For best results turf should be installed in a particular time frame.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Anderson, Draper, Febvre and Petterson

Those voting NO: Directors Johnson and Reed

ABSENT: Director Donovan

Motion passed 4-2

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, Draper, Febvre, Johnson, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Donovan

Motion passed 6-0

Board recessed at 8:09 p.m.

Board reconvened at 8:12 p.m.

Executive session began at 8:13 p.m.

Executive session ended at 8:59 p.m.

7.2 Superintendent Performance Feedback

Director Johnson moved that the Board go into executive session as authorized under C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f) to discuss personnel matters related to feedback on the Superintendent's job performance. Individuals invited to join the Board in executive session are Superintendent Sandra Smyser, Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen, and Assistant Board Secretary Jill Brunner.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: Director Donovan

Motion passed 6-0

Executive session began at 9:07 p.m.

Executive session ended at 10:40 p.m.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education