



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
June 2, 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; Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Adams

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Febvre called the special meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Assistant Board Secretary Brunner called roll for Board members.

2.0 ACTION ITEMS

2.1 Resolution Declaring the Existence of a Fiscal Emergency Pursuant to Article 14 of the Employee Agreement

Director Draper moved to adopt the Resolution declaring the existence of a fiscal emergency pursuant to Article 14 of the Employee Agreement.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

COMMUNITY COMMENT:

PSD employee and incoming ACE President Joni Baker said classified employees completed many important jobs during quarantine, are vital to ensuring every building is sanitized and in proper condition when students return and are the backbone of the District. Cuts will create a morale issue next year.

PSD employee Rochelle Morse conveyed understanding for the position the District is in and listed many roles classified staff play in the school day of each student. Classified staff are essential to running the entire school and are vital to educating students.

PSD employee and former ACE President Sue Torres stated Classified staff are essential to District operations and makes a large difference in the day to day workload of teachers. Cuts are an enormous loss, will add to the workload of all staff and will have a lasting effect on schools.

PSD employee James Venable spoke about a previous reduction in Classified staff and stated the workload increased for remaining employees. Lost positions were not

recovered and this cut will again increase the workload for staff. Continued difficulty retaining bus drivers is concerning and the high price of living in Fort Collins may cause reduced staff to move instead of waiting to come back.

Mark Hunter did not speak due to technical difficulty.

Board discussion included:

- Appreciation was expressed for community member comments.
- Board members understand the value and importance of classified staff; concerns are respected and heard.
- 28 million dollar cut will affect staff across the district.
- Difficult decisions are ahead, and the decision makers will keep the best interest of children in mind while achieving the financial goal.
- May be able to incorporate public comments into upcoming virtual meetings.
- Initiative 271 could be a step toward alternate funding for education in Colorado.
- June budget adoption will be based on assumptions about State revenues; financial uncertainty may require additional staff reductions in the future.
- Board is expected to be stewards of the budget.
- Difficult decisions are not taken lightly.

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 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education