



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 23, 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 3:00 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 TOPICS

- President Febvre provided an update on the URA.
- Fall committee assignments should include a Board replacement for the URA.
- CASB legislative wrap-up is tomorrow at 6 p.m.

4.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Amber Lane voiced concerned about renewal of the SRO contract because students do not want them in schools and the money could be better spent on programs that benefit all students with social/emotional learning, advanced placement courses, music and art.

Cari Brown acknowledged PSDs tough budget situation and expressed apprehension about the disproportionate cuts to students with disabilities and the Student Services department.

Parent Michael Knudsen spoke in support of the SRO contract renewal and said SROs are invaluable.

Rosie Macy stated SROs should be removed from schools to support an antiviolence environment.

Recent graduate Brooke Giffin recounted first-hand experiences with racism while attending high school and said people can no longer pretend students of color are not being targeted by law enforcement.

Siwook Hwang said PSD is criminalizing students by putting SROs in schools and robbing them of the opportunity to learn how to de-escalate situations.

Student Lily Vance expressed concern for elementary students who may be home alone with the altered schedule and recommended an on-line portfolio scenario.

Parent Kelly Curnutt conveyed the importance of resuming a normal schedule for the physical and mental health of students and requested PSD consider children will be together on 'off' days in a daycare environment because parents have to work.

Bradley Smith Jr. stated the ILS department adjusted well at the end of the school year and requested PSD make the special education community a priority by placing IEP students in daily classrooms even if other students are not in attendance.

Parent Mindi Castaneda shared concern about the education her children will receive next year if virtual learning continues, and added her children feel safe with SROs in the building.

John Robinson said the PEA executive board did not come to consensus about the SRO contract renewal and asked all involved to examine supports currently in place, become inclusive of educator voices, listen to the community and heed the call to social action.

Montserrat Granados comments were inaudible.

Parent Jody Anderson spoke in support of SRO removal from schools and added removal would shift ownership to the Board to fill the security gap and be a change for students.

Parent Ricki Ginsberg mentioned a Harvard study that revealed SROs have not stopped a single school shooting, and added inequity exists in the PSD school system for students of color.

Student Caroline Apodaca expressed gratitude for SROs and recommended revision of the role instead of removal. Parents and adults who are not in the schools should not be making recommendations over students who are in the schools.

Jordan Limoges said SROs have no causal effect on school shootings and disengage staff from having meaningful interactions, adding discipline and problem-solving are not the responsibility of the SRO.

Community member Patricia Grady-Dominguez shared the use of SROs is not an evidence based practice. SROs have no impact on student behavior or graduation rates, but increase exclusionary discipline.

Melissa Haas voiced concern about removing SROs from campuses because the top priorities are the safety, wellbeing and education of children. SROs are not simply armed guards and bridge the gap between youth and law enforcement.

Stefani Richardson requested a focus on restorative justice that can be preventative and shows evidence of effectiveness instead of renewal of the SRO contract.

Parent Jennifer HoGlin expressed concern about remote learning for students with IEPs and stated special need students should have an exception so they do not fall further behind.

Parent Arpi Miller stated discipline data cannot capture the entirety of the experience and students of color are twice as likely to be disciplined, creating disparity.

Community member Cheryl Distaso urged the Board to vote no on the SRO contract renewal and shared officer presence gives the community a false sense of security and generates the school-to-prison pipeline.

Sarah Parrish spoke against renewal of the SRO contract and said a solution for safety has to work for all students.

Dakota Johnson requested non-renewal of the SRO contract and added black individuals are four times more likely to be incarcerated in Colorado. The system used to create racism is the system that could be changed to remove racism.

Parent Amanda Koncewicz asked PSD to develop a supplemental school plan specific to mountain schools due to low enrollment and lack of PSD provided transportation.

Kimberly Medina spoke against renewal of the SRO contract and added the problem is not a lack of training but a fundamental flaw in the system.

Parent Allen Edwards recounted negative SRO experiences in other parts of the country and positive experiences in Fort Collins, and requested the Fort Collins Police Department fund the SROs to avoid pulling funds from the school district.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 5.1 Personnel Action**
- 5.2 Meeting Minutes from June 2, 2020 (Special Meeting) and June 9, 2020 (Special Meeting)**
- 5.3 Interfund Borrowing Resolution (submitted annually)**
- 5.4 Investment and Wire Transfer Authorization (submitted annually)**
- 5.5 First Amendment to the Airpark Warehouse Lease Contingent Early Termination Agreement**
- 5.6 Authorization of Payment to Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association (PVREA)**
- 5.7 Concurrent Enrollment Agreement Between Poudre School District and Front Range Community College, 2020-2021**
- 5.8 Annual Head Start Grant Approval & Annual Report**
- 5.9 First Amendment to the Agreement for the Provision of Infant & Toddler Child Care Services at Poudre School District Global Academy**
- 5.10 Check Issuance and Facsimile Signature Resolution**
- 5.11 Grant Funded Distributed Antenna System (DAS) Project**
- 5.12 Participation in the State Treasurer's Interest-free Loan Program**

5.13 First Amendment to Real Estate Purchase Agreement for Supplemental Property to the Prospect School Site

Director Donovan moved that the Board approve and adopt the recommended items on the Consent Agenda.

Director Johnson 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

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

6.1 2020-2021 School Resource Officer (SRO) Contracts

Director Donovan moved that the Board adopt three contracts for School Resource Officer services (1) the contract with Fort Collins Police Department or Services; (2) the contract with Larimer County Sheriff's Office, and (3) the contract with the Town of Timnath Police Department.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Executive Director of Operations Matt Bryant and Director of Language, Culture, Equity and Diversity John McKay provided a presentation.

Board recessed at 4:46 p.m.

Board reconvened at 5:00 p.m.

Board discussion included:

- Superintendent Smyser spoke about practices and changes that will be in place when school begins.
- Consistency and expectations should be clear.
- Standard Operating Procedures may include no SRO involvement in discipline and no SRO involvement in student/administration conversations.
- Request was made for parent notification when student/police contact has occurred.
- Clarification was requested regarding DACA status questions; possible inclusion in Standard Operating Procedures may be needed.
- Advisory Councils will provide tools for PSD.
- Equity Coalitions should be a sustained practice to ensure student/teacher/ stakeholder voice is included.
- Education, prevention and intervention should occur prior to concepts that are punitive or criminal.
- SRO removal may not change the discipline profile.
- Need to ensure District discipline processes affect students equally.
- Student voice is important in the process.

- Parent voice will occur through family liaisons and principle engagement.
- SRO removal will not help if the issue of bias is institutional.
- Policies and procedures should be improved.
- Request made for future agenda item on Restorative Justice.
- Safe-to-Tell reports involve SROs and administrators.
- Request was made for ongoing analysis and data regarding SRO/staff responsibilities.
- Important to improve situation for students who experience trauma upon seeing an SRO; every student should feel safe.
- Request was made for student access to “Know Your Rights” information.
- Possibility exists to edit or remove amendments to the SRO contract after approval.
- Approval of the SRO contract does not mean change is not expected.
- Gratitude was expressed to the community for involvement in hard conversations and the Board requested continued vigorous communication.
- Appreciation was conveyed to all staff for work completed on a short timeline.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: Director Johnson

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 6-1

Board recessed at 6:24 p.m.

Board reconvened at 6:34 p.m.

6.2 U.S. History and A.P. U.S. History Instructional Materials

Director Donovan moved that the Board adopt for use by the Poudre School District Cengage/National Geographic *America Through the Lens 1st Edition* for use in the US History courses, and McGraw Hill Education, *American History: Connecting with the Past 15th Edition* for use in A.P. U.S. History courses.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Robert Beauchamp and Curriculum Facilitator/PSD Social Studies teacher Scott VanTatenhove presented information on the curriculum.

Board discussion included:

- Adoption committee reviewed materials through a diversity lens.
- 1919 Red Summer riots are included in material.
- PSD can require publisher to provide additional resources on requested topics such as Juneteenth, Tulsa and more.
- Teachers need to be prepared to have in-depth and difficult discussions.
- Professional Development will be available for teachers.
- Concern was expressed about the purchase of curriculum during the current budget crisis.
- Curriculum exposes students to a more rounded experience in America.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: Directors Johnson and Reed

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 5-2

6.3 Advanced Placement Economics Instructional Materials

Director Donovan moved that the Board adopt for use by the Poudre School District the McGraw Hill Education, *AP Economics 21st Edition* ISBN: 978-0-07-904121-0 for use in the AP Economics courses.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Robert Beauchamp and Curriculum Facilitator/PSD Social Studies teacher Scott VanTatenhove presented information on the curriculum.

Board discussion included:

- Curriculum includes both macro and microeconomics.
- Digital components are more robust than current curriculum.
- Prior adoptions were site-based; this is the first adoption of a district-wide AP curriculum.
- Updates occurring at the College Board level dictate the course of the curriculum.
- Professional Development is scheduled for August 13.
- COVID-19 will drive the economics conversation for many years to come and will include unemployment numbers, Relief Act and more.
- Approximately 400-500 students take AP economics; 90% take it Senior year.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: Directors Johnson and Reed

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 5-2

6.4 Supplemental Budget for FY2019-20

Director Donovan moved that the Board of Education adopt a Supplemental Budget Resolution for the year 2019-2020 that ends with BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF POUUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1 IN LARIMER COUNTY THAT THE AMOUNTS SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE BE APPROPRIATED AS SPECIFIED IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2019, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2020.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Executive Director of Finance Dave Montoya and Budget Director Brett Parsons presented the Supplemental Budget for FY2019-20.

Board discussion included:

- Supplemental Budget occurs in unusual circumstances like a flood or COVID-19.
- Refers to Federal funds.
- Detailed expenditures will be forthcoming.

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

6.5 Proposed Budget for FY2020-21

Director Donovan moved that the Board adopt a Budget Resolution for the FY2020-21 that ends with the resolution paragraph that says BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF POUUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1 IN LARIMER COUNTY THAT THE AMOUNTS SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE BE APPROPRIATED TO EACH FUND AS SPECIFIED IN THE ADOPTED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2020, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2021.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Executive Director of Finance Dave Montoya and Budget Director Brett Parsons presented the Proposed Budget for FY2020-21.

Board discussion included:

- District is purchasing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when prices are good in an attempt to get ahead of the need.
- District cannot fund PPE to all students and staff; site-based purchases are likely.
- Some families will provide PPE for their student; conversations are continuing.
- Appreciation was expressed to staff for composing a budget during difficult financial times.
- Some flexibility exists to make unexpected purchases for COVID-19 needs.
- Plan for cleaning schools is being developed.
- Cuts to Special Education department were explained.
- Budget process is working well and staff are keeping the Board closely informed.

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

7.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1 2020-2021 Instructional Planning II

Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen provided an update on Instructional Planning for the 2020-2021 school year.

Board discussion included:

- Larimer County Health Department may recommend In-School learning five days a week in the Fall.
- Teacher Learning pages will be available to parents regardless of Phase.
- Relief funds may be needed to supplement Student Based Budgeting.
- Students who commit to on-line/remote learning commit for a year and cannot transition back and forth due to a potential loss of learning.
- PSD is working with City of Fort Collins TransFort regarding student transportation options.
- Expectation is for students to follow PSD guidelines put in place based on Health Department recommendations.
- Option of virtual learning is available to any student unable to follow guidelines.
- Appeal was made to the community to wear masks now and through the summer to enable students to return to school in the Fall.
- PSD prefers to have students in school all the time; any alternative plan is not our choice and is out of our control.
- Data was requested for the financial comparison between virtual teaching and in-person teaching as well as data on the number of teachers taking advantage of learning opportunities for on-line instruction.
- Important not to push students back too soon and potentially create a hot spot.
- Appreciation was expressed to parents for their anticipated flexibility regarding the unpredictability of the virus.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education