



## 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  
July 29, 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 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 3:02 p.m.

#### **2.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Parent Matt Rogers expressed concern students in the scheduled Phase will experience five days of remote learning requiring five days of childcare and instruction, and requested Phase 2 be considered for a more consistent schedule for parents with flexibility for teachers.

Greg Thornton thanked the District for opening schools and asked all involved to listen to science instead of political fear, stating in-person schooling is too valuable to give up for the low possibility of virus transmission.

Parent Tyler Davis thanked staff for working hard to achieve a viable solution to restart school, conveyed apprehension about a return to full-time elementary and stated there is limited data about the effects of COVID on school-aged children.

Parent Kevin Anderson voiced frustration with the short timetable for parents to decide on virtual learning versus hybrid learning and added because the situation is fluid, parent options for education should remain fluid instead of permanent for the year.

Community member James Bailey expressed concern about the effect the scheduled learning Phase will have on low income households, and asked if the District plans to off-set the need for two-income households to become one-income households in order to provide virtual learning.

#### **3.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

##### **3.1 Opening Plan Overview**

Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen provided an update on the Opening Plan.

Board discussion included:

- Clarification was requested on Early Childhood student attendance.
- Extracurricular activities/clubs and field trips will not occur during the first quarter.
- Parent volunteers will not be allowed first quarter.
- Specials teachers will go to individual classrooms or outside depending on the footprint of the school.
- Elementary students will receive direct instruction when in person and given work at-home when in hybrid environment.
- Masks are required for elementary students; mask breaks are being discussed.
- AlphaBest will offer before-school and after-school care starting Monday August 17.
- New cleaning equipment is available for each school and school bus.
- Hot food will not be served in the cafeteria for lunch.
- Lunch will be grab-and-go sack lunch style.
- Elementary recess remains a priority and will be modified for COVID procedures.
- Students will be wearing masks in hallways.
- AlphaBest information should be distributed to parents by August 3, prior to the August 8 deadline to sign up for PSDV.
- AlphaBest will follow the same safety protocol and guidelines as PSD, as required by the State of Colorado.
- Teachers will be provided with a PPE kit.
- AlphaBest will communicate with families experiencing a hardship.
- CHSSA approved the sport of golf to resume on Monday.
- Some fall sports are yet to be determined; higher contact sports may be moved to spring.
- Concern was expressed that the attempt to give children a normal existence through including some athletics may put them at a significant health risk.
- Sports are part of the educational experience.
- Transportation of athletes is being discussed; resources need to be prioritized.
- PSD decisions are based on input from the Health Department.
- Appreciation was expressed to staff for work done to establish multiple scenarios during an uncertain pandemic.
- Student A and Student B designation can be found in ParentVue and StudentVue.
- Larimer County will guide PSD through protocol if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID.
- Long-term substitutes will be hired for each site.
- Striking a balance between the needs of the students and the consequences of those actions for the community is critical and remains a priority.
- Request was made for all involved to work together, remain flexible, acknowledge fears and different perspectives, adjust to hiccups, and trust one another while moving forward with a plan.

#### **4.0 ACTION ITEMS**

##### **4.1 Revised 2020-2021 SY Calendar**

Director Donovan moved that the PSD COVID amended 2020-2021 SY Calendar as posted on the Board of Education meeting agenda packet with all the details there be adopted by the Board.

Director Johnson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- August 24 starting date is the primary change.

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 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner  
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education