



## Poudre School District Board of Education

2407 Laporte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521 • 970-490-3607

# Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Board of Education Business Meeting  
November 10, 2020

### **REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 5:30 PM**

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre; Vice President Petterson; Directors DJ Anderson, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Naomi Johnson and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser; Assistant Superintendents Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen; Executive Director Dave Montoya

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

#### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

President Febvre called the regular business meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

#### **2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Febvre led the Board of Education and staff members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There were no changes to the agenda.

#### **4.0 BOARD ITEMS & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Director Johnson provided an update on the Student Think Tank.
- Director Anderson provided an update on the CASB Legislative Resolution meeting.
- President Febvre will send a list of committee assignments to members.
- CSU Energy Institute meeting provided discussion surrounding the Futures Lab and next steps.

#### **5.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Community members participated virtually.

PSD student Mia Pillote proposed Learning Phase 2.5, a hybrid of Phase 2 and Phase 3, be implemented to create a safer environment for students by allowing more time in a virtual environment, bringing students to school one day a week in-person and allowing for less contact while continuing to offer in-person experience.

PSD student Dylan Lindsey authored Learning Phase 2.5 to advocate for peers and spoke about challenges students face in Phases 1 and 3. Attendance one day a week would decrease the possibility of transmission and allow six days for symptoms to surface.

Parent, DAC Committee member and EDAC member Johannah Knudson asked the Board to back up good intentions to advance equity through inclusion of EDAC expertise with meaningful actions, to remove SROs in schools and invited members to attend EDAC meetings.

Rena Trujillo read a statement on behalf of a PSD student that said SRO involvement in schools is negative to students and creates anxiety and fear, and added PSD spends \$1 million dollars a year on SROs that should be spent on mental health professionals.

## **6.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

### **6.1 Personnel Action**

### **6.2 Meeting Minutes from October 13, 2020, October 20, 2020, October 27, 2020 and October 29, 2020**

### **6.3 Transfer Two North Poudre Irrigation Company Water Shares to Wellington**

### **6.4 Waterfield Overall Development Plan First Amendment**

### **6.5 Mountain Sage Community School Remote Learning Grant Application**

### **6.6 Frontline Enrich Student Educational Plan Software**

Director Donovan moved that the Board approve and adopt the recommended actions for the items on the consent agenda.

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

## **7.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **7.1 Resolution of the Poudre School District R-1 Board of Education to Provide Flexibility for Certain Graduation Requirements for the 2020-2021 School Year.**

Director Draper moved that the Board of Education approve and adopt the Resolution of the Poudre School District R-1 Board of Education to Provide Flexibility for Certain Graduation Requirements for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Director Donovan seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Third 'WHEREAS' contains language that is out of date and should be changed.

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

Director Petterson moved that the Board change the wording in the third 'WHEREAS' clause from 'Cautious' to 'Concern'.

Director Reed 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

## **8.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **8.1 District Budget Process and Priorities**

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

Board discussion included:

- Important to understand the variables and fixed costs for a variety of school sizes.
- Future discussion of 'need' versus 'want' may be necessary.
- Values for Art, Music and PE are high.
- Survey was distributed to improve the understanding of school structures.
- Equity should be a focus and articulated to the public.
- Student Based Budgeting (SBB) process may be reviewed.
- Recommended changes to the District Ends Focus Areas were discussed.
- Changes may be necessary due to the current COVID and financial environment.
- Important to emphasize student opportunity in the trades.
- Board will compose a new Priorities list for the Finance Department.
- Budgets are a plan, and staff will modify the plan as information is gained.
- Community Partners could help with student support.
- Social/emotional support may become the biggest priority.

Board recessed at 7:30 p.m.

Board reconvened at 7:38 p.m.

### **8.2 School Year Update**

Superintendent Smyser spoke about the COVID environment in the State of Colorado and within the District, and asked employees to consider a Resolution to the Governor that would emphasize the importance of teachers to the community and request priority vaccination.

Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools Todd Lambert provided an update.

Board discussion included:

- Average attendance rate is 94.3%.
- Parent/teacher conferences have been adjusted based on school start dates.
- Majority of elementary schools use Friday for class meetings and asynchronous learning.
- Important to recognize teacher stress and mental wellness.
- Suggestions were made about possible methods to reduce teacher workloads.

Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools Scott Nielsen provided an update.

Board discussion included:

- 123 confirmed cases of COVID in the District since October 5.
- RMHS and FRHS reached 'outbreak' status.
- Health Department continues to reinforce that students remain in school.
- Data shows household-to-household transmission is higher than school transmission.
- Attendance is 93.4%
- PSDV attendance is 94.1%.
- Student survey results were discussed and indicated most students prefer Phase 3 learning.
- Request was made to consider the mental health of teachers and consider incentives.
- Staff will collect District COVID data and present to the Board.
- Clear and transparent communication with parents and staff is important.
- Gratitude was expressed for dashboard information on the PSD website and for all staff working hard to educate children and keep them safe.
- PSDV curriculum has improved.
- Connectivity for students has improved.
- Important for all community members to wear masks to prevent the spread of COVID.
- Gratitude was expressed to central office administration for incredible work performed on behalf of students.

## **9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner  
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education