



Poudre School District Board of Education

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

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Board of Education Business/Work Session Meeting
February 23, 2021

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; Interim Superintendent Todd Lambert; Assistant Superintendent Scott Nielsen; Interim Assistant Superintendent Traci Gile; Executive Director Dave Montoya; and Legal and Policy Council Autumn Aspen

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 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

3.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Community member Steve Cummings expressed concern about PSD's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion plan and stated the school district is confusing and harming students with incorrect information about the definition of male and female.

Parent Sherri Yockey spoke in support of a return to full-time in-person learning and said she cannot find a single parent or teacher who does not want the return.

Jenny Marquart requested a return to in-person learning, fulfillment of the Board and Superintendent promise of transparent communication to parents, and an explanation for a return to in-person learning after spring break instead of immediately.

Parent Dani Lawrence expressed appreciation to the Board for community service during a tough year and listed multiple areas of concern regarding district inadequacies for students with special needs.

Parent Jessica Kraus stated most parents and counselors would say kids are not doing as well as we think they are, and said students should not have to wear masks six hours a day due to an increase in impetigo, acne, fatigue, headaches and more.

Kelly Holdridge spoke in support of a return to in-person learning and read several statements on behalf of students.

Jennifer Miller communicated support of a return to in-person learning for secondary students and expressed concern about a lack of information from the district in spite of a promise of transparency.

Emily Schwabe stated in-person learning has been shown safe for students and expressed frustration that the Board and Superintendent are putting other issues above a return to learning.

4.0 BOARD ITEMS & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Director Johnson provided an update on the Early Childhood meeting at Fullana.
- Directors Anderson and Johnson presented the fall launch plan for the Student Advisory Council.
- Director Draper delivered an update on the Community Advisory Council (CAC).
- Legislative Subcommittee met to discuss 26 upcoming bills and communicated input to PSDs lobbyist.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Personnel Action

Director Donovan moved that the Board approve and adopt the recommended action for the item on the consent agenda.

Director Anderson 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 WORK SESSION TOPICS

6.1 Student Movement Analysis and Enrollment Projections

Applications Support and Data Coordinator Betsy Westbury presented the Student Movement Analysis, and Planning Manager Brenden Willits provided Enrollment Projections.

Board discussion included:

- State data provided broad information regarding students attending another district; breakdown by grade level is not currently available.
- Charter School enrollment numbers could include students from other districts.
- Questions were raised regarding Colorado Early Childhood attendance.
- Clarification was requested for 'choice in' students versus 'Colorado Early College' students.
- Number of kindergarten students held back by parents due to Covid is unknown.

- Lower birth rates and high-priced housing are two areas causing lower incoming student numbers.
- Request was made to increase marketing for PSD on-line education options.
- Middle School projections are low due to a large 8th grade class moving to high school, and a smaller 5th grade class moving into Middle School.
- Communications department is reaching out the families who left PSD in order to gain information.

6.2 Budget Update 2/23/2021

Budget Director Brett Parson provided a budget update.

Board discussion included:

- Elementary base staffing model is \$5 million.
- Elementary literacy learning loss remains a priority.
- Federal COVID relief is not anticipated; Finance Department will continue to monitor.

6.3 School Year Update

Assistant Superintendent Scott Nielsen and Interim Assistant Superintendent Traci Gile provided a school year update.

Board discussion included:

- Over 6,000 PSD staff have scheduled a COVID vaccine appointment, and over 2,000 staff have received first vaccine.
- Appreciation was expressed to Larimer County Health Department for hard work in prioritizing educator vaccination.
- Middle School Softball will start next week.
- Clarification was requested on in-person summer school classes.
- Camp SOL will accommodate approximately 800 students at four locations.
- Volunteer registration numbers are up across the district.
- Kindergartners will all receive a book to take home on March 2.
- 83% of Seniors are on-track to graduate.
- High School Principals have identified students in need of credits to graduate.
- Clarification was requested on middle school camp availability this summer.
- AP and IB courses have been offered this year.

7.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

7.1 Purchase or Acquisition of Real Property

Director Johnson moved that the Board enter executive session for the purposes of:

(1) discussing matters concerning the purchase or acquisition of real property in the Timnath Growth Management Area, determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations concerning the real property purchase or acquisition, developing

strategy for those negotiations and instructing the negotiators, all as authorized under C.R.S. §§ 24-6-402(4)(a) and (e); and

(2) discussing personnel matters related to feedback on the Interim Superintendent's job performance as authorized under C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f).

Individuals invited to join the Board and Interim Superintendent in executive session are Executive Director Matt Bryant, Planning Manager Brendan Willits, Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen, and Assistant Board Secretary Jill Brunner.

Director Donovan 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

Board recessed at 7:45 p.m.

Board reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

Executive session 7.1 began at 7:51 p.m.

Executive session 7.1 ended at 8:18 p.m.

Executive Director Matt Bryant and Planning Manager Brenden Willits exited the executive session at 8:18 p.m.

7.2 Interim Superintendent Performance Feedback

Executive session 7.2 began at 8:19 p.m.

Executive session 7.2 ended at 8:52 p.m.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education