



## 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  
May 11, 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 Superintendents Traci Gile and Scott Nielsen; Executive Director of Finance Dave Montoya; 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 5:31 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 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

William Timpson spoke in support of SRO removal from schools and described past experiences with teaching.

CAC Committee member Charles Yung talked about working on the committee and recommended the SRO program be expanded within schools instead of removed.

Assistant Principal John Berg recounted positive experiences with SROs as both a student and a staff member.

Parent Erin Lee expressed frustration with the Noco Splash meeting her daughter attended.

Parent Andrea Rogers stated it would be a mistake to remove SROs from schools because seconds count in an emergency.

PSD graduate Jennifer Kramar said the SRO program started when she was in high school and she has fond memories of encounters.

Parent Sarah Coleman voiced concern about potential contact tracing and COVID protocols next school year.

Parent Vanessa Morton stated the CAC Committee was biased and did not represent the majority opinion.

Jessica O'Brien spoke in favor of keeping the SRO program and said PSD should not cancel an entire program based on a need for training.

Natalie Niemeyer voiced support for keeping the SRO program and shared a story on behalf of a restorative justice staff member.

Wendy Martin spoke in support of keeping the SRO program and recalled her experience as a student traumatized by a school shooting incident.

Parent Katie Cook requested the Board continue the SRO program.

Brea Strong asked the Board to keep the SRO program and shared an email from another parent that recommended support.

Parent Heather Gerard expressed relief at seeing SRO vehicles parked in front of schools and asked the Board to continue the program.

Parent Camie Larson spoke in support of the SRO program and thanked Board members for serving the community.

PSD graduate Caleb Larson recounted positive experiences with SROs while in PSD and encouraged the Board to continue the program.

Cristyn Hypnar read a statement on behalf of another individual that recommended elimination of the SRO program.

Cheryl Distaso read a statement on behalf of another individual that advocated for removal of SROs from schools.

PSD graduate Brittany Friar offered support for the SRO program.

Student Macy Asbury asked the district to cancel the mask wearing requirement and cited multiple justifications.

Kelly Holdridge read a statement on behalf of another individual in support of the SRO program.

Ann Sutherland spoke in support of the SRO program and stated removal would endanger children, staff, and the community.

PSD graduate Milo Woodward requested removal of the SRO program and said BIPOC students are disproportionately criminalized.

Dedria Queen Johnson said systemic racism by students and staff exists and asked for removal of SROs from schools.

Student Owen Geiss asked the Board to keep SROs in schools to protect students.

Stan Young requested a continuation of the SRO program and expressed frustration with the demonization of law enforcement.

## **5.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Gratitude was expressed to teachers for making a difference for all children.
- Directors Johnson and Anderson provided an update on the Student Advisory Council.
- Director Draper stated May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Appreciation month as well as Mental Health Awareness month.
- Vice President Petterson provided an update on the Superintendent Evaluation instrument.

## **6.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

- 6.1 Personnel Action**
- 6.2 Meeting Minutes from March 29, 2021, April 6, 2021, April 7, 2021, April 13, 2021 and April 27, 2021**
- 6.3 Montava Amendment to Real Estate Exchange Agreement and Non-tributary Groundwater Consent**
- 6.4 Approval of Payment to the Fort Collins Loveland Water District and the South Fort Collins Sanitation District for Plant Investment Feeds (PIF) for Bamford Elementary School**
- 6.5 Transport Natural Gas Contract Extension**
- 6.6 School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP)**
- 6.7 2021-2022 Renewal Application for Alternative Education Campus Designation for Centennial High School**
- 6.8 2021-2022 Renewal Application for Alternative Education Campus Designation for Poudre Community Academy**
- 6.9 Board Approval of CM/GC Services for Construction of Repairs to Fort Collins High School**
- 6.10 Migrant Education Program**

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

Board recessed at 6:40 p.m.

Board reconvened at 6:46 p.m.

## **7.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **7.1 Resolution in Support of National School Nurse Week**

Director Draper moved that the Board adopt the resolution in support of National School Nurse Week.

Director Johnson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Director Draper read the resolution aloud.
- Gratitude was expressed for hard work performed by school nurses, particularly during the pandemic year.
- Board members thanked Head Nurse Nancy Weber for years of dedicated service to PSD and conveyed congratulations regarding her upcoming retirement.

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

### **7.2 Action Related to School Resource Officers in Poudre School District**

Director Donovan moved that the Board direct staff to negotiate contracts with the three law enforcement agencies and bring the contracts back to the Board effective for the 2021-2022 school year.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Board members thoughtfully and thoroughly considered the issue.
- Gratitude was expressed to the CAC for time spent on an important issue.
- 11,000 PSD community members participated in the survey and data strongly favored SRO contracts.
- Thought process that 'most students feel safe while some feel marginalized' is unacceptable.
- SRO role and purpose should be defined, changed, and improved.
- Need increased mental health support as well as continued security and safety offered by SROs.
- Community was encouraged to read the CAC report.
- Issues brought forward by CAC deserve attention, understanding and action.
- Should implement district-wide training and accountability.
- Gratitude was expressed to survey participants, CAC members, individuals who reached out to the Board, and staff involved with the survey creation and data completion.
- Important to listen to all voices and to different perspectives.
- SROs should not be involved in disciplinary action.

- Majority of parents, students and educators believe SROs should remain in schools.
- PSD should have a say in SRO hiring and placement in schools.
- System should be created for student reporting on SROs.
- Building positive relationships with students is a good thing, and critical when situations arise for SRO action.
- Time to refocus efforts on teaching and learning, and to address education.
- Bias and equity should be addressed in-depth.
- SRO issue will continue to be monitored and changed as appropriate.
- All students need to feel safe and secure in the learning environment.
- Board members expressed values that should be included in the SRO contracts.
- Growing urgency to build social/emotional supports soon.

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

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

### **8.1 Budget Update 5/11/2021**

Budget Director Brett Parsons provided a budget update.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to Director Parsons for moving through budget information quickly and efficiently.
- State allotted \$10 million for special education with broad spending intent.
- Question was asked regarding free-reduced funding changes.

### **8.2 Review of Board of Education Budget – GP3.7.3**

Board discussion included:

Budget Director Brett Parsons provided a BOE budget update.

- Board members agreed to allocate funds for the Student Advisory Council.
- Transcription Funds equate to the Board Assistant Secretary salary.
- Boardroom will be renovated this summer; funds will not come from the BOE budget.
- Novus software upgrade was discussed.

### **8.3 School Year Update**

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

Board discussion included:

- Graduations are next week.
- Many annual events were reimagined due to COVID protocol.
- Gratitude was expressed for hard work throughout the school year.

## **9.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **9.1 School District Negotiations Related to the 2021-2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement or Employment Contracts**

Director Johnson moved that the Board enter executive session for the purpose of developing the strategy of the school district for negotiations relating to the 2021-2022 collective bargaining agreement or employment contracts, as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e)(III). Individuals invited to join the Board and Interim Superintendent in executive session are Assistant Superintendents Scott Nielsen and Traci Gile, Executive Directors Vicki Thompson and Dave Montoya, Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen, and Board Assistant 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

Executive session began at 8:25 p.m.

Executive session ended at 8:56 p.m.

### **9.2 Conference with the School Board's Attorney for the Purpose of Receiving Legal Advice on Specific Legal Questions**

Director Donovan moved that the Board enter executive session to confer with the attorney for the Board for the purpose of receiving most excellent legal advice on potential litigation relating to a Colorado Open Records Act request as authorized by C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b). Individuals invited to join the Board and Interim Superintendent in executive session are Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen and Board Assistant Secretary Jill Brunner.

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

Executive session began at 9:01 p.m.

Executive session ended at 9:18 p.m.

**10.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner  
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education