



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
August 11, 2020

ELECTRONIC BUSINESS MEETING (VIA ADOBE CONNECT) – 4:00 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: Executive Director Dustin Reintsma

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Febvre called the special meeting to order at 4:00 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 DISCUSSION

- Director Anderson was nominated as the Board delegate for the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB).
- Student Advisory Committee may be assembled through email during COVID and will return to in-person when appropriate.
- Directors Petterson and Draper and Superintendent Smyser have been meeting with City and County officials to discuss COVID-19, testing and how to work together.
- June retreat did not take place due to COVID.
- Upcoming retreat agenda items were discussed.

4.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Former student Anna Dunn requested PSD institute proactive restorative justice programs instead of the current reactive SRO program.

ACE President Joni Baker offered support for the decision to start the school year virtually, conveyed frustration for the lack of information regarding classified staff positions and stated anxiety is high within the classified staff community with low morale.

Community member Shirley Coenen asked the Board to cancel the SRO contract and redirect funds to restorative justice, counselors, and community-led action to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline.

Cheryl Distaso communicated respect for work the Board does, spoke in favor of SRO contract removal and provided a reminder about the scheduled collaboration regarding SRO involvement at the August 25 meeting.

Community member Gerri Vermont requested the Board remove SROs from schools and said they criminalize non-criminal behavior and mistakes made by students.

Student Kobi Salinas asked the District to implement the recommendations provided by the School Justice PSD Committee and provide 'Know Your Rights' training for all secondary students.

Community member Marcia Fitzhorn spoke in favor of SRO removal in schools and stated an SRO can escalate any code of conduct violation into a criminal violation.

Dana Stangel supported a return to in-person learning and suggested hybrid models include alternating weeks instead of days, with small groups outside to control the risk of spreading the virus.

Kim Medina stated physical health is only part of wellness, and PSD needs more counselors and restorative justice programs to support students instead of armed police in schools.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Personnel Action

5.2 Meeting Minutes from June 23, 2020 and July 29, 2020

5.3 Bulk Fuel Contract Renewal

Director Donovan moved that the Board approve and adopt the recommended 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

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Resolution of the Poudre School District R-1 Board of Education to Define "Actively Engaged in the Educational Process" and Student Attendance for the 2020-2021 School Year

Director Donovan moved that the Board of Education approve the Resolution of the Poudre School District R-1 Board of Education to Define “Actively Engaged in the Educational Process” and Student Attendance for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Director Petterson moved that the Board amend the resolution to remove a phrase in the second ‘NOW, THEREFORE’ and strike the phrase ‘upon a two-thirds majority vote’.

Director Johnson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Concern was expressed about setting a precedent requiring a two-thirds majority vote.
- Current voting protocol is a simple majority of Board members present.
- Two-thirds majority is not legally required.
- Proposed language has not been in place for previous Resolutions.
- A period will be placed after the word “Board” in the second ‘NOW THEREFORE’.

The voting to amend the Resolution 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

The voting to approve the Resolution as amended 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 6:24 p.m.

Board reconvened at 6:34 p.m.

6.2 Approval of AIA Document A133-2009 Exhibit A Interim Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for the Transportation Facility

Director Donovan moved that the Board of Education approve and properly execute the AIA Document A133-2009 Exhibit A Interim Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for the Transportation Facility Project where the contract sum is guaranteed to by the construction manager not to exceed \$9,696,674, subject to additions and deductions by change order.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Staff anticipate a future purchase of two mobile four-post lift units.
- Price of a four-post lift is approximately \$140,000 dollars.
- Water table is too high to build service bay pits.
- Majority of bus fleet is under a car port/canopy.
- Electrical power to each parking stall currently exists.

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

6.3 Internal Monitoring Report/Policy Review: EL 2.5, Emergency Superintendent and Executive Succession

Director Johnson moved that the Board determine that the Superintendent has reasonably interpreted Board of Education policy EL 2.5 in her internal monitoring report dated August 11, 2020, and that the evidence presented supports the Superintendent's conclusions stated in the internal monitoring report.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Request was made for the Executive Committee Background Plan.

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 School Opening Status Update

Superintendent Smyser provided an explanation of the decision process used to choose the current learning phase.

Board discussion included:

- Parent concerns include confusion about how decisions are made.
- Public education cannot solve the pandemic.
- Massive testing could be available by mid-October.
- Number of tests available is adequate; processing time is inadequate.
- Goal to return all students to buildings must be balanced with the most responsible decision.

- On-line County Dashboard displays information on virus tracking and health system capacity.
- PSD staff are examining the possibility of PODs.
- Equitable learning for students is important.
- Multiple possibilities for hybrid in-person learning were discussed.
- Staff and parents may utilize AlphaBest for childcare.
- COVID funds were primarily spent in the last fiscal year.
- Some Classified staff are being utilized in other areas of support.
- Staff are working to facilitate meals for students.
- Request was made for updated information on food service offerings.
- PSD Virtual staffing is in progress; internal staff and classified staff will be utilized.
- Staff who shift to teach at PSD Virtual will be placed back at their original school if possible.
- Structure of PSD Virtual was discussed.
- Request was made for continued and increased communication with the community.
- Daily updates and weekly briefings were recommended.
- Gratitude was expressed to administration for providing outstanding leadership in the District.

8.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

8.1 Annexation and Development Agreement

Director Johnson moved that the Board enter executive session to receive information regarding the annexation agreement and development agreement with the Town of Wellington, determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, and to instruct negotiators as authorized under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a) and (e)(I). Individuals invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session are Executive Directors Matt Bryant and Dave Montoya, Director of Construction Earl Smith, Planning Manager Brendan Willits, 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

Board recessed at 6:58 p.m.

Board reconvened at 7:12 p.m.

Executive session started at 7:13 p.m.

Executive session ended at p.m. 8:30 p.m.

8.2 Student Matter

Director Johnson moved that the Board enter into executive session as authorized under C.R.S. 24-6-402(h) to discuss individual student matters where public disclosure would adversely affect the person or persons involved. Individuals invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session are Assistant Superintendent Scott Nielsen, Legal and Policy Counsel Autumn Aspen, and Assistant Board 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 started at 8:34 p.m.

Executive session ended at 8:55 p.m.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education