



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
April 4, 2023

DINNER SESSION – 5:30 PM Information Technology Center Training Room

PRESENT: President Rob Petterson; Vice President Kristen Draper; Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Assistant Superintendents Traci Gile and Scott Nielsen; Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dwayne Schmitz, and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: Director Nate Donovan arrived at 5:37 p.m.

REMOTE: Director Jim Brokish

Dinner session began at 5:33 p.m.

1.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics

- Board members volunteered to present meeting recognitions.
- Etiquette regarding interaction with Muslim guests was discussed.
- Chief Officer Bud Hunt presented the Information Technology organization chart and introduced the Director of Software Development and Support Sarah Siple, and Director of Infrastructure and Technical Services Dallen Campbell.
- Director of Career and Innovation Tanya Alcaraz introduced Integrated Services Assistant Director and Transition Coordinator Aaron Vogt and Director of Language, Culture and Equity David Autenrieth who presented an update on PSD Future Ready.

2.0 Agenda Planning

There was no discussion on this item.

Dinner session ended at 6:15 p.m.

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 6:30 PM

PRESENT: President Rob Petterson; Vice President Kristen Draper; Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Assistant Superintendents Traci Gile and Scott Nielsen; Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dwayne Schmitz, and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

REMOTE: Director Jim Brokish

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Petterson called the business meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Petterson led the Board of Education, staff, and community members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

4.0 ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Resolution in Support of Arab American Heritage Month

Vice President Draper moved that the Board approve a resolution in support of Arab American Heritage Month, April 2023.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Director Zamora read the resolution aloud.
- Gratitude was expressed to the students for speaking proudly on behalf of their culture.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed: 7-0

5.0 RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

5.1 Leadership PSD

Coordinator of Business and Community Development Nick Peterson spoke about the Leadership PSD group and introduced speakers Gage Duncan from Fort Fun and Gary Ozzello from Canvas Credit Union.

Director Anderson expressed appreciation to the team on behalf of the Board of Education.

5.2 PSD 2023 Spelling Bee Champion

Teaching and Learning Facilitator for Elementary Sara Urbanek Carney spoke about the spelling bee and introduced Traut Core Knowledge Teacher and Spelling Bee Coordinator Michelle Whitcomb, who introduced the PSD 2023 Spelling Bee Champion Nikhil Ganta.

Vice President Draper congratulated Nikhil on behalf of the Board of Education.

6.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Kingsley expressed sorrow that some staff and students are struggling to attend work and school due to tough times and invited everyone to participate in kindness, to illuminate and accept differences, to be their best, and to accelerate a culture of belonging. Staff show up every day to support students and should be considered heroes, not villains. Superintendent Kingsley also spoke about the importance of National Assistant Principals week and invited all to celebrate extraordinary leaders who navigate the messiness of democracy where rules have been forgotten, reminded everyone to be kind, respectful and to coexist even when not in common agreement.

7.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Jim Winebrener said current PSD teaching of fluid gender identity is counter to the teachings of God and asked the district to eliminate the curriculum of sexualization.

Rev. Sean Neil-Barron expressed appreciation for policies and practices that make PSD schools a safe space for LGBTQIA+ students, and stated PSD is a place for children to feel affirmed and accepted.

Alex Harris stated gender inclusive policies save lives and asked the Board to continue to teach tolerance of vulnerable populations.

Andi Brunson-Williams conveyed appreciation to PSD for continued commitment to student wellbeing and praised the Board and District for gender inclusive policies.

Christopher Humphrey spoke in support of protecting young female students who do not speak up for themselves and deserve to have a safe place.

Student Salem Clement said that transgender and non-binary students are often treated with violence and hatred and volunteered to help the Board brainstorm ideas on how to help students feel safe in school.

John Meyer requested Board members affirm all people, not just transgender individuals, and asked for back-and-forth dialogue that is more than a one-sided three minute opportunity to speak at a meeting.

William Rutledge spoke about the need to recognize fundamentalists who believe in old-school philosophy where kids go to school to learn, teachers teach the subject they are qualified to teach and do not intervene between parents and students.

Parent Aaron Green said he is discouraged with PSD accessibility to the visually impaired and cited examples.

Student Sawyer Green stated the district needs to become more inclusive for visually impaired and other disabled students and cited examples.

8.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

There was no discussion on this item.

9.0 CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Personnel Action

9.2 Meeting Minutes: March 7, 2023, March 8, 2023, and March 21, 2023

9.3 Colorado Department of Education School Health Professional Grant Application

9.4 Colorado Department of Education School Counselor Corps Grant Application

9.5 Contractor Selection for the Irish Elementary School Early Childhood Project

Director Donovan moved that the Board approve and adopt the recommended actions for the items on the Consent Agenda.

Vice President Draper seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed: 7-0

10.0 ACTION ITEMS

10.1 IMR EL 2.6 (Asset Protection)

Director Donovan moved that the Board determine that the Superintendent has reasonably interpreted Board of Education policy EL 2.6 in his Internal Monitoring Report dated April 4, 2023, and that the evidence presented supports the Superintendent's conclusions stated in the Internal Monitoring Report.

Director Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Policies can be found on the district website.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed: 7-0

10.2 K-5 Literacy Instructional Materials Adoption

Vice President Draper moved that the Board approve the agreement with Imagine Learning EL Education and with Amplify CKLA Skills for Core Knowledge schools K-2 as described in the Board meeting agenda packet for a total obligation of \$5,709,700.

Director Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Clarification of terms was requested.
- Regular updates will be forthcoming.
- Some student data will live inside the online learning platform.
- Multiple avenues to access books can facilitate parent participation.
- Foundation for the science of reading and a strong writing element is encouraging.
- Important to maintain social studies and science as integral parts of learning in elementary school.
- Professional Development plan is anticipated.
- Large number of teachers need to be trained prior to implementation by August.
- Materials are available online and the platform will be communicated soon.
- Curriculum is expected to better meet the needs of dyslexic students.
- Instructional materials are raising the floor of excellence for literacy instruction across all elementary schools.
- Gratitude was expressed for hard work performed and willingness to engage in the work.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed: 7-0

Board recessed at 8:41 p.m.

Board reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

11.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

11.1 High Dosage Tutoring Update

Director of Teaching and Learning Kate Canine provided an update on High Dosage Tutoring.

Board discussion included:

- Appreciation was expressed for a deep analysis of cost benefit.
- Student groups may range from one to four students.
- Three levels of support are available: universal instruction, small group intervention and high dosage tutoring.
- Gratitude was conveyed to all who worked on and implemented the program.

11.2 Budget Update

Budget Director Brian Gustafson provided a budget update.

Board discussion included:

- Clarification was requested on specific revenue and summary items.
- Cost of COLA is on top of a step.
- Gratitude was expressed for the update.

12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

12.1 Negotiations

Director Donovan moved that the Board enter executive session for the purpose of developing the strategy of the school district for negotiations relating to the 2023-2024 collective bargaining agreement or employment contracts, as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e)(III). Individuals invited to join the Board in executive session are Superintendent Brian Kingsley, Chief Officers Lauren Hooten, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Erich Wonsavage, and General Counsel Autumn Aspen.

Vice President Draper seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed: 7-0

Executive Session started at 10:10 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 10:40 p.m.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Secretary to the Board of Education