



## 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  
December 12, 2023

#### **DINNER SESSION - 5:30 PM Information Technology Center Training Room**

PRESENT: President Kristen Draper; Directors Jim Brokish, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, and Scott Schoenbauer; Assistant Superintendents Julie Chaplain, Traci Gile and Insoon Olson; Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dwayne Schmitz, and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: Vice President Jessica Zamora

LATE: None

Dinner session began at 5:32 p.m.

#### **1.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics**

- Superintendent Kingsley was absent due to illness.
- Chief of Staff Lauren Hooten provided an update on the Long Range Facilities Planning Steering Committee process.
- Marketing of the application process was discussed.
- Director Schoenbauer volunteered to present the meeting recognition.

#### **2.0 Agenda Planning**

- Board Committee assignments were planned.

Dinner session ended at 6:03 p.m.

#### **REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 6:30 PM**

PRESENT: President Kristen Draper; Vice President Jessica Zamora; Directors Jim Brokish, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, and Scott Schoenbauer; Assistant Superintendents Julie Chaplain, Traci Gile and Insoon Olson; 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

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

President Draper called the regular business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

## **2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Draper 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 RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS**

### **4.1 Fossil Ridge High School Marching Band**

Fossil Ridge High School Principal Mark Barry introduced Director of Bands Aaron Herman and Associate Band Director Hannah Peterson, who spoke about the program and the recognition.

Director Schoenbauer congratulated the group on behalf of the Board of Education.

## **5.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Kingsley was absent due to illness. Chief of Staff Lauren Hooten introduced a video titled *Understanding PSD* and informed listeners that a steering committee will be formed soon to discuss and inform long range planning.

## **6.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Anna Lebedda expressed dissatisfaction with a new dyslexia page added to the PSD website.

Dani Lawrence conveyed frustration with the Integrated Services department and asked for reform.

Joe Gawronski said PSD is missing out on student enrollment opportunities by watering down the offerings within the district.

Kenan Thomas spoke in support of PCA and the Journey Program and said any plan to consolidate the school is harmful.

## **7.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

### **7.1 Personnel Action**

- 7.2 Meeting Minutes from October 9, 2023, November 14, 2023 and November 28, 2023**
- 7.3 Quarterly Financials (June and September 2023)**
- 7.4 Cherry Heights Lease**
- 7.5 2023 Fiscal Year External Audit-Related Documents (Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and Single Audit**
- 7.6 Fort Collins Montessori School Renewal Application**
- 7.7 Liberty Common School Renewal Application**
- 7.8 Empowering Action for School Improvement (EASI) Grant**
- 7.9 Participation in the State Treasurer’s Interest-free Loan Program**
- 7.10 Resolution Designating Authorized Signatories to Sign Documents (Authorizing Resolution)**
- 7.11 Playground Replacement Projects at CLP, Dunn, and O’Dea Elementary Schools**

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

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

## **8.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **8.1 Audit Committee Annual Report and Member Recommendation**

Vice President Zamora moved that the Board acknowledge receipt of the Annual Report of the Audit Committee for 2023 and approve the renewal of two-year terms for Mark Hartman and Brian Stacy Gumley through 2026.

Director Reed seconded the motion.

- Audit Committee Member Brian Richmond was unable to present the report due to bad weather.
- Chief Financial Officer Dave Montoya spoke about the annual report and member recommendations.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

## **8.2 Monitoring/Policy Review: EL 2.3, Financial Condition and Activities**

Director Brokish moved that the Board determine that the Superintendent has reasonably interpreted Board of Education Policy EL 2.3 in his Internal Monitoring Report dated 12/12/23 and that the evidence presented supports the Superintendent's conclusions stated in the Internal Monitoring Report.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed for difficult work performed by Chief Financial Officer Dave Montoya and staff on behalf of the district.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

## **9.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Appreciation was expressed for the hard work completed by the Audit Committee.
- Board members attended CASB last week in Colorado Springs; PSD student involvement was inspiring and appreciated.
- Congratulations to Poudre High School Principal Cathy Mackay and the CTE program students who were honored at the CASB convention.
- Student Advisory Council members attended CASB and brought great pride to Board members.

## **10.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **10.1 Retro Commissioning Study Progress Update**

Chief Operations Officer Jeff Connel introduced McKinstry Project Director Lauren Bridgers who provided the update.

Board discussion included:

- Solar funds would be dedicated to six feasible sites.
- Clarification was requested regarding morning warm up/cool down.
- Anticipated timeline for work is the end of February/beginning of March.
- Gratitude was expressed to the McKinstry team for work performed.

## **10.2 Annual Mill Levy Certification**

Chief Financial Officer Dave Montoya provided information about the Annual Mill Levy Certification.

Board discussion included:

- Important for public to understand that an increase in property taxes does not translate to increased funds for the school district.
- Funds received by the district are determined by the number of students enrolled, times the state assigned *per pupil revenue* and has nothing to do with property taxes.
- \$55,000 reduction is a one-year-only program; next steps are unknown.
- Gratitude was conveyed to staff for digging into finances and providing an informative update.

## **10.3 District Annual Budget Process, Priorities, and Update**

Budget Director Brian Gustafson provided the update.

Board discussion included:

- \$333 million dollar loss over the past 15 years due to the Budget Stabilization Factor is significant.
- Data request was made for number of students residing within District boundaries and not attending PSD schools.
- Explanation of employee self-funded benefits was provided.
- Important to aggressively market strengths of school district such as CTE program and robust extra-curricular offerings.

## **11.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **11.1 Legal Advice**

### **11.2 Negotiations**

### **11.3 SE Innovation Center**

Director Havelda moved that the Board enter executive session for the following purposes:

- 1) to receive legal advice about potential participation in a class action social media lawsuit as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b), and

- 2) to develop the strategy of the school district for negotiations relating to the 2024-2025 collective bargaining agreement or employment contracts, as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e)(III) and
- 3) to determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, develop strategy for negotiations and instruct negotiators relating to a possible intergovernmental agreement relating to the southeast community recreation center as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e);

Individuals invited to join the Board in executive session are Superintendent Brian Kingsley, Chief Officers Lauren Hooten, Erich WonSavage, and Jeff Connell; and General Counsel Autumn Aspen.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

President Draper recused herself from Executive Session 11.3, SE Innovation Center.

Executive Session 11.1 began at 8:44 p.m.

Executive Session 11.1 ended at 9:10 p.m.

Those in attendance for 11.1 were: Board of Education, Chief of Staff Lauren Hooten, and General Counsel Autumn Aspen

Executive Session 11.2 began at 9:10 p.m.

Executive Session 11.2 ended at 9:44 p.m.

Those in attendance for 11.2 were: Board of Education, Chief Officers Lauren Hooten, Dave Montoya, and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

Executive Session 11.3 began at 9:44 p.m.

Executive Session 11.3 ended at 10:01 p.m.

Those in attendance for 11.3 were: Board of Education (minus President Draper), Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten, and Dave Montoya; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

## **12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner  
Secretary to the Board of Education