



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
August 8, 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 Julie Chaplain, Traci Gile and Insoon Olson; Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dwayne Schmitz and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: Director Donovan arrived at 5:55 p.m.

Dinner session began at 5:30 p.m.

1.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics

- Superintendent Kingsley expressed gratitude for the high performing and talented team he interacts with every day and thanked staff for a great start to the school year.
- New Assistant Superintendents Dr. Julie Chaplain and Dr. Insoon Olson were welcomed.
- Board members volunteered to present recognition certificates.
- Director of Child Nutrition Craig Schneider presented information about Universal Meals for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Chief of Communications Madeline Noblett announced live caption for streaming and YouTube will be tested/implemented for the meeting tonight.
- Superintendent Kingsley said his meeting update will be longer than usual tonight due to extensive and important content.
- Chief Operations Officer Jeff Connell revealed PSD currently has 123 bus drivers for 123 routes in the district, which is a remarkable recovery from the past 5-8 years and is a great relief.
- Recruitment for transportation substitutes and other drivers is still occurring.

2.0 Agenda Planning

- School Visit cards were distributed.
- Board members were invited to attend first day of school activities and were asked to inform Traci Gile before attending.
- Annual Disclosure forms were distributed to Board members with a requested return date of August 31, 2023.
- Legislative Subcommittee will be set up soon.
- October retreat date is still to be determined; information coming soon.
- December retreat may occur during CASB Conference.

Dinner session ended at 6:05 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 Julie Chaplain, Traci Gile and Insoon Olson; Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dwayne Schmitz and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Petterson called the regular business meeting to order at 6:31 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 RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

4.1 Outdoor Services

Facilities Services Manager Palmer Withrow spoke about the Outdoor Services Team and thanked them for hours of hard work in frequently uncomfortable conditions to get schools ready for students. Team members in attendance were:

- Luke Askeland, Outdoor Services Manager
- Earl Bernard, Outdoor Services Manager
- Jim Lauer, Lead Technician
- Damon Fetzer, Lead Technician

Vice President Draper thanked the team members on behalf of the Board of Education.

4.2 Child Nutrition Kitchen Managers

Director of Child Nutrition Crag Schneider spoke about his hard-working Food Services team and introduced the following Kitchen Managers:

- Mary Aljamal, Kitchen Manager
- Deanne Demarco, Kitchen Manager

Director Zamora thanked the Kitchen Managers on behalf of the Board of Education.

4.3 Otterbox

Chief Information Officer Madeline Noblett thanked Otterbox Executive Director Linda Crum for continued support of PSD, including the recent distribution of coolers and mugs to staff.

Director Brokish thanked Linda on behalf of the Board of Education.

5.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Kingsley spoke about the exciting start to a new school year and the hard work completed by staff across the district over the summer. Appreciation was expressed to community partners who go above and beyond to recognize staff for their hard work. Academics will continue to be the core business every day, and staff will remain focused on improving literacy, mental health and belonging, and graduating with options.

The Superintendent also talked about the arrest of a bus paraprofessional, the collective hurt across the district, the steps being taken, and provided an update on improved practices across the district.

6.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Parent Sabrina Herrick expressed dissatisfaction with PSD policies and procedures that resulted in hiring an abusive employee and admonished the Board of Education for a lack of action.

Erin Rose conveyed frustration the Integrated Services Directors are not in attendance at all Board meetings and said there is a lack of comprehension on what it means to be a special needs parent.

Jeff Aufderheide requested all reports from Lyons Gaddis be made available to the Coloradoan newspaper, questioned the Superintendent's raise and asked for transparency with the Tyler Zanella case.

Elaine Aron-Tenbrink thanked the Board for making school a safe place for LGBTQ students and staff and said the sense of security allows students to focus on school and saves lives.

Jim Winebrener asked anyone running for the open Board of Education Director positions to refuse endorsement by the Colorado Education Association.

John Meyer expressed concern about the message given to youth regarding transgender options and bodily changes that cannot be undone.

Dani Lawrence asked the Board if they would have taken abuse by the bus paraprofessional more seriously if the students had been black and the bus para white, and requested policies be amended to include staff-to-student abuse.

7.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- School visits were assigned to Directors; updates will be forthcoming.
- Important to train transportation personnel thoroughly and make drivers aware of any student with an issue.

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 8.1 Meeting Minutes: June 12, 2023, June 13, 2023, June 21, 2023 and June 22, 2023**
- 8.2 Personnel Action**
- 8.3 Professional Development for K-5 Literacy Adoption**
- 8.4 Addition of New Audit Committee Member**
- 8.5 Grant Opportunity: Stronger Connections**
- 8.6 Grant Opportunity: Extended Learning Opportunity**
- 8.7 District Accountability Committee Recommendation for 2023-24 New Membership**
- 8.8 Intergovernmental Agreement for 2023 Coordinated Election**

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

Director Zamora 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

Motion passed: 7-0

9.0 ACTION ITEMS

9.1 Internal Monitoring and Policy Review: EL 2.5, Emergency Superintendent and Executive Succession

Vice President Draper moved that the Board determine that the Superintendent has reasonably interpreted Board of Education policy EL 2.5 in the Internal Monitoring Report dated August 8, 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:

- Policy is important for the district.
- Succession of Positional Authority for Superintendent was questioned; alternate recommendations were made.
- Policy language is unclear, stating "2 or more" but not specifying who.
- Text 'sufficiently familiar' is not specific to who is eligible.
- Circumstances and staff change; Board can change policy to reflect circumstances with specificity in the future.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: Directors Nate Donovan and Carolyn Reed

Motion passed: 5-2

10.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

10.1 Solar Feasibility Study

McKinstry team members Martin Beggs, Tim DeLeo, Jordan Worthington and Lauren Bridgers presented the Solar Feasibility Study results.

Board discussion included:

- Roof age was the first filter/consideration for feasibility; structural capacity was second.
- North Transportation facility is not feasible for solar due to lack of structural capacity on the roof.
- Fort Collins Utility offers a one-time payment incentive but no performance-based incentives.
- Excel Energy offers performance-based incentives for 20 years.
- PVREA value rates are greater.
- Clarification was requested on EPP - Energy Performance Process.
- PPA is a Power Purchase Agreement and is a 3rd party owner of a system.
- BEST Grants are available to install new roofs on a school for solar to be installed but need to fall within specific guidelines; most BEST grants go to school districts that are more financially disadvantaged.
- More information coming at the August 26 meeting; future reports will combine results, recommendations, and feasibility for all sites.
- Climate Action Plan could be adopted by district to guide work moving forward.

11.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

11.1 Kitchel Land Acquisition

11.2 SE Innovation Center

Vice President Draper moved that the Board enter executive session for the purposes of:

- 1) discussing potential real estate transactions relating to the Kitchel Estates development, as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a), and
- 2) to determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations and instructing 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 all or part of the executive session are Superintendent Brian Kingsley, Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten and Dave Montoya, and General Counsel Autumn Aspen.

Director Brokish 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

Motion passed: 7-0

Vice President Draper recused herself from Executive Session 11.2, SE Innovation Center.

Board recessed at 8:20 p.m.

Executive Session 11.1 started at 8:26 p.m.

Executive Session 11.1 ended at 8:37 p.m.

Vice President Draper left the executive session.

Executive Session 11.2 started at 8:37 p.m.

Executive Session 11.2 ended at 9:23 p.m.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Secretary to the Board of Education