



MEETING MINUTES

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
2407 LAPORTE AVENUE • FORT COLLINS, CO 80521 • 970-490-3607

Minutes of Business Meeting
April 12, 2016

DINNER SESSION – 5:30 PM

PRESENT: President Cathy Kipp and Vice President David Trask; Directors Nate Donovan, Christophe Febvre, Susan Gutowsky, Rob Petterson, and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser; Assistant Superintendents Edie Eckles, Jinger Haberer, and Todd Lambert; Executive Directors Don Begin, Danielle Clark, Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, and Victoria Thompson; and Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb.

ABSENT: None

1. Executive Session

President Kipp moved that the Board go into executive session to discuss personnel matters and receive legal advice regarding an employee nonrenewal, as authorized under CR.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) & (f). Individuals invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session were Legal and Policy Counsel Crabb; Assistant Superintendents Eckles, Lambert, and Haberer; Executive Directors Begin, Clark, Hall, Montoya, and Thompson; and Assistant Board Secretary Freeman.

Director Petterson seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting Aye: Directors Donovan, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson, Reed, and Trask

Those voting No: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0

Executive Session began at 5:33 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 6:17 p.m.

2. District Topics / Board Member Updates

- Dates of various meetings were announced.

3. DE 1.0 Internal Monitoring Report Board Status

- The Board agreed that this is a work in progress.

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING – 6:30 PM

PRESENT: President Cathy Kipp and Vice President David Trask; Directors Nate Donovan, Christophe Febvre, Susan Gutowsky, Carolyn Reed, and Rob Petterson; Superintendent Sandra Smyser; Assistant Superintendents Edie Eckles, Jinger Haberer, and Todd Lambert; Executive Directors Don Begin, Danielle Clark, Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, and Victoria Thompson; and Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb.

ABSENT: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

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

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Kipp led the Board of Education and audience members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as presented.

4.0 RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

4.1 2016 District Spelling Bee Winner

Connie Klibbe, PSD Contest Coordinator, introduced Om Rajasekharan, a fourth grader at Traut Elementary School, who won this year's district spelling bee.

Director Petterson presented Om with a certificate on behalf of the Board and PSD.

4.2 Perfect ACT Score

Jennifer Roth, Assistant Principal at Fort Collins High School, introduced ninth grader Nathan Sima who earned a perfect score on this year's ACT.

Director Trask presented Nathan with a certificate on behalf of the Board and PSD.

4.3 2016 Science Bowl Winners

Angela Morris, science teacher and Science Bowl team coach from Fort Collins High School, introduced members of the team Burke Snowden, Daniel Scher, Larry Chen, and Nathan Sima.

Director Febvre presented the students with certificates on behalf of the Board and PSD.

4.4 2016 Ocean Science Bowl Winners

Kathryn Elder, Ocean Science Bowl team coach from Liberty Common High School, introduced members of the team Josh Pletcher, Matt Iverson, Brady Lane, Matt Colvin, and Coleton Neighbors.

Director Gutowsky presented the students with certificates on behalf of the Board and PSD.

4.5 2016 Knowledge Bowl Winners

Jason Mayer, Knowledge Bowl team coach from Liberty Common High School, introduced members of the team Josh Pletcher, Matt Iverson, Brady Lane, Matt Colvin, Connor Hansen, and Tyler Schultz. Patrick Albright, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, congratulated the students.

Director Donovan presented these students with certificates on behalf of the Board and PSD.

Fossil Ridge High School students who participated in the Knowledge Bowl will be recognized at the next regular Board meeting.

4.6 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Smyser gave the Board a brief presentation on the work she has been involved in.

4.7 Board Reports

President Kipp gave a brief presentation on the recent work and activities the Board has been involved in.

5.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Kathi Wright, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Larimer County, thanked PSD for their partnership.

Mike Pruznick spoke to his trust issues with PSD, mill and bond issues, and a past Board retreat.

Eric Sutherland spoke to school finance on the local and state level as it relates to Timnath.

Rebekah Senn's church meets in Leshar Middle School. There is some confusion on the rental agreement during the summer. They would like to stay at Leshar.

The Fossil Ridge group representative spoke to the Board about the dismissal of coach Brian Tinker.

Transitions group representatives spoke to feeder school issues (i.e., going into middle school) as it relates to students with IEPs.

6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

6.1 Personnel Action

6.2 Meeting Minutes for March 8, 2016 and March 22, 2016

6.3 School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP) Continuation Proposal

6.4 Boys & Girls Club Secure Entry Project

6.5 2016 School Bus Purchase

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

Director Petterson seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson, Reed, and Trask

Those voting NO: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0

7.0 ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Resolution in Support of National Volunteer Week

Director Reed read the resolution and moved for its approval.

Director seconded the motion.

Beth Higgins, PSD's Foundation and Partnership Coordinator, spoke to the 23,000 volunteers who work in the schools.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson, Reed, and Trask

Those voting NO: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0

8.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Policy Review: Governance Process Policies

GP 3.0: Discussion on the meaning of "unacceptable action or situation".

GP 3.1: No discussion.

GP 3.2: Conversations will continue around Board norming and the relationship between the Board and Superintendent.

GP 3.3: The annual cycle of agenda planning was discussed. Agenda topics and prioritization are discussed at the Board's retreats. Would like to see more structure and continue to keep an ongoing list of topics. Come to some middle ground on future agenda planning.

GP 3.4: Time limitations on agenda items: maintain adequate time for fair and thorough discussion.

GP 3.5: The Board is charged with understanding the values of the community and attempts to make informed decisions in the interest of the students while keeping community values in mind. Disconnect between policy and employee agreement around extended leaves of absence. No changes necessary according to Legal and Policy Crabb.

GP 3.6: Include attachment.

GP 3.7: Hire outside source to determine how we are doing around local and national trends.

GP 3.8: No discussion.

GP 3.9: No discussion.

GP3.10: No discussion.

GP 3.11: No discussion.

GP 3.12: Consider deleting section 6 (grievances). Legal and Policy Counsel Crabb encouraged more discussion on this at the Board's retreat prior to making changes.

8.2 Opportunity for Board and Staff to Discuss Any Questions, Issues, or Concerns Related to the Long Range Plan

Community Comment:

Patrick Albright, Bill Werst, Bill Tucker, John Rohrbaugh, and Diana Montgomery asked the district to treat charter school students equitably and fairly in the mill and bond funding allocations.

Evelyn Swiss asked the district to offer fair and equitable funding for students who may not excel in a traditional school setting, but find their “home” in a charter school setting.

Board discussion included reconsideration of the allocation of the bond money to charter schools, leased facilities, sources of capital funding outside of pupil funding, school capacity, proposed allocation to charter schools, intergovernmental agreements with other communities, and the new athletic facility.

Board members requested more information on assumptions and how the district works with bond monies in relation to charter schools and discussions with the Town of Timnath.

8.3 Legislative Discussion

The Board legislative subcommittee met today. Executive Director Montoya gave an update on the School Finance Act.

9.0 ACTION ITEMS

Community Comment:

Jerry Gavaldon requested the district monitor the situations that have been brought to its attention regarding Ridgeview Charter School being better neighbors.

9.1 Ridgeview Charter School Renewal Contract

Executive Session

President Kipp moved that the Board go into executive session to receive legal advice on issues regarding Ridgeview's third charter school renewal contract and Ridgeview's appeal filed with the State Board of Education, as authorized under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b). Individuals invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session were Legal and Policy Counsel Crabb; Assistant Superintendent Lambert; Executive Director Clark; and Assistant Board Secretary Freeman.

Director Trask seconded the motion.

Director Petterson explained that his wife is a teacher at Ridgeview Classical School and although there is no conflict of interest and he is under no obligation to do so, he will recuse himself from any discussion and action taken in this matter.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting Aye: Directors Donovan, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Reed, and Trask

Those voting No: None

Absent: None

Recused: Director Petterson

Motion passed 6-0

Executive Session began at 9:29 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 10:35 p.m.

Director Donovan read a resolution on the Ridgeview Charter School's contract renewal and moved for its adoption.

Director Gutowsky seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Reed, and Trask

Those voting NO: None

Absent: None

Recused: Director Petterson

Motion passed 6-0

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

Regular business meeting adjourned at 10:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Myra Freeman
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education