



# MEETING MINUTES

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

Minutes of Business Meeting  
May 24, 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 Danielle Clark, Dave Montoya, and Victoria Thompson; Interim Executive Director Dustin Reintsma; and Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb.

ABSENT: Executive Director Pete Hall

### **1. District Issues / Board Member Updates**

- How are we implementing the choice policy and is it being done correctly? Fossil Ridge High School has four out-of-district kids. Although there is a wait list at FRHS, these four students are juniors and seniors and no one on the wait list was bumped off.
- Seclusion room policies:
  - District policy is governed and aligned with state law and delineates between the various levels of intervention (e.g., timeout, restraint, and seclusion).
  - Reasons for student seclusion: danger to themselves or others, violent behavior
  - Students are monitored, observed, and documentation is done.
  - Being proactive with the media was addressed.
- Anticipate community comment on the removal of the equity position, specifically around LGBT.
- Graduations went very well and were well attended. The work of Channel 10 was appreciated.
- Fiscal transparency document (actual expenditures from 2014-2015) was given to Board members.
- Executive Director Hall attended a meeting regarding the BEST funding request. If PSD receives this money, it will go toward fire alarms.
- PSD received sustainability awards (Better Buildings Challenge).

### **2. Bond Measure**

This item was not discussed. It will be addressed during the work session.

## **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 Danielle Clark, Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, and Victoria Thompson; Interim Executive Director Dustin Reintsma; and Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb.

**ABSENT:** None

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Director Reed made a motion to amend the agenda to add Item 6.2 (Bond Measure) to the Discussion Items. Remaining agenda items will be renumbered.

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

### **3. COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Fred Garcia, behavioral health professional. Spoke to the Board about cross-cultural communication and diversity. Policy shift questions (e.g., training, monitoring, implementation) were addressed. He asked for continuing conversations with PSD around diversity.

Kimberly Chambers: Involved with PRIDE, youth programs, and the LGBT community. She is a member of the Equity and Diversity Advisory Council (EDAC). With the rate of diversity rising and an increase in the suicide rate in this particular community, what will the district do to ensure accountability and provide training to staff members who work with kids?

Kristen Draper: Member of EDAC. Gave an overview of the organizations the EDAC has worked with and how the EDAC assisted in integrating PSD's new transgender policy. Asked the district to reconsider the equity and diversity position and allow the work of the EDAC to continue.

Andy Draper: Recent graduate of PSD. Spoke to the transgender suicide rate, as well as the number of national and local hate crimes and harassment toward members of the LGBT community. Encouraged the district to reinstate the equity and diversity position.

Jimena Sagas: Spoke to the elimination of the equity and diversity position. How will the district monitor matters around equity and diversity? How will the district train staff to deal with these matters? The achievement gap as it relates to this student population was addressed. Requested transparency and that the district reinstate Dr. Gabriel's position and that she lead a new department involved in equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Louise Jennings: Parent of multi-racial student. Addressing opportunity gaps at a systemic level will require professional development, community meetings, etc. to make this a priority. Requests the district maintain an office which would deal specifically with equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Tom List, President of the Poudre Education Association (PEA). He supports the district's negotiations process, but is disappointed that a step increase in pay is not possible this year due to budgetary constraints.

Brooke McDonald: her son, Peter, a student from Lopez Elementary School, read an essay he wrote that made it possible for him to go on a Turkey Hunt.

Mike Pruznick: Believes the district needs to do a better job in leadership. Not satisfied with the answers he gets when he brings concerns and complaints to the Board or the district.

Jason Nurton: Teacher at Webber Middle School. Spoke to the Board about the lack of a step increase in salary. Requests that steps and lanes be a permanent line item in the district's budget in years to come.

#### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 4.1 Personnel Action**
- 4.2 Revisions to Board Policies EL 2.1, EL 2.2 & GP 3.12**
- 4.3 Secondary Instructional Materials Adoption for Mathematics**
- 4.4 Fort Collins Police Services School Resource Office (SRO) Contract**
- 4.5 Larimer County Sheriff's Office School Resource Office (SRO) Contract**
- 4.6 Employee Agreement**

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

Director Febvre 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

## 5. ACTION ITEMS

### 5.1 Resolution in Support of Proposed Initiative 117

Director Gutowsky read the resolution and moved for its approval.

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

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Community Comment:

Mike Pruznick: Believes Initiative 117 has an unclear definition of education. Is it K-12? Does it explain where the money is going?

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Board discussion included the definition of education in Initiative 117. The initiative has a broad definition of education. It could be K-12, secondary education, etc.

## 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 6.1 Charter School Bond Financing Discussion

Dr. Smyser and Executive Directors Hall and Montoya gave an overview of the charter school bond financing. Detailed information was made available to Board members in their Agenda packet. Additional information was presented to the Board.

Board discussion included the complications of shared ownership with charter schools, additional financial resources available to charter schools, and the need to discuss the district's overall relationship with the charter schools.

The bond premium materializes when the bond is issued and is an amount over and above the bond. The premiums are market driven and proceeds are set aside for overruns.

The Board thanked Dr. Smyser and staff for the additional information. There was consensus among the Board that no changes to the Long Range Facilities Plan resolution are necessary.

## **6.2 Bond Measure**

Executive Director Montoya gave an overview of the planning steps for the Long Range Plan. The timeline of work around the bond (April through November, 2016) was given to Board members.

Board discussion included the timeline for creating the ballot language and deadlines for its submittal. Bond counsel will be forwarding information and guidelines to Board members around advocating for the bond issue while maintaining their appropriate roles as members of the Board of Education.

## **6.3 Proposed Budget for FY 2016-2017**

Executive Director Montoya gave an overview of the proposed budget for fiscal year 2016-2017. Detailed information was made available to Board members in their Agenda packet.

Board discussion included the exclusions for self-insurance (April – June), which will not impact employees in any way. The step would have cost the district \$3.8 million. The Negative Factor (the amount of money the district is not getting) and its impact on the district's budget were addressed.

## **6.4 Revisions to Student Rights & Code of Conduct Policies**

Legal and Policy Counsel Crabb gave an overview of the revisions made to the Student Rights & Code of Conduct Policies. Detailed information was made available to Board members in their Agenda packet.

Board discussion included the protections that are built into the policy (i.e., medical marijuana).

This will come back on the June 14, 2016 consent agenda.

## **7. WORK SESSION TOPICS**

### **7.1 Legislative Discussion**

The legislative sub-committee met and has been working on the district's legislative agenda for next year. Work included what to advocate for, creating a legislative agenda and resolutions, and meeting with local legislators over the summer.

Board interests include consideration of PSAT and SAT for high school testing, sampling, end of course assessments, keeping the hospital provider fee if Initiative 117 is not successful, continuing to advocate to fix to Proposition 104 (executive sessions around negotiations), continuing to pursue the 0-50% as the amount of student growth used for the ratings of teachers, and Negative Factor language.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

Regular business meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Myra Freeman  
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education