



## Poudre School District Board of Education

2407 Laporte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521 • 970-490-3607

# Meeting Minutes

Business Meeting Minutes

August 23, 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 Jinger Haberer, Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen; Executive Directors Danielle Clark, Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, and Victoria Thompson; Interim Executive Director Dustin Reintsma, Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb

ABSENT: None

### **1.0 District Issues / Board Member Updates**

Director Petterson moved that the Board go into executive session as authorized under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) to receive legal advice on matters concerning the lawsuit challenging the District's ballot language for the November 2016 election and other allegations of legal violations involving financial matters related to the District's proposed mill levy override and bond financing. Individuals invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session are Kutak Rock Attorneys Tom Weihe and Tom Snyder, RBC Capital Markets Managing Director Dan O'Connell, Executive Director Dave Montoya, Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb and Assistant Board Secretary Kyla Davis.

Vice President Trask 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 5:34 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 6:17 p.m.

- There was discussion about school supply drives and the community support behind them.

The dinner session ended at 6:24 p.m.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING – 6:30 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 Jinger Haberer, Todd Lambert and Scott Nielsen; Executive Directors Danielle Clark, Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, and Victoria Thompson; Interim Executive Director Dustin Reintsma, 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 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There were no changes to the agenda.

### **3.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

President Kipp noted the new podium for community comment.

Carlos Meikel: His business allows him to see overcrowding issues in the schools and the challenges it brings teachers; teaching in a modular is not conducive to learning. PSD's older buildings need repair. We are already operating on a shoestring budget and need to pass the mill and bond instead of putting band aids on the issues.

Jon Runge: Thanked the Board and community for supporting the new hockey program happening through Fort Collins High School. Students from all towns are welcome to play on the team. Unfortunately as an all-star team that brings in athletes from out of district, it means cutting PSD students from the team. He asked the Board to put in writing a formal rule that would reserve 12 spots on the roster for PSD students.

Len Roark: Community member who served on school improvement teams and has a long history of involvement in the school district. He spoke in favor of the mill and bond and asked people to vote for both issues on the ballot. There are already a lot of students in modular units and those are (also) overcrowded. Everything indicates that growth in our area will continue so we will need to add many more units through the years. To plan for this growth responsibly, please vote for both the mill and bond issue.

Mike Pruznick: Noted his concerns with the district including but not limited to: deferring maintenance on current buildings, getting and using accurate data to make decisions, and CASB issues. He feels

decisions made by the district hurt students and that the Board is ignoring community members who have offered solutions.

Missy Schoenbaum: Parent from Fort Collins High School who supports fellow community member Jon Runge's comments about the situation on the hockey team. There should be a limit to the number of out of district students on the roster. There are not many other hockey options in Northern Colorado. We shouldn't be importing talent to create a super team.

#### **4.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **4.1 Personnel Action**

##### **4.2 Revisions to District Policy DGA/DGB, Authorized Signatures/Check Writing Services**

##### **4.3 2016-2017 Agreement for Rocky Mountain Youth to Operate a School-Based Health Center in Poudre School District**

##### **4.4 Ready Schools Grant**

Director Reed asked to move the health center item off of the consent agenda. Agenda item 4.3 becomes "Ready School Grant." The health center item becomes action item 5.2.

Director Donovan made a motion to approve and adopt the recommended actions for the items on the revised 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.

#### **5.0 ACTION ITEMS**

##### **5.1 Adoption of Amending Resolution to Revise the Ballot Language in the District's Mill Levy Override Question**

A minor modification was made to the original resolution language. The original, and then new, resolution language was read and explained by Executive Director Montoya.

Superintendent Smyser also clarified for everyone why the change was necessary.

Director Petterson moved that the Board approve the resolution forwarded to the Board members via email on August 22, 2016 making an amendment to the ballot text and title for

the mill levy override ballot issue previously approved by the Board for the election on November 8, 2016 providing other matters and ratifying action previously taken relating thereto and providing the effective date of such resolution.

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.

## **5.2 2016-2017 Agreement for Rocky Mountain Youth to Operate a School-Based Health Center in Poudre School District**

Director Reed had an opportunity to see this program in action and applauds its efforts. Several Board members then spoke to the good things the students in our district receive from this grant-funded program.

Director Donovan moved that the Board of Education approve the 2016-2017 Agreement for Rocky Mountain Youth to operate a school-based health center in Poudre School District.

Director Gutowsky 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.

## **6.0 WORK SESSION TOPICS**

### **6.1 Building Foundations for Success**

Assistant Superintendents Haberer, Lambert and Nielsen discussed PSD's ongoing efforts to improve student achievement.

They presented the system currently used by the district and noted all coordinated efforts happening throughout PSD.

Some of the points in the discussion included: identifying issues in the achievement gap, aligning strategic planning practices and maintaining consistency between buildings, ongoing work in areas like early childhood education, professional development, curriculum and academic growth measures.

Assistant Superintendent Haberer gave a tutorial on PSD's Dashboard, highlighting how it works and how teachers and parents can use this tool to identify potential issues and take action.

The Assistant Superintendents and their guest panel answered questions from the Board.

Board recessed at 8:29 p.m.

Board reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

## **6.2 Equity Plan Update**

Superintendent Smyser took an opportunity to address the district's equity and diversity plan.

Each department will embed equity and diversity into their area of focus and build on the great work that was done over the last year.

The Superintendent reviewed who is accountable for action, noting that to ensure the work is happening, there will be an accountability structure in place.

Superintendent Smyser answered questions from the Board.

## **6.3 Legislative Discussion**

President Kipp gave an update on legislative items.

Discussions included topics to focus on for the next sessions and various upcoming timelines/deadlines and meeting details.

## **7.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **7.1 Confidentiality Issues Concerning Student Education Records**

Director Gutowsky moved that the Board go into executive session as authorized under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) to receive legal advice and information on confidentiality issues under state and federal laws concerning student education records. Individuals invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session are Legal and Policy Counsel Crabb; Assistant Superintendents Lambert, Nielsen and Haberer; Executive Directors Thompson, Montoya, Hall, Reintsma and Clark; and Assistant Board Secretary Davis.

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 9:05 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 11:16 p.m.

## **8.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Board meeting ended at 11:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyla Davis

Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education