



Poudre School District Board of Education

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

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Board of Education Work Session
August 26, 2025

DINNER SESSION - 5:00 PM Superintendent Conference Room

PRESENT: President Kristen Draper; Vice President Jessica Zamora; Directors Jim Brokish, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelde, Scott Schoenbauer, and Andrew Spain; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Lead Assistant Superintendent Dr. Traci Gile; Chief Officers Dr. Lauren Hooten and Dave Montoya; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

Dinner session began at 5:09 p.m.

1.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics

- Lead Assistant Superintendent Traci Gile introduced new staff member Kim Tymkowych, Director of Professional Learning and Educational Effectiveness.
- Board members welcomed Kim.

2.0 Agenda Planning

There was no discussion.

Dinner session ended at 5:21 p.m.

WORK SESSION (BOARDROOM) – 5:30 PM

PRESENT: President Kristen Draper; Vice President Jessica Zamora; Directors Jim Brokish, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelde, Scott Schoenbauer, and Andrew Spain; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Lead Assistant Superintendent Dr. Traci Gile; Assistant Superintendents Dr. Julie Chaplain and Dr. Insoon Olson; Chief Officers Dr. Lauren Hooten, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, and Dr. Dwayne Schmitz; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Draper called the regular business meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

3.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Kingsley spoke about the process involved with calling heat days, recent serious events such as the arrest of a former employee and a student incident at a middle school, and cited multiple reasons for celebration in the district.

4.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Tory Pappas spoke in support of maintaining community comment at both monthly board meetings and requested the board consider adding a remote option.

Sabrina Herrick voiced frustration with multiple areas of the district.

Chris Fierro expressed gratitude to the Board and Superintendent for calling heat days.

Anna Lebedda requested clarity regarding district academic gains in multiple areas but a decline in scores for IEP students.

Kim Carlson thanked staff for implementing the heat protocol and said teachers feel heard and respected.

Student Sawyer Green stated *School of Choice* is not equitable and provided a personal example.

Dani Lawrence said the district has a legal obligation to students with special educational needs.

5.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Director Brokish apologized for comments he made at the August 12, 2025 board meeting.
- President Draper apologized for allowing individual names to be spoken at the August 12, 2025 board meeting.
- Community members were reminded that listening sessions are open to everyone.
- Director Schoenbauer spoke about the recent arrest of an educator and said the vast majority of teachers are incredible people.
- Director Havelda thanked staff involved in the early heat release decision.
- President Draper attended the *Transitions Pathways Grand Opening* celebration and expressed gratitude to all who worked to get the facility open on time.

6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

6.1 Personnel Action

6.2 EPA Clean School Bus Program Form

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

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

7.0 ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Board Consideration of Revisions to Board Policy GP 3.13 – Public Participation at School Board Meetings (Second Reading)

Director Duffy moved that the Board approve the revisions to Board Policy GP 3.13 as presented.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Pros and cons of public comment removal were discussed.
- May need to allow more time to reconstruct Work Sessions before making a final decision.
- Community Comment session is a one-way conversation and ideas cannot be exchanged.
- Replacing one community comment session with a community engagement session is an effective way to hear all sides of the issue.
- More listening opportunities are better than fewer opportunities.
- Competing goals exist; want to listen to the community as well as thoroughly discuss topics.
- Potential exists for a future board to cancel community engagement sessions; policy change now could reduce public opportunity to be heard in the future.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish and Kristen Draper

Those voting NO: Directors Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Motion failed: 2-5

7.2 Legislative Priorities and Proposed Resolutions

Director Duffy moved that the Board approve the Poudre School District Board of Education legislative priorities and proposed resolutions.

Director Spain seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Board members discussed multiple proposed resolutions.

Director Duffy moved to amend the Poudre School District Board of Education Legislative Priorities to exclude Resolution #8 as presented in the packet.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

The voting on the amendment was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

The voting on the original motion, as amended, was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: Director Scott Schoenbauer

Motion passed: 6-1

8.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 GPA/Class Rank Policy Change

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Julie Chaplain provided the update.

Board discussion included:

- Appreciation was expressed to counselors for initiating the removal of valedictorian and salutatorian distinctions.
- Students have shared that increased stress, anxiety, and fear are common when working toward these awards.
- District is still honoring academic work and will recognize it in a different way.
- Many CTE courses align with concurrent enrollment and factor into grade points.
- Change can broaden academic opportunities and create equity.

8.2 Summer Construction Update

Chief Finance Officer Dave Montoya provided the update.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to voters for passing the 4A Mill Levy Override.
- Roof replacement can be combined with other projects like installation of air conditioning, lighting replacement, etc.
- 500 cooling units were installed in classrooms as a mitigation factor.
- Air conditioning installation ranges from 6-12 million dollars per school.
- Staff are tracking classroom temperatures year-to-year to measure mitigation efforts.
- Middle school air conditioning will be phased over several summers due to 8-week construction window.
- Many lessons were learned this summer; will refine methods moving forward.
- Limitations exist with a window of time to complete work, budget, and available contractors.
- Utility budget was increased in anticipation of increased energy usage.
- Certificate of Insurance must be on file before proceeding.
- Board approves any Change Order over 10%.
- Tax incentives for energy efficiency are fading but other options are available.
- Important to include students in areas such as architecture, project management, and others that parallel CTE.
- *ServiceNow* tracking system for work orders is going well.
- Recommendation was made to put the construction video on the PSD website.
- Out-of-the-box thinking is encouraged; one example offered was to combine two lower enrollment schools so air conditioning can be installed in the empty school without the 8-week time constraint.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Secretary to the Board of Education