



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
April 14, 2026

DINNER SESSION - 5:00 PM Superintendent Conference Room

PRESENT: President Jessica Zamora; Vice President Kevin Havelda; Directors Karla Baise, Conor Duffy, Scott Schoenbauer, and Dr. 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, and Dave Montoya; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: Director Dr. Coronda Ziegler

LATE: None

Dinner session began at 5:04 p.m.

1.0 Student Advisory Update

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Insoon Olson spoke about the Student Advisory Group (StAC) and introduced attendees:

- Sachit Srinivas, Fossil Ridge High School
- Isla Zuniga, Fort Collins High School
- Rebecca Park, Rocky Mountain High School
- Evansten Martucci, Fossil Ridge High School
- Linh Dang, Poudre High School

Students discussed the StAC Charter, delivered notes from a recent StAC meeting, and provided an update on individual high schools in the categories of Belonging, Consistency, and Coherence.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to Dr. Olson and students for presenting to the Board.
- Superintendent Kingsley appreciated the candor and detail provided by students.

Dinner session ended at 6:01 p.m.

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 6:00 PM

PRESENT: President Jessica Zamora; Vice President Kevin Havelda; Directors Karla Baise, Conor Duffy, Scott Schoenbauer, and Dr. 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, and Dave Montoya; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: Director Dr. Coronda Ziegler

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Zamora called the regular business meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Zamora 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 State Spelling Bee

Kayla Nelson, Elementary Literacy Coordinator, spoke about the four-time district winner and State Champion Nikhil Ganta and said he will represent Colorado at the Scripps National competition.

Director Duffy congratulated Nikhil on behalf of the Board of Education.

4.2 Scholastic Winners

Alison Alter, Curriculum Instruction Facilitator, spoke about the State Scholastic Art and Writing award winners and introduced the following individuals:

- Alta Clayton, student
- Wade Faulkner, student
- Sierra Wheeler, student
- Meghan Barber, student
- Jon-Michael Willert, teacher
- Missy Wolf, teacher
- Chelsea Ermer, teacher

Director Baise congratulated the winners on behalf of the Board of Education.

4.3 Health District of Northern Larimer County

Liz Davis, Senior Executive Director of Student Services, spoke about the partnership and introduced the following attendees:

- Brian Ferrans, Executive Director
- Erin Hottenstein, Board President
- Alyson Williams, Vice President of Strategy and Impact
- Rebecca Toll, Senior Partnership Strategist
- Hali Riewerts, PSD Mental Health Service Providers TOSA

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Resolution in Support of the Week of the Exceptional Child

Vice President Havelda moved that the board approve the resolution in support of the Week of the Exceptional Child, April 12-16, 2026.

Director Spain seconded the motion.

Ansley Garnett, IS Multicat teacher at Kinard Middle School, introduced student Gil Eidin who spoke about his experience as an exceptional child.

Cathy Bowles, Teacher of the Deaf at McGraw Elementary School, introduced student Kendyl Bump who spoke about her experience as an exceptional child.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to the students for having incredible courage, for doing things that are hard, and for conveying joy while sharing their journey.
- Thank you to students, teachers, and families for shining a bright light on the perfect reflection of who we are as a district.

Those voting AYE: Directors Karla Baise, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

5.2 Resolution in Support of National Arab American Heritage Month

Director Duffy moved that the board approve a resolution in support of National Arab American Heritage Month, April 2026.

Vice President Havelda seconded the motion.

Parent Mohamed Mahmoud spoke about his Arab heritage and introduced son and Dunn Elementary student Anas Mahmoud, who talked about his journey.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to Anas for educating listeners about his heritage with joy, for revealing his personal superpowers, and for confidently conveying his sense of belonging.

Those voting AYE: Directors Karla Baise, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

5.3 Resolution in Support of National Bilingual Multicultural Learner Advocacy Month

Director Spain moved that the board approve a resolution in support of National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month, April 2026.

Director Duffy seconded the motion.

Rose Whitney, ELD teacher at Harris Bilingual, introduced students Eli Morris and Azucena Galban Zabalza who spoke on behalf of the resolution.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to the students for speaking on behalf of multicultural learning.

Those voting AYE: Directors Karla Baise, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

5.4 Resolution in Support of National Volunteer Appreciation Week

Director Baise moved that the board approve the resolution in support of National Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 19-25, 2026.

Director Spain seconded the motion.

Dawn Feit, Volunteer and Partnership Coordinator, introduced volunteer Pam Murphy, who spoke about her experience as a volunteer.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to Pam and all volunteers for selflessly contributing to students and staff.

Those voting AYE: Directors Karla Baise, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

6.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Kingsley spoke about the importance of the recent City/County liaison community meeting held in the boardroom, expressed appreciation to Lead Assistant Superintendent Dr. Traci Gile and Comprehensive Planning Committee Co-Chair Brett Hansen for work performed on the committee, reminded listeners that upcoming board meetings will include a series of budget updates working toward a final budget, spoke about a recent announcement to discontinue the Reduction in Force process due to creative solutions from staff, and introduced a video in celebration of Assistant Principals across the district.

7.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Chris Lindsey spoke in support of shared decision making and asked the board to implement a robust model.

Cassandra Moore asked the district to reconsider the student search policy and move toward a collaborative approach that includes parents.

Sai Wright expressed gratitude for their experience at Polaris and for thanked the district for LGBTQ understanding and support.

Tom Griggs stated the district must not panic with budget decisions and said it is not the time to make cuts we might regret later.

Dani Lawrence conveyed frustration that the *Equity Insights Dashboard* information is not accessible to the public and believes the information has intentionally been withheld.

Anna Lebedda expressed concern for a group of students who will struggle more than their peers during consolidation and provided recommendations.

8.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Director Duffy provided an update on the Legislative Subcommittee.

- Director Schoenbauer recognized Student Advisory Committee members in attendance and expressed gratitude for their valuable feedback.
- Director Schoenbauer provided an update on the recent Center for Family Outreach breakfast.
- Vice President Havelda reminded listeners about upcoming Board Engagement Sessions and Comprehensive Planning Committee dates; all are invited to attend.
- Vice President Havelda and Director Spain attended the CSU Engagement where students, faculty, and community members discussed budget and consolidation.
- Director Schoenbauer invited all to view the State award winning artwork on the PSD website.
- Comprehensive Planning Committee will share criteria at an upcoming meeting.
- Vice President Havelda thanked representatives from Ridgeview Classical school for their attendance and for a thorough and timely charter application.
- President Zamora attended a Habitat for Humanity house build at Poudre High School.

9.0 CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Personnel Action

9.2 Meeting Minutes: March 3, 2026, March 10, 2026, and March 24, 2026

9.3 Ridgeview Classical Schools Fifth Charter School Renewal Contract

9.4 School-Based Fee Scheduled

9.5 Summer Fee Schedule

9.6 2026-27 Renewal Applications for Alternative Education Campus (AEC)

Director Spain asked to pull the meeting minutes from March 10, 2026, included in Consent Item 9.2

President Zamora assigned Consent Item 9.2 March 10, 2026 meeting minutes to Action Item 10.2.

Director Spain moved that the board approve and adopt the recommended actions for the items remaining on the Consent Agenda.

Vice President Havelda seconded the motion.

Those voting AYE: Directors Karla Baise, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

10.0 ACTION ITEMS

10.1 FCHS Tennis Court Replacement

Director Spain moved that the Board approve expenditures for the FCHS Tennis Court Replacement project in excess of \$250,000 and authorize staff to execute a contract for \$549,541 with Renner to provide construction services.

Director Duffy seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Chief Finance Officer Dave Montoya provided the update.
- Gratitude was expressed for transparency regarding Mill Levy funds.

Those voting AYE: Directors Karla Baise, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

10.2 Meeting Minutes from 3.10.26

Director Spain moved that the Board approve the updated meeting minutes from March 10, 2026, that were provided via email to the Board and correct a typographical error in Item 10.3 IFB 26-580-003 District Firewall Services Renewal, from a vote of 6-2 to a vote of 6-1.

Director Duffy seconded the motion.

Those voting AYE: Directors Karla Baise, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

11.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

11.1 Reduction in Force Update

Chief of Staff Lauren Hooten provided the update.

Board discussion included:

- Reduction in Force has been suspended for the 2026-27 school year.
- Continuing Contract Teachers have been successfully placed.
- Approximately 250 individuals were impacted by the financial reduction.

11.2 Budget Update

Budget Director Brian Gustafson provided the update.

Board discussion included:

- School Finance Act is proceeding as anticipated, and district is building a preliminary budget plan accordingly.
- Staff will report the per pupil funding numbers to the Board at the next meeting.
- FY2030 Funding Allocation vs. Formula Calculation was explained.
- Mid-year rescission is rare but has occurred once in the past 20 years.
- Difficult for staff to use two different State Finance budgets to create a district plan; lots of hard work and effort from the Finance department.

12.0 BOARD FORECASTING

- Vice President Havelda and Director Schoenbauer requested an update on the equity dashboard and asked staff to post the information for the community; transparency is critical.
- Transportation issues exist and solutions are requested.
- Request was made for a discussion surrounding local control of finances to eliminate or reduce yearly uncertainty about State funding.
- Comprehensive Planning Committee is creating a dashboard that will be available to the public soon.
- Important to discuss loss of 250 staff members.

13.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

13.1 Negotiations

Vice President Havelda moved that the Board enter into executive session to develop the strategy of the school district for negotiations relating to the 2026-2027 collective bargaining agreement or employment contracts as authorized by C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(e)(III).

Individuals invited to join the Board in executive session are Superintendent Brian Kingsley, Chief of Staff Dr. Lauren Hooten, Lead Assistant Superintendent Dr. Traci Gile, Chief Finance Officer Dave Montoya, and General Counsel Autumn Aspen.

Director Duffy seconded the motion.

Those voting AYE: Directors Karla Baise, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 6-0

Executive session began at 8:47 p.m.

Executive session ended at 9:34 p.m.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Secretary to the Board of Education