



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
November 14, 2017

DINNER SESSION - 5:30 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 Jinger Haberer, Todd Lambert; Executive Directors Danielle Clark, Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb

ABSENT: Assistant Superintendent Scott Nielsen and Executive Director Dustin Reintsma

1.0 DISTRICT ISSUES/BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

The Board welcomed new Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education, Valerie Stoddard.

2.0 AGENDA PLANNING

There was no discussion on this item.

3.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Director Febvre moved that the Board go into executive session as authorized under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) to confer with the District's attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on issues concerning the Compass Community Collaborative School charter application and Board action to be taken on the charter application. Individuals invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session are Legal and Policy Counsel Crabb, Assistant Superintendent Todd Lambert, Executive Directors Montoya and Hall, Assistant Board Secretary Davis and Assistant Board Secretary Trainee Valerie Stoddard.

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.

The Executive Session began at 5:32 p.m.

The Executive Session ended at 6:29 p.m.

The dinner session ended at 6:29 p.m.

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING - (BOARDROOM) – 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 Jinger Haberer, Todd Lambert; Executive Directors Danielle Clark, Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb

ABSENT: Assistant Superintendent Scott Nielsen and Executive Director Dustin Reintsma

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

There were no changes to the agenda.

4.0 RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

4.1 Music Honors and Awards

Being selected to perform at the Colorado Music Educators Association Conference is considered a great honor. The selection process is highly competitive. PSD ensembles and music teachers selected by the CMEA include:

Colorado Music Educator Association Selections for Colorado Music Educators Association Conference:

Rocky Mountain Winds, under the direction of Scott Schlup

Rocky Mountain Singers, under the direction of Elizabeth Hohweiller

FCHS Tower Orchestra, under the direction of Jon Hermanson
Boltz Middle School Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of Melissa Claeys

Colorado American String Teachers Association Teacher of the Year, Loni Obluda, Leshar Middle School music teacher

Kinard Middle School is one of only seven middle schools nationwide accepted to perform at the All National Concert Band Festival Selection. Ensembles that perform at the Festival are recognized as being among the finest in the nation.

All National Concert Band Festival Selection

Kinard Middle School Symphonic Band, under the direction of Mike Perez

On behalf of the Board and PSD, Vice President Trask presented a certificate of recognition to each of the organizations and individuals in attendance at the meeting.

4.2 Community Organizations

Project Smile and Vision enable students to receive vision tests at the same time as dental exams, helping more than 3700 children in the district each year.

The Coats and Boots program provided more than 950 children in PSD with winter coats this year.

On behalf of the Board and PSD, Director Gutowsky presented certificates of recognition to the organizations.

4.3 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Smyser presented her monthly report.

Some of the work and events Superintendent Smyser was busy with this month included:

- PSD Outreach Sessions at Rotary and The Group
- Participated in Excellence Through Equity event with Gary Howard
- Curriculum Design Building Tours
- City/County/PSD liaison quarterly meetings
- Timnath Elementary literacy event
- Fort Collins and Timnath city meetings
- Audit Committee meeting
- Principal level meetings
- Toured Woodward's new Fort Collins facility
- Attended College Track Colorado Annual Breakfast with Tony Frank
- Hosted PSD/PSD Foundation Community Leaders Summit

- Attended the Go For Launch Program at Fort Collins High School with astronaut and FCHS alum Dottie Metcalf-Lindenburger
- Worked with members of Cabinet on several projects (technology refresh, PSD School and District Unified Improvement Plan Tool, implementing changes to purchasing contracts and other operational processes)

The Superintendent visited several schools in the district in the last few weeks.

Other things happening in the district:

- College and Career Fairs
- School Theater Productions and Music Programs
- Work-based Learning Information Programs
- Medical Career Exploration Opportunities
- End of Quarter
- Turkey Round-up/School Service Projects
- Teen Talks Series
- School Psychology Awareness Week, November 13-17

4.4 Board Report

Director Petterson delivered the Board Report for this month.

In the district:

- Visited several schools in the district
- Participated in District Accountability Committee
- Participated in District Advisory Board
- Participated in PSD Foundation Board Meeting
- Participated Audit Committee Meeting
- Presented at PSD Insight

Board Development:

- Participated in informal Board lunches
- Attended CASB Fall Conference
- Attended CASB Delegate Assembly

In the Community:

- Regular community engagement sessions
- Met with a variety of constituents
- Met with local legislators and our State Board of Education representative to discuss legislative agenda
- Continued Board of Education Legislative Sub-committee
- Participated in Early Childhood Council meeting
- Attended intergovernmental meeting with City and County

- Attended State Legislators' Forum on TABOR and funding in Colorado
- Attended meeting at Museum of Discovery on Arts and Culture Master Plan for Fort Collins
- Attended Legislative Breakfast Town Hall on mental health care in the county

The next community engagement session is on Saturday, November 18, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Old Town Library in Fort Collins. This session is a special forum on school finance and will feature Dave Montoya, PSD's Executive Director of Finance and local legislators John Kefalas and Joann Ginal.

The Board sends its sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Josh and Kelly Cortez. Josh was a junior at Poudre High School. The Board also extends condolences to the entire Poudre High School community during this difficult time.

5.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Kristen Draper: Thanked the community for exercising their civic duty to vote and looks forward to serving the Poudre School District community as a member of the Board of Education.

6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 6.1 Personnel Action**
- 6.2 Meeting Minutes for October 10, 2017, October 24, 2017, and November 1, 2017 (Special Meeting)**
- 6.3 Quarterly Financials (CAFR 6/30/2017 and 9/30/2017)**
- 6.4 AdvantEdge Tours Contract**
- 6.5 Approval of Preliminary Irish Elementary School Priority Improvement Plan**
- 6.6 Education Broadband Lease (EBS)**

Director Donovan moved to adopt and approve 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 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1 Enrollment Update

PSD's Planning Manager Brenden Willits introduced this topic.

Cooperative Strategies was hired by the district to look at annual enrollment numbers and project five-year enrollment numbers.

The entire October count process was explained in detail and with timelines. Some of the enrollment process beyond taking the actual count, includes auditing, error checking, coordination with sites and analysis.

The first round of data was received on Friday, November 10. The numbers will be finalized on November 28, 2017.

Preliminary numbers indicate that enrollment is up at all levels; a growth of 383 students and that is almost 300 students over the projected count. It was noted that several categories of students are not included in the count (i.e. charter school students). A duplicate count process will take place this week.

Willits played a PowerPoint recorded presentation from Cooperative Strategies. The slides explained methodology used, noted historic enrollments (changes in charter schools, choice schools, etc.) and data considered from birth rates, issued building permits, population estimates, etc.

Cooperative Strategies is predicting an enrollment increase of approximately 5% over the next five years. This projection does not include charter schools.

There are several factors that could cause significant changes over the next five years to the projected student enrollment (i.e. boundary changes, new school openings, changes/additions in program offerings, preschool programs, changes in grade configurations, employment shifts, interest rate changes, policy changes, unplanned new housing activities, school voucher programs, etc.)

The Board had questions.

What about early childhood enrollment? How will that grow, or not grow? We could not provide pre-K data by this date because the count was on November 2. The upper grades' enrollment counts were done on October 2. The full report will be available in February 2018.

The number of choice-in students has gone down. It should be noted that this is in direct relation to the fact that many schools are at capacity and had to stop accepting school of choice students. The schools were too full. The lower numbers are due to the district limiting choice in some schools. Assistant Superintendent Todd Lambert noted there are schools in the district

that continue to accept choice students, but all schools are different and dependent on the school's current capacity.

The Board would like a more detailed presentation on enrollment. Is this possible? There will be a more detailed report in February 2018.

7.2 Legislative Discussion

Director Donovan read sections of a letter the Board has put together to send to local legislators.

Director Donovan moved that the Board sign the letter to legislators.

Vice President Trask seconded the motion.

There was discussion.

The Board noted several items to amend in the letter. Director Donovan will make the changes and finalize the letter.

Director Donovan moved to amend the motion (letter) by adding a reference to maintaining full funding for the Prevention and Public Health Fund and add a reference to the number of families in Poudre School District that are affected by the expiration of children's health insurance and add all the Board members' names and signatures to the letter.

Vice President Trask seconded the motion.

The Board voted on the amendments to be made to the letter.

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.

The Board voted to sign the letter to legislators (original 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.

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Compass Community Collaborative School Charter Application

Community Comment:

Denichiro Otsuga: Compass Community Collaborative School (CCCS) will bring a successful learning environment to our community. It will prepare students to become self-directed and successful in today's international market. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Suriya Vijayasathy: Believes in CCCS's focus on social emotional learning; the school will do a great job teaching social competencies. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Jenny Findlay: CCCS will create well-designed, real educational experiences and opportunities for students. The educators behind CCCS deserve a chance. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Christine McCloud: The team behind CCCS will provide opportunities for success to students currently underserved in the community. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Brad Sparks: There are times when innovative ideas can give fresh perspective to a community and further enhance it. CCCS offers this kind of innovative opportunity. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Cerissa Stevenson: CCCS may work for students not currently well-served in the district. The school will allow them to achieve in areas where they haven't in the past. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Ryan Stover: CCCS will bring experience to students, give them ownership, constant learning, and bring new energy to the district. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Brittini McAlister: CCCS's vision is exciting; it will engage students and be a great asset to our vibrant community. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Emma Wallace: If CCCS includes internships in their curriculum, it will be useful to students and save them a lot of time and money. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Bevin Parker: CCCS will prepare students for life; looks forward to collaborating with CCCS in the future. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Chris Dominic: The work-based learning component that CCCS will provide to students will help them to succeed after high school. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Mark Schreiber: CCCS will offer students an opportunity to think outside of the box. CCCS is also an opportunity to try something new on a smaller scale; then CCCS will work with, and give back to, the school district on their successes. Please approve the CCCS charter.

Sam Hager: Compass will provide experiences that help students adapt to an unknown future. Please approve the CCCS charter.

Tom Siegel: The leadership behind CCCS and the educational approach being proposed at CCCS are a formula for student success. Please approve the CCCS charter application.

Director Petterson moved to approve the charter with conditions (the entire resolution with conditions can be found at www.psdschools.org).

Director Donovan seconded the motion.

Each Board member commented on the Compass school application.

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.

9.0 AGENDA PLANNING

What is being done about schools who fall into any category below a regular improvement plan? The Board should keep an eye on those schools. It is sometimes surprising when a school appears as needing a Priority Improvement Plan. Do we have a proactive process in place to identify these schools and help them before they fall into lower categories? What is the current process? What efforts are made to move those schools up in their plans?

Superintendent Smyser will bring some options to the Board on this topic for further exploration.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

Board meeting ended at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyla Davis
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education