



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

March 20, 2018

DINNER SESSION – 5:30 PM

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre, Vice President Susan Gutowsky; Directors Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Cathy Kipp, 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, Dustin Reintsma, and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb

ABSENT: None

The dinner session began at 5:30 p.m.

1.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Director Petterson moved that the Board go into executive session as authorized under C.R.S. §§ 24-6-402(4)(b) & (e) for the purpose of receiving legal advice on issues concerning land development and IGAs with municipalities within the District's geographic boundaries; and to determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations concerning those issues, to develop strategy for those negotiations and to instruct the negotiators. Individuals invited to join the Board and Superintendent in executive session are attorney Darryl Farrington, Legal and Policy Counsel Crabb, Executive Directors Montoya and Hall, and Board Secretary Brunner.

Director Gutowsky seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7-0

The executive session began at 5:33 p.m.

The executive session ended at 5:50 p.m.

2.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Director Petterson moved that the Board go into executive session as authorized under C.R.S. §§ 24-6-402(4)(b) & (e) for the purpose of receiving legal advice on issues concerning design professional contracts for District construction projects; and to instruct District negotiators concerning desired terms of construction project design professional contracts. Individuals invited to join the Board and

Superintendent in executive session are attorney Darryl Farrington, Legal and Policy Counsel Crabb, Executive Directors Montoya and Hall, and Board Secretary Brunner.

Director Donovan seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7-0

The executive session began at 5:51 p.m.

The executive session ended at 6:26 p.m.

3.0 DISTRICT INFORMATION AND BOARD DISCUSSION TOPICS

There was no discussion on this item.

4.0 AGENDA PLANNING

Director Petterson suggested moving Action Items 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4 to the April Board meeting.

5.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

No committee reports were discussed.

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

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 6:30 PM

PRESENT: President Christophe Febvre, Vice President Susan Gutowsky; Directors Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Cathy Kipp, Rob Petterson and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Sandra Smyser, Assistant Superintendents Jinger Haberer, Todd Lambert, and Scott Nielson; Executive Directors Danielle Clark, Pete Hall, Dave Montoya, Dustin Reintsma, and Victoria Thompson; Legal and Policy Counsel Tom Crabb

ABSENT: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

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

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Febvre led the Board of Education and audience members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Gutowsky requested Consent Agenda 6.3 be moved to Action Item 7.2.

Director Petterson motioned to remove Action Items 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4 and postpone them to the April 10, 2018 Board meeting due to anticipated additional information.

Director Reed seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7-0

4.0 RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

Superintendent Smyser asked PSD Communications Executive Director Danielle Clark to introduce the honorees.

4.1 Outstanding Community Partner: Arc of Larimer County

Community Partnership Coordinator and Arc Board member Beth Higgins spoke about the program. Arc is the oldest organization in the nation representing those with disabilities, with the ultimate goal of Intellectual and emotional development. Arc spends many hours at PSD supporting individuals, families and IEP teams navigating resources.

Also speaking in support of Arc were Phil Beers and Marilee Boylam, who thanked the Board for the recognition as well as for inclusion of students with disabilities within PSD, collaboration and partnership.

Others in attendance for support were Arc Treasurers Alex Stanke and Tena Green.

Director Gutowsky thanked the members of Arc of Larimer County for their work and partnership on behalf of the Board.

4.2 2018 PSD Spelling Bee Winner

PSD Contest Coordinator Connie Klibbe spoke about the extensive steps involved in holding spelling bees and recognized staff for the work involved. Kinard Middle School student Rahul Ghosh was introduced as the winner and honored with a plaque.

Director Draper congratulated Rahul on behalf of the Board.

4.3 Science Bowl State Champions

Preston Middle School Principal Amy Schmer introduced Coach Logan Burke and members of the FCHS science bowl team and thanked the Board for continued recognition of the team's hard work. Coach Burke described the competition.

Three team members were in attendance:

- Sophie Wang, 7th grade
- Jackson Dryg, 6th grade
- Ethan Lin, 8th grade

Director Petterson congratulated the participants and coaches on their achievement on behalf of the Board.

4.4 History Bowl State Champions

Fort Collins High School Assistant Principal Emily Dunn introduced Coaches Connor Payne and Craig Rhoades who stated the Varsity team won 1st place and the Junior Varsity team won 2nd place, promoting both teams to nationals in Washington, D.C. Students Henry Cafaro and Luka Robenalt were in attendance on behalf of the team.

Director Kipp congratulated the students on behalf of the Board and wished them luck at Nationals.

4.5 Athletic State Awards

- Poudre High School Assistant Principal Carey Christensen introduced wrestling Coach Barret Golyer who thanked the Board for the recognition of 5A wrestling champion Jacob Greenwood. Jacob was the first four-time state champion for PSD and went undefeated 16 matches at the high school level. Jacob thanked the Board for the honor and affirmed he is proud to represent Fort Collins and proud to be an Impala.

Director Donovan congratulated Coach Golyer and Jacob on behalf of the Board and thanked all who supported them along the way.

- Fort Collins High School Athletic Director Skip Cadoo introduced girls swimming Coach Betsy Rogers who spoke about 4A girls swimming individual state champion Audrey Reimer. Coach Rogers expressed Audrey is a rare athlete with credit to club coaches and parents for her success. Audrey thanked the Board for the recognition and honor.

Director Donovan congratulated Audrey for her accomplishment on behalf of the Board.

- Fossil Ridge High School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Brandon Carlucci congratulated all the athletes and thanked the Board for funding PSD athletics. Mr. Carlucci introduced Coach Carolyn Fries who thanked Board for the recognition and affirmed 20 girls qualified for State, placing 1st in every event except one while setting

three state records and one national record. FRHS scored more points than any other swim team in Colorado history.

Andrea Niemann and Madeleine Mason were in attendance on behalf of the team.

Director Donovan congratulated Fossil Ridge Swimming on behalf of the Board.

4.6 Superintendent Report

Superintendent Smyser presented her monthly report.

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

- Participated in Otter Closed-to-Open program
- Participated in employee negotiations
- Attended Board Community Engagement Session with Wellington residents
- Quarterly meeting with Cheryl Zimlich – Bohemian Foundation
- Attended Boys and Girls Clubs of Larimer County 2018 Youth of the Year Breakfast
- Hosted annual SuperArt! event
- Elementary honor choir event emcee
- Conducted Elementary and High School Principal finalist interviews
- Attended PSD Crisis Training
- Attended monthly Denver Area School Superintendents (DASSC) meeting
- Met with PSD Foundation Executive Committee
- Met with Poudre Education Association members

Working with cabinet members on:

- School start times
- Safety and crisis response
- School safety

The Superintendent stated school safety is a priority for the district and Safe-To-Tell is an important and available resource. Continue to email concerns and attend Board meetings to speak. PSD Board of Education is investigating next steps to hear public concerns.

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

Upcoming events in the district include:

- Middle School honor choir event
- School productions and concerts
- Read Across America Day
- Standardized testing

Superintendent Smyser reminded everyone PSD is in need of bus drivers and increased the pay to \$17.50 an hour.

4.7 Board Reports

Director Febvre expressed the next Board meeting dinner session may start half an hour early to update on the status of the Superintendent Evaluation.

Directors Draper and Gutowsky will attend the Rocky Mountain High School Think Tank meeting March 23.

Director Kipp spoke about the superintendent school funding proposal and declared the Board has taken a formal position to support.

5.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Matt Robenalt, Executive Director of the Fort Collins Downtown Authority, recognized over 1,000 PSD middle and high school students who peaceably marched in protest to Old Town Square and declared students were polite, orderly, positive, responsible and conducted themselves with passion, respect and incredible knowledge of the issue. Mr. Robenalt praised PSD student Eliana Pritchett who organized the assembly stating she was responsive with communication, professional and sought adult support when necessary. He was honored to work with the PSD students and wanted the Board to know the good work happening inside schools resonates outward through the students.

Kayla Reynolds is a member of the Rocky Mountain High School teacher cadet program and thanked the Board for her opportunity to work concurrently with Front Range Community College in obtaining four college credits.

6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 6.1 Personnel Action**
- 6.2 Meeting Minutes for February 13, 2018, February 20, 2018 (Special Meeting) and February 27, 2018**
- 6.3 Designation of Posting Location for Public Meeting Notices**
- 6.4 Colorado Department of Education School Counselor Corps (SCC) Grant Program**
- 6.5 Colorado Department of Education 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Program**
- 6.6 School Bus Purchase for FY2018-19**
- 6.7 Fullana Major Renovation**
- 6.8 Blue Ribbon School Application for Tavelli Elementary School and Zach Elementary School**
- 6.9 Approval for Tavelli Elementary School to continue in CDE High Flyers Network**

Director Gutowsky requested Consent Agenda Item 6.3 be moved to Action Item 7.2.

Director Donovan moved to approve and adopt the recommended actions for the items on the consent agenda.

Director Petterson seconded the motion.

Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7-0

7.0 ACTION ITEMS

7.1 2017-2018 District Unified Improvement Plan

Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Robert Beauchamp presented the District's Unified Improvement Plan.

- District Ends are the aspirational goals for all students and PSD plans on reaching those ends. The Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) is a cycle of events that changes and evolves every year with new data and action plans. District and school performance framework informs our monitoring report. School readiness information, attendance rates and connections work are contained in the monitoring report. Analysis of this informs the improvement plan.
- Overview of the data indicated Math, ELA and Science Achievement are above the state average. Outcome gaps exist in sub groups and although incremental growth is indicated, outcome strategies need to improve.
- Connections survey indicated an upward trend in growth from year one to year two. Additional support students are feeling less connected than their peers and PSD is working on this through the social/emotional plan.
- Strategies included:
 - academic learning with a focus on those who need additional support
 - social/emotional development to help students understand their strengths and manage emotions
 - transitions strategies

Board discussion included:

- The Board was thankful for the plan and alignment to District Ends and affirmed the evolution has been positive.

- Success of the plan can be measured in student performance through data and visualization tools. High performing teams collaborate and evaluate student data. CMAS results are eagerly anticipated.
- Based on a student survey from last year, success of gifted and talented students is improving. Director Petterson requested a copy of the survey.
- Concern was expressed regarding the drop in graduation rates. One possibility was a change to the 240-credit graduation requirement. Adding flexibility for collecting credits alongside learning could be one option. Students grow and learn at different rates and need a vision for future learning. Data visualization tools are now available to schools which will aide staff in areas of focus. Data is monitored on a weekly basis.

Director Donovan moved to approve the 2017-2018 District Unified Improvement Plan.

Director Petterson seconded the motion.

Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7-0

7.2 Designation of Posting Location for Public Meeting Notices

Director Gutowsky moved the Board designate that the posting location for notices of Board of Education meetings be in the entryway between the first two sets of doors at the front of the Johannsen Support Services Center, 2407 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7-0

The Board recessed at 8:47 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 8:57 p.m.

8.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Budget Update

Executive Director of Finance Dave Montoya provided the budget update. Some of the changes to the budget since the last Board meeting were:

- PERA Bill SB200 is more aggressive than originally thought. The employer contribution increased rate is scheduled to begin next fiscal year.
- Health and dental were projected at a 7% increase and will likely be larger than planned; increased to 10%.
- Projections indicated \$200,000 toward both utilities and risk this year and PSD is currently at budget for utilities. More funds may be needed.
- Two additional SRO positions (one paid for by Poudre School District and one paid for by the City of Fort Collins) are possible.
- Federal funds require maintenance due to a shrinking federal budget.
- Maintenance is required on athletic budgets.
- Ideas for the programmatic budget included:
 - increase by 1 million dollars due to inflation increase
 - compensation
 - 1.6 million dollars to PERA increase
 - health and dental at 10%
 - step increase
 - lanes and market
 - retirement differential
- Funds from restructuring central office go directly to school staffing.
- One-time money could be used for:
 - materials, equipment and technology
 - school planner
 - reserve for unanticipated titles
 - improvements to wireless communications in schools
 - additional mental health positions

Board discussion included:

- Data on the update does not include recently released revenue forecast.

8.2 Legislative Discussion

Director Kipp discussed current legislative activity:

- HB18-1266: monitor
- HB18-1269: monitor
- HB18-1276: oppose
- HB18-1277: monitor
- HB18-1286: oppose
- HB18-1289: support
- SB18-200: monitor

The Board agreed with the positions held.

9.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

9.1 Matters Related to the Process of Securing District Construction Contracts

Director Petereson moved that the Board go into executive session as authorized under C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f) to discuss personnel matters related to the process of securing District construction contracts. Individuals invited to join the Board in executive session are Superintendent Sandra Smyser, Executive Director of Human Resources Vicki Thompson and Assistant Board Secretary Jill Brunner.

Director Draper seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Donovan, Draper, Febvre, Gutowsky, Kipp, Petterson and Reed

Those voting NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7-0

The executive session began at 9:44 p.m.

The executive session ended at 10:47 p.m.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 10:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education