



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
October 24, 2023

DINNER SESSION - 5:30 PM Information Technology Training Room

PRESENT: President Rob Petterson; Vice President Kristen Draper; Directors Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Assistant Superintendents Traci Gile and Insoon Olson; Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dwayne Schmitz, and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: Director DJ Anderson arrived at 5:33 p.m.

Dinner session began at 5:30 p.m.

1.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics

- Chief Institutional Effectiveness Officer Dwayne Schmitz provided an update on the Student Advisory Committee and introduced Fossil Ridge High School students Sujal Dhakal and Melissa Wong, who spoke about their experiences in school and on the committee.

Dinner session ended at 6:26 p.m.

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 6:30 PM

PRESENT: President Rob Petterson; Vice President Kristen Draper; Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Assistant Superintendents Traci Gile and Insoon Olson; Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, Madeline Noblett, Dwayne Schmitz, and Erich WonSavage; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Petterson 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 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Kingsley described the updates and presentations scheduled for the meeting, spoke about recent school visits, expressed optimism about the opportunity for collaboration and engagement with thoughtful leadership, and talked about a video released to the public that

addresses long-range planning and includes a change in the Superintendent Report at upcoming meetings.

4.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Dani Lawrence expressed dissatisfaction with the SEAC Charter and said Board members make light of those with disabilities.

Joe Schorsch advocated for smaller grade sizes with continuity between grades in neighborhood schools and cited multiple examples to support the opinion.

Sabrina Herrick conveyed concern about communication plans and shared her belief that the Board doesn't respect the opinions and experiences of those they represent.

Parent Chrissy Green spoke highly about the ILS program at Olander Elementary School, asked the district not to dismantle a system that is working well, and invited Board members to spend the day at Olander in the ILS program.

Parent Anna Lebedda said that October is National Dyslexia Awareness month, described the removal of her children from the district due to the lack of teaching dyslexic children to read, and encouraged the Board to support identification of dyslexic children.

Joe Gawronski expressed concern about procurement of data from outside sources that excludes data for expeditionary learning.

Parent Sarabeth Lundquist thanked the Board for delaying a decision to restructure schools and asked for financial transparency moving forward.

Skye Miller spoke about growing up transgender, said Centennial High School was a safe and encouraging place that saves lives, and asked the district to put queer students on the committee to give a voice to their viewpoint.

Jim Winebrener asked the Superintendent to participate in regular discussion on a local radio show to provide direct information to listeners.

Student Emilia Lebedda asked her parent to read a letter on her behalf; the letter spoke about the negative effects of growing up dyslexic without a proper diagnosis by the district and asked Board members to grow in awareness and support of dyslexia.

Caroline Borjeson thanked the Board for taking more time with restructuring decisions and asked the district to come up with plans to save alternative schools.

5.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Next Community Engagement session is November 15, 2023, with signup available starting November 2, 2023.
- Community Engagement sessions are an opportunity for community members to engage in constructive, informative, and intimate dialogue with the district.
- Structure of sessions has been changed to allow for increased back-and-forth dialogue.

- Signup for both engagement sessions filled at 20 people, but only five community members attended each meeting.
- Integrated Services engagement sessions will be upcoming; community is encouraged to participate.

6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

6.1 Personnel Action

6.2 Early Childhood Agreement with the Family Center

6.3 First Amendment Academic Affiliation Agreement 2023-24

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

Vice President Draper seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

7.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1 Integrated Services Update

Executive Director of Integrated Services Dennis Rastatter and Chief Institutional Effectiveness Officer Dwayne Schmitz provided the presentation with closed captioning.

Board discussion included:

- Integrated Services Community Engagement Sessions are open to families of students in the program.
- Clarification was provided on purpose of SEAC, how committee members are selected, how agendas are formed and more.
- Summer improvement is likely due to intentional effort of support, summer programs and high dosage tutoring.
- School-wide math intervention and four-day intensive mathematical instruction assisted in increasing progress.
- Effects of summer programming and high dosage tutoring will be forthcoming at a future meeting.
- Graduating with Options offers alternative pathways while maintaining high standards of learning.
- Board members requested an invitation to attend SEAC meetings.
- Method for identifying IEP students was explained.
- Child-Find Coordinator identifies students with need and determines eligibility.
- District is currently researching identification of IEP students in Poudre School District versus other school districts.

- Gratitude was expressed for providing the presentation with verbal descriptions and closed captioning.
- Data indicates reason for celebration.

7.2 Graduate with Options Update

Chief Institutional Effectiveness Officer Dwayne Schmitz, Director of Career and Innovation Tanya Alcaraz, Technology Engineering and Trades Educator Josh Weissman, and multiple students from Poudre High School presented the Graduate with Options Update.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed for an informative and powerful presentation.
- Program is fantastic and offers multiple pathways for students.
- Important to spread the word to the community.
- Board members were invited to tour the CTE facility at Foothills Mall.
- Suggestion was made to offer classes of general-level information quarterly to allow introduction to many pathways.
- Students need to be educated on the process to access programming.
- Appreciation was conveyed for bringing the priority of Graduating with Options into focus and giving it meaning.

8.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

8.1 Legal Advice

Vice President Draper moved that the Board move that the board enter executive session to receive legal advice on specific legal questions relating to human resources procedures, including procedures on hiring practices, as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b).

Individuals invited to join the Board in executive session are Superintendent Brian Kingsley, Chief Officers Lauren Hooten, Erich WonSavage, and Jeff Connell; and General Counsel Autumn Aspen.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Nate Donovan, Kristen Draper, Rob Petterson, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

Executive Session began at 9:23 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 10:46 p.m.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Secretary to the Board of Education