



## 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, 2023

#### **DINNER SESSION - 5:30 PM Information Technology Center Training Room**

PRESENT: President Rob Petterson; Vice President Kristen Draper; Directors DJ Anderson, Jim Brokish, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Assistant Superintendents Julie Chaplain, 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 Nate Donovan arrived at 5:37 p.m.

Dinner session began at 5:32 p.m.

#### **1.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics**

- Superintendent Kingsley introduced Jakie Chaparro-Sierra as the new Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education.
- Board members volunteered to present certificates for Recognitions.
- Chief Operations Officer Jeff Connel provided an update on heat mitigation.

#### **2.0 Agenda Planning**

- *Tour de Turkey* is this Thursday; donations accepted at multiple PSD sites for the Food Bank.
- Directors Brokish and Zamora will attend the community engagement session tomorrow.
- November 28, 2023, meeting agenda and timeline was summarized.
- Director Reed volunteered to serve as the PSD Board delegate for the CASB assembly.
- Outgoing members informed others about upcoming deadlines.

Dinner session ended at 6:08 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 Julie Chaplain, 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 6:31 p.m.

## **2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Petterson 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 SHAPE Colorado Teacher Awards**

Teaching & Learning Facilitator Jo Dixon introduced teachers Riley Hubbard and Jeanne Morgan, recipients of the SHAPE Colorado awards and talked about their success and spoke about award recipient Jacob Benson who was not in attendance.

Director Zamora congratulated the recipients on behalf of the Board of Education.

### **4.2 Canine Community Partners**

Representatives from Caring Canines, HABIC, and PAWS for Tails were introduced and recognized for positive impact on students and staff in the district.

Directors Brokish and Anderson congratulated the partners on behalf of the Board of Education.

## **5.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **5.1 Resolution in Support of National Homeless Youth Awareness Month**

Director Donovan moved that the Board approve a resolution in support of National Homeless Youth Awareness Month, November 2023.

Director Anderson seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Director Donovan read the resolution aloud.
- Vice President Draper talked about her recent visit to the new youth homeless shelter and expressed gratitude that multiple communities coordinated to create the beautiful building to support homeless youth.
- Director Donovan recounted interactions with homeless students from his time as a bus driver.

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

## **6.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Kingsley spoke about the microcosm that exists in schools, the complexity of everyday situations for students, expressed gratitude for those present for engaging in student education, and shared a presentation about long range planning for the district.

## **7.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Jeff Aufderheide congratulated the newly elected board members and recommended multiple ways to monitor the Superintendent.

Parent Meghan Molin offered suggestions for exploring efficiencies in the district and asked the Board to avoid rash decisions the district cannot recover from when it returns to growth.

Dani Lawrence thanked the Board for amending bullying policy JIDCE and offered recommendations on other potential changes.

Sabrina Herrick expressed dissatisfaction about a plea deal made with a former PSD transportation employee and shared concern about statements made by a current PSD employee.

Anna Lebedda spoke about the lack of literacy curriculum for dyslexic learners and asked the district to implement changes immediately for student success and well-being.

Polaris student body spokesperson Aria Weiner cited multiple ways to keep the school successful and asked for a slow integration of expeditionary learning for students and staff.

Joe Gawronski questioned the data provided to staff and the community and cautioned new board members to think critically and not assume they are getting the whole picture.

Kelly Holdridge shared concern that staff have been left out of important decisions, are often informed of changes after families and the community, and stated trust has been cracked by discounting staff members.

Ashley Schorsch requested increased opportunity for community voice about upcoming district changes and asked for the entire district to be able to hear what is said at each meeting or session.

Alison Ferguson expressed concern about students attending class in modulars and cited examples to support her view.

Janet Mann spoke about her role as a librarian at an elementary school and invited listeners to an open house at Olander Elementary School.

Parent Rachel Schuler shared unease that changes in the district are being implemented without input from staff and requested staff be invited to the table to include their voice.

Parent Sean Reifschneider questioned financial support for implementation of a charter school and asked the Board to follow through with the promise of transparency.

## **8.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

President Rob Petterson, Director DJ Anderson, and Director Nate Donovan spoke individually about their time in service to the PSD community.

- Director Anderson recounted starting with PTO at Johnson Elementary, then the District Advisory Board, and finally the Board of Education. DJ thanked the community for entrusting him with a position on the Board and reminded everyone it is important to protect public education and provide opportunities for all students.
- Director Donovan expressed gratitude for the honor and opportunity to serve eight years on the Board of Education and thanked teachers, staff, cabinet members, superintendents and more. Nate asked everyone to keep at-risk students in mind when moving forward with big changes and difficult decisions.
- President Petterson recounted 21 years of volunteering in the district with the last eight on the Board of Education, and thanked his family, teachers, administrators, staff, board members, and more. Rob shared he will miss the work on the Board more than anyone can imagine.

## **9.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

- 9.1 Personnel Action**
- 9.2 Meeting Minutes: October 10, 2023, and October 24, 2023**
- 9.3 Renaming of Eyestone Elementary School and Wellington Middle School**
- 9.4 Approval of Purchase and Sale Agreement and Intergovernmental Agreement for Non-Potable Water Service Serratoga Falls Metropolitan District No. 1, Kitchel Lake F3 Development Corp., and Poudre School District R-1**
- 9.5 Boxelder Sanitation District Conveyance and Acceptance**
- 9.6 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Success Grant Application**
- 9.7 School-Based Student Fee Schedules**

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

Director Reed 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

## **10.0 ACTION ITEMS**

- 10.1 Board Consideration of Revisions to Policy JICDE – Bullying Prevention and Education (Second Reading)**

Director Donovan moved that the Board approve and adopt the revised Policy JICDE – Bullying Prevention and Education, as presented.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Director Donovan moved that the Board amend the motion to approve and adopt the revised Policy JICDE – Bullying Prevention and Education by striking the sentence under the definition of what bullying is not, second sentence ‘when students tease one another it is typically meant to be affectionate and not cause harm’ and would submit that it may or may not be affectionate and not cause harm so leaving that sentence out would be best.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Sentence can be taken several different ways, is ambiguous, and therefore should be removed.
- Language comes from CDE guidelines for bullying policy and is not required in PSD policy.

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

Director Anderson moved that the Board flip the order of items listed in the of the definition of bullying to “Bullying is to willfully cause physical, mental or emotional harm to any student or to use coercion or intimidation to influence or to obtain control of another person.”

Vice President Draper seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Change of sentence order does not impact implementation of policy.

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

Other Board discussion included:

- Questions were raised about the process for student-to-adult bullying.
- Policy as written covers all student bullying.
- Implementation guidelines and policies for IEP students will be forthcoming.

The voting for the first motion 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

## **11.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **11.1 2024-2025 School Year Calendar**

Riffenburgh Elementary School Principal and Calendar Committee Co-chair Melanie Mierzwa and Cache la Poudre Middle School Principal and Calendar Committee Co-chair Alicia Bono provided an update on behalf of the Calendar Committee.

Board discussion included:

- 2024-2025 calendar to be adopted at the November 28, 2023, Board of Education meeting.
- Schedule for Front Range Community College impacts the ability to alter the PSD calendar due to concurrent enrollment.
- Concern was expressed about testing students after a two-week break.
- Should engage legislators to reconsider seat time for students.
- Request was made to continue thinking outside of the box and push for what is right for students to learn.
- Childcare implications are a legitimate concern for any altered calendar.
- Late start for elementary and middle schools could exacerbate the heat problems.
- Based on survey results and data gathered, Calendar Committee suggested a 2024-2025 calendar that mirrors the current calendar, with changes to be implemented for the 2025-2026 calendar.
- Questions were raised about potential plans for mitigating heat in the fall.
- Board could consider asking the community for funding to put air conditioning in schools.

Board recessed at 10:06 p.m.

Board reconvened at 10:14 p.m.

### **11.2 McKinstry Facility Condition Assessment**

Chief Operations Officer Jeff Connell introduced the McKinstry team, who provided the Facility Condition Assessment.

Board discussion included:

- Clarification was requested on capital need.
- *Reveal* software supports moving data to view multiple options; is compatible with PSD software.
- Retro Commissioning Study to be presented at a future meeting.
- Intent is to keep asset list up to date.
- McKinstry created a QR code system for PSD to tag and track new items.

## **12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner  
Secretary to the Board of Education