



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
May 14, 2024

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 5:30 PM

PRESENT: President Kristen Draper; Vice President Jessica Zamora; Directors Jim Brokish, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, and Scott Schoenbauer; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Assistant Superintendents Julie Chaplain, Traci Gile, and Insoon Olson; Chief Officers Jeff Connell, Lauren Hooten, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, Dwayne Schmitz; and General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Draper called the regular business meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Draper led the Board of Education, staff, and community members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3.1 Removal of Item 11.3

Director Havelda moved that the Board amend the agenda to remove Item 11.3, Board of Education's budget, and place it on the agenda for May 28, 2024.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

3.2 Addition of Executive Session

Director Havelda moved that the Board amend the agenda to add an executive session after Item 12.1, Negotiations, and create Item 12.2, Negotiation of Agreement.

Director Reed seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

3.3 Legal Advice

Director Havelda moved that the Board amend the agenda to add an executive session after the last one regarding legal advice on the end of Item 12.

Director Reed seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

3.4 Reorder Items 10.0 and 11.0

Director Havelda moved that the Board amend the agenda to switch the order of 10.0 Action Items and 11.0 Informational Reports/Discussion Items, thereby making Item 10.0 Informational Reports/Discussion Items first, and 11.0 Action Items thereafter.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

4.0 RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

4.1 Colorado State Nordic Ski Champion – Boys Individual 5 Kilometer Skate

Poudre High School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Carey Christensen spoke about the program and introduced CHSAA Nordic Ski Coach of the Year Kyle Steitz, who talked about Nordic Ski Champion Cade Shortridge.

4.2 5A State Swimming and Diving Champion

FRHS Assistant Principal and Athletic Director David Walck introduced Diving Champion Sydney Ovesen, who spoke about her experience.

4.3 National Recognition, Leader in Me Program

Lopez Elementary Principal Cheryl Day spoke about the Leader in Me Legacy recognition and introduced student leadership speakers Atienne Zoucha, Hendrix Garris and Maddie Peidra.

4.4 National Association of Music Merchants Award for Best Communities for Music Education

Kinard Middle School Choir Director Scott Wheeler introduced Band Director Mike Perez and Orchestra Director Leanne Griffey, who spoke about the music program and award.

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Resolution in Support of Asian American, Native Hawai'ian, and Pacific Islander Heritage

Director Duffy moved that the Board approve the resolution in support of Asian American, Native Hawai'ian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, May 2024, as presented.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to Kinard Principal Lindsey Matkin and students Joy Wang and Arianna Zou for speaking on behalf of the resolution.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

5.2 Resolution in Support of Mental Health Awareness*

Director Brokish moved that the Board approve the resolution in support of Mental Health Awareness Month, May 2024, as presented.

Director Reed seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to Counseling Coordinator Beth Green and Mental Health & Prevention Coordinator Beth Green for speaking on behalf of the resolution.
- Data indicates a 50% reduction in self-harm.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

5.3 Resolution in Support of National Teacher Appreciation Week

Director Duffy moved that the Board approve the resolution in support of National Teacher Appreciation Week, May 6-10, 2024, as presented.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed for PEA President John Robinson for speaking on behalf of the resolution.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

5.4 Resolution in Support of National School Nurse Day

Director Schoenbauer moved that the Board approve the resolution in support of National School Nurse Day, May 8, 2024, as presented.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to Health Services Coordinator Kim Lowe and School Nurse Kristin Frey for speaking on behalf of the resolution.
- Appreciation was conveyed for taking care of students every day.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

5.5 Resolution in Support of Jewish American Heritage Month

Vice President Zamora moved that the Board approve the resolution in support of Jewish American Heritage Month, May 2024, as presented.

Director Duffy seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to Mental Health Specialist Ariell Kukafka and student Jeremy Akrish for speaking on behalf of the resolution.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

5.6 Resolution in Support of Military Appreciation Month

Director Havelda moved that the Board approve the resolution in support of Military Appreciation Month, May 2024, as presented.

Director Reed seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to retired United States Army and district Master Carpenter Major Mark Hunter, and United States Marine Corp Lance Corporal Shawn Hunter for speaking on behalf of the resolution.
- Board members spoke about personal experiences involving military family members and thanked all services members for their service.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None
Motion passed: 7-0

5.7 Resolution in Support of National Volunteer Appreciation Week

Director Duffy moved that the Board approve the resolution in support of National Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 21-27, 2024, as presented.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to Volunteer & Partnership Coordinator Dawn Feit and volunteer Rebecca Clark for speaking on behalf of the resolution.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

6.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Kingsley spoke about a celebratory time of year for graduating seniors and introduced the “Grads at a Glance” video, talked about the proposed curriculum adoption, community engagement sessions, the impact of teachers, and expressed gratitude to the Facilities Planning Steering Committee members who gave their time and efforts to the district.

7.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Janet Mann distributed a book titled “The Rabbit Listened” to board members, requested a larger venue for meetings, and expressed concern about the large size of the meeting packet.

Anne Nelsen spoke in favor of keeping Putnam Elementary and cited multiple reasons.

Jeff Gaines commented on overcapacity in Laporte and said Putnam elementary is a fantastic northwest facility.

Kate Bedford provided a chart regarding equity in closures and asked the board to address underutilization and be a model of equity for other districts.

Tory Pappas spoke in favor of Beattie Elementary and cited multiple reasons.

Joshua Reyling said little to no data has been provided regarding closures and the board has a moral obligation to postpone the consolidation decision.

Claudia Boot spoke in favor of Putnam Elementary and cited multiple reasons.

Dani Lawrence said children are being hurt by the district and asked the board to help marginalized populations.

Anna Lebedda stated PSD does not address dyslexia and asked the district to give students an equitable chance in school and life.

Makeeba Helms spoke in support of Beattie Elementary and cited multiple reasons.

Andrea Tomlinson expressed concern about district leadership.

Hannah Wilbur spoke in support of Beattie Elementary.

Nikki Houchen spoke in support of Putnam Elementary.

Lisa Trimmer said the consolidation scenarios lack the details promised to the community.

Louise Halaburt spoke in support of Putnam Elementary and asked for language interpretation at board meetings to remove barriers.

Kate Fanning spoke in support of Putnam Elementary and expressed belief public input is a charade because decisions have already been made about closures.

Jeffrey Lindquist stated the district needs money to save the schools and should ask the public for a mill levy override.

Shelly Barnes spoke in support of Linton Elementary and said the district has not provided equal opportunity for families to engage in the process.

Katie Turney spoke in favor of Linton Elementary and cited multiple reasons.

Brian Bedford expressed concern the scenarios presented are not equitable.

SaraBeth Binde-Lindquist talked about several schools under consideration for closure and said the impact is too disruptive.

Student Gabby Dias spoke in support of Preston Middle School and asked the district to redraw boundaries to keep the school open.

Ryan Barone asked the district to slow down the process and reconsider forced bussing of students of color into majority white schools.

Charles Vollmer spoke in support of Harris Bilingual and said dual language experts were not consulted about the impact and disruption to students.

Jon Danielson asked the board to delay the vote and stated the district is making a plan to make a plan instead of providing a solution.

Janey Knuth spoke in support of Linton Elementary and cited multiple reasons.

Lorin Spangler spoke in support of Harris Bilingual and cited multiple reasons.

Eloisa Ruiz spoke in support of Putnam Elementary, said the school is home to many students and disruption would be traumatizing.

Dayna Hudson expressed frustration with the length of the long-range planning process followed by a rushed decision about school closures.

Latoya Noel said busing her children to a different school would not keep them emotionally safe.

Jessica Jackson spoke in support of Johnson Elementary and cited multiple reasons.

Erin Turnbull stated the incompetence of district administration has created chaos.

Desiree Luca spoke in support of Johnson Elementary and cited multiple reasons.

Sarah Youssef asked the board to consider if the proposed consolidations and closures will put parents and students at increased risk in case of natural disaster.

Isabel Pinedo spoke in support of Harris Bilingual and cited multiple examples.

Julie Schiola spoke in support of Harris Bilingual and cited multiple examples.

Stephanie Sensale spoke in support of Johnson Elementary and demanded evidence from a 3rd party that schools should be closed or consolidated.

Kelly Steinway spoke in support of Johnson Elementary and said the actions of the district are eroding trust and breeding division.

Nicole Froman said more time is needed for an equitable approach to closures and consolidation.

Matthew Hitt offered multiple reasons the scenarios are flawed and asked the board to vote no.

Lauren Parajon communicated a belief that school consolidation and closures are not a good idea and provided multiple examples.

Kaitlyn Wagner stated the district used questionable data for the rationale to close and consolidate schools.

Board recessed at 8:04 p.m.
Board reconvened at 8:14 p.m.

8.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Director Reed reminded attendees that National Peace Officers Memorial Day and National Police Week are celebrated in May and asked the community to acknowledge the hard and dedicated work performed by the public servants.
- Director Duffy provided an update on the State legislative session and status of two bills.
- Director Havelda stated the Liberty Common Charter School renewal contract has still not been received by the district.
- Legislative Subcommittee meeting scheduled for Friday has been cancelled; final legislative wrap-up meeting will be scheduled.

9.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 9.1 Personnel Action**
- 9.2 Meeting Minutes: April 9, 2024, and April 23, 2024**
- 9.3 Concurrent Enrollment and Dual Enrollment Program Expenditures**
- 9.4 School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP) Contract**
- 9.5 AlphaBEST Education, Inc.'s Agreement to Provide Childcare Services at Elementary Schools**
- 9.6 Sixth Amendment to the Agreement for the Provision of Infant & Toddler Child Care Services at Poudre School District Global Academy**

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

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

10.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

10.1 2024-25 Revised School Year Calendar

Chief of Staff Lauren Hooten provided information about calendar revisions.

Board discussion included:

- Clarification was requested on dates.

10.2 Facilities Planning Steering Committee Update

Steering Committee members Josie Plaut, Jesse Morrill and Rebecca Everette provided the update.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed to steering committee members for the massive amount of demanding work performed and dedication provided on behalf of the district.
- Online sessions will be available for the June 4 listening session.
- Suggestion was made to move PCA students into a better building.
- Members requested a report on PSD leases for offices/programs outside of district owned buildings.
- Finance department will investigate the possibility of a mill levy and report back to the board.
- Director Duffy will reach out to home developers and builders for data and information.
- Collaboration with the City of Fort Collins for empty building use would be beneficial.
- Vacated buildings will remain in the PSD portfolio.
- Important to consider all viewpoints and information; consolidation would be a significant disruption to family lives and deserves thorough consideration.
- Mill Levy Override is not risk free and buying our way out of trouble is not sustainable.
- Board needs to regain trust by listening to community.
- Closing schools must be a last resort.
- A temporary budget problem should not constitute closing schools.
- Board members have not decided on closures/scenarios.
- Opinion was shared that the enrollment decline is due to charter school transfers.

- District has been trying to save funds since 2010 and can no longer save the way out of this problem.
- Enrollment has been declining for 20 years; students suffer when schools are not at capacity.
- Tough decisions have to be made and the board must address the issue; cannot kick the problem down the road again.
- Five-year-average was explained by the Chief Finance Officer.
- PSD is a floor funded district and legislative fixes are necessary to change the status.
- State of Colorado controls charter schools, not Poudre School District.
- Suggestion was made to conduct a marketing survey to understand why parents choose charter schools.
- Unfair to allow schools to continue to decline and fail.
- Uncertainty about the outcome is destroying moral of teachers and families.
- Redrawing Bamford Elementary School boundary could be a first step.
- Staff were asked to investigate possibility of Cache La Poudre (CLP) becoming a K-8 school to keep the rural status.
- CLP elementary and middle school have different boundaries; should be unified.
- Should investigate how to expand Pre-K in our community.
- District has cut \$6.6 million and it still isn't enough; cannot wait to address this issue.
- Board members tasked staff with charges to bring back more information for an informed decision.
- Facilities Planning Steering Committee will provide data from the recent survey to board members as well as a rubric of information.

Board recessed at 11:27 p.m.

Board reconvened at 11:40 p.m.

10.3 Revisions to Student Rights & Code of Conduct Policies (First Reading)

General Counsel Autumn Aspen and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Julie Chaplain provided the revisions.

Board discussion included:

- Clarification was requested on legal parameters for school of choice.
- 427 transfer requests received to date for 2023-24; up 150 from last year.

10.4 Board Consideration of Revisions to Policies GBEA – Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest, GBEB – Staff Conduct and Responsibilities, and GDQD – Classified Employee Performance Trial Periods, Discipline and Dismissal (First Reading)

General Counsel Autumn Aspen presented policy revisions.

11.0 ACTION ITEMS

11.1 Fire Sprinkler Project

Director Havelda moved that the Board approve expenditures in excess of \$250,000, authorizing staff to execute a contract with the vendor to be selected to provide the construction services.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included.

- Individuals who certify the fire sprinklers do not complete repairs.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

11.2 Door Frame Replacement Project

Director Duffy moved that the Board approve expenditures in excess of \$250,000 authorizing staff to execute a contract with Bryan Construction for \$842,486.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Safety concerns exist if not replaced.
- Grant requires the district to match funds.
- Only replacing door frames in highest need.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

11.3 Annual Head Start and Early Head Start Continual Grant Approval, Cost of Living Application Approval and Head Start Expansion Grant Approval

Vice President Zamora moved that the Board approve the Annual Head Start and Early Head Start Continual Grant Approval, Cost of Living Application Approval and Head Start Expansion Grant Approval.

Director Havelda seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Waiting list exists for Head Start.
- Many reasons exist for low oral health exam compliance.
- PSD Early Childhood received Promising Practice status for attendance.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

11.4 Instructional Materials Adoption

Director Brokish moved that the Board approve the agreement with Amplify (Middle School Science), McGraw Hill for United States History: Voices and Perspectives (8th Grade US History) and *World History* (High School World History), and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (Language Arts 9-10) instructional materials, and approve to form the agreement with Savvas for *Excursions in Modern Mathematics* (Discrete) and *Stats in Your World* (DAP) that will be finalized by District staff.

Director Duffy seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed for important work and an informative presentation.
- A good foundation in elementary school with standards-aligned materials is critical to academic success.
- Concern was expressed about spending \$3 million on curriculum when the district has larger needs.
- Current materials are significantly outdated and negatively affect students.
- Updated materials give us a center and level of equity.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: Director Scott Schoenbauer

Motion passed: 6-1

12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

12.1 Negotiations

12.2 Negotiation of Agreement

12.3 Legal Advice

Director Havelda moved that the Board enter executive session for the following purposes:

1. To develop the strategy of the school district for negotiations relating to the 2024-2025 collective bargaining agreement or employment contracts, as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e)(III);
2. To determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; develop the strategy for negotiations; and instruct negotiators regarding a breach of contract matter concerning the employee agreement, case number 2023CV30519, as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e)(I); and
3. To receive legal advice on whether to hire outside counsel regarding a potential workplace investigation.

Individuals invited to join the Board in all or part of the executive session are Superintendent Brian Kingsley, Chief Officers Lauren Hooten and Dave Montoya; and General Counsel Autumn Aspen.

Director Duffy seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Carolyn Reed, Scott Schoenbauer, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

Executive Session 12.1 began at 1:26 a.m. on May 15, 2024

Executive Session 12.1 ended at 1:47 a.m. on May 15, 2024

Attendees: Board of Education, Superintendent Kingsley, Chief Officers Lauren Hooten and Dave Montoya, General Counsel Autumn Aspen (attended remotely)

Executive Session 12.2 began at 1:47 a.m. on May 15, 2024

Executive Session 12.2 ended at 2:02 a.m. on May 15, 2024

Attendees: Board of Education, Superintendent Kingsley, Chief Officer Lauren Hooten, General Counsel Autumn Aspen (attended remotely)

Executive Session 12.3 began at 2:04 a.m. on May 15, 2024

Executive Session 12.3 ended at 2:19 a.m. on May 15, 2024

Attendees: Board of Education, General Counsel Autumn Aspen (attended remotely).

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 a.m. on May 15, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Secretary to the Board of Education