



Poudre School District Board of Education

2407 Laporte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521 • 970-490-3607

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Board of Education Work Session
September 23, 2025

DINNER SESSION - 5:00 PM Superintendent Conference Room

PRESENT: President Kristen Draper; Vice President Jessica Zamora; Directors Jim Brokish, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelde, Scott Schoenbauer, and Andrew Spain; Superintendent Brian Kingsley; Lead Assistant Superintendent Dr. Traci Gile; Chief Officers Dr. Lauren Hooten and Dave Montoya; General Counsel Autumn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

Dinner session began at 5:03 p.m.

1.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics

- Current data on student mental health indicates a significant increase in need and support; Larimer County to share information soon.
- Early reports indicate an approximate decline of 573 students in the district this school year; October count will verify exact numbers.
- Funding for 5th year high school students no longer exists.

2.0 Agenda Planning

- Graduation rates for IEP students will be discussed at the Board meeting on November 4, 2025.

Dinner session ended at 5:13 p.m.

WORK SESSION (BOARDROOM) – 5:30 PM

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

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Draper called the regular business meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

3.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Kingsley introduced a *Quick Win* video highlighting the new Manufacturing Lab made possible through regional collaboration, talked about graduating with options, spoke about attending the opening of the Adolescent Care Unit Longview Campus, reminded all about the need to check in on the mental health and wellbeing of students and said every member of the community has a role in looking out for each other, and expressed gratitude for the series of thoughtful conversations to come.

4.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Tom Griggs said he is running for the Board of Education District D open seat and spoke about his experience.

Ron Charkowski shared his positive experience with the district Special Education department and said he is deeply appreciative of the work done for his daughter.

Nicole Alvarado spoke on behalf of the PEA Board and stated educator and community voice are being suppressed in the district.

Jamie Ridgeway thanked the Board and Administration for providing a safe place for a queer kid to learn without fear and worry and expressed gratitude for State protections for LGBTQ students.

Elisa Dybzinski conveyed concern about district eliminated class fees for CTE classes and said budget constraints are becoming roadblocks to student future.

Anna Lebedda spoke in support of dyslexic learners and offered multiple recommendations for district-initiated relief.

Eric Sutherland stated it is illegal to use revenues derived from bond levy money for general fund purposes and said the district is harming taxpayers.

5.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Board members congratulated all involved with the grand opening of the Manufacturing Lab.
- Documentary *Screenagers* will air October 8, 2025 at Fossil Ridge High School and will be followed by a panel discussion.

- Director Havelda provided an update on both the SEAC and Policy Review Committee meetings.
- Vice President Jessica Zamora provided an update on the Early Childhood Policy Council kickoff meeting.
- President Draper attended the grand opening of the Larimer County Longview Campus.
- Community and staff were reminded about the Canvas Community Classic occurring this weekend; all are invited to come.
- Board members conveyed well wishes and Happy New Year to all Jewish friends.

6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

6.1 Personnel Action

6.2 Building Automation Controls Contract for FRHS

6.3 School-Based Fee Schedules

Director Havelda requested Consent Item *6.2 Building Automation Controls Contract for FRHS* be removed from Consent.

Director Duffy moved that the Board approve and adopt the recommended actions for the items remaining 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, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

7.0 ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Monitoring/Policy Review: EL 2.9, Working with the Poudre School District Community

Vice President Zamora moved that the Board determine that the Superintendent has reasonably interpreted Board of Education Policy EL 2.9 in his Internal Monitoring Report dated 9.23.25 and that the evidence presented supports the Superintendent's conclusions stated in the Internal Monitoring Report.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Board members expressed appreciation to the Superintendent for visiting all PSD schools in the 2024-25 school year and said it is important the leader of the district walk the halls of schools.
- Gratitude was conveyed to the Superintendent for harnessing community collaboration as evidenced by the Canvas Community Class, Matthew's House Youth Shelter, PSD Manufacturing Lab, and more.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

7.2 Approval of the 2024-25 Head Start and Early Head Start Annual Report

Director Duffy moved that the Board approve the 2024-2025 Head Start and Early Head Start Annual Report.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Director of Early Childhood Becca Benedict presented the report.
- Gratitude was expressed for the thorough report and hard work involved.
- Majority of students who age-out of Early Childhood stay within the district.
- 925 available seats in the program; waiting list exists.
- Need to add classrooms to add more seats; licensing requirements generally mean costly changes to most classrooms/facilities.
- Currently provide Early Childhood classes in 20 elementary schools.
- Larimer County 1B vote would help students in the district.
- Funding is the main barrier to additional classrooms.
- Cost of Living increases for Early Childhood do not keep up with the cost of staff wages.
- Early Childhood Council of Larimer County is a good resource for projected numbers.
- Transportation Department training has improved.
- Marketing for Early Childhood mainly occurs through word-of-mouth.
- Unable to run summer session this year due to \$100,000 funding cuts.
- Universal Pre-K requires make up of minutes lost from Heat Days, but HeadStart does not.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora
Those voting NO: None
Motion passed: 7-0

7.3 Building Automation Controls Contract for FRHS

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

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Director Havelda said he pulled the item from Consent due to the high dollar amount and asked staff to explain the contract need in the interest of transparency of 4A spending.
- Chief Finance Officer Dave Montoya provided information about the expenditure.
- Board members thanked the community for passage of 4A to allow for these expenditures.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelda, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora
Those voting NO: None
Motion passed: 7-0

8.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

8.1 Executive session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e)(III) to develop the strategy of the school district for negotiations relating to the 2025-2026 collective bargaining agreement or employment contracts.

Director Brokish moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of developing the strategy of the school district for negotiations relating to the 2025-2026 collective bargaining agreement or employment contracts, as authorized by C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(e)(III).

Individuals invited to join the Board in executive session are Superintendent Brian Kingsley, Chief of Staff Lauren Hooten, Lead Assistant Superintendent Traci Gile, Chief Finance Officer Dave Montoya, Chief Technology Officer Bud Hunt, and General Counsel Autumn Aspen.

Director Spain seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Kevin Havelde, Scott Schoenbauer, Andrew Spain, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

Executive session began at 7:31 p.m.

Executive session adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Secretary to the Board of Education