



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
September 10, 2024

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

PRESENT: President Kristen Draper; Vice President Jessica Zamora; Directors Jim Brokish, Conor Duffy, and Carolyn Reed; Superintendent Brian Kingsley

ABSENT: Director Kevin Havelda, Director Scott Schoenbauer

LATE: None

Dinner session began at 5:33 p.m.

1.0 District Information and Board Discussion Topics

- General Counsel Autumn Aspen spoke about the Fair Campaign Practices Act (FCPA) and reminded members of guidelines for Directors and staff.
- Board members asked multiple questions and sought clarification on appropriate information and conversations regarding the upcoming mill levy.
- Board meeting scheduled for November 5 is on election night; may change meeting time to start earlier.
- President Draper recapped information from the Board Norming exercises and members discussed take-aways.
- Board Secretary Jill Brunner introduced future Assistant Board Secretary Allison Brinkhoff; resolution to confirm position will be forthcoming September 24, 2024.
- Classified staff do not have a mentorship program; churn is higher for classified staff than any other group at 22.6%.

2.0 Agenda Planning

Dinner session ended at 6:16 p.m.

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 6:30 PM

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

ABSENT: Director Kevin Havelda, Director Scott Schoenbauer

LATE: None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Draper called the regular business meeting to order at 6:30 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

There were no changes to the agenda.

4.0 RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

4.1 Bobby G Awards

Performing Arts Curriculum Facilitator Melissa Flail spoke about the technical aspect of the theater process and introduced the following student winners: Alexander Heinrich, Alexa Fritzier, Hillary Slezack, Christian Cote, Mallory Clark, and Stella Epstein.

4.2 International Thespian Festival

Performing Arts Curriculum Facilitator Melissa Flail spoke about the festival and introduced the following student winners: Charlotte Baker, Leyton Dellemonache, Maeve Schinkel, Hannah Schnorr, Fawn Barry, Maddie Holloway, Grace Howell, Kat Smith, Kaylee Bissell, Cooper Hand, and Parker Cropp.

President Draper congratulated all students on behalf of the Board of Education.

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Resolution in Support of Hispanic Heritage Month

Vice President Zamora moved that the Board approve a resolution in support of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Director Duffy seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator Delhia Mahaney introduced Family Liaison Maria Elea Thomas who spoke about the importance of recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and introduced students Melany Michel Cisneros and Ariana Duarte.

- Gratitude was expressed to the students for sharing their bright smiles and infectious pride in Hispanic heritage.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 5-0

5.2 Resolution in Support of National Suicide Prevention Month

Director Reed moved that the Board approve a resolution in support of National Suicide Prevention Month.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Mental Health & Prevention Coordinator Sarah Mowder-Wilens and Mental Health Specialist Christine Epling presented the resolution.
- Appreciation was expressed to Sarah and Christine for hard work performed and for moving the district forward in this area.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 5-0

5.3 Resolution in Support of Attendance Awareness Month

Director Brokish moved that the Board approve a resolution in support of Attendance Awareness Month.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Assistant Superintendent Julie Chaplain spoke about the resolution and the importance of partnering with parents to help improve attendance.
- Gratitude was expressed to Dr. Chaplain and all staff for moving forward with focus on attendance in the best interest of students.

The voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE: Directors Jim Brokish, Kristen Draper, Conor Duffy, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora
Those voting NO: None
Motion passed: 5-0

6.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Kingsley expressed pride in the district and love of his job, spoke about appreciation for a strategic plan that is moving the district forward in a meaningful way, introduced a video about the first month of school, conveyed gratitude to multiple employee groups for contributing every day toward quality improvements, spoke about attending the Classified employee Capstone presentations at the Lincoln Center, and detailed recent school visits.

7.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT

Joshua Reyling expressed concern about a lack of mill levy information on the district website and requested transparency.

Anna Lebedda asked the district to consider inclusion of an additional category in the equity definition.

Meghan Molin provided feedback from survey respondents and offered suggestions to facilitate passage of the mill levy.

Taylor Unwin expressed concern about passing a mill levy that will not address the needs of students with disabilities.

Dani Lawrence stated the SEAC committee restructuring was a joke and said educating the masses defies educating the rest of the students.

Fred Kirsch spoke about solar feasibility in the district.

Charles Fitzpatrick asked the district to provide student learning opportunities in the solar industry and read a letter on behalf of a community member.

Amelia Freeman spoke in support of the district pursuing six solar projects recommended by McKinstry, cited specific savings, and read a letter on behalf of a community member

Crispin Hilliard asked the district to put recommended solar projects into practice, cited specific cost savings, and read a letter on behalf of a community member.

8.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- President Draper spoke about recent school visits.

9.0 CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Personnel Action

9.2 Meeting Minutes for August 6, 2024, August 13, 2024, and August 27, 2024

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

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 5-0

Board recessed at 8:50 p.m.

Board reconvened at 9:01 p.m.

10.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

10.1 Bamford Feeder Pattern Modifications – Update on Transportation

Assistant Superintendent Julie Chaplain provided an update.

Board discussion included:

- Gratitude was expressed for a thorough presentation.
- Affective Need student options were clarified.
- Programs and transportation will be available to all IEP students.
- Important to speak to families individually; will have transition meeting for all.
- Transportation to Timnath Middle-High School was discussed.
- Important to consider if bussing alleviates overcrowding; objective is to reduce enrollment at Timnath Middle-High School.
- September 24, 2024 vote will be on boundary changes only.

10.2 School Finance Formula and New Finance Formula

Budget Director Brian Gustafson provided part one of a four-part series on school finance.

Board discussion included:

- Examples of additional funding sources were provided.
- Gratitude was expressed for a thorough explanation that provided details and education.
- Differences in per-pupil-funding for nearby districts were discussed.
- October count for 2024 will assist in calculations moving forward.
- Colorado falls into the lower 25% of funding in the nation, and Poudre School District is at the very bottom of the Colorado funding.

11.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

11.1 Negotiations

Vice President Zamora moved that the Board enter executive session to develop 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, Assistant Superintendent Traci Gile, Chief Financial Officer 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, Carolyn Reed, and Jessica Zamora

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 5-0

Executive session began at 9:51 p.m.
Executive session ended at 10:22 p.m.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner
Secretary to the Board of Education