



## 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 24, 2024

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

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 Lauren Hooten, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, and Dwayne Schmitz; General Counsel Autumnn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

Dinner session began at 5:33 p.m.

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

- Chief of Staff Lauren Hooten provided an orientation to the Mill Levy page on the PSD website and answered questions.
- General Counsel Autumnn Aspen provided a refresher on motion language protocol and sequence.
- Board members reviewed items on the norming worksheet.
- Recommendation made to procure a local lobbyist with ties to the community.

Dinner session ended at 5:53 p.m.

#### **REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (BOARDROOM) – 6:30 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 Lauren Hooten, Bud Hunt, Dave Montoya, and Dwayne Schmitz; General Counsel Autumnn Aspen

ABSENT: None

LATE: None

#### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice President Zamora moved that the Board amend the agenda to include an Executive Session at the end of the meeting for the purpose of the Board receiving legal advice.

Director Havelda 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

## **3.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Kingsley introduced a video that highlighted various construction items completed across the district using 2016 bond funds, conveyed celebration on behalf of several schools, guided community members to mill levy information on the PSD website, provided information about mill levy updates and presentations from the finance department, and thanked first responders for efforts on the fire at Red Feather.

## **4.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Anna Lebedda advocated for students with dyslexia and asked the board to consider missing data due to low participation in testing.

Fred Kirsch asked for transparency regarding the process for solar implementation in the district.

Charles Fitzpatrick spoke in support of solar energy in schools.

Claire Walther spoke in support of solar in schools.

Taylor Unwin asked about Board member awareness of potential changes to the autism site-based programs at Bamford.

Dani Lawrence expressed frustration with graduation rates for ILS students and said the district is ignoring the needs of the ILS population.

## **5.0 BOARD TOPICS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Draft proposal for creation of a Long-Range Planning committee will be forthcoming at the October 8, 2024 meeting during dinner session.
- President Draper and Director Schoenbauer talked about recent school visits.

## **6.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

- 6.1 Personnel Action**
- 6.2 Resolution of Appointment of Assistant Board Secretary**
- 6.3 Mendez Barkis Renewal Contract**
- 6.4 Early Head Start Partner Contract with La Familia/The Family Center**
- 6.5 School-Based Fee Schedules**

Director Reed requested Consent Item 6.3, Mendez Barkis Renewal Contract, be pulled and moved to Action Items.

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

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

## **7.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **7.1 Mendez Barkis Renewal Contract**

Vice President Zamora moved that the Board approve the lobbying contract.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Director Reed expressed concern about hiring a firm with potential split loyalties, and suggested the district hire a local lobbyist to head a district-run legislative committee.
- Board may not have time to make a change for current year because the legislative session will start soon.
- Can research other options for implementation next year.
- Important to demonstrate fiscal responsibility.
- Services provided by the current lobbyist were discussed.
- Possible coalition with other school districts will be reviewed.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: Directors Carolyn Reed and Scott Schoenbauer  
Motion passed: 5-2

### **7.2 Monitoring/Policy Review: EL 2.9, Working with the Poudre School District Community**

Director Brokish moved that the Board determine that the Superintendent has reasonably interpreted Board of Education Policy EL 2.9 in his Internal Monitoring Report dated 9.24.24 and that the evidence presented supports the Superintendent's conclusions stated in the Internal Monitoring Report.

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Superintendent Kingsley maintains an incredibly busy schedule that includes frequent school visits and community engagement.
- Important to rebuild trust with community; Board holds partial responsibility for moving too fast on consolidation.

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

### **7.3 Bamford Feeder Pattern Modifications**

Vice President Zamora moved that the Board approve the change to Bamford Elementary School's feeder pattern so that students residing in the Bamford attendance area attend Preston Middle School for grades six through eight and Fossil Ridge High School for grades nine through twelve, and such that the boundary areas for Preston Middle School and Fossil Ridge High School change to include the Bamford Elementary attendance area beginning in the 2025-2026 school year.

Director Brokish seconded the motion.

Board discussion included:

- Assistant Superintendent Dr. Julie Chaplain provided the presentation.
- Gratitude was expressed for implementing Board feedback from previous meetings.
- ILS students will have the option to stay at Timnath MHS or move.
- Board asked for immediate solutions to overcrowding and staff delivered.

- Concern was expressed about socio-economic differences for some students who may not be able to stay at TMHS due to transportation difficulties.
- Families and students need stability; frequent school changes lessen the sense of security.
- Difficult to be nimble and stable in a huge system with varied immediate needs.
- Appreciation was conveyed to administration and staff involved with challenging work performed and completion of assigned task.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: Director Conor Duffy

Motion passed: 6-1

## **8.0 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **8.1 Budget Informational Item: Mill Levy and Bond Basics**

Chief Finance Officer Dave Montoya provided the information.

Board discussion included:

- 27% of Total Program is cumulative for all traditional mill levy overrides.
- Mill levy overrides to not retire over time.
- Debt-Free Schools are a different type of override.
- Director Havelda reminded listeners of upcoming mill levy informational sessions.
- Funds from debt-free schools levy are kept in a separate fund.
- Oversight committee will monitor activities.
- Property taxes will increase \$25.00 per \$100,000 house value if mill levy passes.
- Gratitude was expressed for the thorough presentation.

## **9.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **9.1 Legal Advice**

Director Havelda moved that the Board enter executive session for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions relating to pending civil litigation against the District regarding former bus paraprofessional attendant Tyler Zanella, as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b).

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

Vice President Zamora seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

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

Those voting NO: None

Motion passed: 7-0

Executive Session began at 9:06 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 10:20 p.m.

## **10.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Brunner  
Secretary to the Board of Education