

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
EDUCATION, ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS, HELD AT  
1500 E. 128<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, THORNTON, CO 80241, FEBRUARY 4, 2015.

PRESENT:

Board of Education

M. Clark

E. Figueroa

N. Jennings

K. Plomer

M. Willsey

C. Gdowski,

Superintendent

**REGULAR MEETING**

Call to Order (Item A-1)

Mr. Clark called the meeting to order at 5:24 p.m.

Roll Call (Item A-2)

All Board Members were present.

Approval of Agenda (Item A-3)

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Jennings, to approve the agenda as stated.

Ayes: Clark; Figueroa; Jennings; Plomer; Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Executive Session (Item A-4)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Plomer, to recess for an Executive Session to receive legal advice regarding Proposition 104, pursuant to Board Policies 2.0 General Operating Limitations and C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b).

Ayes: Clark; Figueroa; Jennings; Plomer; Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

**RECESSED 5:25 P.M.**

**RECONVENED 5:54 P.M.**

**WORK STUDY SESSION**

Work Study Session (Item A-3)

Staff provided information to the Board regarding the ACT Aspire Assessment and provided an update on the Implementation of SB191 and the Strategic Compensation Committee.

Superintendent Update (Item A-3)

Superintendent Gdowski:

- informed the Board of the retirement of Pam Smiley, Horizon High School Principal, at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.
- informed the board he would attend the of the Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE) Winter Conference on February 5-2015, at the Westin Hotel Westminster, which would include a press conference regarding the position paper from Colorado superintendents advocating for a \$270 million reduction in the negative factor.

**RECESSED 6:59 P.M.**

**RECONVENED 7:09 P.M.**

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### Adams 12 Community Groups (Item B-1)

As part of its ongoing effort to incorporate the community's ideals in developing Ends Policies the Board met with the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee, District School Improvement Team, the Hispanic Advisory Council, and Special Education Advisory Committee and received feedback regarding "What is most important that students learn in school to be successful?" Notes from the conversation are attached.

## INFORMATION

### Board of Education Comments, Recognition, Awards and Vision (Item B-1)

Mr. Willsey:

- on behalf of Dr. Strickland, thanked board members and staff who attended his induction to the CHSSA Hall of Fame.
- congratulated Ed Hartnett on his election as president of the CHSSA Board of Directors.

Mr. Figueroa reported meeting with parents and citizens to hear their concern and indicated they would be working with him to increase the comfort level of parents to raise problems they have encountered. He encouraged more people to raise school and district issues with individual board members.

Ms. Plomer:

- attended the Prospect Ridge Academy Community Breakfast where she toured the school and heard about their upcoming programming and expansion of their high school.
- thanked board members for a productive Board retreat on January 24, 2015 indicating they made good progress on Ends Policies and she looks forward to
- attended the CHSSA Hall of Fame Induction Dinner and acknowledged the 96,000 free student physicals provided by Dr. Strickland.
- met with retired teachers who expressed concerns with the District.
- attended the Great Education Conference in Denver and found it inspiring. Topics included getting the word out about making our schools stronger, support for the superintendent's message around buying downs the negative factor, and involving parents and communities in advocating for their kids and schools.

Mr. Jennings

- acknowledged the Board retreat indicating there was great discussion and they made excellent progress.
- attended the Prospect Ridge Community Breakfast and indicated it was interesting to see everything they are doing, it is a great facility, and he noted they are already planning their expansion of the high school. They are proactive about meeting their needs and aligning budgets for the future.
- met with Kim Skattum, Pastor of Crossroads Church, who indicated they have been very well received at schools and the assistance they provide is valued and appreciated
- encouraged Board members and senior staff to attend the Global Leadership Summit, advocating the benefit of leadership training.
- visited the University of Northern Colorado campus with his daughter and encouraged their tour guide, a student pursuing teaching and special education, to consider employment Adams 12. He suggested the Board consider recruiting special education teachers at UNC.

Mr. Clark:

- recognized former board member Darwin Strickland who was inducted to the CHSSA Hall of Fame. He acknowledged Dr. Strickland's contributions to the Adams 12 community, notably 40 years as the Northglenn High School football team doctor, providing an estimated 96,000 free physicals for Adams 12 students over the years, and holding night office hours to provide care for families. Mr. Clark indicated Dr. Strickland's induction was a tremendous honor for the district.
- handed out dictionaries to third graders at Rocky Mountain Elementary on behalf of the 7:10 Rotary. He noted that the Rotary will present over 1800 dictionaries to third graders in

Westminster schools.

- acknowledged a productive Board retreat indicating they worked well together and thanked Mr. Figueroa and Ms. Plomer for facilitating the meeting.
- attended oral arguments in the Figueroa vs. Speers' case before the Colorado Supreme Court.
- attended the North Metro Chamber of Commerce Gala and noted that Senator Kauffman sought him out to find out how Adams 12 School District is doing.
- thanked the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee, District School Improvement Team, the Hispanic Advisory Council and the Special Education Advisory Committee members that participated in the community engagement exercise and provided their feedback to the Board.
- acknowledged the leadership of Lori Goldstein, DTEA President indicating she is a rising star and has brought the District a long way in the past year. He thanked her for their visits to schools and her outreach to discussing issues.

Superintendent Gdowski:

- informed the Board that he would participate in a press conference in conjunction with the Colorado Association of School Executives Conference that would advocate for greater funding for K-12 education in Colorado and for a reduction in the negative factor. He noted 174 of the 178 superintendents in the state have signed onto a common position statement advocating for funding. He indicated it speaks volumes when people from small, medium, and large systems, rural, suburban, and urban systems, and politically liberal, moderate, and conservative all finding common ground to say we need additional resources in the systems.
- reported meetings on February 10, 2015 and February 17, 2015 to gather community feedback around budget recommendations stakeholders want the Board and superintendent to take into consideration as the 2015-2016 budget is developed.
- reported that the Strong Schools Strong Communities (S3C) group would reconvene on February 12, 2015 to consider the Board's request for recommendation on the pros, cons and tradeoffs of pursuing Certificates of Participation to fund work in the District.

DSIT Report (Item B-2)

There was no DSIT report.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

General Public Comment (Item D-1)

Joe Holt of Northglenn, informed the Board that on 1/20/2015 the Douglas County School Board adopted a resolution that included language requesting a waiver from the State PARCC Assessments, he expressed disappointment that the Resolution: Mandated Student Assessments before the Board for consideration did not include the same language, and recommended changes to the resolution.

City Councilwoman Leslie Carrico of Northglenn thanked the Board for the opportunity to participate in Northglenn High School STEM Capstone projects. Northglenn Thornton Rotarians judged projects where students were reinventing or introducing something new last week and she and another representative from the city would be judging Capstone projects on recycling on February 5, 2015.

Felicia Alvarez of Northglenn, and Chairperson of the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee, thanked Board members for attending the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Adams 12 Pow-wow and supporting the Native American community in the District and raising awareness of their culture. She acknowledged the College Fair held in conjunction with the Pow-wow and invited all students to participate. Ms. Alvarez suggested the AIPAC Facebook page on Adams12 for more information on the group and Native American culture.

Greg Phillips of Thornton and an AIPAC member, also thanked the Board and emphasized that the Pow-wow is an inclusive event for the Adams 12 community that celebrates the diversity of the district. He acknowledged the opportunity to come together with common ground of family and respect that is important to all.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### Recommended Action

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Plomer, to approve agenda item E-1 as stated in the Board agenda dated February 4, 2015.

Ayes: Clark; Figueroa; Jennings; Plomer; Willsey.  
Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

### School and District Selected Instructional Materials (Item E-1)

Adopted the instructional material requested by the Learning Services Department presented in Enclosure E-1 as recommended by the Superintendent.

## BOARD BUSINESS

### Minutes (Item F-1)

Motion by Mr. Figueroa, second by Mr. Jennings, to approve the minutes of the special Board meetings of December 10, 2014, January 14, 2015 and January 24, 2015, and the regular Board meetings of December 17, 2014 and January 21, 2015, as presented in Enclosures F-1(a), F-1(b), F-1(c), F-1(d) and F-1(e).

Ayes: Clark; Figueroa; Jennings; Plomer; Willsey.  
Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

### Health Initiatives Presentation (Item F-2)

Karina Delaney, Whole Child Initiatives Director, Jill Collins and TJ Ricciardi, School Wellness Coordinators presented information regarding health initiatives and grant funded work in the district.

### Resolution: Mandated Student Assessments (Item F-3)

The Board held initial discussion of a revised draft resolution presented at the board meeting and will discuss the resolution further at the February 4, 2015 meeting when members have had the opportunity to fully review the resolution.

### Agenda Planning: Special Meeting with DTEA Representatives (Item F-4)

The Board determined the format for the special meeting with DTEA Representatives on February 9, 2015 with a timeframe of 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. and topics to include the proposed Resolution: Mandated Student Assessment, teacher feedback on assessments, and general topics of interest to teachers.

## FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

### Calendar (Item G-1)

In response to suggestion that Ends Policy monitoring scheduled for the February 18, 2015 Board meeting be postponed given ongoing board discussion and impending revision it was decided that monitoring reports for Ends Policies 1.2 Graduates, 1.2.1 Dropouts, and Operating Limitation Policy 2.4 Financial Condition and Activities would be presented as scheduled and monitoring of Ends Policy 1.4 Schooling – Aspirations would be deferred until new policy language is finalized.

### Adjournment (Item G-3)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

**Adopted by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of February 18, 2015.**