

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, MARCH 16, 2016.

PRESENT:

Board of Education

B. Batz

N. Jennings

J. Lockley

L. Mitchell

K. Plomer

C. Gdowski, Superintendent

**REGULAR MEETING**

Call to Order (Item A-1)

Ms. Plomer called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Roll Call (Item A-2)

All Board Members were present.

Approval of Agenda (Item A-3)

Motion by Ms. Mitchell, second by Mr. Batz, to approve the agenda as stated, with the addition of agenda item F-5 Board IBS Representatives: Role/authority and an executive session at the end of the regular meeting to discuss real estate matters pursuant to Board Policy 2.5 Asset Protection and C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(a) regarding Stargate building acquisition.

Ayes: Batz; Jennings; Lockley; Mitchell; Plomer.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

**WORK STUDY SESSION**

Work Study Session (Item A-4)

Dinner

Advancing Professional Excellence (APEX) - Measures of Student Learning (MSL) Presentation - David Bahna, Director of Assessment and Accountability, Kim Terry, Accountability and Measurement Specialist, Megan Cain, APEX Administrator, Trena Spears, Director of Literacy, Priscilla Straughn, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Tracy Dorland, Chief Academic Officer presented information to the Board regarding the implementation APEX and MSL in the District.

**RECESSED 7:00 P.M.**

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

Pledge of Allegiance

**SCHOOL PERFORMANCE**

Stukey Elementary School Choir (Item B-1)

The Stukey Singers performed three selections from their recent show of Broadway music under the direction of Choir Director Chad Sheridan.

Elementary Literacy Adoption Presentation

Priscilla Straughn gave background on the literacy review conducted by the District three years ago which resulted in a multi-year plan to address lagging student performance. Trena Spears presented information regarding tools for teachers in literacy, specifically literacy resources and the Superintendent Policy 6230 Instructional Materials process for selecting the resources.

## REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATION

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

Mr. Batz reported:

- attending the Thornton High School PTO meeting and volunteering to plan their After Prom.
- attending the Five Star Education Foundation Shoot for the Stars Gala. He indicated it was an enjoyable time meet and talk with people.
- attending and streaming the Adams 12 Community Action Network (CAN) meeting which is available on the web.
- participating in the first session of the IBS Team where he met new people and felt discussion around the table was productive.

Ms. Lockley reported attending:

- the Education Foundation Gala indicating it was very well organized and she was excited to see the District and community gathered to support a worthy cause.
- the Adams 12 CAN meeting and acknowledged the community participation, good conversation and an important opportunity to get State and District information into the hands of voters.

Mr. Jennings expressed his appreciation for the Board Retreat with Jim Weigel and the opportunity to be challenged and think about things differently.

Ms. Mitchell reported:

- participating in the Leadership Academy tour of District schools where she experienced mobiles at Cotton Creek Elementary and commented on the remarkable learning coming out of challenging circumstances for teachers and students, was serenaded by the orchestra at Thornton High School which has a growing music program while facing great need, and space constraints at Bollman Technical Education Center in the face of growing demand for high value, career building classes.
- attending the Coyote Ridge Elementary talent show and lauded the overwhelming support of performers by the audience and the culture of the school that speaks to.
- attending the CASB Winter Legislative Conference where the new Commissioner of Education Richard Crandall spoke. She found his list of priorities interesting and noted STEM and CTE were included.
- having the opportunity to Century Middle School addressing the legislature at the State Capitol.
- visiting Thornton High School to learn about its native speakers program from Spanish Teacher, Brenna Cer.
- participating in a tour at the P-Tech Press Conference by students to meet STEM teachers and commended the quality of faculty at Northglenn High School.

Ms. Plomer:

- conveyed topics of discussion at the last Rocky Mountain Risk Insurance Group meeting that included:
  - the increasing cost of insurance that will be reflected in future budgets,
  - building space and consideration of moving as their lease is up,
  - how the departure of Adams County School District 14 is going,
  - possible addition of a 5<sup>th</sup> Board member from the community at large, and
  - extensive conversation of workers compensation claims.
- attended an authors' release party at Meridian Elementary School where 5<sup>th</sup> grade student were selling and signing books they had written and published.
- attended the Winter Legislative Conference and had the opportunity to interact with the Adams 12 delegation and help them understand challenges the District is facing. She also reported on the CASB Board meeting that focused on legislative work and support of moving the Hospital Provider Fee to an enterprise fund.
- attended the Great Education Colorado Great Futures Conference that focused on community advocacy. They will be focusing on fall ballot questions to remove the TABOR cap.
- attended the P-TECH press Conference and acknowledged the partnership with Level 3 that will provide for 65 students to achieve an associates degree in communications technology before they graduate high school.
- reported the Education Foundation Gala raised \$78,000, it was a well attended event, and she conveyed the foundation's appreciation for auction items from Board members, schools and the community.

- reported the Adams 12 CAN meeting featured three speakers that were experts on fiscal issues, Natalie Mullis, Chief Economist from the Colorado Legislative Council, Carol Hedges, Executive Director Colorado and Suzi DeYoung, Adams 12 Chief Financial Officer, talking about state fiscal issues and how that affects the District budget. She expressed appreciation to Mr. Batz for capturing the presentations.

Superintendent Gdowski framed Board member and Superintendent comments quoting Dickens, “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times” and recognized:

- Mountain Range becoming part of the High School of Business Nationwide Consortium as a result of their DECA program. This will allow MRHS students to earn up to 24 credits toward college, including a combination of community college and CU Credits, and they will have preferred admission to schools like University of Northern Colorado.
- an Adams County and State of Colorado partnership to provide \$450,000 in scholarships for kids from low income families in Adams 12.
- a \$15 million budget challenge for the District which aligns with budget issues at the state level for Public Education. He noted the “...worst of times” statement is within the District and community’s power to change through legislation at the state level and by investing more in facilities and operations in the District to develop a community school system everyone can be proud of.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### General Public Comment (Item D-1)

There were no requests to address the Board.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Mr. Jennings, to approve agenda item E-1 as stated in the Board agenda dated March 16, 2016.

Ayes: Batz; Jennings; Lockley; Mitchell; Plomer.  
Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

### Personnel Actions (Item E-1)

Approved the Personnel Actions as listed in Enclosure E-1:

- (a) Resignations and Terminations
- (b) Transfers and Reassignments
- (c) Employment
- (d) Leaves of Absence.

## **BOARD BUSINESS**

### Minutes (Item F-1)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Mitchell, to approve the minutes of the regular board meetings of February 17, 2016 and March 2, 2016, and the special meeting of February 27, 2016 as presented in Enclosures F-1(a), F-1(b) and F-1(c).

Ayes: Batz; Jennings; Lockley; Mitchell; Plomer.  
Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

### Preliminary 2016-2017 Budget Discussion (Item F-2)

Suzi DeYoung, Chief Financial Officer presented information regarding current projections and assumptions for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Adams 12 budget.

Direct Inspection Monitoring: Governance Process Policy 4.7 Cost of Governance - Board Department Budget (Item F-3)

The Board reviewed its department budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017. Members raised questions regarding the Materials and Supplies account for FY 14-15 and overtime for the Sr. Executive Assistant position. Further information will be provided at the next Board meeting.

Tentative Programming Proposal to Serve Home School Students (Item F-4)

Ms. Plomer announced that the District had been notified that morning that Colorado Early Colleges had withdrawn their proposal.

Board IBS Representatives: Role/Authority (Item F-5)

Superintendent Gdowski provided background for the Boards discussion of the role/authority of Board representative to the IBS Team based in the Policy Governance committee structure and to provide clarity given new members. Board members expressed their individual perspectives regarding the role and there was a common theme of representing the broader Adams 12 community and fiduciary responsibility. The Superintendent also addressed the specific item of discussion “term of contract” and recommended it be addressed earlier in the sessions.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Calendar (Item G-1)

The Board determined the special meeting on April 13, 2016 would begin at 7:00 p.m. and there was no need to provide dinner. Superintendent Gdowski indicated the 1.1 series of monitoring reports scheduled for April 20, 2016 had been postponed by the Board until it has reviewed the policy language. Mr. Gdowski also informed the Board he would be attending the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools Conference in California and Tracy Dorland, Chief Academic Officer would attend the April 20, 2016 Board meeting in his stead.

Executive Session (Item G-1.5)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Lockley, to recess for an executive session to discuss real estate matters pursuant to Board Policy 2.5 Asset Protection and C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(a) regarding Stargate building acquisition.

Ayes: Batz; Jennings; Lockley; Mitchell; Plomer.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

**RECESSED 9:11 P.M.**

**RECONVENED 9:48 P.M.**

Adjournment (Item G-2)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

**Adopted by the Board of Education at its special meeting of May 9, 2016.**