

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, APRIL 15, 2015.

PRESENT:

Board of Education

M. Clark

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 5:33 p.m.

Roll Call (Item A-2)

All Board Members were present.

Approval of Agenda (Item A-3)

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

Ayes: Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session (Item A-4)

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Willsey, to recess for an executive session to receive legal advice regarding the process for review of vacancy applications pursuant to Board Policy 2.0 General Operating Limitations and C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b).

Ayes: Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

**RECESSED 5:34 P.M.**

**RECONVENED 6:10 P.M.**

Work Study Session (Item A-5)

The Board received nine applications for the vacancy in Director District No. 4. Applicants Amira Assad-Lucas and Jessy Hamilton did not meet all eligibility qualifications for the position and withdrew their applications. The Board determined it would interview the remaining six applicants at a special meeting on April 22, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. The interview process agreed upon for each applicant will include a twenty five minute time limit, four standard questions with the possibility of additional questions should time allow, and will open with a five minute applicant introduction, followed by fifteen minutes for questions from the Board, and conclude with a five minute close from the applicant. Board members will each submit a question by Monday afternoon, April 20, 2012, to be reviewed by Phil Spare, General Counsel and Mark Hinson, Chief Human Resource Officer. Question will not be available to applicants or publicly prior to interviews.

**RECESS 6:39 P.M.**

**RECONVENE 6:56 P.M.**

Pledge of Allegiance

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### School Presentation: Hulstrom K-8 (Item B-1)

Steve Isenhour, Principal presented information to the Board regarding Hulstrom K-8 School. The presentation included a performance from the Hulstrom Signing Choir of *How Does Your Garden Grow* in American Sign Language and information from Heather Karimi, Hulstrom parent and PTA co-chair, regarding parent/community involvement.

### Hullstrom K-8 Community Engagement (Item B-2)

The Board gathered feedback from Hulstrom parents, staff and community regarding “What is most important that students learn in school to be successful?” as part of its ongoing effort to incorporate the community’s ideals in the Board’s decision-making.

## INFORMATION

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

Ms. Plomer reported:

- participating in a meeting sponsored by Congressman Jared Polis to gather input from school districts and parents on what federal legislation regarding data privacy might look like.
- judging the Adams 12 Elementary District Art Show and encouraged everyone to go to Front Range Community College for the upcoming District Secondary Art Show to see the great work by students.
- attending a facilitated training on the IBS process in preparation to participate next year and indicated after seeing how the whole process comes together she is pleased the Board and District are engaging in this process.
- spending the morning at the State Capital for a CASB legislative briefing on what is being put forward in the House and the Senate. She spoke with four Adams County legislators and expressed appreciation for the \$25 million buy down of the negative factor and indicated that more is needed. She noted there are sixteen days left in the legislative calendar.
- Attending the Colorado School Finance Project meeting to get an overview of the School Finance System which was motivation to go to the State Capitol.

Mr. Jennings reported:

- attended the Public Education Business Coalition Luncheon and indicated it was interesting to hear what PEBC does to train professionals interested in becoming teachers.
- participating in the IBS negotiating session that had a good discussion of Special Education in Adams 12 and learning more about the compliance burden that accompanies SpEd funding.
- attended the North Suburban Republican Forum which hosts school board members and superintendents annually.
- participating in a meeting hosted by the City of Westminster with Jefferson County and Scholl District 50 Boards and indicated it was good to get to know board members from other districts.

Mr. Willsey reported:

- attending the school boards’ meeting hosted by the City of Westminster.
- visiting Skyview Elementary School, meeting with Principal Stephanie Auday, and touring the school. He indicated the principal is very enthusiastic and has great pride in her staff and students.
- visiting Hunters Glen Elementary School and meeting with Principal Warren Rudkin. He commented Mr. Rudkin knows exactly what is going on in his school and is very interesting to talk to.

Mr. Clark reported:

- expressed his appreciation for the meeting hosted by the City of Westminster and the opportunity to reconnect with and meet city council and board members.
- Visited Leroy Elementary School
- attending the kickoff exhibition game of the Unified Sports basketball season with Horizon playing Mtn. Range. He indicated it is a life changing opportunity for the community but most

- importantly for the Special Olympic and varsity athletes that participate.
- thanked his fellow board members for the time they put in for the students and community.

Superintendent Gdowski:

- indicated the IBS work brings together people with different roles in the system to address problems and challenges, and provides opportunities to improve what the District does to serve kids. He acknowledged the more the team comes together to do that work the better it gets. He indicated he is happy to be a part of the team and recognized it is time well spent on the District moving forward.
- conveyed an emerging conversation around school finance regarding the improvement of the economy and the housing market throughout the state, the potential affect on assessed valuation of real property to improve to a point that the contribution toward per pupil funding in school finance would increase at the local level throughout the state, resulting in a reduction in the state's payment which could create money to work with to buy down the negative factor for this and future years. He acknowledged it is early on in the discussion and the District will watch to see what happens over the next few weeks.

#### DSIT Report (Item C-2)

Stephanie James, DSIT President presented information regarding her understanding of the DSIT/DAC responsibilities and provided suggestions for improving parent involvement.

#### General Public Comment (Item C-3)

Sharon Tonsager of Thornton and a representative of Citizens Coalition for Children's Success (CC for CS) thanked the Board for its work to mend relationships, rebuild trust and improve education for all Adams 12 students. She also asked the Board to keep in mind the outcome of the 2013 election and voters intent when Amy Speers was elected as they consider the appointment for Director District 4.

David Rodenbaugh of Thornton, a Thornton High School parent and spokesperson for the IB Parent Group suggested characteristics and qualifications the Board should look for in filling the vacancy in Director District No. 4.

Tod Sargent of Thornton, and a McElwain Music Teacher, invited the Board to the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors Choir, May 8, 2015, at Legacy High School at 7 p.m. He thanked the Board for its dedication to Music, Art and Physical Education, acknowledged the role of music teachers and their struggle as part time employees, and asked the Board to keep in mind the importance full time employment in retaining quality teachers with the potential improvement in the District's budget situation.

Leslie Carrico, Northglenn City Councilwoman thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the Unified Sports exhibition game, to participate in the course curriculum overviews, tour the Pathways program and see the District's work in addressing . She notified the Board that the City of Northglenn would be investing \$37,000 in signage and striping at North Mor Elementary School to provide increased safety. She also indicated the City of Northglenn nominated Dr. Darwin Strickland for the Mary Ciancio Distinguished Service Award for his service to the community and school district and the recipient would be announced at the event on April 16, 2015.

### **BOARD BUSINESS**

#### Certificates of Participation Resolution (Item D-1)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Mr. Willsey, to adopt the resolution in Enclosure D-1 authorizing the execution and delivery of the Adams 12 Five Star schools Certificates of Participation.

Ayes: Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

District Uniform Improvement Plan (Item D-2)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Plomer, to adopt the 2014-2015 District Unified Improvement Plan as presented in Enclosure D-2 Executive Summary and to authorize the Superintendent to submit to CDE the completed District UIP.

Ayes: Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.  
Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Oil and Gas Lease Proposal (Item D-3)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Mr. Willsey, to authorize subsurface leases for the extraction of oil and gas for the parcels described in Enclosure D-3 and direct the Superintendent to negotiate and sign said leases on terms consistent with those presented in Enclosure D-3.

Ayes: Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.  
Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Solar Garden Subscription (Item D-4)

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Willsey, to authorize four community solar services agreements, each for a term of 20 years, for the purchase of electricity from a community solar garden to be built and operated by Adams Community Solar Gardens LLC, at an initial approximate combined subscription of 1.4 megawatts, and direct the Superintendent to negotiate and sign said agreements.

Ayes: Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.  
Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Board of Education Department Budget (Item D-5)

Board review of its department budget for the 2015-2016 school year included discussion of board professional development with members in opposition to and support of renewing membership in the Colorado Association of School Boards and interest expressed in Board participation in the Global Leadership Summit. Support was expressed for the investment in ACYI. The Board will further discuss this item at a future board meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA  
RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Willsey, to approve agenda items E-1 and E-2 as stated in the board agenda dated April 15, 2015.

Ayes: Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.  
Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

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.

School and District Selected Instructional Materials (Item E-2)

Adopted the instructional materials requested by the Learning Services Department presented in Enclosure E-2 as recommended by the Superintendent.

## MONITORING

### Monitoring Report: Operating Limitations Policy 2.2 Treatment of Staff (Item F-1)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Plomer, to acknowledge that the Board has received a monitoring report as of April 15, 2015, for the period April 17, 2014 through April 15, 2015, of the Superintendent concerning Board Policy 2.2 Treatment of Staff, and finds the superintendent's interpretations are reasonable and supported by data that is relevant, justified and complete.

Ayes: Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

## FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

### Calendar (Item G-1)

A special Board meeting on May 27, 2015, 7:00 p.m., at the ESC will be added to the Board calendar.

### Adjournment (Item G-3)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

**Adopted by the Board of Education at a special meeting on May 27, 2015.**

**Hullstrom K-8 Community Engagement  
Board of Education Meeting  
April 15, 2015**

**What is the most important thing to learn for kids to be successful?**

- life-long learners, love of learning
- don't give up
  - confidence
  - pride
- social skills
  - interaction with peers and staff
- speech and articulation
- support that challenges students
  - differentiation
- exposure to career options
- love of reading
  - curiosity
- morality
- find and use resources
- parent involvement policy
  - expectation
- risk taking and failure
- growing interest and curiosity
- time management
- diverse experiences
  - in and out of class
- community volunteerism
- sense of school community
- critical thinking
  - creativity