

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, MAY 25, 2016.

PRESENT:

Board of Education

B. Batz

N. Jennings

J. Lockley

L. Mitchell

K. Plomer

C. Gdowski, Superintendent

**REGULAR SESSION**

Call to Order (Item A-1)

Ms. Plomer called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Roll Call (Item A-2)

All Board Members were present.

Approval of Agenda (Item A-3)

Motion by Ms. Lockley, second by Mr. Batz, to approve the agenda as stated, with the additions of an Update on Grading Practices in Work Study Session and an addendum to Enclosure E-1 in the regular session.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

**WORK STUDY SESSION**

Work Study Session (Item A-4)

Dinner

Crisis Team Presentation: Process – Janette Walters, Executive Director of Schools and Tammy Lawrence, District Counselor, presented information regarding the District Crisis Recovery Team, their work to help students through the grieving process, with suicide prevention and resources they provide to students, staff, families and the community.

Graduation Requirements Update – Janette Walters and Tammy Lawrence reviewed the work of the Graduation Requirements Committee in their three meetings indicating further work to be done on the Capstone Project. Ms. Walters provided a draft of Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2021 that committee members will discuss at their next meeting for Board review. The superintendent recommended: multiple options from the committee for Board consideration, discussion to clarify who will determine graduation/program recognitions on diplomas, and more detail in the graduation requirements.

Grading Practices Update – Tracy Dorland, Chief Financial Officer and Priscilla Straughn, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction informed the Board that a broad conversation about Standards Based Grading with multiple stakeholder groups is in process for Fall 2016. They also reported that Learning Services surveyed K-8 teachers this week informing them of the broader SBG conversation, inviting participation and asking for feedback on the grade reporting criteria, and the August 2016 vs. August 2017 timeframe for implementation. Ms. Dorland and Ms. Straughn also provided samples of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade report card, the folder that accompanies it, explained the change in language and noted positive feedback from Long Range Planning Committee parents.

Events: Global Leadership Summit, August 11–12, 2016 – there was general consensus to authorize payment for event registration through the Board budget for members interested in attending.

Superintendent Update – Superintendent Gdowski updated the Board on the following topics:

- 20 scholarship recipients for the Adams County Scholarship Fund have been chosen from the 165 applications submitted and will be announced to students and community soon. Adams County will hold a public recognition in late June.
- the Superintendent and Mark Hinson, Chief Human Resource Officer provided an overview of the personnel non-renewal process and the action the Board would take during its regular session.
- communication would be disseminated to staff and families of Elementary students informing them school will be starting at 7:35 a.m. instead of 7:45 a.m. which will provide additional instruction time to accommodate up to three snow days. He indicated a conversation would be initiated next year regarding the optimal start time for students at all levels.

**RECESSED 7:16 P.M.**

**RECONVENED 7:27 P.M.**

Pledge of Allegiance

### **REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATION**

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

Mr. Batz reported that a death in the family has taken him out of the public eye as he focused on family.

Ms. Lockley expressed her excitement in attending District graduations acknowledging great schools and great students, and her appreciation for the unique personality of each school's graduation.

Mr. Jennings reported attending all seven District graduations for the first time during his time on the Board. He acknowledged the highlight of his service on the Board has been handing out the Vantage Point and Pathways diplomas.

Ms. Mitchell reported attending:

- all seven graduations and recognized that each school's ceremony conveyed the culture and pride of their student body.
- the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Conference and indicated it would be interesting to see how it changes the state and what we're able to bring to our system with this new opportunity.

Ms. Plomer reported:

- having fun at all the graduations indicating it is the best part of the year.
- attending the Broomfield City Council meeting and providing an update on Adams 12 and the District's needs.
- meeting with Councilman Stan Jezierski, an Adams 12 parent with kids at Mountain View Elementary and Westlake Middle next year who is very happy with his students' schooling. They discussed keeping the Broomfield City Council informed on the District's needs and the potential Bond and Mill Levy Override questions and offered his assistance.
- she and Lori Goldstein, DTEA President, completed their tour of scheduled schools to stop by teachers lounges and talk to staff and teachers and see how they're feeling about the budget information shared and listen. She expressed her appreciation to hear about the specific schools from their staff.
- attending the District Elementary Honor Choir Concert indicating the students did a great job and it's a nice opportunity for students across the District to get to know each other and have acquaintances when they get to middle school.
- attending the graduation ceremony for parents taking English as a second language and receiving their GEDs at The International School at Thornton Middle. She indicated it was a wonderful celebration of what parents and families are doing to further their education and be good role models. The ceremony included a presentation of the District's needs and 24 parent signed up to get involved to help the District and their school.

- CASB's Federal Relations Network will be travelling to Washington, D.C. in June to advocate for public education at the national level and learn about the new ESSA law. While she will not travel to D.C. she will keep in touch with the group and keep everyone posted on what is going on at the federal level

Superintendent Gdowski:

- provided a historical comparison data point indicating the Vantage Point Class of 2010 had 30 graduates and the 2016 classes of Vantage Point had 83 graduates and Pathways 250 graduates, 10 times the students from just 6 years ago. He appreciated the District's ability to meet the needs of many more students and provide them a future of success and hope.
- reflected on the last day of school indicating sadness at the inevitable change in relationships developed with parents, teachers and kids throughout the year, and at the fatigue, but celebrated a great year in Adams 12 with the accomplishments of students and staff and great progress made in engaging parents and the community to be leaders in our system.

#### IBS Update (Item B-2)

Mark Hinson, Chief Human Resource Officer and Lori Goldstein, DTEA President reviewed the IBS process and outcomes from the year presented in Enclosure B-2. Mr. Hinson recognized the participation of Board members Kathy Plomer and Brian Batz on the IBS team. He acknowledged the challenges of funding with flat enrollment, 1.2 % in new funding and the negative factor indicating the IBS Team came together to come up with options that met the Team's interests and develop a package that the Association could sell to its members and that Adams 12 could be proud of in remaining competitive with other school districts. Ms. Goldstein acknowledged it was a creative way to show value to District teachers and reported DTEA membership were voting and the results would be known at 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 26, 2016. Assuming a positive outcome, the Board will consider ratification at an upcoming meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

There were no requests to address the Board.

### **BOARD BUSINESS**

#### Minutes (Item D-1)

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Mr. Jennings, to approve the minutes of the special Board meeting of May 9, 2016 as presented in Enclosure D-1.

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

#### 2016-2017 Budget Update (Item D-2)

Suzi DeYoung, Chief Financial Officer presented information to the Board regarding the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget and Financial Plan.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion Mr. Jennings, second by Mr. Batz, to approve agenda items E-1 as revised and E-2 as stated in the Board agenda dated May 25, 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, and Addendum to Enclosure E-1 provided on May 25, 2015:

- (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 material requested by the Learning Services Department presented in Enclosure E-2 as recommended by the Superintendent.

**MONITORING**

Monitoring Report: Operating Limitations Policy 2.1 Treatment of Students, Their Families and Community Members (Item F-1)

Motion by Ms. Mitchell, second by Mr. Jennings, to delay the monitoring of Operating Limitations Policy 2.1 Treatment of Students, Their Families and Community Members to the June 15, 2016 Board meeting.

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

Monitoring Report: Operating Limitations Policy 2.4 Financial Condition and Activities (Item F-2)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Mr. Batz, to acknowledge that the Board has received a monitoring report as of May 25, 2016, for the period July 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016, of the Superintendent concerning Board Policy 2.4 Financial Condition and Activities, and finds the superintendent's interpretations are reasonable and supported by data that is relevant, justified and complete.

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

Monitoring Report: Operating Limitations Policy 2.8 Management Planning (Item F-3)

Motion by Ms. Lockley, second by Mr. Jennings, to acknowledge that the Board has received a monitoring report as of May 25, 2016, for the period May 22, 2015 through May 25, 2016, of the Superintendent concerning Board Policy 2.8 Management Planning, and finds the superintendent's interpretations are reasonable and supported by data that is relevant, justified and complete.

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

Monitoring Report: Operating Limitations Policy 2.10 Effective Family, School and Community Partnering (Item F-4)

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Ms. Mitchell, to acknowledge that the Board has received a monitoring report as of May 25, 2016, for the 2015 – 2016 School Year, of the Superintendent concerning Board Policy 2.10 Effective Family, School and Community Partnering, and finds the superintendent's interpretations are reasonable and supported by data that is relevant, justified and complete.

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

## **BOARD BUSINESS (Continued)**

### General Fund Balance (Item D-3)

Board discussion of projections for ending fund balance in the General Fund and discretionary reserves expressed interest in policy language addressing expectations for rebuilding reserves that provides flexibility and accountability. The Superintendent will provide additional information regarding how school districts and governmental entities have dealt with unassigned fund balance, examples of existing fund balance policies and policy language recommendations for Board consideration for the June 15, 2016 meeting.

### Bond Information (Item D-4)

Superintendent Gdowski reported he would submit a recommended Bond package for Board feedback at the June 15, 2016 Board meeting with the intention of receiving Board direction regarding the amount to pursue and the content. He summarized the total cost of the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) priorities, charter school allocation, additional Planning Department recommendations, and utility cost reduction projects presented to the Board to be in the \$530 million range.

Board discussion expressed: a need for more detail to develop understanding in the community around what Bond funds would purchase, interest in higher prioritization of building a school at Louis Pointe, and general direction for a Bond in the \$350 million range. The Superintendent will work with staff and LRPC members to develop a recommendation of what should be included in a \$350 million Bond question.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

### Calendar (Item G-1)

It was noted that the Monitoring Report for Board Policy 2.1 and the General Fund Balance Policy: Discussion agenda items would be moved to the June 15, 2016 Board meeting.

Ms. Mitchell indicated she would share will all a document from the Colorado School Finance Project that provided information about the need factor and tax effort and capability in every school district.

### Adjournment (Item D-2)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 p.m.

**Adopted by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of June 15, 2016.**