

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, AUGUST 19, 2015.

PRESENT:

Board of Education

B. Batz

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 5:31 p.m.

Roll Call (Item A-2)

All Board Members were present.

Approval of Agenda (Item A-3)

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

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

**WORK STUDY SESSION**

Work Study Session (Item A-4)

Superintendent Update:

- Superintendent Gdowski reported a positive first day of school and provided an overview of enrollment across the District. He indicated the system is feeling the pain around enrollment that will continue and accelerate due to the failure of the 2014 bond election and continued development in Adams12. He expressed the most serious concern with Meridian Elementary which is over capacity and beyond spring projections. He informed the Board that students from the new KD Homes development will likely be bussed to another school and enrollment caps in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will be imposed for students currently living within Meridian boundaries. He indicated assignment of a school for KD Homes and enrollment caps at Meridian would be decided in the next week or two. The Superintendent also indicated a number of schools that were issues of concern due to financial viability are growing again. In the aggregate, the District is 300 students beyond spring projections, which was an increase of 444 students, and with high school attrition he expects to end up at or 100 beyond projections.
- The Superintendent informed the Board of concern around the District's ability to serve students from new housing developments in Thornton at 150<sup>th</sup> & Washington and of communication from Rob Webber, Chief Operating Officer to the Thornton Planning Commission. The commission was informed that students from those subdivisions would not attend Silver Creek Elementary or Rocky Top Middle Schools due to enrollment capacities. Students would likely be assigned to schools outside of traditional boundaries and walking distance and bussed to neighboring schools.
- Superintendent Gdowski informed the Board of the City of Westminster's proposal to use \$200,000 of cash in lieu reserves, which have been collected from developers to acquire school sites or schools, to build walking and hiking trails in the open space near the Home Farm Subdivision. He asked for Board feedback by the end of the week.
- The Superintendent reported he, Mark Clark, Rochelle Garcia-Gomez, Title Coordinator, Anita Seitz, Westminster City Councilwoman and Richard Garcia, Statewide Parent Coalition participated in a meeting to discuss collaboration between the City and its member school districts to develop a training program for home day care providers in Adams County and/or Westminster.

Additional topics raised in Work Study Session included:

- a summer program to provide Physical Education and possibly other credit earning for students.
- an update on the Secretary of State's TRACER website regarding the term for Director District 4 candidates.
- an announcement by Mr. Willsey that he will not run for reelection for Director District No. 2.

Executive Session (Item A-5)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Plomer, to recess for an executive session to receive legal advice regarding PERA's guidance on the Agreement Regarding the Release and Continuing Employment of Amie Baca-Oehlert, and a municipal issue, pursuant to Board Policy 2.0 General Operating Limitations and C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b); and to discuss personnel matters regarding the superintendent's contract pursuant to Board Policy 2.6.1 Employment, Compensation and Benefits and C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f).

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

**RECESSED 5:56 P.M.**

**RECONVENED 7:06 P.M.**

Pledge of Allegiance

**REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATION**

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

Ms. Plomer reported:

- attending the June CSI Conference in Snowmass and participating in great sessions. She noted the participation of an Adams 12 administrative team with new principal's working on educator effectiveness. She also attended the CASB session regarding Accelerator Districts. She indicated it was a good meeting with valuable information and time well spent.
- participating in a meeting convened by Leslie Carrico, Northglenn City Councilwoman to discuss opportunities for providing training and experience to prepare students interested in the construction trades.
- attending a showing of the Education Inc. meeting about school board races and school funding.

Mr. Batz:

- reported also attended the showing of Education Inc. and found it to be enlightening and a different perspective.
- recognized the participation of Thornton High School Student Council members in a group session at CU for a week. His middle son participated and they had a great experience and learned about improving what they can do at their school.
- recognized the Century Middle School "Pre-med" program which provides incoming students the opportunity to explore the school. His youngest son was enamored with the school after having the opportunity to open lockers and pretend like he was a student without the crowds.
- applauded Thornton High School for their efforts to engage students and get them excited for the school year.

Mr. Jennings reported:

- reported attending summer school graduation where nine students graduated. He recognized the hard work of students to follow through on earning their diploma.
- he, Kathy Plomer, Stephanie James and others met regarding the DSIT transition to a District Accountability Team and indicated they would be meeting again on Monday.
- attending the Thornton satellite presentation of the Global Leadership Summit and noted their videos are available for purchase and suggested them for Board and senior staff training. He indicated topics about leaders needing grit and learning is more important than knowledge would be beneficial for District staff.
- his daughter is off to University of Northern Colorado, they will be moving her in and then they are empty nesters.

Mr. Willsey reported attending the funeral of former superintendent Dr. Jim Mitchell.

Superintendent Gdowski:

- recognized the positive energy in the District in the last few weeks with 200 new teachers and teachers new to the District gathered at the ESC, professional development around writing instruction presented by Tracy Dorland, Chief Academic Officer and her team to every elementary teacher, a quarter of principals in the system new or new to their position, and enthusiastic, well behaved kids. He indicated it was the easiest opening day of his years in the District.

Mr. Clark:

- reported attending Summer Graduation and indicated it was great to see kids pursue and value their education. He commented that hearing the Legacy High School Marching Band practicing as they left graduation and hearing Mr. Stansbury yelling at the band brought back memories.
- wished students leaving for college good luck and consoled upset mothers that they would be fine because they have an Adams 12 education.
- acknowledged the passing of Dr. Mitchell.
- thanked staff, Board members and the community for their thoughts, flowers and support through the death of his father. He gave special thanks to Mr. Batz for making his family whole at the funeral services by arranging for his son deployed in the Middle East to participate via Skype.

#### Board Training Presentation: CoCatalyst (Item B-2)

Jackie Walden, Program Manager for CoCatalyst presented information to the Board regarding the organization and the services it hopes to provide to enhance the leadership skills of those who govern.

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

Marti Houser of Denver addressed the status of Amie Baca-Oehlert as an employee of Adams 12 Five Star Schools and the contract she has with the District. She encouraged the Board to honor the contract with Ms. Baca-Oehlert and inform her of her status as soon as possible.

Leslie Carrico of Northglenn, informed the Board of changes to the Northglenn Thornton Rotary Club Student of the Month Club. She indicated that a STEM student designed a plaque that will honor the student of the month with their name and picture. She expressed her appreciation to the District and schools for displaying the plaques.

## **MINUTES AND MONITORING**

#### Minutes (Item C-1)

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Ms. Plomer, to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of June 17, 2015, as presented in Enclosure C-1.

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

#### Monitoring Report: 2.0 General Operating Limitations Policy (Item C-2)

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Jennings, to acknowledge that the Board has received a monitoring report as of August 19, 2015, for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, of the Superintendent concerning Board Policy 2.0 General Operating Limitations and the Board finds the superintendent's interpretations are reasonable and supported by data that is relevant, justified and complete.

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

#### Monitoring Report: Operating Limitations Policy 2.6 Employment, Compensation and Benefits (Item C-3)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Plomer, to acknowledge that the Board has received a monitoring report as of August 19, 2015, for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, of the

Superintendent concerning Board Policy 2.6 Employment, Compensation and Benefits and the Board finds the superintendent's interpretations are reasonable and supported by data that is relevant, justified and complete.

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

Monitoring Report 2.9 Charter Schools (Item C-4)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Mr. Batz, to acknowledge that the Board has received a monitoring report as of August 19, 2015, for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, of the Superintendent concerning Operating Limitations Policy 2.9 Charter Schools and the Board finds the superintendent's interpretations are reasonable and supported by data that is relevant, justified and complete.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Recommended Action

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Willsey, to approve agenda item D-1 as stated in the Board agenda dated August 19, 2015, with the exception of the personnel action involving Amie Baca-Oehlert on p.13 of Enclosure D-1 which matter will be considered separately.

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

Personnel Actions (Item D-1)

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

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

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Batz, to table the issue of whether to change the employment status of Amie Baca-Oehlert from leave with pay to leave without pay and direct the administration to review further the issues and seek options for resolving the issue.

Ayes: Batz; Plomer, Willsey.  
Nays: Clark; Jennings. Motion carried 3-2.

**BOARD BUSINESS**

Intergovernmental Agreement with Adams County Clerk and Recorder: 2015 Coordinated Election (Item E-1)

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Plomer, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Adams County Clerk and Recorder and the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Board of Education presented in Enclosure E-1 for the purpose of conducting a coordinated election to be held on November 3, 2015.

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

Intergovernmental Agreement with City and County of Broomfield: 2015 Coordinated Election (Item E-2)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Plomer, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City and County of Broomfield and the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Board of Education as presented in Enclosure E-2 for the purpose of conducting a Coordinated Election to be held on November 3, 2015.

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

Waiver Request: Operating Limitations Policy 2.5.2 Deferred Maintenance (Item E-3)

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Mr. Jennings, to grant the Superintendent's request to waive a portion of Board Policy 2.5.2 for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 so that the funding allocation for maintenance items may be less than 1.0 percent (1%) of the prior year's projected replacement value for District facilities.

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Proclamation: Attendance Awareness Month (Item E-4)

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Jennings, to adopt the proclamation in Enclosure E-4 declaring September "Attendance Awareness Month" in Adams 12 Five Star Schools.

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer, Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment (Item F-2)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

**Adopted by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of September 2, 2015.**