

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION, ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS, HELD AT
1500 E. 128TH AVENUE, THORNTON, CO 80241, SEPTEMBER 2, 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 5:58 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:

- This would be the last Board meeting Shelley Becker, Chief Financial Officer would attend and that her last day is Friday, September 4, 2015 as she has taken a position as the deputy city manager for the City of Englewood.
- The first meeting of the Long Range Planning Committee, a group of 10-12 community members and parents, will have their first meeting on September 17, 2015. The committee will discuss facilities investment and in develop a recommendation in April for Board and administration consideration regarding a potential bond issue for the November 2016 election.
- September 18, 2015 will be the first convening of the Five Star Leadership Academy. This group of 50 will meet monthly from September through April to learn about school district and state education affairs with hopes that they will then go on to get involved in the District.
- Centennial and Westview Elementary Schools will conduct a parent engagement process to gather feedback regarding what would make their school more appealing for them and an attractive choice for families considering the school.

- Participated in a retreat with Adams County Education Consortium Board members and will participate in a retreat with the North Metro Chamber of Commerce that focus on keeping people engaged and being responsive to the needs of their membership in the competitive non-profit/quasi non-profit sector.
- The superintendent and District staff will meet with Jack Ethredge, Thornton City Manager and city staff to discuss the best use of District property on the south side of the ESC in connection with FasTracks.
- He has received no response from the City of Westminster to the letter regarding the use of cash in lieu funds to build open space trails.
- Staff have met and reported out the decisions made regarding poor decisions made at the Legacy Booster event. He will e-mail Board members with further information as it is a personnel matter.
- After meeting with American Indian Parent Advisory Committee members and learning more about the honor involved in the wearing of feathers for Native American students the superintendent will be

Community Engagement - Outreach to Municipalities: Board members discussed past outreach to cities within the District and were in agreement to renew that outreach and attend two to four city council meetings a year to provide information about the District. Mr. Batz will go to Thornton, Mr. Clark - Westminster, Mr. Jennings - Northglenn, Ms. Plomer - Broomfield and all volunteered to attend Federal Heights meetings.

Executive Session (Item A-5)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Plomer, to recess for an executive session 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 6:30 P.M.
RECONVENED 6:59 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 Legacy High School parent night and commended the school for supporting kids to be successful with detailed information to parents and amazing teacher websites.
- reported that she participated in a meeting with Mr. Jennings, the Superintendent, Stephanie James and Josh Bastian to further develop the transition process from DSIT to a District Accountability Committee. They will continue to meet and finalize plans for the DAC to be a Board authorized committee and bring recommendations to the full Board.
- reported she continues to be involved with the Adams 12 Community Action Network, a new group forming to reach out to the Adams 12 community and develop a citizenry that is informed

about the District. Ms. Plomer also thanked Mark Poshak, Community Engagement Specialist for attending the meeting.

- acknowledged the strong group of candidates for the Board election noting the number of people who stepped up to run and that there are no uncontested seats. She also thanked Frances Mullins, Sr. Executive Assistant to the Board for her work on the election.
- thanked Shelley Becker for spending time with her as a new Board member to help her understand the budget and for her availability and willingness to answer her questions.

Mr. Batz:

- expressed his excitement as a Board candidate in the November election.
- reported attending the Thornton High School bbq, meeting teachers and seeing students enjoying themselves. He thanked Principal Jennifer Skrobela for her participation and organizing a fun event. Mr. Batz also recognized teachers work in developing web pages and getting information out to students and parents.
- reported attending the music night at Century Middle School indicating it was fun and chaotic as students chose their instruments. He noted his son, an avid piano player, would be trying the clarinet. Mr. Batz indicated it was a great time to see people, meet parents and see how and what other families are doing.
- acknowledged Shelley Becker for her accuracy and pin point exactness and thanked her for her work in the District.

Mr. Jennings:

- reported participating in the DAC Transition meeting and recognized the challenge of providing meaningful work for the committee that would entice public participation.
- commended Shelley Becker, Chief Financial Officer for a tremendous job. He acknowledged she came in at a difficult time but showed remarkable resolve and the District is in a much better place with financial reporting, budgeting and transparency due to her efforts. He thanked her for her service and indicated he would miss their “what if” conversations.
- reported he will attend a school based budget event on September 3, 2015 where Adams 12 is a featured district in their report.
- acknowledged the Alabama vs. Wisconsin football game, schools that he and Superintendent Gdowski’s sons attend.

Mr. Willsey:

- indicated he was excited about the Northglenn High School 50th Anniversary Celebration on September 25, 2015. He recalled being a new teacher at Northglenn in 1965 and also attending the 40th Anniversary Celebration.
- read the September 2, 2015 newspaper heading *Thompson Runs Hard in Memoriam* and noted that the Bronco running back Juwan Thompson played football for his son at Woodward Academy and is a tough competitor. He looked forward to meeting Thompson next time his son is in Denver.

Mr. Clark:

- acknowledged the 50 Year Anniversary of Northglenn and regretted not being able to attend as it is the same day as his son’s wedding.
- recognized all the students leaving for college, remembering when they were high school freshman. He acknowledged that Adams 12 students are attending schools across the state and

country because of the education they received in Adams 12. He commended the teachers, classified staff, superintendent and everyone who worked as a team to provide students a quality education.

- he wished Board candidates good luck indicating the students and community in Adams 12 deserve a quality Board. He also indicated he would be on the ballot for Westminster City Council.
- thanked Shelley Becker for everything she has done for the District and indicated he wouldn't go into battle with anyone but her.

Superintendent Gdowski acknowledged that Shelley Becker, Chief Financial Officer would be concluding her work in Adams 12 on Friday, September 4, 2015. He recognized Ms. Becker's contributions to the District and thanked her for modernizing Adams12 and helping the District to move forward.

General Public Comment (Item B-2)

Rico Figueroa of Thornton, acknowledged the Center for Relationship Education's ten year relationship with the District and their work to teach students healthy relationship skills. He also invited the Board to attend their fundraising Gala and asked the District to be a sponsor of the Gala. Mr. Figueroa commended Shelley Becker for her work in the District.

Introduction of Administrators (Item B-3)

Superintendent Gdowski introduced the following administrators new to Adams 12 and new to their position: Michael Keppler, Principal, Coyote Ridge Elementary, Judi Madsen, Principal, Hulstrom Options, Grace Taylor, Principal, North Star Elementary, Steve Isenhour, Principal, Rocky Mtn. Elementary, Darren Oliver, Principal, Silver Creek Elementary, Jennifer Buck, Principal, Stellar Elementary, Leslie Burke-Dominick, Principal, Westview Elementary, Jami Miller, Principal Northglenn Middle School, Jessica Fiedler, Principal, International Thornton Middle School, Michael MacDonnell, Principal, Westlake Middle School, David Shadwell, Principal, Horizon High School, James Ellis, Principal, Legacy High School, Jennifer Skrobela, Principal, Thornton High School, Nany Vendegna, Director, Early Childhood Education, Lee Peters, District Athletic Director . Johnny Terrell, Director of Student Engagement Initiatives, Megan Cain, Educator Effectiveness Administrator, Trena Speirs, Director of Literacy, Greg Mortimer, Exec. Director, Administrative Data Services, Mark Poshak, Community Engagement Specialist, and Katie VanMeter, Communications Specialist.

RECESSED 7:58 P.M.

RECONVENED 8:06 P.M.

MINUTES

Minutes (Item C-1)

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Ms. Plomer, to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of August 19, 2015, as presented in Enclosure C-1.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

BOARD BUSINESS

Board Policy Development (Item D-1)

Ms. Plomer gave an overview of the community engagement process and indicated she would provide a draft General Ends Policy and core beliefs and commitments document based on the values expressed by the community in last year's engagement process for Board review at the September 16, 2015 Board meeting.

Superintendent Contract (Item D-2)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Mr. Willsey, to approve the superintendent contract with an annual salary of \$230,000, with such salary being paid retroactive to July 1, 2015.

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

Review of Operating Limitations Policy 2.6 Employment, Compensation and Benefits (Item D-3)

Board review of the 2.6 Monitoring Report at the August 19, 2015 Board meeting raised interest in reviewing the policy language in section 2.6.6 prohibiting the hiring of retired employees, contractors or board members who have not been separated from the District for at least six months. Mark Hinson, Chief Human Resource Officer provided history regarding the genesis of the language which related to previous Boards' concerns with 110/110 employment and the concept of double dipping, and the Board's interest in 110/110 employment being a Board and not an administrative decision. Mr. Hinson indicated the policy provision is an administrative burden to oversee and it restricts employees returning to positions that benefit the District, such as mentors. Board members expressed interest in retaining the policy language but modifying it to be less restrictive and less burdensome to oversee. Phil Spare, General Counsel indicated the policy in its current form is clear and recommended against reinterpretation. This item will be brought back to the October 7, 2015 Board meeting with policy language recommendation from staff.

Proclamation: High School Voter Registration Month (Item D-4)

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Willsey, to adopt the resolution Enclosure D-4 declaring September High School Voter Registration Month in Adams 12 Five Star School District.

Proclamation
High School Voter Registration Month
September 2015

WHEREAS, Adams 12 Five Star Schools exists so that the students it serves are well-prepared for the next stage of their lives and obtain the skills, knowledge and expertise to thrive in our world and one way in which this is expressed is through voter registration; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Model Content Social Studies Standards include: "Civics 4:1 Research, formulate positions, and engage in appropriate civic participation to address local, state, and national issues or policies."; and

WHEREAS, as an institution of public education it is our responsibility to educate young people on appropriate civic participation, and the most important responsibility of citizens in a democracy is voting; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Revised Statute 1-2-401 Legislative Declaration states that voter registration should be made as convenient as possible for our qualified high school students; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the Secretary of State's Office and its Student Ambassador Program, Adams 12 Senior students can register eligible student voters at Horizon, Legacy, Mountain Range, Northglenn, Pathways, Thornton and Vantage Point High Schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Board of Education does hereby proclaim September 2015 as Voter Registration Month in the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Board of Education encourages high schools to promote the Student Ambassador Program and encourages eligible students to register to vote.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Governance Process Policy 4.3 Agenda Planning: 2015-2016 Board Meeting Schedule (Item D-5)

The Board discussed its 2015-2016 Board meeting schedule and agenda planning presented in Enclosure D-5 and determined the following: the December 2, 2015 Board meeting will not be cancelled, a special meeting for December 9, 2015 will be scheduled, the school presentation on January 20, 2016 will be rescheduled, the District UIP presentation will be at the March 16, 2016 Board meeting and the April 6, 2016 Board meeting will be cancelled. Scheduling of Board officer elections will be addressed once the Official Abstract of Votes for the 2015 General Election has been received.

The Board determined it would not determine questions in advance of its meeting with the principal group on September 30, 2015.

Adjournment (Item E-2)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.