

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 21, 2016.

PRESENT:

Board of Education

B. Batz

N. Jennings

J. Lockley

L. Mitchell

K. Plomer

C. Gdowski, Superintendent

Call to Order (Item A-1)

Ms. Plomer called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Roll Call (Item A-2)

All Board Members were present.

Approval of Agenda (Item A-3)

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Ms. Lockley, to approve the agenda as stated, with the addition of item D-2, Rescission of Ends policies 1.1.1 Preschool, 1.1.2 Middle School and 1.1.3 High School, and item C-6, Governance Process Policy 4.6 Board Liaison and Committee Principles: DAC Liaison .

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Work Study Session (Item A-4)

The Board discussed its response to and involvement in the aftermath of the Legacy bus crash and the Thornton High School student death.

Superintendent Update – the Superintendent reported the following items.

- Review of growth data:
 - the District met or exceeded the State's growth percentiles in all but two of fifty-eight data points: 6th grade English Language Arts performance and Median Growth Percentile (MGP) for 2 or more races. He also reported Adams 12's MGP for Math is the highest among the 10 largest school districts in the Metro Area
 - that compared to districts similar to Adams 12 in free and reduced percentiles the District is best in class in terms of growth and in terms of meeting or exceeding the State MGP at every level and in each content area across the Board.
 - in meeting or exceeding grade level expectations based on the standards compared to other Districts in the State, Adams 12's progression over time has gone from low 30's into mid 40's and he is optimistic about reaching the 50th percentile level in achievement for kids in English Language Arts and Mathematics
- Application for the rezoning of the 13 acres south of the ESC from commercial to a Transit Oriented Designation that would allow maximum flexibility when the N Line to Thornton comes on line in 2018 will be submitted next week with expectations of action from the City of Thornton in early 2017.
- The District Accountability Committee will hold its first meeting on Monday, September 26, 2016 and will include orientation about what the DAC does, its three statutory responsibilities - charter review, UIP development and recommendations regarding spending priorities - designation of officers and selection of committees. Staff will work with the Charter Review Subcommittee and the full DAC during October to develop feedback regarding the North Point Academy charter application to be presented at the November 16, 2016 meeting.
- The second cohort of the Leadership Academy has started with 70+ who have expressed interest in participating. Sixty-five attended the first meeting which entailed a presentation from CSU Professor Martin Carcasson regarding community dialogue and discussion of complex issues. The next meeting will be the end of October with a focus on school finance.

- The Long Range Planning Advisory Committee unanimously endorsed the bond proposal at its meeting on September 8, 2016 as the recommendation and plan aligned with the priorities established by the committee in the spring. Future work of the committee will include developing a long range plan for District facilities that will serve as a guide for future capital investment. With a successful bond election the LRPAC will serve as an accountability committee to monitor the District's progress on bond commitments and will report its findings to the Board. Committee membership will grow to include members with expertise in finance and construction, and change with the removal of District administrators given its accountability focus.
- In compliance with Operating Limitations Policy 2.7.2(b) Communication and Support to the Board the superintendent informed the Board of a media report indicating the District is out of compliance with a state law requiring the timely posting of minutes following Board adoption. After working with staff he will report to the Board on how the issue came about and how it will be resolved.
- Staff is calculating the financial information for the TABOR Notice regarding the bond, two con statements have been received and at least one pro statement is expected. Spending is a key piece of the notice and the fiscal year spending calculation, an indication of how much money the District is taking in, will reflect an increase in fiscal spending this year or next of about \$11 million because of the likelihood of refunding outstanding bonds.

Ms. Plomer reported Broomfield City Councilwoman Martha Derda would be writing a letter in support of the bond and gathering signatures of supportive council members. The Superintendent reported the City of Thornton is interested in considering a resolution in support of the bond and he is coordinating with Jack Ethridge, City Manager.

There was general consensus of the Board for DAC expenses to be paid with Board department budget.

RECESSED 6:57 P.M.
RECONVENED 7:09 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATION

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

Mr. Batz:

- reported attending the Thornton High School football games and sporting events
- acknowledged and expressed his respect for how the District came together around the tragedies as a big family
- regretted not being able to attend the CSEA barbecue
- reported attending the Community Action Network (CAN) speakers bureau training and looks forward to upcoming speaking opportunities

Ms. Lockley:

- indicated she was impressed with the Adams 12 community coming together and being supportive.
- reported having great fun at the Legacy High School Homecoming pep assembly, where seniors won, as they always do. She also attended the football game and acknowledged the great turnout from the Transportation Department.
- reported attending the CSEA barbecue indicating it was a nice time for family bonding with great food.
- attended the funeral for Kari Chopper reporting the service was well attended and it was a nice opportunity for the community to come together and support the Chopper family.

Mr. Jennings.

- acknowledged the broad community support for Adams 12 and Legacy, noting support from schools within and outside of the District. He recognized a positive aspect in the sheer number of people being a blessing to each other and expressed how much that meant to him and the people impacted.
- reported attending a presentation by the USS Colorado, the nation's newest attack submarine, at Century Middle School. He indicated it was great to see the interaction between the executive officer and 2 enlisted men regarding the importance of science and math and its

relevance on a sub, as well as on the track with a PE class. It was a nice opportunity for students to develop an appreciation for what they do.

- reported attending the Legacy H.S. carnival where he volunteered for the dunk tank. He indicated he was glad to support a good cause but it will be his one and only dunk tank experience.
- reported attending the Northglenn Pirate Fest where he tended bar and had a lot of fun.
- reported attending the Legacy homecoming game, noting the largest crowd he'd seen at a game and he commended the team and coaches for pulling together under adversity and winning their game.

Ms. Mitchell:

- acknowledged a significant emotional week and the unfortunate opportunity that provided positive occasions to engage in the community, meet new people, spend time and attend the Legacy homecoming game with Transportation Department folks. She recognized the good that comes from a horrific incident and knowing how great the Adams 12 community is.
- reported attending the Westminster City Council meeting on Monday, September 12 and conveyed the Council's sympathy and offers of help.
- congratulated the District on the Chalkbeat article regarding academic growth and the recognition of Adams 12 receiving the highest growth in math. She indicated it reported a lot of great things in the District and is evidence of how great our students and staff are.
- reported attending the Colorado School Finance meeting and indicated the economic forecast is disappointing with state funding not getting better and a possibility of more painful years to come.
- reported attending the Westlake School Improvement Team meeting which included an information session on the bond that gave her the opportunity to talk with folks. She also recognized the great job the new principal Rachel Heide has done engaging with parents and staff.
- reported attending the Century Middle School celebration of Constitution Day with the USS Colorado team, Broomfield Veterans Memorial Museum representatives and the American Legion. She praised Michelle Pearson, Social Studies Teacher and staff for a very well done event and indicated she was impressed with how well behaved and engaged students were. She also took the opportunity to talk with retired Navy personnel in attendance to get information about Jr. ROTC and secured the address for Seaman Brayden Kane, the Horizon High School graduate that is a member of the USS Colorado team.

Ms. Plomer:

- reported on the Five Star Education Foundation meeting noting a mission change to focus their resources on career and technical education and workforce readiness. She indicated the Foundation is doing a good job of reaching out to new people interested in partnering with the District.
- reported on the Rocky Mountain Risk Insurance Group meeting indicating they've seen an uptick in the severity of claims which is requiring an additional contribution to the insurance pool of \$1.6 million and the Adams 12 share was \$817,319. She also reported an actuary forecast that another \$850,000 pool contribution may be necessary with the District paying its share for the coming year. RMRIG is implementing monthly actuary reports to monitor more closely.
- appreciated the opportunity to attend the CSEA barbecue and thank employees for their hard work.
- reported she has been active with the bond campaign; organizing a speakers bureau which has 47 volunteers, and meeting with parents and leaders in the Adams 12 Hispanic Community to develop a team to organize outreach to the Spanish speaking community.
- reported participating in the CASB fall Board meeting indicating priorities for the 2016-2017 school year will include advocacy for increased school funding and different local control issues. She indicated it was interesting to hear what District's around the state are experiencing and how many are going to voters with bond and mill elections because of the inadequate funding for schools.
- expressed her pride in the Adams 12 community during an emotional time with the Legacy bus accident and the death of Thornton High School student Haley Vargaz, She indicated it was heartening to see the community come together and hoped those dealing with the aftermath would continue to be supported. She recognized the success of systems in place at the District to address crisis.

Superintendent Gdowski acknowledged the death of Kari Chopper, Adams 12 bus driver, Haley Vargaz, Thornton High School student, a Mountain View 5th grader, past Board member Bill Jones, former Horizon H.S. Principal Joan Watson, and students and coaches injured in the Legacy bus crash since the start of the school year. He recognized the compassion, generosity, and collective spirit to join together to make this a better school district. He expressed his excitement regarding what the future holds as the District and community heal and move forward to better days ahead because of the great people in the community and school district.

Ms. Plomer paused for a moment of silence to remember Kari Chopper, Haley Vargaz and the people the District has lost in the first thirty days of the school year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

General Public Comment (Item B-2)

There were no requests to address the Board.

BOARD BUSINESS

Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) Presentation (Item C-1)

John Lukovic, Associate Curator of Native Arts at the Denver Arts Museum spoke on behalf of the Yes on SCFD campaign, addressed the benefits of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District, and requested the Board pass a resolution in support of the reauthorization of the SCFD and the existing 1¢ on \$10 sales tax funding. The Board indicated it would consider the resolution at its October 5, 2016 meeting.

CEA Education Update (Item C-2)

Amie Baca-Oehlert, Colorado Education Association Vice President, in conjunction with Kim Pearson, Instructional Coach at the International School at Thornton Middle, Erin Swain, Math Teacher at Century Middle School and Anne Eden, Social Studies Teacher and Northglenn Middle School presented information to the Board regarding COpilot, a continued learning platform created by and for CEA educators.

RESULTS FOR KIDS

Ends Policies 1.2 Graduation Rate and 1.2.1 Dropouts (Item D-1)

Discussion of proposed revisions to Board Policy 1.2 Graduation Rate recommended:

- change or delete “cut point” in the first paragraph, it is a technical term and a goal in revising Board policies is to make the language more understandable,
- general consensus with the proposed language in the 2nd paragraph to address only 4 year graduation rates
- change “until” in the third paragraph so it does not give the perception of a cap at 60%,
- adding subgroups to paragraph 3

Board discussion of proposed revisions to Board Policy 1.2.1 Dropouts also suggested common and clear language to replace or delete “cut point”.

Rescission of Ends Policies 1.1.1 Preschool, 1.1.2 Middle School and 1.1.3 High School (Item D-2)

Motion by Ms. Lockley, second by Mr. Jennings, to rescind Board Ends Policies 1.1.1, 1.1.2 And 1.1.3 as unnecessary due to changes the board made to Ends Policy 1.1 Schooling on September 7, 2016, and to eliminate associated monitoring reports for the rescinded policies.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Personnel Actions (Item E-1)

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Mr. Jennings, to approve the Personnel Actions as listed in Enclosure E-1:

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

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

BOARD BUSINESS (Continued)

Minutes (Item C-3)

Motion by Ms. Mitchell, second by Mr. Batz, to adopt the minutes of the special Board meeting of August 24, 2016 and the regular meeting of September 7, 2016, as presented in Enclosures C-3(a) and C-3(b).

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Proclamation: Classified Employee Week (Item C-4)

Motion by Ms. Mitchell, second by Mr. Jennings, to adopt the proclamation presented in Enclosure C-4 declaring October 17 – 21, 2016 Classified Employee Week.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

CASB Resolutions (Item C-5)

Board members reviewed CASB's 2017 Legislative Session Resolutions and provided direction to Ms. Plomer, the Board's voting delegate. The Board was supportive of Resolutions #1, 2, 3, 4, 6 as amended and 8. It did not support Resolutions #5, 10, 11 and 12. There was no decision regarding Resolutions #7, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18. Ms. Plomer asked Board members to send her any feedback regarding the resolutions not discussed.

4.6 Governance Process Policy Board Liaison and Committee Principles: District Accountability Committee (DAC) Liaison

Motion by Ms. Mitchell, second by Mr. Jennings, to appoint Jamey Lockley as the board liaison to the District Accountability Committee for the 2016 – 2018 term.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Adopted by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of October 5, 2016.