

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION, ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS, HELD AT
NORTHGLENN HIGH SCHOOL, 601 W. 100TH PLACE, NORTHGLENN,
CO 80260, OCTOBER 1, 2014.

PRESENT:

Board of Education
M. Clark
E. Figueroa
N. Jennings
K. Plomer
R. Willsey

C. Gdowski,
Superintendent

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.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Northglenn High School Students (Item B-1)

The Board met with Northglenn High School students to hear their perspective on their education and school. Feedback received from students is attached.

RECESSED 6:46 P.M.
RECONVENE 7:09 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Adams 12 Community (Item B-2)

The Board met with the Adams 12 community to discuss “What is most important that students learn in school to be successful?” as part of its ongoing efforts to incorporate the community’s ideals in the Board’s decision-making. Feedback received from participants is attached.

INFORMATION

General Public Comment (Item C-1)

Attendees raised concerns about and discussed the following topics with the Board and Superintendent: next steps/options for foreign language education in Adams 12 beyond 8th grade, application deadlines for foreign exchange students, status of Standards Based Grading in Adams 12 high schools and the district’s plan, appreciation for investment in and attention to Northglenn High School, requirement of health classes in the high schools that address tough topics, attention to the “Bermuda Triangle” – not north or south end, not title schools or entitled schools, uncomfortable middle spot with high percentages of free and reduced lunch with no additional resources/support, recommendation for freshmen students have the opportunity to take AP courses, concern with perception that school is not about learning content it’s about learning how to take a test, counselor discussion of college requirements during class, and district goals that provide information to parents when determining school districts for their children.

Adjournment (Item D-2)

The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Approved by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of October 15, 2014.

**Northglenn High School Community Meeting
October 1, 2014**

Student Meeting Feedback

1. What should you know or be able to do that will make you successful after high school?

- senior student taking an elective beyond language and Student Council for first time, Early Childhood Development, indicated how helpful it will be in her future life, electives are useful classes not just fun
- Math and English are important but electives help with real life
- foreign language electives broaden ability to speak with others
- social skills have helped improve conversation with others
- concurrent college credits encourage students to attend college by helping with the cost of school and inspire them to achieve and get good grades, if offered for more classes it would have a great impact

Do AP classes prepare students to achieve scores that provide college credit?

- AP classes do help and prepare. AP Psych has teacher guidance but is more self-taught and instead of receiving information through lecture students have to research. It has been a struggle because for 3 years information has been brought to her. This is closer to what happens in college and it develops integrity. You have to rely on yourself.
- Key to passing AP tests is being prepared: self study and being motivated by subject matter helps to do well on test

How do we as a school board build relationships with you as students and the high school in general now, in order to find a way to work together in potential times of adversity?

- small things matter, when teachers take time to know your name
- teaching experience helps to know kids, maybe there should be a requirement that board members have teaching experience
- easy to blame someone/entity (school board) you don't know, need to build relationships
- student liaisons within/on the board
- important to get to know students on a personal level instead of as just a data point
- communication – issues in Jeffco were unknown until they hit the media. Gap in what students know/hear and what board members know/hear.

What methods/technology beneficial in building relationships?

- send representatives or set up dates/times where students can raise problems
- social media
- would students come to board meetings? (for volunteer service hours)
- video information regarding the board and show in Norse Success

2. Do you feel supported at school? Do you feel teachers and staff are interested in you being successful?

- staff and teachers are supportive , you know they're focusing on you
- Yes, good job supporting. Ms. Blunt and Mr. Oehlert are very visible in the hallways and they want to know what students are interested in.
- Sympathize with students who don't feel supported, tend not to be engaged and don't take advantage of opportunities

3. What are you doing with Problem Based Learning? Is PBL impacting other aspects of your life?

- helps give more of a real world experience
- In a PBL about fracking students had to defend an opinion, research information in support of that opinion, collaborate with other students to present to peers, and had opportunity to present to more than their peers.
- help give students ideas of their future. PBL incorporated in every class and gives opportunity to explore their future
- the impact on life of PBL is going through the process and it is very important, makes you prove why
- you come up with a solution not just provide information
- presentations help social and communication skills for life in general

How are you supporting Northglenn High School?

- student developed a TSA promoting STEM for the school
- getting involved in schools with clubs and extracurricular, beneficial to student too
- seniors in student council were role models to student as a freshman and she wants to be that person for younger students now
- as a freshman, seniors and their achievements have had a huge impact
- football players are supported by their team mates and coaches to the point freshman are playing varsity

4. Are you learning what you need to go to college, technical school, or to get the job you want? Please provide examples.

5. Has NHS encouraged and supported family involvement in your education? Has family involvement in your education been beneficial to your success? Please provide examples.

- #2 and #5 are linked because if you don't have family support telling you it's important you won't try to excel in education

How can the Board get parents more involved?

- parent meetings to impart the value of a good education
- a topic that the Hispanic Advisory Council has grappled with
- participate or have a presence at events where parents will already be
- quality of Spanish translation and delivery of auto dialer messages to homes is very bad, messages are not understandable to parents

**Northglenn High School Community Meeting
October 1, 2014**

Community Meeting Feedback

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

- language immersion
 - all languages flourish
 - multicultural understanding
- History – all sides, need to teach different perspectives, not just winners perspective but more well rounded.
- Compete...do well in all academics but need communication skills. Face to face in writing/debate and discussion in respectable ways.
- Write a paper and put thoughts in a meaningful way. Know how to include personal opinions. She was taught here and has been complimented in college.
- Money management and financial literacy. Student loan debt, world markets, do our kids have the knowledge they need? Do they know finances around college? After college?
- How they learn is important. Kids with ADHD need accommodations like brain breaks, outdoor play time, etc.
 - treated more as individuals vs. group, only one way to learn, fit into a certain box of type of learning.