

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, OCTOBER 21, 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 5:13 p.m.

Roll Call (Item A-2)

All Board Members were present.

Approval of Agenda (Item A-3)

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

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

**WORK STUDY SESSION**

Work Study Session (Item A-4)

Superintendent Update – Superintendent Gdowski and Mark Hinson, Chief Human Resource Officer provided an overview of Classified Negotiations.

Mr. Willsey arrived the meeting at 5:14 p.m.

**RECESSED 5:33 P.M.**

**RECONVENED 6:51 P.M.**

Personnel Contract – Amie Baca-Oehlert – Phil Spare, General Counsel updated the Board on the status of discussions regarding the contract with Ms. Baca-Oehlert.

Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Mr. Clark, to recess for an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters regarding the employment contract of Amie Baca-Oehlert pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f). If necessary, we may also receive legal advice from general counsel on the same topic pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b).

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

**RECESSED 6:54 P.M.**

**Mr. Willsey departed the meeting.**

**RECONVENED 7:12 P.M.**

Pledge of Allegiance

## REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATION

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

Mr. Batz reported attending or participating in the:

- CASB Fall Conference and Delegate Assembly where he joined Ms. Plomer in advocating for resolutions that supported Adams 12 needs and local control to provide more impact by a decision based Board.
- Education Foundation's Autumn Sips & Tastes fundraising event at Balisteri Winery. He enjoyed the opportunity to meet new people and taste dishes prepared by the ProStart students and local vendors. He appreciated the opportunity to support vendors that support the District and made a personal donation to support technology in the District.
- 2015 Climate Summit at the STEM Lab School. He recognized the quality of information presented by students, teachers' efforts to draw the information out of students and the collaboration and communication between teams and groups. Mr. Batz noted students are gifted in the notion that they're not closed minded and the District needs to continue to nurture these thought process' and future leaders.

Ms. Plomer reported

- attending the celebration honoring Pam Wagner at the Horizon vs. Mountain Range football game. She indicated it was a beautiful tribute to Pam and her many contributions to the District over the year, especially as a historian for Adams 12.
- attending her first Adams County BOCES meeting to learn about the pooled insurance plan and meet the school district leaders involved. She is looking forward to digging into that information more.
- receiving an update from Becky Hoffman, Executive Director on ACYI and their efforts to prioritize work on attendance and third grade reading. She also learned of the amazing all around effort of the Thornton Elementary staff put into welcoming people to their building in advance of the ACYI Breakfast. Ms. Plomer commended and thanked the Thornton Elementary staff for pulling together and supporting their kids in tough times.
- attending the Education Foundation Autumn Sips and Tastes where the ProStart students presented food in a contest between savory and sweet.
- serving on a panel of government representatives speaking at the Leadership Academy where they discussed the areas of oversight of varying levels of government. Panel participants included Broomfield Mayor Randy Ahrens, Representative Dominic Moreno - HD 32, State Board of Education member Jane Goff, and Westminster City Manager Don Tripp. The Academy is a group of 50 Adams 12 community members meeting for eight sessions to learn about the District.
- attending the CASB Fall Conference and Delegate Assembly where she heard sobering information about the state budget and learned a lot about data privacy. She participated in the Delegate Assembly where local control was a hot topic.
- this was the last meeting City Councilwoman Leslie Carrico would be attending in her capacity as the liaison from Northglenn City Council. She thanked Councilwoman Carrico for her consistent attendance and contributions at the podium for the last two years.

Mr. Jennings reported participating in a number of candidate forums, one of which was at Hullstrom K-8 where his kids attended school. He appreciated the opportunity to be at Hullstrom again and seeing the BASE director who took care of his kids.

Mr. Clark:

- commented on negative campaign flyers that depict a Board member who is also a father, family man and someone who cares about kids with lies. The flyer also disparages the Superintendent who he considers the most honest, most caring and who has the most integrity of any superintendent he has met. The flyers raise allegations of hoarding and hiding from three years ago that the District was cleared of. He considers it a sad state when adults and educators fail students and the District with their circulation of lies.
- reported meeting Alvin Law, a motivational speaker at the Westminster 7:10 Rotary meeting. Mr. Law was born with no arms and has overcome obstacles throughout his life and conveys a positive attitude. Mr. Clark indicated this is the example we should be presenting our students, that you can do anything, become anyone you want.

- reported that four of five Adams 12 high school marching bands made it to finals this year. He commented that these are the students people don't see and don't hear about but one kid does something wrong and it's all over the news. He encouraged attendance at the finals which will begin Friday, October 23 and run through the weekend, at CU.
- reported attending the celebration of Pam Wagner's life and contributions to the District. He indicated she was a beautiful woman and her memory lives on through her photographs of students and staff across the District.
- reported attending the Education Foundation Autumn Sips and Tastes.
- thanked his colleagues on the Board, Superintendent Gdowski, District staff, the audience, Frances Mullins, Executive Assistant and Lee Coca, Security Guard for their support over the years.

Superintendent Gdowski:

- indicated it was an honor to recognize Mark Clark and Max Willsey for their service on the Board noting they are two outstanding people who are passionate about the Adams 12 community and have served with their heart and soul. They are leaving the District better than they found it and they will be missed.
- commented he was deeply saddened to see the third party flyers that make baseless allegations and purport to share facts about District finances that are flat out falsifications. He lamented this as a low moment for Adams 12 that is damaging to the community and the District. He expressed hope that the new Board can join with the community to set the record straight so the District is in a good position to secure badly needed resources to serve kids in the Adams 12 community. He indicated the truth is, Adams 12 is underfunded and desperately needs bond dollars to add facilities, programs and take care of deferred maintenance. He has no respect for the entities disseminating false information that tarnishes the District's reputation and makes that effort more difficult.
- acknowledged the Leadership Academy work that is ongoing, a great group of participants from throughout the community and a good conversation with elected and appointed leaders at the last meeting. He indicated school finance and District finances will be the topic of the next meeting and a good opportunity to set the record straight about where the District stands and where our challenges lie financially.
- recognized the work of the Long Range Planning Advisory Committee facilitated by the Communications Department. A group of roughly 20 people studying the District's needs to build more capacity, take care of deferred maintenance, and add new programming to serve kids. The Superintendent indicated it is an impressive group that is conducting a meaningful process and will make recommendations to the Superintendent in the Spring on how best to address the District's critical needs.

School Presentation: Century Middle School (Item B-2)

Howard Holbrook, Principal, Holly Jones, IB/MYP Coordinator, Mike Grapner, 8th Grade Social Studies (Individuals and Societies in IB), Michelle Pearson, 7th Grade Social Studies (Individuals and Societies in IB), Todd Riley, Assistant Principal and Jen Viers, Assistant Principal presented information to the Board about Century Middle School and the integration of the school as all IB.

General Public Comment (Item B-3)

Amie Baca-Oehlert of Thornton and CEA thanked Mr. Clark and Mr. Willsey for their service on the Board. She also thanked the Board for its collaboration and work surrounding her contract and requested that Agenda Item F-3 be discussed in executive session as it is a personnel matter in discussion.

## MINUTES

### Minutes (Item C-1)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Plomer, to revise the agenda to strike Agenda Item C-1 because the minutes of the October 7, 2015 regular Board meeting are not yet ready for approval.

The minutes will be brought to the Board for approval at the November 4, 2015 regular meeting.

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

## RESULTS FOR KIDS

### Policy Development (Item D-1)

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Ms. Plomer to approve the Core Beliefs & Commitments statement as presented in Enclosure D-1.

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### Recommended Action

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Jennings, to approve agenda item E-1 as stated in the Board agenda dated October 21, 2015.

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

### Personnel Actions (Item E-1)

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

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

## BOARD BUSINESS

### Operating Limitations Policy 2.6 Employment, Compensation and Benefits (Item F-1)

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Jennings, to adopt revised Board Policy 2.6 as presented in Enclosure F-1.

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

### STEM Lab (Item F-2)

The Board continued discussion regarding improvement to the STEM Lab facility to address deferred maintenance items. Superintendent Gdowski provided an overview of Options A and B presented in Enclosure F-2. Ms. Plomer introduced a third alternative for consideration that consisted of pursuing Option A but waiting on Option B to see what bond opportunities provide in terms of a new state of the art STEM program and facility. Board member discussion expressed support for varying options and there was no consensus of the Board. This item will be brought back to the November 4, 2015 regular Board meeting for further discussion.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

### Calendar (Item G-1)

The Board discussed scheduling training in 2016 for the new Board to take advantage of dates available with Randy Black from CASB. The dates of Saturdays, January 29, 2016 and February 6, 2016 will be tentatively reserved and a message sent to Board members and candidates to hold for Board induction and training.

### Executive Session

Motion by Ms. Plomer, second by Mr. Batz, to recess for an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters regarding the employment contract of Amie Baca-Oehlert pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f). If necessary, we may also receive legal advice from general counsel on the same topic pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b).

Ayes: Batz; Clark; Jennings; Plomer.

Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

**RECESSED 9:00 P.M.**

**RECONVENED 9:53 P.M.**

### Baca-Oehlert Contract (Item F-3)

There was no public discussion of this item.

### Adjournment (Item G-2)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

**Adopted by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of November 4, 2015.**