

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION, ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS, HELD AT
THE BROADMOOR HOTEL, 1 LAKE AVENUE, COLORADO SPRINGS
80241, DECEMBER 5, 2015.

PRESENT:

Board of Education

B. Batz

N. Jennings

J. Lockley

L. Mitchell

K. Plomer

C. Gdowski, Superintendent

SPECIAL MEETING

Call to Order (Item A-1)

Ms. Plomer called the meeting to order at 11:36 a.m.

Roll Call (Item A-2)

All Board Members were present.

Approval of Agenda (Item A-3)

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

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

BOARD BUSINESS

Retreat Planning (Item B-1)

Board members discussed priorities for the Board retreat scheduled for January 30, 2016 and determined the retreat would focus on developing Board norms, expectations and goals. Topics suggested for the retreat included school culture and student/teacher engagement, strategy to build community engagement in schools/District, effective mass communication, consistency and messaging across the District, customize/personalize information to groups within Adams 12, Board policy review and development, big issue education and decision making, focus meeting agendas/calendar on Board priorities and leadership development, project timelines, and superintendent feedback regarding expectations and support of his work. Board members and staff who have received training in the Policy Governance Model® will provide information on the Board's governance structure at Board meetings in January. After the retreat the Board will determine what further governance training it will pursue.

Board/District Communication Regarding Oil and Gas Leases

Ms. Plomer provided an overview of the history surrounding the oil and gas leases beneath Century Middle School and Horizon High School approved by the Board on April 15, 2015. She expressed interest in discussing the format for Public Comment at the April 15, 2015 Board meeting and the letter of information being prepared by the superintendent. It was indicated that communication to date on the issue has included Facebook posts on Ms. Plomer's personal page, staff response to a CORA request, District notice of third party community meetings sent to Rocky Top staff and community, and a letter of information staff is drafting that will be sent to Century Middle, Rocky Top Middle and Horizon High Schools and posted on the District web site. Board members provided feedback regarding the content, format and circulation of the letter. The superintendent will reframe the letter to include their suggestions and send to Board members for final review.

Given the expectation of a large public attendance at the December 16, 2015 Board meeting the Board determined: time for Public Comment would be extended, background information regarding the oil and gas leases issue would be provided at the outset, and an expectation established that the Board was there to listen to constituent concerns and comments and would not engage in dialog with the public at this meeting but consider the information, determine their next steps and communicate to the community.

Superintendent Update

Superintendent Gdowski indicated departments would present information regarding their mission and work to inform Board members and asked for feedback regarding format and priority. Board members were supportive and Mr. Jennings recommended the format of having department leaders present briefly to start out with was beneficial in years past.

Adjournment (Item F-2)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Approved by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of December 16, 2015.