

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION, ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS, HELD AT
1500 E. 128TH AVENUE, THORNTON, CO 80241, DECEMBER 16, 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 5:30 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; Willsey.

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

WORK STUDY SESSION

Work Study Session (Item A-4)

The Board of Education met with Representative JoAnn Winholz, Senators Mary Hodge and Jessie Ulibarri over dinner. Discussion focused on state budget issues and District priorities. Representative Kevin Priola attended but had to leave before discussion began.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATION

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

Mr. Batz reported:

- attending the Wreaths Across America Ceremony with his 96 year old uncle who is a World War II veteran. The event sponsored by Century Middle School put together and laid wreaths on the graves of veterans at Olinger Highlands Cemetery. Mr. Batz indicated they hope to continue this annually and highly recommended participation.
- due to the snow day he missed his youngest son's student of the month breakfast at Century Middle School.
- attending the Bollman Technical Education Center Open House and toured the school. He was interested to see the excitement of teachers and students.

Ms. Lockley reported attending:

- the Wreaths Across America Ceremony and indicated she was excited to see the attendance despite the weather and participate in an event that meant so much to the community.
- the Kindergarten night at Malley Drive Elementary School as a parent where they provided recipes for students to make projects they could take home to replicate with their families.
- coffee with the principals where there was good conversation about what is going on in Adams 12 schools.

Mr. Jennings reported:

- also attending the Bollman Open House and indicated it was interesting to talk to teachers and students and have them demonstrate what they're working on. He hopes to arrange opportunities for field trips to his company. He also noted an issue they're facing with the prohibitive cost of software.
- the Pathways Future Center School's graduation is Thursday, December 17, 2015, at Horizon High School, in the Auditorium, at 6:00 p.m. He indicated it is a great to see students who have overcome challenges and worked hard to graduate receive their diploma and invited people to attend.

Ms. Marshall:

- expressed her excitement at attending the Bollman Open House and seeing students engaged with their parents, seeing teachers enthusiasm for the programs and students, and the opportunities provided to students for work and college. She was excited to see female students in non-traditional classes like automotive and welding.
- reported attending the Great Education Colorado meeting and announced a rally on January 11, 2016 with superintendents. She indicated there is also a summit on March 4, 2016 and noted the 2015 event motivated her to run for the Board. She informed the Board they will be started a parent advocacy group and trying to combine parent groups statewide to leverage energy and move education legislation forward.
- recognized 2014 Horizon High School graduate Seaman Brayden Kane who will be a crewmember on the U.S.S. Colorado, a new submarine being commissioned. Seaman Kane completed the certifications to be on the crew, which usually take a year, in three months. Ms. Marshall noted an opportunity for Adams 12 Schools to receive credit for his preparedness to do so much so quickly. The crew is participating in local events to raise awareness and were at Century Middle School last week.
- looked forward to participating in her first graduation as a Board member at Pathways.

Ms. Plomer:

- echoed Board member comments regarding the Wreaths Across America Ceremony indicating it was a wonderful way to honor veterans and recognized the participation of Century Middle School students and families.
- acknowledged the capacity constraints BTEC is experiencing as a result of the 2014 Bond failure indicating they are turning away 110 students in automotive and 50 in welding. She noted the community's interest in students being prepared for college and careers upon graduation and expressed hope that the District would be able to provide more students the direct experience that prepares them for viable careers almost right out of high school that they receive at Bollman.
- reported stopping by the Shadow Ridge Middle School Science Fair and commended students on their hard work, their scientific knowledge and their presentations.
- attended her first Adams 12 Education Foundation meeting and reported the Foundation will be working to get their name out into the community and they will award \$60,000 in grants to schools this year.
- commended the District for its communication to families regarding the lock down at Legacy High School that occurred earlier in the day. She indicated her household received three notifications at the time of the lockdown and when it cleared.
- expressed her appreciation to Senators Mary Hodge, Senator Jessie Ulibarri and Representative JoAnn Winholz who joined the Board over dinner and for the opportunity to discuss state budget issues and share Adams 12 needs.

Superintendent Gdowski recognized Paul Williams, CSEA President and Judi Madsen, Principal at Hulstrom K-8, who honored Tara Howard, Media Technician at Hulstrom K-8 as the 2015 Classified Employee of the Year. Mr. Williams presented Ms. Howard with a plaque and \$200 check. The superintendent read excerpts from nomination and student letters that demonstrated why Ms. Howard was chosen for the award, congratulated Ms. Howard and thanked her for a job well done.

General Public Comment (Item B-2)

Tara Trujillo of Hunters Glen in Thornton expressed concern regarding the District's lack of communication and public input regarding the Board's action to lease mineral rights below Century Middle and Horizon High Schools and indicated there should have been more and better communication.

Suzanne Cabral of Hunters Glen in Thornton raised concern regarding the health effects of fracking on the students and community in reaction to the Board's action to lease mineral rights.

Maria Orms of Hunters Glen in Thornton thanked Kathy Plomer for meeting with her, reiterated concerns raised by the previous speakers and challenged the accuracy of information provided to the Board in their decision making around the leasing of District mineral rights. Ms. Orms requested that the Board not willingly lease mineral rights, establish emergency and evacuation plans for every school within one mile of the facilities and designate the ESC as a school.

Stew Nyholm of Wadley Farms in Thornton expressed concern regarding the health and safety impacts on Rocky Top Middle School. He suggested the Board seek a larger setback from the drilling pad, raised concern regarding obnoxious odors around drill sites that would be stressful to children and noted Wyoming BLM stipulations of ¼ mile setbacks from specific species.

BOARD BUSINESS

Minutes (Item C-1)

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Mr. Jennings, to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting of December 2, 2015 and the special Board meetings of November 24, 2015, December 5, 2015, and December 9, 2015, as presented in Enclosures C-1(b) as revised, C-1(c) as revised, C-1(d) and C-1(e).

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

Legislative Report: Policy Matters (Item C-2)

Tanya Kelly and Ernestine Mondragón, legislative consultants highlighted budget requests and presented information regarding key legislative items. Ms. Kelly reported the largest budget requests are \$80 million for Medicaid case load growth, \$289 million for the TABOR refund, \$160 million to replenish the reserve and \$301 million for K-12 enrollment and inflation. She indicated total cost equals \$830 million, the forecast used to figure set provides \$457 million available for spending, which leaves \$373 million to be cut. The largest cuts were \$50 million to the negative factor, \$20 million to higher education and \$100 million to the Hospital Provider Fee. Ms. Mondragón presented information on education funding indicating the proposed increase to the negative factor of \$50 million, the potential of funds from December assessed property valuations for K-12 education and the January supplemental for K-12 enrollment growth. Ms. Mondragón also reported hot issues with the potential for legislation include data privacy, reducing assessments in earlier grade levels, development of a school funding task force, and a charter school reform bill regarding mill levy equity and authorizing authority. She also indicated there was excitement among the State Board of Education and legislators regarding the selection of Richard Crandall as the finalist for the next education commissioner.

Legislative Platform (Item C-3)

The Board reviewed Governance Process Policy 4.9 Legislative Platform and members suggested changes and additions to the policy. Ms. Plomer asked Board members to submit their recommendations in writing to the Board office by days end Monday, January 4, 2016. The Board will discuss proposed revisions at the special meeting on January 13, 2016.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Ms. Mitchell, second by Mr. Batz, to approve agenda items D-1 and D-2 as stated in the Board agenda dated December 16, 2015.

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

Personnel Actions (Item D-1)

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

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

Classified Employee Contract (Item D-2)

Ratified the 2016 Classified Employee Contract.

MONITORING

Direct Inspection Monitoring: Operating Limitations Policy 2.05 Schooling (Item E-1)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Mitchell, to acknowledge that the Board has conducted a direct inspection monitoring of Board Policy 2.05 Schooling as of December 16, 2015, for the period December 18, 2014 through December 16, 2015, and finds that the Superintendent has complied with policy statements.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Internal Monitoring Report: Operating Limitations Policy 2.4 Financial Condition and Activities
(Item E-2)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Mr. Batz, to acknowledge that the Board has received a monitoring report as of December 16, 2015, for the period, July 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015, of the Superintendent, concerning Operating Limitations Policy 2.4 Financial Condition and Activities, and finds the superintendent's interpretations are reasonable and supported by data that is relevant, justified and complete.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Calendar (Item F-1)

Superintendent Gdowski noted changes to agenda items for the January 20, 2016 Board meeting:

- Monitoring Report of Ends Policy 1.3 Value is on hold given the change in assessments,
- Monitoring Reports of Operating Limitations Policies 2.1 Treatment of Students Their Families and Community Members and 2.10 Family School Partnerships and Community Engagement will be reported in February 2016, and
- revised budget items are indefinite and he will have further information after speaking with Suzy DeYoung, the Chief Financial Officer.

Ms. Plomer reported she would provide a draft retreat agenda for the Board's review once she connected with Randy Black from CASB.

Adjournment (Item G-2)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Adopted by the Board of Education at its special meeting of January 13, 2016.