

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION, ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS, HELD AT
1500 E. 128TH AVENUE, THORNTON, CO 80241, JANUARY 18, 2017.

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 5:47 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. Mitchell, to approve the agenda as stated.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

WORK STUDY SESSION

Work Study Session (Item A-4)

The Board, Superintendent and senior staff met with the Adams 12 legislative delegation to learn about their plans for the 2017 legislative session and to share the District's priorities with lawmakers and update them on the work of the District. Delegation members attending included Senator Beth Martinez-Humenik (R-CO, SD24), Senator Kevin Priola (R-CO, SD25), Representative Matt Gray (D-CO, HD33), Representative Steve Lebsock (D-CO, HD34), Representative Joseph Salazar (D-CO, HD31) and Representative Faith Winter (D-CO, HD56).

RECESSED 7:08 P.M.

RECONVENED 7:25 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATION

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

Ms. Lockley reported attending the District Accountability Committee (DAC) meeting which worked on the District UIP Framework and developing language for an executive summary regarding the great things going on in the District, where to stay the course and course correct as needed.

Mr. Jennings expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to attend the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) Adams 12 Pow-wow. He enjoyed interacting with students and meeting new staff.

Ms. Mitchell reported:

- meeting with a friend who is the director of admissions at the Air Force Academy who has offered to host Adams 12 students. She is working with Tammy Lawrence, Director of Counseling Services and Chuck Gross, Executive Director of Adams County Education Consortium to finalize plans and lauded the opportunity to engage students and expose them to high tech careers possibilities. AFA participation in the Adams County Career Fair was also discussed.

- attending the Chalk Beat Legislative Forum which hosted legislators from the Education and Joint Budget Committees. She indicated a bleak outlook for the 2017 legislative session noting discussion of school finance with interest in a more equitable School Finance Act but no additional funding, equalizing the mill levy, and legislation regarding the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), teacher licensing and certification, and the teacher shortage. She emphasized the need to stay on top of legislation this year and looked to the District's legislative consultants to engage Board members when needed.

Ms. Plomer reported:

- attending the AIPAC Adams 12 Pow-wow and participating in the Grand Entry. She recognized the honor bestowed on the Native American Veterans who have served in various branches of the military and indicated it was a special celebration of diverse groups coming together. She acknowledged Elizabeth Standing Bear Light in Lodge, a North Star Elementary 5th grader who was elected the Adams 12 Pow-wow Princess.
- Westlake Middle School is going through a student initiated process to potentially change its Warrior mascot. She attended a staff meeting regarding the community education piece that will engage the community around the discussion within the school and next steps. Ms. Plomer expressed pride in students who brought this forward and have kept it rolling.
- attending the ESSA summit and commended them for their Spoke Committee meetings which take various aspects of law and have expert groups provide input on interpreting the law and how it will interact with the State. She indicated the last meeting had participants provide feedback on issues the Spoke Committees hadn't decided on.
- missing the beginning of the January 11, 2017 Special Board Meeting to attend the Rocky Mountain Risk Insurance Group meeting. She is the Board's representative and attended to provide further rationale for the Board's decision to, for financial reasons, find other ways to meet the District's insurance needs.
- she would travel to Washington D.C. with a CASB delegation to meet with the Colorado Congressional delegation to advocate on behalf of Colorado and our education needs.

Superintendent Gdowski reported:

- he had informed staff of changes in the central office leadership via e-mail that day announcing Tracy Dorland being named Deputy Superintendent and Priscilla Straughn being named Chief Academic Officer. He indicated Ms. Dorland would oversee implementation of the \$350 million bond and that the position would cause no additional expense from the General Fund as salary and benefit dollars from the retirement of Dawn Barnard, Senior Executive Assistant to the Superintendent for 29 years, and project management and administration funds from the bond would pay for the position. He indicated Priscilla Straughn would continue her leadership in the positive momentum in the Learning Services Department and moving academic achievement forward.
- difficult work for he and the Board around school finance and budget development with the potential for a \$130 - \$175 gap in K-12 funding that would grow the negative factor. He acknowledged they would attempt to influence the legislature and better the situation but that 2017-2018 will be another challenging budget season for Adams 12.

General Public Comment (Item B-2)

Lyanne Terada of Louisville and a Spanish Teacher at Horizon High School addressed the Board regarding her interest in the Seal of Biliteracy and the benefits it would bring to students throughout the state and in Adams 12.

Jason Herrman of Lafayette and the German Teacher at Horizon High School promoted language opportunities early on in education and foreign travel and exchange programs to help students achieve language proficiency at a higher level.

CEA Education Update (Item B-3)

Amie Baca-Oehlert, Colorado Education Association Vice President, presented information on the Degrees Not Debt Program, a training that CEA does to help educators understand the requirements for student loan forgiveness for public service workers and teacher loan forgiveness.

MONITORING

Internal Monitoring Reports: Operating Limitations Policies 2.1 Treatment of Students, Their Families and Community Members and 2.10 Family School Partnerships and Community Engagement (Item C-1)

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Ms. Mitchell, to postpone the monitoring of Board Policies 2.1 and 2.10 pending Board review and revision of the policies.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Internal Monitoring Report: Operating Limitations Policy 2.5 Asset Protection (Item C-2)

Motion by Ms. Mitchell, second by Ms. Lockley, to acknowledge that the Board has received a monitoring report as of January 18, 2017, for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, of the Superintendent concerning Board Policy 2.5 Asset Protection and finds the superintendent's interpretations are reasonable and that his conclusions are reasonably supported by data that is relevant, justified and complete.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session (Item F-1)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Lockley, to recess for an executive session to discuss student matters regarding an expulsion appeal pursuant to Board Policies 2.0 General Operating Limitations and 2.1 Treatment of Students, Their Families and Community Members, C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) and C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(h).

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

RECESSED 8:31 P.M.

During executive session the Board received legal advice and discussed student matters regarding an expulsion appeal for 1 hour and 24 minutes.

RECONVENED 10:13 P.M.

Expulsion Appeal (Item F-2)

Motion by Ms. Mitchell, second by Ms. Lockley, to deny the expulsion appeal and direct the District's general counsel to prepare the Board's written decision within five working days of tonight's meeting.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Batz, second by Ms. Mitchell to approve agenda item D-1 as stated in the Board agenda dated January 18, 2017.

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

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.

BOARD BUSINESS

Minutes (Item E-1)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Mitchell, to approve the minutes of the special Board meeting of January 11, 2017, as presented in Enclosure E-1.

Ayes: Batz; Jennings; Lockley; Mitchell; Plomer.
Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Amended FY 2016-2017 Budget and Appropriation Resolution (Item E-2)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Ms. Lockley, to adopt the Amended FY 2016-2017 Budget and Appropriation Resolution presented in revised Enclosure E-2.

Ayes: Batz; Jennings; Lockley; Mitchell; Plomer.
Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Amended Resolution Authorizing for FY 2016-17 the Use of a Portion of Beginning Fund Balance as Authorized by Colorado Statutes (Item E-3)

Motion by Mr. Jennings, second by Mr. Batz, to adopt the Amended Resolution Authorizing for FY 2016-17 the Use of a Portion of Beginning Fund Balance as Authorized by Colorado Statute, presented in Enclosure E-3.

Ayes: Batz; Jennings; Lockley; Mitchell; Plomer.
Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Future Board Meeting Planning (Item E-4)

The Board will discuss agendas and presentations for the Community Board Meeting on 2/1/17 at Thornton High School, the special Board Meeting/Retreat on 2/4/17, the special Board meeting with DTEA on 2/13/17, and the Community Board Meeting on 3/1/17 at Vantage Point High School.

The Board will hold a community Board meeting at Thornton High School on February 1, 2017 to receive information and gather input regarding graduation requirements. The format will be an interactive presentation that provides information regarding credit options and competency requirements, allows for small group discussion among participants and gathers feedback via an online survey. A general public comment opportunity will be provided at the end of the meeting.

The Board will hold its annual meeting with DTEA Representatives on Monday, February 13, 2017. There was general consensus among Board members to continue the format of Board members circulating between five tables to ask questions. Discussion of questions expressed interest in gathering feedback to inform Board policy development and addresses topics of interest to teachers. Superintendent Gdowski recommended question regarding recently revised Ends Policy 1.1 Schooling and Operating Limitations Policies scheduled for review 2.1 Treatment of Students, Their Families and Community Members and 2.10 Effective Family, School and Community Partnering Questions. The Board will continue to work on specific questions for discussion.

The Board will hold a community Board meeting at Vantage Point High School on March 1, 2017 to present information and gather input regarding Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Adams 12. Ms. Plomer, Superintendent Gdowski and Tracy Dorland, Chief Academic Officer will meet to develop a plan for the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Adopted by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of February 15, 2017.