

**MINUTES
ST. VRAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

OPENING OF MEETING

The Board of Education of the St. Vrain Valley School District met December 10, 2014 at the Educational Services Center Board Room, 395 South Pratt Parkway, Longmont, Colorado. The meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Robert J. Smith at 6:58 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

John Creighton, Member, Director District E
Debbie Lammers, Secretary, Director District B
Paula Peairs, Treasurer, Director District F
Joie Siegrist, Vice President, Director District A
Robert J. Smith, President, Director District C

Board Members Absent (Excused):

John Ahrens, Member, Director District D
Mike Schiers, Assistant Secretary, Director District G (left at 7:45 p.m. ill)

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

Rob Berry, Executive Director of Athletics, Fine Arts, PE and Health
Renee Collier, Principal of Hygiene Elementary School
Stacy Davis, Director of Security and Emergency Management
Linda Emmerman, Hygiene Elementary Choir Instructor
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent
Rick Olsen, Principal of Longmont High School
Regina Renaldi, Area 3 Assistant Superintendent for Priority Schools
Jennifer Ryan, Principal of Mountain View Elementary School
Tori Teague, Assistant Superintendent of Assessment, Curriculum, and Instruction
Tony Whiteley, Budget Director

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

The Agenda was accepted as presented.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

None

BOARD RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD & BOARD COMMUNICATIONS/COMMENTS (4.0)

Presentations to the Board

Hygiene Principal Renee Collier introduced Hygiene Choir Instructor Linda Emmerman who directed her choir students in several songs.

Board Communications

John Creighton –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended State Assessment Task Force Meeting.
- Attended CASB Convention.
- Attended Longmont High School football games and Skyline High School basketball games.

Debbie Lammers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended CASB Convention including all meetings related to re-election for a Region 4 Board of Directors seat.
- Attended Principals Breakfast at Career Development Center. Thanks to Don for inviting the Board, and thanks to the CDC staff and students who did a great job.
- Thanked Dr. Haddad for participating in the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley Board Meeting-group continues to be a great asset to the District and the schools.
- Attended Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley Meeting.
- Attended Board Policy Review Committee Meetings.
- Attended Niwot High School Musical “Shrek”-kids are so talented and liked how they recognized the seniors.
- Attended Niwot Elementary School Parent Update-thanked Principal Nancy Pitz for her leadership.

Paula Peairs –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended the CASB Convention.
- Attended Skyline High School and Mead High School Open House events.
- Attended Leadership St. Vrain Meeting.
- Reported that the Douglas County voucher system has reached the Colorado Supreme Court.

- CMAS report-amazing comprehensive report and an improvement over assessment analysis the District has had in the past.
- Attended Board Policy Review Committee Meetings.

Joie Siegrist –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended the CASB Convention.
- Attended Leadership St. Vrain Meeting.
- Attended holiday orchestra, jazz band, and choir concerts.
- Attended Finance and Audit Committee Meeting.
- Attended District Accountability and Accreditation Meeting.
- Attended Board Policy Review Committee meetings.
- Attended parent update meetings at Lyons Elementary and Westview Middle Schools.
- Attended Lyons M/S Open House-impressed with the CSU collaboration.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended the CASB Convention.
- Attended Longmont High School Open House.
- Congratulated Debbie Lammers for being re-elected to the CASB Board of Directors-thanked her for representing our Board and the District.
- Attended Alpine Elementary STEM Parent Night.
- Attended Northridge Elementary PTO meeting.
- Attended Longmont High School Education Foundation meeting.
- Attended meetings with principals regarding curricular and non-curricular Board policies concerning student groups.
- Presented with Connie Syferd the 0-3 Initiative to the Longmont Rotary-felt they were very supportive of the early childhood initiative.
- Attended meetings regarding Healthcare reform.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (5.0)

- Reported that this has been a very productive semester-Mtn View transformation project is just about done.
- Thanked Bob Smith for presenting to the Longmont Area Economic Council and thanked all Board members for representing the District and visiting all the schools.
- Reported that administration is working on a new salary schedule for teachers in January or February for implementation next year and he will keep the Board updated.
- Reported that the District has posted the positions of Mead High School Principal and Area 1 Assistant Superintendent.
- Reported that graduation requirements are changing pursuant to CDE and will update the Board on implications of the new set of regulations that will impact current 6th graders.

- Very beginning stages of looking at an Energy Academy at Mead High School and a STEM and Aerospace program at Erie High School.
- Winter sports season has started-lot of exciting things happening.
- Reported that the District was granted two appeals-one for Longmont Estates and one for Columbine Elementary from CDE/State Board of Education on the accreditation status of those two schools.
- Starting negotiations with the St. Vrain Valley Education Association on January 15-look forward to a positive collaboration and will keep the Board updated.
- Met with the President of Cigna and Kaiser administration-working on health insurance reform-thanked Bob Smith for his leadership in the healthcare field.
- Planning a legislative breakfast at the Innovation Center on December 18, 2014. Working with Brandon Shaffer and invitations have gone out-will keep the Board updated.
- Working with a state-wide Superintendent team to secure as much state funding as possible.
- Attended Principals Breakfast at CDC-students and staff did a great job. Principals appreciate it that Board members attend and relayed their thanks.
- Attended Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley Board Meeting – the EFSVV will post an Executive Director position which the District will fund.
- Dr. Haddad informed Board member Paula Peairs that her suggestion to add 6th and 7th grade parents to the high school open houses will be implemented next year.

REPORTS (6.0)

Longmont High School Student Advisory Council Feeder Report (6.1)

Rick Olsen introduced the Longmont High School Student Advisory Council students Maddie Brown, Laura McConahy, and Cassidy Kindelspire. Advisory Council member Verena O'Malley was unable to attend. The students showed a video on the Longmont High School feeder schools. Mountain View Principal Jennifer Ryan and Hygiene Elementary School Principal Renee Collier were present.

Dr. Haddad thanked Rick Olsen for his leadership at Longmont High School.

Fall Athletics Report (6.2)

Rob Berry introduced Lyons High School Coach Mark Roberts who introduced students from the winning cross country team: Paul Roberts, Joel Such, Landon Milbrath, and Adam Crawl (Matt and Brian Dillon were unable to attend). CeAnn Udovich, Sierra Tucker, and Sarah Roberts (Jenna Anderson, Faith Myers and Kate Berreman were unable to attend). Coach Roberts also introduced Lyons School Resource Officer Brit Fell and Sergeant in charge of the Town of Lyons Nick Goldberger. Assistant Coach Jeff Boele was unable to attend.

NHS Athletic Director Chase McBride highlighted Niwot's athletic successes. He introduced Spencer Lang who was the top tennis singles state champion and Tennis Coach Miikka Keronen and Assistant Coach Amy Irwin.

Dr. Haddad noted that Chase is a former student athlete who he recognized for his outstanding experience as a high school, college and professional athlete. Paula Pears thanked Coach Keronen for his coaching leadership.

Rob Berry provided the Board of Education with an extensive summary of the accomplishments of the sports teams and music events, competitions and awards for the 2014 Fall Athletics & Activities Report.

Dr. Haddad thanked Rob for his outstanding leadership of the District's Arts & Athletics Department.

October Enrollment Report 2014/2015 & Open Enrollment for 2015/2016 (6.3)

Scott Toillion provided the Board of Education with a report regarding student enrollment for the current 2014-2015 school year and for Open Enrollment availability for the 2015-16 school year.

The St. Vrain Valley School District experienced continued strong growth in enrollment for 2014. Enrollment now stands at 30,017, up from 29,195 in 2013. (Including all pre-school students and other programs, the District has now exceeded 31,000 students.) This is a growth rate of 2.82% and a gain of 822 students from the 2013 October Count. The greatest gains were in the Alternative Programs (+230 students), Erie Feeder schools (+216), Mead Feeder Schools (+118) and Frederick Feeder Schools (+100). All feeders saw growth except for slight declines in the Niwot and Longmont feeders.

The District enrollment for all schools came in at a 0.37% error over the anticipated projection for all schools, charters and programs. (Projected: 29,905 Actual: 30,017). This year's count and growth was significantly aided by a high attendance rate (97.3%) on the actual count day of October 1.

For the open enrollment period that extends through January 15, 2015 all schools are considered open and will receive applications. During this window, schools will receive applications and, by February 7, 2015, will notify applicants of their approval status. At schools with capacity or staffing concerns, a determination will be made through review by the Planning Department and Assistant Superintendents of the potential remedies that could be available to accommodate open enrollment approvals or whether particular grade levels will need to be closed to further open enrollment.

The Board thanked Scott for his work on the Enrollment Report. Bob Smith reported that there has been a 30% increase in student enrollment from the time he started on the Board seven years ago.

District Financial Statements – Quarter Ending September 30, 2014 (6.4)

Greg Fieth provided the Board of Education with the financial report for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2015. At the work session prior to this Board meeting, information related to the financial statements for the quarter ending September 30, 2014 were provided to the Board in compliance with all aspects of Policy DBI.

The amended budget needs to be reviewed and adopted prior to January 31, 2015. It is the Finance Department's intent to present the amended budget to the Board at its January 14, 2015 Board Meeting and ask the Board for adoption of it at its January 28, 2015 Board Meeting.

CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)

Joie Siegrist moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.4. Debbie Lammers seconded.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the November 12, 2014 Regular Meeting, and the November 19, 2014 Study Session
4. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Policy KH-E-St. Vrain Valley Gift Acceptance Form

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, absent; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, absent; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

ACTION ITEMS (8.0)

Naming of Preschool and Kindergarten Center at Mountain View Elementary (8.1)

John Creighton moved that the Board of Education approve the name of STEM Discovery at Mountain View Elementary for the new Preschool/Kindergarten Center at Mountain View Elementary. Joie Siegrist seconded.

Mark Mills and Mountain View Elementary Principal Jennifer Ryan thanked the Board for the transformation of Mountain View and invited the Board to come to see the changes. Jennifer Ryan and Bob Smith thanked Brian Lamer and his crew for their work on the transformation, and think it is such a tremendous asset to the neighborhood. Mark thanked Jennifer for her enthusiasm with the project and enjoys working with her. Jennifer thanked the Board for recognizing the early childhood needs in the community, and thanked Brian Lamer and his team for guiding her through the process.

- OPTION #1: STEM Discovery at Mountain View Elementary-Joie Siegrist/John Creighton/Bob Smith
OPTION #2: STEM Discovery Zone at Mountain View Elementary
OPTION #3: STEM Launch Pad at Mountain View Elementary-Paula Peairs
OPTION #4: STEM Exploration at Mountain View Elementary

Pursuant to SVVSD Board of Education Policy FF and FF-R, an Advisory Committee was convened in order to rename a portion of the building. The Committee participants included St. Vrain staff, community members, Reading League of Longmont City Volunteers, and parents.

The Committee met to learn more about the STEM programming and Design Thinking opportunity offered for our future Preschool and Kindergarten students enrolled in the school. After learning more about the programming and having an opportunity to ask questions, participants generated ideas. The original list of names generated netted approximately 39 names. From this original list, the Committee narrowed the list to the above-mentioned names. All were in agreement that the community would accept any one of the potential names presented to our Board of Education. No discussion occurred around mascot or school colors as this STEM center is part of the larger school represented by Mountain View Mustangs.

Dr. Haddad reported that this new transformation of Mountain View Elementary cost \$1.7 million. He thanked Brian Lamer and his team, Principal Jennifer Ryan, and the community for the passage of the bond to make this transformation possible.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, absent; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, absent; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Approval of 2014 Mill Levy Certification (8.2)

Debbie Lammers moved that the Board of Education approve the 2014 Mill Levy certifications, as presented. Paula Peairs seconded.

Tony Whiteley reported on the final certification of assessed valuation of the mill levies for Boulder, Weld, Larimer, and the City and County of Broomfield.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, absent; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, absent; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Approval of Budget Development Calendar, Board Exhibit DBG-E (8.3)

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve the revisions to Board Exhibit DBG-E, Budget Development Calendar. Paula Peairs seconded.

Tony Whiteley reported that the Budget Development Calendar has been updated to reflect appropriate dates for the 2015-2016 budget process. In order for the Board to be fully aware of the dates and activities scheduled for that purpose, the Budget Development Calendar is an Exhibit to Policy DBG.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, absent; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, absent; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Request to Grant Exception to Conflict of Interest Policy (8.4)

John Creighton moved that the Board of Education allow an exception to the current Conflict of Interest Policy GBEA-1. This exception would enable Eric Ottem to sell refurbished musical instruments to the District. Debbie Lammers seconded.

Board Policy GBEA-1, Staff Conflict of Interest, states, "No school district employee or firm owned by a school district employee shall be allowed to sell to the District or to school districts served by the school district, goods or services of any kind without express prior written consent of the Board of Education."

Eric Ottem is employed by the District as an Assistant Principal at Silver Creek High School. He also refurbishes trumpets for resale. Eric sells most of his vintage trumpets through eBay to buyers worldwide, but offers refurbished student horns at his own cost (plus expenses for parts) to District band programs.

Since Mr. Ottem is an employee and collects, refurbishes, and sells trumpets through his separate business, he is requesting a waiver from Policy GBEA-1 so he can continue to sell trumpets and eventually other instruments to all schools within the St. Vrain Valley School District.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, absent; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, absent; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)

CASB Convention Follow-Up (9.1)

Annually, CASB holds a convention in Colorado Springs for school board members and school district administration throughout Colorado to exchange ideas, gather input, and develop skills. The Board took this opportunity to share the information they gathered from this Convention.

Bob Smith-great to have the students there; outstanding graduation requirement session-believes St. Vrain has the best opportunity in a long time to reshape education with our successes in technology and a flexibility in the graduation requirements; Ken

DeLay had a great presentation; Jim Collins and his *Good to Great* presentation was terrific.

John Creighton-enjoyed our District STEM presentation by Dr. Haddad and Regina Renaldi/exciting things going on in our District and a lot to be proud of in St. Vrain; left Colorado Springs thinking that, for the last 30 years education reform has been framed as an issue of accountability-wondering how do we make schools move forward through the next 30 years to make schools more engaging for more students more of the time rather than focusing on the accountability debate.

Paula Peairs-really enjoyed it this year-context was important; attended two breakouts-Eagle County School District demonstrating their school framework and strategic plan; and Adams 50 School District demonstrating their competency-based education and their fascinating approaches to district management. Under a more global level, it was helpful to talk to other Boards to confirm that what we are doing in SVVSD is going so well. Appreciates that the public allows our Board to attend the Convention, as well as the students. Thinks that the students who attended from the District's Student Advisory Council got a new appreciation for our District and how well is it run. Enjoyed Jim Collins *Good to Great* presentation-SVVSD is in alignment with so many of his proven concepts with our business practices. Paula noted how well our Board functions with the classroom focus in mind.

Debbie Lammers-attended a session presented by a Senior Fellow from Intel discussing the role of technology in education. His thoughts on the P-TECH environment in terms of expanding curriculum options for students were interesting, and she had the opportunity to sit down and talk to him at length after the presentation. He had some interesting thoughts on school districts partnering with nationally-known businesses, and she will share that with the Board. Felt the students really benefited from other student leadership groups and events at the Convention. Thanks to Don and the District for sending our students to the Convention. Was re-elected to the CASB Board of Directors for Region 4, and looks forward to continuing her work on the Legislative Resolutions Committee and on the School Safety Resource Center's Advisory Board. Make-up of the CASB Board of Directors has changed with the addition of a Denver Public Schools Board Member. The Douglas County School District Board has rejoined as a CASB member. Conclusion after Convention-all districts are very much aligned in that we all share in the same state-wide concerns and issues.

Joie Siegrist-thank you for bringing the students. She encouraged community members to stop into a school, attend an athletic event, and have a conversation with students in the District. The Convention underscored the importance for her and as a Board member to stay the course in putting kids first, having a systematic approach, and to remember goals and to balance those goals with mandates and reforms. Important to continue to get input from experts in education and to do what is right for the students. Thanked all Board members for their leadership for the community.

Regina Renaldi-kids were amazing-thanks for including them. Suggested that the student strand breakfast meeting be held in different spaces and that they have a moderator for the discussions given the time constraints and the ability to hear all of a particular conversation.

Students from the High School Student Advisory Council that were in attendance at the CASB Convention were Katie Gillette from Niwot High School, Camilla Lee from Mead High School, Miko Rios from Frederick High School, Cali Altenritter from Skyline High School, Shane Mathis from Erie High School, and Cody Hartkopp from Erie High School who was one of six students from the state that was chosen to speak to the entire CASB membership.

Board Policy Overhaul Project Update (9.2)

Paula Peairs updated the Board of Education and administration on the progress of the Board Policy Review Committee. Paula thanked all the Area Superintendents and Stacy Davis for their patience throughout the process. Debbie Lammers recognized Paula Peairs and Joie Siegrist as the leaders in the process, and reported on the tremendous amount of time and thought they have put into the project, which is very much appreciated. The Committee also wants to thank Barb Steege for all of her assistance and coordination of the various staff and administrators who are participating on this important project.

ADJOURNMENT

Joie Siegrist moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. Paula Peairs seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, absent; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, absent; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lammers, Secretary of the Board of Education

Barb Steege, Secretary to the Board of Education

Read and approved or corrected and approved on January 14, 2015.