

**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 13, 2017 at the Educational Services Center Board Room, 395 South Pratt Parkway, Longmont, Colorado. The Regular Meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Robert J. Smith at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

John Ahrens, Assistant Secretary, Director District D
Dr. Richard Martyr, Member, Director District E
Paula Peairs, Treasurer, Director District F
Karen Ragland, Member, Director District B
Joie Siegrist, Vice President, Director District A
Amory Siscoe, Secretary, Director District G
Robert J. Smith, President, Director District C

Board Members Absent (Excused):

None

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

Renee Collier, Principal of Hygiene Elementary School
Stacy Davis-Gahagen, Director of Security and Emergency Management
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools
Jim Hecoeks, Principal of Central Elementary School
Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent for Student Achievement
Ryan Kragerud, Planning/GIS Specialist
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Joe McBreen, Chief Technology Officer
Kirsten McNeill, Principal of New Elementary 27
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent
Rick Olsen, Principal of Longmont High School
Ella Padilla, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Dina Perfetti-Deany, Area 3 Assistant Superintendent
Jennifer Piccone, Principal of Mountain View Elementary

Patty Quinones, Assistant Superintendent of Innovation
Ann Reed, Principal of Longs Peak Middle School
Lorynda Sampson, Principal of Northridge Elementary School
Brandon Shaffer, Exec Dir of Legal & Govt Affairs/Community Outreach/P-TECH
Mark Spencer, Principal of Westview Middle School
Kari Sturn, Secretary for the New Elementary 27
Scott Toillion, Director of Planning
John Wahler, Principal of Sanborn Elementary School
Cyrus Weinberger, Principal of New Erie PK-8
Tony Whiteley, Executive Director of Budget

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

Agenda was accepted as presented. Board President recited the District Mission Statement.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

None

VISITORS (4.0)

Jim Berthold, Retired District Bus Dispatcher – did not address the Board.
Amy Bounds, Reporter for Boulder Daily Camera/Longmont Daily Times-Call-did not address the Board.
Scott Converse, Reporter for Longmont Observer – did not address the Board.
Steve Villarreal, President, St. Vrain Valley Education Association – did not address the Board.

BOARD RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD & BOARD COMMUNICATIONS/COMMENTS (5.0)

Board Reports

John Ahrens –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Visited schools – great to see what the students are sharing with us – so impressed with the wealth of opportunities the students have in this District.
- Enjoyed the incredible Erie football game at the Air Force Academy Stadium – the team was so fortunate to have the ability to compete at that level.
- Attended VEX Robotics competitions and facilitated the one at Red Hawk Elementary where 38 teams participated.
- Talked with NASA astronaut, Jack D. Fischer, recently returned from the International Space Station at Erie High – his main message to the students was to believe in yourself, challenge yourself, and pursue what really motivates you.

Dr. Richard Martyr –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Recognized the work of the Northern Colorado School Districts Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Pool where three school districts pool risks to save a substantial amount of money. The pool is well managed by the Beecher Carlson Consulting Group. Thanks to the wonderful work of SVVSD's Heather Keith who staffs this program.
- Leadership St. Vrain – thanks to the Communications' staff that does a tremendous job organizing the meeting for 60 to 80 parents each month. The November meeting at Skyline High had local legislators talking about upcoming legislative initiatives, and the December Niwot High meeting about planning, classroom leadership and assessment tools – both were tremendously informative.
- Visited Spark! Discovery Preschool with Paige Gordon – tremendous early childhood program working hard to close the education achievement gap. Serves on the LENA Advisory Council project with the OUR Center – very productive liaison.

Paula Peairs –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended all Open Houses in each of her feeder systems – every year they get more amazing and it's so great to be in the classrooms – fascinated to see the integrated teaching style with English and History.
- Attended Counseling Advisory meetings at Niwot High and Mead High – very impressed with their data collection work. Amazed at how much work they do to help every student be successful. These meetings will continue on a bi-annual basis.

Karen Ragland –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Enjoying the chance to visit all the schools in her Niwot feeder system – thanked all the administrators/principals of those schools for taking time out of their day to give her tours.
- Congratulated Andrea Smith on being honored as Colorado Assistant Principal of the Year.
- Thanked all the administrators for visiting with her to help her understand what a new Board member should know about the District – each of these leaders demonstrate 100% dedication to our students.
- Thanked Brian Lamer for taking her and Dr. Martyr on a tour of the new Elementary 27 and Erie PK-8 schools and the Innovation Center – very valuable to see bond dollars at work.
- As a new Board member, she appreciates the entire Board's leadership, sense of humor, and is honored by the opportunity to serve with them.

Joie Siegrist –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Visited several schools – thanks to all the principals for making time for her.
- Thanked Dr. Martyr for being willing to serve on the CASB Board of Directors for the next two years – congratulations to him.

- Recognized the Communications Department for the wonderful job that they do – can really see the evolution of the District by the beautiful publications they create describing the many wonderful opportunities families have to choose from so many programs for their children, and it is a fantastic marketing tool as well.

Amory Siscoe –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Visited Indian Peaks Elementary School to have breakfast with their staff – really an enjoyable and unique event.
- Attended SVVSD program where deaf and hearing-impaired students can take field trips with other hearing-impaired students from other schools/districts – her own daughter participated and it has really helped her daughter’s self-confidence and her ability to cultivate great relationships.
- Attended APEX Home School Holiday Show with Kim Lancaster – thoroughly enjoyable.
- Has communicated with families about how fast Elementary 27 construction is progressing and how great it looks – really looking forward to its completion.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Recognized the High School Student Advisory students that attended the CASB Convention for the excellent way they represented the District. Those students will attend the January 24, 2018 Regular Board Meeting to be recognized.
- Thanked Dr. Martyr for running for the CASB Board of Directors – would like to add a topic of how our District could influence the direction of CASB with the positive story of public education at a Study Session soon.
- Recognized the District for being one of 11 top digital school districts-1st and 2nd graders coding but, mostly, learning organizational skills and logical critical thinking skills that they will take with them throughout their lives.
- Congratulated Andrea Smith for being honored as Colorado Assistant Principal of the Year.
- Recognized Brian Lamer for the great job he and his team are doing on the new buildings.
- Very impressed with the SVVSD program that has older students mentoring our younger students.
- Welcomed Josh Atherton as the new Executive Director of the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley. Josh will visit the January 10, 2018 Board Meeting to be introduced.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- About to finish the first semester – high school students are taking finals and are doing well.
- Visited Sunset Middle School to talk to each and every staff member about how their year is going – everyone is extremely complimentary about the support they receive.

- SVVSD received the American Heart Association's Workplace Health Achievement Index Award that is only awarded to four school districts in Colorado.
- Attended a Parents in Education Meeting at Longs Peak Middle School this – was able to share dinner and discussion with 40 parents with great feedback.
- New schools continue to progress, thanks to Brian Lamer and his team.
- Numerous achievements on the part of our students: 15 semi-finalists for the Boettcher Scholarship (most SVVSD has ever had), and the most National Merit Semi-Finalists that SVVSD has ever had as well. There was a significant jump in students taking AP tests taken than ever before: 3,652 taken, which is a 975-course or 27% increase. Concurrent enrollment is also up by 512 courses, or 53%, in one year.
- Met with Amie Baca-Oehlert, current Vice President of the Colorado Education Association for lunch to discuss partnering with teachers across the state to promote public education.
- Attended a P-TECH/STEM event at Timberline PK-8 – great work by Karrie Borski.
- Continue to have massive parent turnouts at every Open House.
- As always, thanks to our District parents, students, and staff.

REPORTS (6.0)

Longmont High School Student Advisory Council Feeder Report (6.1)

Mark Mills introduced Longmont High School Principal Rick Olsen. Rick reported that the theme for the Longmont High Feeder Report this year was Growth Mindset. Longmont feeder principals in attendance were Ann Reed, Longs Peak Middle; Mark Spencer, Westview Middle; Jim Hecoeks, Central Elementary School; Renee Collier, Hygiene Elementary; Jennifer Piccone, Mountain View Elementary, John Wahler, Sanborn Elementary, and Lorynda Sampson, Northridge Elementary. Rick showed a video showcasing Growth Mindset in the Longmont feeder schools. He thanked Matt Wiggins for helping produce the video, and recognized Diane Lauer for securing a speaker on Growth Mindset. Rick introduced the Longmont High Student Advisory Council students Kaitlyn Bridge, Eva D'Epaigner, and Adam Pena. The students told of the path they took through St. Vrain schools, their current school involvement, and their future plans. Board members commended the students for their outstanding presentation, and recognized all the building leaders for collaborating on this high quality project.

CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)

John Ahrens moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.12. Dr. Richard Martyr seconded.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the November 8, 2017 Regular Meeting and the November 15, 2017 Study Session
4. Approval: Approval to Extend Contract for myON Reader Program

5. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Exhibit JFABB-E – Admission of Non-Immigrant Foreign Exchange Students
6. Approval: Approval to Purchase Supplies Using the Colorado Health Foundation Physical Activity Grant
7. Approval: Approval of Contract Increase to Architect Agreement for Silver Creek Addition & Renovation Project
8. Approval: Approval of Amendment to Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) Contract for Main Street School Renovation Project
9. Approval: Approval of Contract-Architect for the Lyons Elementary Addition & Renovation Project
10. Approval: Approval to Purchase Apple Technology Products and Professional Development
11. Approval: Approval of Contract for Mobile Device and Computer Management Solution
12. Approval: Approval of Vendor Providing Purchased Services Over \$100,000

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

ACTION ITEMS (8.0)

Approval of Contract Increase to Architect Agreement for Innovation Center (8.1)

Paula Peairs moved that the Board of Education approve a contract increase of \$206,412 for a total contract amount of \$1,451,412 including contingency with Anderson Mason Dale Architects for the design of the Innovation Center Project, and further authorize Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, to sign contract documents. Joie Siegrist seconded.

Brian Lamer reported that the contract increase includes architectural fees associated with design, construction, and coordination of the annexation process into the City of Longmont. Funding for the contract increase is available in the 2016 Bond program.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Approval of Amendment to Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) Contract for Aspen Ridge Preparatory School Addition & Renovation Project (8.2)

John Ahrens moved that the Board of Education approve the Amendment to the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) contract with FCI Constructors, Inc., for \$4,098,637 including contingency, for the Aspen Ridge Preparatory School Addition & Renovation project. Further, that the Board authorize Brian Lamer, Assistant

Superintendent of Operations, to sign contract documents and initiate scope changes in accordance with Board of Education policy. Paula Peairs seconded.

Brian Lamer reported that the CMGC interview committee reviewed responses to RFQ 2017-027 for Construction Manager/General Contractor services. FCI Constructors, Inc., was selected as the most qualified for the project based on their experience, proposed team, cost and availability and interview with Aspen Ridge. The project includes an addition to link the existing buildings with a multi-purpose room, new gymnasium and cafeteria areas. The project is funded under the 2016 Bond program.

Greg Fieth detailed the four options that the District has to assure that public assets are protected: 1) Right to assume lease; 2) Right to assume Deed of Trust; 3) Right of first offer; and 4) Right of first refusal.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Approval of Selection & Contract Award-Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) Contract for Alpine, Fall River, Legacy, Prairie Ridge Renovation Projects (8.3)

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve the selection and contract award to FCI Constructors, Inc., for Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) services for \$5,280,000 including contingency for the Alpine, Fall River, Legacy, and Prairie Ridge Renovation Projects, and further authorize Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, to sign contract documents and change orders up to the approved amount referenced above. Dr. Richard Martyr seconded.

Brian Lamer reported that the CMGC review committee reviewed responses to RFQ 2017-027 for Construction Manager/General Contractor services. FCI Constructors, Inc., was selected as the most qualified for the projects based on their experience. FCI successfully completed prototype projects at Blue Mountain and Eagle Crest Elementary Schools in the summer of 2017, thus making these projects more efficient and cost effective.

The projects include security modifications at Alpine, Fall River, Legacy, and Prairie Ridge elementary schools for increased safety and security of students and staff. Funding for the projects is available in the 2016 Bond program. Brian confirmed that this project is identical to the work that was done to Blue Mountain and Eagle Crest Elementary Schools.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Acceptance of District Charter Schools' 2017 Fiscal Year Assurances for Financial Accreditation (8.4)

Paula Peairs moved that the Board of Education accept the individual District charter schools' Assurances for Financial Accreditation for the year ended June 30, 2017, as presented. Joie Siegrist seconded.

Greg Fieth reported that this form is required pursuant to C.R.S. 22-11-206(4). The Colorado Department of Education must determine annually if substantial and good-faith compliance was achieved with relevant provisions of state law and generally accepted accounting principles. Substantial compliance is determined through review of the finance data pipeline submission, audited financial statements, and responses from management to inquiries related to those reviews. Good-faith compliance is determined, in part, by the assurances provided on the form as certified by those charged with governance.

Each District charter school is required to complete a checklist stating compliance with the referenced statute. The checklist must be reviewed and approved by the charter school's financial officer, principal or executive director, and its school board. As the charter authorizer, the District has oversight of each charter. The checklists are provided to the District Board of Education for informational purposes related to the financial performance of each charter school. The checklist is part of the required annual reporting package to the Colorado Department of Education.

Greg confirmed with Board members that Aspen Ridge issued its own bonds and that is the reason for their negative position in its building fund. He also confirmed that the District has received all the charter schools' financial information and that information is included in the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Approval of Certification of 2017 Mill Levies (8.5)

Paula Peairs moved that the Board of Education approve the certification of the 2017 Mill Levies, as presented. Dr. Richard Martyr seconded.

Tony Whiteley reported that Colorado Statute requires school districts to annually certify mill levies to the respective county commissioners by December 15 of each year. By Colorado Statute, each County has until December 10 to finalize the District's assessed valuation. Assessed valuation is taxable percentage of our market valuation across all four counties (Boulder, Weld, Larimer, and City and County of Broomfield). Compared to last year, the net assessed valuation increased 8.14%, or \$3.2 billion.

Board members thanked Tony for his breakdown explanations and expressed their appreciation, as taxpayers and Board members, of how District mill levies are calculated to minimize rate fluctuations while ensuring appropriate funds for operations and bond principle and interest payments.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley and the St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J (8.6)

Dr. Richard Martyr moved that the Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley and the St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J. Amory Siscoe seconded.

Board members thanked Brandon for the wonderful 2017 Gala event that drew 520 participants in its second year.

Brandon Shaffer reported that the new Executive Director for the Education Foundation, Josh Atherton, will be introduced at the January 10, 2018 Regular Board Meeting.

Brandon reported that, as the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley (EFSVV) has grown and developed new plans and undertakings, the agreements and commitments between the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley and the St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J have evolved. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) presented updates of the agreements and commitments between the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley and the District based on the evolution of the relationship.

Brandon reported that the two major changes that were made to the MOU were the financial arrangements made for staff salaries and the flyer program. The changes to the Board policies for the flyer program will be addressed at the January 10, 2018 Regular Board Meeting. Section 1.6.4 of the MOU also states that EFSVV staff will undergo annual background checks, the same as those conducted on all District staff.

Board members appreciated Brandon's explanation of the changes to the MOU, and the tremendous job that Brandon did as Interim Executive Director. Administration is confident in the abilities and experience of the very energetic and enthusiastic new Executive Director Josh Atherton. Board members were pleased in the direction that EFSVV is heading with the assistance of the new MOU. They were, however, concerned about the financial implications if the new schedule of financial support of EFSVV staff not be sustainable. Dr. Haddad stated that the District is not here to support EFSVV, rather that the EFSVV is here to support our students, teachers and schools.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Adoption of Erie PK-8 and Elementary 27 Attendance Boundaries (8.7)

John Ahrens moved that the Board of Education adopt Scenario C for the new attendance areas for the new Erie PK-8 and Elementary #27 and make the associated changes to the existing schools' boundaries in their area. Joie Siegrist seconded.

Board members recognized Scott Toillion and Ryan Kragerud for their outstanding work, and thanked them for the thorough team effort outlining options and framing context for meaningful community meetings to address significant overcrowding.

Scott reported that the bond election approved in 2016 provided funding for the construction of two new schools in the Erie and Tri-Town areas to relieve the significant overcrowding in these feeders. The welfare of students is the foremost purpose in the construction of new schools. At the core is the desire to relieve the existing overcrowding at the area schools, in particular Black Rock Elementary, Erie Elementary, Red Hawk Elementary, Erie Middle, Centennial Elementary and Legacy Elementary, and to provide the best possible facilities to support and improve the learning environment for students, teachers and administrators.

In these areas where growth is strong and expected to continue at a fast pace, these will not be the last new schools or boundary changes. There is also no guarantee for any area that all feeders would always align because growth is happening in a variety of directions and into areas not previously associated with original town boundaries.

Board members appreciated the thorough efforts to recognize the numerous variables in each of the four Scenarios, including alternative Scenario C/D, but the Board members collectively supported Scenario C. They commended all District staff for their genuine responsiveness to the sensitivity of the families affected in the boundary changes.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)

CASB Convention Follow-Up (9.1)

Board members will report on the highlights of their attendance at the Colorado Association of School Boards Annual Convention at a later date.

Board Committee Assignments (9.2)

Every two years, Board members review civic/municipal committee duties and discuss assignments for each member to participate on those committees. Tonight, Board members had the chance to discuss the committees on which they would like to serve.

ADJOURNMENT (10.0)

Amory Siscoe moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m., and Karen Ragland seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous acclamation: [John Ahrens, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Respectfully submitted,

Amory Siscoe, Secretary of the Board of Education

Barb Steege, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education

Read and approved or corrected and approved on January 10, 2018.