

**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 August 26, 2020 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 Joie Siegrist at 6:00 p.m., and the District's Mission Statement was recited.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

John Ahrens, Secretary, Director District D
Jim Berthold, Member, Director District C
Chico Garcia, Member, Director District G
Dr. Richard Martyr, Member, Director District E
Paula Peairs, Vice President, Director District F
Karen Ragland, Treasurer & Assistant Secretary, Director District B
Joie Siegrist, President, Director District A

Board Members Absent (Excused):

None

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

Traci Burtnett, Purchasing Director (via Webex)
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer (via Webex)
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations (via Webex)
Kerri McDermid, Chief Communications and Global Impact Officer
Scott Toillion, Director of Planning (via Webex)

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

There could be no public participation at the Board Meeting due to COVID-19 regulations by Colorado Governor Jared Polis. The public had an opportunity to leave messages on a dedicated email address that would allow them have their comments read by Board members and at the Board Meeting. Board President Joie Siegrist confirmed there were no messages from the public.

VISITORS (4.0)

In compliance with the current terms of the executive order by Colorado Governor Jared Polis requiring no large gatherings, a personal six-foot distance from other people, and anyone leaving their home must wear a mask, there were no visitors and no physical public participation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (5.0)

- Visited every school at least once – student attendance is high and students and teachers are glad to see each other. The buildings and renovations look great.
- LaunchED Virtual Academy has over 2,700 students enrolled – 600 students enrolled two days before the close of registration. The District hired over 100 teachers to accommodate the increase in LaunchED students. LaunchED continues to make progress with the opportunity for students to participate in electives – appreciates the community's understanding, support, and patience to recognize that the District is doing its best during an overnight \$15M budget cut resulting from the pandemic.
- Acknowledged there have been some serious issues with inappropriate actions within District technology – District is working with Cisco and law enforcement.
- Announced that Dr. Kapushion, Kerri McDermid, and Michelle Bourgeois have created a Parent Technology Support Center located on the District website.
- Announced that a District Reopening Team has begun to meet in order to establish a clear criterion for the possibility of attending school in-person in the near future. District is monitoring COVID cases – 68 cases have occurred where quarantining was necessary.
- Delivered 27 brass bells to honor employees that have reached 25 years with the District. Six other 25-year employees had received their bell earlier in the year, by request. 25-year employees were scheduled to be honored at an April Board Meeting but, due to restrictions on gathering, were unable to be honored in person by Board members.
- Updated the Board on the grants that the District has been awarded.
- Proud of the students involved in Season A (fall) sports – athletics are going well.
- Announced that there have been two student count days so far, and he will continue to monitor the numbers closely through September to determine financial and logistical impacts.
- Reported that many employees that are currently unable to do their normal job because there are no students in the schools (bus drivers, custodial, Nutrition Services) are shifting their responsibilities to help in other areas.

Dr. Kapushion shared positive events happening throughout the District:

- Presented Parent Technology Support Center features on the District website to the Board members. This Support Center is for parents that need technology support and is provided in English and Spanish. It provides parents' instruction on iPads, Internet Access, Seesaw, Schoology, Infinite Campus, and Webex video conferencing.
- Reported on the success of the summer reading program using the Mobile Lab to stop at 10 different locations where they gave away 3,800 books. She thanked Mobile Lab Coordinator Colin Rickman and the student helpers that staffed the Mobile Lab during the summer. Appreciated and acknowledged the Stapp Toyota family for the many years of support they have given to the District.
- Announced the three winners of the myON summer reading challenge as: Hygiene Elementary whose 379 students read an average of 121 minutes per student and won \$2,500 for their school; Indian Peaks Elementary School whose 337 students read an average of 95 minutes per student and won \$1,200 for their school; and Rocky Mountain Elementary School whose 389 students read an average of 72.9 minutes per student and won \$1,000 for their school.
- Honored 34 teachers and Ashlie Swanson who nominated the teachers with Superintendent's Excellence in Education Awards for their outstanding work with the summer school program. This group of teachers went above and beyond to provide students with reading assistance, many of them seniors that were able to graduate on time because of their help:

Skyline High School		Mead High School	
Michael Aragon	Alma Arellano	Andrew Kaplan	Shannon Krack
Amanda Kurjak	Shannon Rodriguez	Alaina Metivier	Katarina Schmitt
Andrew Scott	Michelle Scott	Erin Warren	
Silver Creek High School		Erie High School	
Christopher Blair		Beth Lee	Greta Von Bernuth
Learning Services Center		Niwot High School	
Stephanie Bragalone	Ashlie Swanson	Michelle Mills	Kelcey Roberts
Frederick High School		Digital Learning Academy	
Thomas Caliento	Stacica Hoople	Rebecca Reid	Donna Stampfle
Christina Smith	Emily Stuhr	Whitney Weis	
Michele Sullivan Blanken			
Innovation Center		Career Development Center	
Elizabeth Cerrone		Karen Gann	
Olde Columbine High School		Longmont High School	
Frank Cifrese	Rashmi Oberai	Laura Guida	Carley Jiron
Tracey Sanders	Dallin Wright		
E-Learning			
Jackie Higgins			

Dr. Kapushion announced that free COVID-19 testing for staff members will be held at the Innovation Center for the month of September, beginning September 8, and could accommodate 300 tests per day, if needed, from Noon to 5:00 p.m. Working with the

Gary Community Foundation, results of tests should be available within 48 to 72 hours and recorded by the District and reported to the Boulder County Public Health Department. Testing is on a voluntary basis, and teachers that test positive for the virus could teach from home if they are able. Staff will have the ability to take two tests per month, per employee. Teachers that test positive will be asked to be out of their building for a 10-day period.

Board members:

- Commended Dr. Kapushion, Kerri McDermid, and Michelle Bourgeois and their departments for the creation of the Parent Technology Support Center that was completed on Monday, August 24, 2020.
- Recognized the 25-year employees for their service to the District. They thanked Dr. Haddad and Dr. Kapushion for connecting with those employees to honor them on the Board's behalf.
- Recognized the schools that won the myON summer reading challenge.
- Recognized Ashlie Swanson and the teachers she nominated for their service to the summer reading program for students.
- Thanked Dr. Haddad and Dr. Kapushion for their leadership that put systems and funding in place for the challenges they have been faced with during this pandemic.

REPORTS (6.0)

Purchasing Cost Savings Report (6.1)

Traci Burtnett presented via Webex a report on District-wide savings on procurement activities summarizing detailed competitive bid activity completed by the procurement staff in FY19 and FY20. The FY19 spreadsheet details total purchases and contracts of \$6,565,021 reflecting total cost savings of \$1,021,439. The FY20 spreadsheet details total purchases and contracts of \$5,561,440 reflecting total cost savings of \$752,509. This is a 16% savings rate over all purchases during FY19 and a 14% savings rate over all purchases during FY20. Cost savings are calculated as the difference between the total amount of the awarded contract and the average cost of all submitted bid proposals.

The Purchasing staff facilitated 89 formal invitations to bid (ITB) and requests for proposal (RFP) solicitations to select qualified contractors in FY19 and facilitated 75 solicitations in FY20. Procurement secures the integrity of the process and ensures that all interested suppliers are treated fairly and encouraged to compete as evidenced by the number of participating vendors submitting a response to each individual solicitation. During FY19, the average turn-around time was 25 days from release date of a solicitation to submission deadline date. Due to the pandemic, the Purchasing Department transitioned to full electronic submission of bids and RFPs. This change significantly improved turn-around time, ranging from 14-18 days from release date to submission deadline date in FY20. 24 solicitations were successfully completed during this time working remotely and through virtual processes.

Along with cost savings, Traci pointed out that the trust the vendors had in doing business with the District was just as significant. She is very proud of the integrity with which her department abides by to work with community suppliers.

Board members commended Traci's leadership and her team for the thorough, accurate report and recognized the excellent value of their work to save public tax dollars, the high integrity of the District's procurement program, and the success forming positive business partnerships for the District.

CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)

John Ahrens moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.2. Chico Garcia seconded.

1. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Policies JII – Student Concerns, Complaints, and Grievances; and LBD* – Relations with District Charter Schools
2. Approval: Approval of Request to Grant an Exception to Board Policy GBEA – Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest-Kelleher

Board Vice President Paula Peairs explained to the Board, administration, and the public of the importance of timely Board policy revisions. She noted that the revisions to Board Policy JII were made to comply with changes in Title IX, and Board Policy LBD* revisions were to comply with recent state legislative law changes. These revisions were reviewed by Colorado Association of School Boards, District administration, and District legal counsel.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Jim Berthold, yes; Chico Garcia, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes].

ACTION ITEMS (8.0)

Adoption of Resolution Equalizing Director District Population for 2020 (8.1)

Karen Ragland moved that the Board of Education adopt a resolution approving the proposed director district boundaries to equalize the population, in compliance with Colorado Revised Statute 22-31-109, 110. John Ahrens seconded.

Scott Toillion reported via Webex that each Board director is elected to represent a specific area of the District. State statute requires each director district be substantially equal in population. This reapportionment is required every four years.

Director districts were last drawn in 2016. The proposed 2020 districts were drawn using criteria that sought to equalize the population and align with streets, township boundaries, and/or geographic features. Planning staff attempted to balance the population of each

district with as little variance as possible, generally keeping it within 1%, while also keeping all Board members in their current districts.

The School District's Geographic Information System (GIS) was utilized with data obtained from county, state, and municipal governments, as well as from the U.S. Census Bureau. Care was taken to make the process as consistent as possible across the whole District. The average population in each district in 2016 was 23,445. That average has increased to 26,131 in 2020. Overall, the District's population has increased from 164,118 in 2016 to an estimated population of 182,920, today.

Population estimates are structured around the following formula: Population Estimate = (dwelling units x Occupancy rate) x Average Household Size + Group homes

While growth was spread across the school district; director districts B, D, F & G saw the highest gains. In order to equalize the population in each of the districts, shifts were made in all districts with additional area added to A, C & E. Scott assured Board members that boundary adjustments do not change the school assignments they serve and that attendance areas are all the same within each director district. Board President Joie Siegrist noted that, even though Board members are elected to a particular district, the public could contact any of the Board members for questions.

Board members thanked Scott and his team for their meticulous work necessary to keep the population of the director districts balanced for election purposes.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Jim Berthold, yes; Chico Garcia, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Pears, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes].

Adoption of Adjustment of Boundaries between Blue Mountain Elementary/Altona Middle and Longmont Estates/Westview Middle School (8.2)

Jim Berthold moved that the Board of Education adopt a boundary adjustment between Blue Mountain/Altona and Longmont Estates/Westview to help balance future development among District schools. Karen Ragland seconded.

Scott Toillion reported via Webex that Board Policy acknowledges there may be situations where boundary adjustments are necessary due to the impact of large-scale developments proposed on or near boundary lines between schools.

The area bounded by Nelson Road, Hover Road, the St. Vrain River, and Airport Road had long been designated for primarily industrial and commercial with little impact to the neighborhood schools in the area. Over the past few years, comprehensive plan changes in the City of Longmont have shifted these areas to a future with a much greater potential for residential development. Because this area is entirely in the Blue Mountain/Altona area, the student yield could burden the capacity of these schools. At the same time, Longmont Estates and Westview could benefit by some of this future growth potential

included in their attendance area. The center of this development area is also in closer proximity to Longmont Estates than to Blue Mountain. The total potential for residential growth based on the current estimates is 2,194 dwelling units and Scott provided the breakdown of the revised boundary.

The placement of the future housing projects between Blue Mountain and Longmont Estates creates a boundary that does not impact any current residents and students, but changes are being made solely for the purpose of preparing for potential future growth. The proposed boundary is supported by the Transportation Department and by administrators of the associated schools. The City of Longmont Planning staff has reviewed the plan and is also in support as it helps with balancing growth among school areas and therefore does not impact the City's benchmark guidelines.

This entire area is within Silver Creek High attendance area and is scheduled to remain. Between the Longmont High feeder and the Silver Creek High area, housing is still weighted towards Longmont High. There is a total of 8,575 housing units within the Silver Creek High feeder and 10,493 housing units in the Longmont High feeder area. At build-out, both will be between 11,000 and 12,000 dwelling units.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Jim Berthold, yes; Chico Garcia, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes].

Approval of Updated Vendors that Provide Services Over \$100,000 (8.3)

Chico Garcia moved that the Board of Education approve an updated list of vendors who are anticipated to provide purchased services over \$100,000 during Fiscal Year 2021. Jim Berthold seconded.

Greg Fieth reported via Webex on the vendors that were added to the list of vendors who are anticipated to provide purchased services over \$100,000 during the fiscal year 2021 since it was first approved at the June 24, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Greg noted that the increase in amount anticipated for the District to pay the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment from \$106,405.76 last year to \$600,000.00 this school year was due to the fact that a change in law might allow substitute teachers to be eligible to receive unemployment depending upon the number of days they substitute in a school year.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Jim Berthold, yes; Chico Garcia, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes].

Approval of Updated Vendors that Provide Goods Over \$100,000 (8.4)

Karen Ragland moved that the Board of Education approve an updated list of vendors who are anticipated to provide purchased goods over \$100,000 during Fiscal Year 2021, including an increase in amount to Home Depot Pro from \$125,000 to \$250,000. John Ahrens seconded.

Greg Fieth reported via Webex on the vendors that were added to the list of vendors who are anticipated to provide purchased goods over \$100,000 during the fiscal year 2021 since it was first approved at the June 24, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Greg requested that the Board of Education approve an increase in the amount that the District is estimated to use with vendor Home Depot Pro from \$125,000 to \$250,000 due to the fact that Nutrition Services will use more paper supplies as grab-and-go meals are used exclusively due to the pandemic.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Jim Berthold, yes; Chico Garcia, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes].

DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)

None

ADJOURNMENT (10.0)

Board President Joie Siegrist announced the next Regular Board Meeting will be held in the Board Room on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. She also reminded the public/staff that the September 16, 2020 Study Session was moved from Mead Elementary School to the ESC Board Room, and let the Board members know that they were welcome to contact Dr. Haddad if they would like to have a tour of the new Mead Elementary School.

Karen Ragland moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m., and Jim Berthold seconded. The motion carried by unanimous acclamation: [John Ahrens, yes; Jim Berthold, yes; Chico Garcia, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes].

Respectfully submitted,

John Ahrens, Secretary of the Board of Education

Barb Steege, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education

Read and approved or corrected and approved on September 9, 2020.