

**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 September 14, 2011 at the Educational Services Center Board Room, 395 South Pratt Parkway, Longmont, Colorado. The meeting was called to order by Board of Education President John Creighton at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

John Creighton, Director District E
Rick Hammans, Director District A
Debbie Lammers, Director District B
Mike Schiers, Director District G
Bob Smith, Director District C
Dorinda Van Lone, Director District D

Board Members Absent (Excused):

Rod Schmidt, Director District F

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

David Burnison, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Don Haddad, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent
Rick Ring, Chief Operations Officer
Terry Schueler, Chief Financial Officer
Connie Syferd, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement
Amy Weed, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

The agenda was adopted as presented.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

Trip Merklein-President, St. Vrain Valley Education Association. Support for Proposition 103. Thank you to Grassroots St. Vrain for their efforts.

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

The Parents Involved in Education group honored the District with a plaque for their support of Title 1 families and that of all the agencies that bridge the gap between the schools and the parents in the community, i.e., helping kids with homework, tips for parents for supporting their children's education. The Board honored their agencies with certificates, in turn, for their support of Title 1 students in the District.

Regina Renaldi, Executive Director of Priority Schools, honored Dan Willis of IBM and IBM as a whole with a Superintendent's Excellence in Education Award for their generous monetary contributions and collaboration on Camp Innovation. Paige Gordon, Camp Coordinator, and the teachers were introduced and thanked.

Board Communications

John Creighton –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Thanks to Coach Roberts in Lyons for the premier cross country meet at Sunset Middle School. Thanks to all the coaches who organized the District cross country meet. Westview Middle School took second place.
- Attended PTO meetings and the joint Board meeting with the Erie Town Board.
- Attended elementary media resource meeting where Holli Buchter, DMS Coordinator, presented her trip to the Library of Congress.
- Attended School Finance Partnership Project meeting in Denver-brought together people that are interested in looking for long-term, sustainable educational financing. Encouraged everyone to contact their state legislature and Governor that we need action now on education funding issues.

Rick Hammans –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended joint Board meeting with the Erie Town Board.
- Attended Professional Pursuit Luncheon hosted by the Longmont Chamber of Commerce-proud of the job that Don Haddad did in sharing District vision and goals.
- Attended Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) Regional meeting in Loveland.
- Attended Alpine and Hygiene Elementary PTO meetings. Thanks to Grassroots St. Vrain for their collaboration to visit PTO meetings.

Debbie Lammers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended joint Board meeting with Erie Town Board.
- Attended Niwot high football and tennis games.
- Attended Niwot Elementary PTO meeting.
- Attended Back to School Night at Niwot High.

- Attended Community Day and PTO meeting at Burlington Elementary.
- Attended Sunset Middle School Parent Advisory Council.
- Attended Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) Regional meeting in Loveland.
- Attended Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley meeting.
- Attended Education Task Force meeting at Skyline High School.
- Attended Professional Pursuit Luncheon hosted by the Longmont Chamber of Commerce

Mike Schiers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended FHS football games.
- Will be attending PTO meetings.
- Attended District choir concert commemorating 9/11 at Vance Brand Auditorium.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Boulder Valley Care Network meeting-received an overview of an initiative that private practice physicians in the community are creating-our District plans to join with Boulder Valley School District.
- Attended Mountain View and Mead Elementary PTO meetings.

Dori Van Lone –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended and visited all schools in Erie area, including Aspen Ridge Preparatory.
- Met with Mandarin teachers at Black Rock Elementary.
- Attended joint Board meeting with Erie Town Board.
- Attended Erie Elementary PTO meeting. Please visit Staceyforschools.org so a portion of what you purchase goes to the school of your choice.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (5.0)

- Attended Nostalgia Days in Niwot-heard a lot of good things about the District.
- Attended Longmont Community Justice Partnership Plates of Plenty Benefit Banquet.
- Attended Hispanic Education Foundation Golf Tournament/Luncheon Fundraiser.
- Attended District high school choir concert-9/11 memorial presentation at Vance Brand Auditorium. They did an amazing job-thank you to teachers and students that made it happen.
- Announced that a national publication that highlights educational leadership interviewed the District, and the District has been selected to be in the magazine. Don will let the Board know when that is published.
- Channel 8 interview of Senator Rollie Heath about his Proposition 103-see the interview on District website.
- Colorado English Language Assessment (CELA) growth scores increased-thanked Parents Involved in Education-really nothing more important than parent involvement.

- Congratulated Kindergarten teacher/RTI Coach, Danelle Bottke, of Eagle Crest Elementary who won the Office Max “A Day Made Better” award for her dedication to her profession.
- Recognized classroom technology gifts from the Niwot High School Education Foundation totalling \$70,000. Thank you to Debbie Lammers, parents and supporters involved in that Foundation.
- Recognized Amanda Sauer, Principal of Erie Elementary, who was nominated by parents for a Qdoba award that recognizes extraordinary educators.
- Recognized Mead Middle School for ranking second in the state for academic performance out of 1,700 schools in Colorado, as published in the **Denver Post**.
- Recognized that Colorado Council of Teachers of Mathematics awarded Carolyn Clifford of Alpine Elementary School as Outstanding Mathematics Teacher for 2011.
- Pointed out a **Denver Post** front-page article called “***Poverty Escalates***” that detailed how the U.S. has the highest level of poverty ever experienced right now and is increasing rapidly. Discussed how much this effects school children and their learning level.

REPORTS (6.0)

Closing the Achievement Gap Report (6.1)

Regina Renaldi, Executive Director of Priority Programs, reported that St. Vrain Valley School District has completed three years of the Closing the Achievement Gap Grant partnership initiative with the Colorado Department of Education. This grant initiative supported Closing the Achievement Gap in Math for at-risk students at Skyline High School, Heritage Middle School, and Trail Ridge Middle School. It also supported Closing the Achievement Gap in Reading and Writing at Indian Peaks Elementary School and Loma Linda Elementary School. The grant involved a partnership with America’s Choice, an outside provider who supported St. Vrain Valley School District in this effort. The focus of the CTAG grant was included in the Investing in Innovation (i3) grant awarded to St. Vrain Valley School District last year.

2011 ACT Scores (6.2)

Tori Teague, Executive Director of Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction, provided the Board of Education with an update on the 2011 ACT data that 1,642 students took in the St. Vrain Valley School District in the spring of 2011.

2010-2011 Report of St. Vrain Scholarship Recipients (6.3)

Connie Syferd reported that St. Vrain Valley 2011 graduates were awarded a total of \$900,620 in local scholarships. In addition, our 2011 graduates were offered a total of \$12,610,524 in scholarships and awards from colleges and universities across the country.

Safety/Security Report (6.4)

Lynn Wolfe, Risk Manager, and Stacy Davis, Security Manager, provided the Board with a report of the Safety/Security Committees. Each School Safety Committee is directed by Board regulation ADD-R “to plan, implement and orchestrate deliberate, focused activity to increase the probability that the school or facility remains as safe as possible, within a reasonable context, given the nature of the school business and limited resources.” The four areas of activity specified are physical facility assessments, climate and culture promoting positive interpersonal relationships, accessing information to avert violence and destructive behavior, and emergency readiness.

2008 Bond Activity Update (6.5)

Rick Ring, Chief Operations Officer, provided information on the current accomplishments of the approved 2008 Building Bond projects. To date, staff is working in 27 of 49 District facilities while adding six more schools to the list for next year’s summer work. To date, the Operations & Maintenance Dept. has encumbered over \$119 million for the planned projects and spent \$105 million from this Bond Program.

CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)

Rick Hammans moved to approve Consent agenda items 7.1 through 7.5. Bob Smith seconded.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for August 10, 2011 Regular Meeting; August 17, 2011 Study Session; August 26, 2011 Board Retreat; and the August 30, 2011 Joint Meeting with Erie Town Board
4. Approval: Approval of Change Order 12 Construction Manager/General Contractor for Skyline High Addition and Renovation Project
5. Approval: Approval of Symantec for Anti-Virus/Desktop Management Licensing Renewal

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Rick Hammans, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, absent; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes].

ACTION ITEMS (8.0)

Approval of Refrigerated Truck Purchase (8.1)

Rick Hammans moved that the Board of Education approve the purchase of a refrigerated truck from Transwest Trucks. The total cost of the unit with required options is \$126,173.00. The funds for this purchase are included on the 2012 Capital

Reserve Project List approved by the Board of Education in the spring of fiscal year 2011. Dori Van Lone seconded.

Rick Ring was available for questions. Transwest Trucks is a local company.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Rick Hammans, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, absent; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

Approval of Special Needs Bus Purchases (8.2)

Dori Van Lone moved that the Board of Education approve the purchase of two (2) 2012 (66) passenger Type C Special Needs Wheelchair School Buses from Transwest Trucks. The total cost of these buses with the desired upgrades, wheelchair lifts, two-way radios and video surveillance systems is \$205,582.00. The funds for this purchase are included on the 2012 Capital Reserve Project List approved by the Board of Education in the spring of fiscal year 2011. Rick Hammans seconded.

Rick Ring was available for questions.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Rick Hammans, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, absent; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

Approval of Antenna Site License Agreement-Skybeam (8.3)

Dori Van Lone moved that the Board of Education approve a lease agreement with JAB Wireless, Inc., DBA Skybeam (formerly known as Mesa Networks) to maintain and operate existing communications equipment at Skyline High School, Silver Creek High School and Clover Basin Educational Support Services Center, and authorize the Chief Operations Officer to execute all appropriate documents. Rick Hammans seconded.

Rick Ring was present to answer questions.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Rick Hammans, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, absent; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

Approval of Antenna Site License Agreement-Cricket (8.4)

Rick Hammans moved that the Board of Education approve the lease agreement with Cricket Communications, Inc., to maintain and operate existing communications equipment at Skyline High School and authorize the Chief Operations Officer to execute all appropriate documents. Debbie Lammers seconded.

Rick Ring was present to answer questions.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Rick Hammans, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, absent; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

Approval of Tuition Agreement for Competency Based Diploma Program Between SVVSD and Centennial BOCES/Aims Community College (8.5)

Debbie Lammers moved that the Board of Education (1) approve the tuition agreement between the St. Vrain Valley School District and Centennial BOCES/Aims Community College for the provision of a Competency Based Diploma Program at the Centennial BOCES Alternative High School, Longmont location, for the 2011-2012 school year and that it be available to St. Vrain students as an educational alternative, (2) authorize the payment of \$300,000.00 to cover the cost of tuition, and (3) further authorize the Superintendent to sign the agreement document. The Longmont location is located at 316 Main St., Longmont, CO 80501. Rick Hammans seconded.

Terry Schueler was available for questions.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Rick Hammans, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, absent; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

Approval of EAGLE-Net Agreement (8.6)

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education approve an Intergovernmental Agreement between the St. Vrain Valley School District and EAGLE-Net Alliance. Debbie Lammers seconded.

St. Vrain Valley School District's entry into this Agreement gives our District the opportunity to both nominate and vote for future Board of Directors for EAGLE-Net without creating any additional obligation or liability.

Joe McBreen, Chief Information Officer, was available to explain the need for more bandwidth for the District and for questions.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Rick Hammans, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, absent; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

Approval of Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) Narratives (8.7)

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education approve Narratives that provide guidance and approval of expenditures associated with IDEA funding to support the provision of special education services to students attending St. Vrain Valley School District. Dori Van Lone seconded.

Every three years, Districts are required to write Narratives to be approved by the Board of Education and submitted to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). The Narratives describe to CDE how the District will utilize the IDEA funds to support special education services for students with disabilities, ages three through twenty-one, attending the St. Vrain Valley School District.

Jackie Whittington, Executive Director of Student Services, was present to answer questions.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Rick Hammans, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, absent; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)

Aspen Ridge Preparatory Budget (9.1)

Greg Fieth, Budget Director, discussed with the Board the differences between the original and current budget that was presented from Aspen Ridge budget manager, Bill Rader. This discussion was requested to ensure the budget was sufficient, based on the current funded pupil count.

Bill Rader explained the reasons for the differences between the original and the current revised budget that he presented to the board.

Board President John Creighton will have a letter written to Aspen Ridge regarding concerns as expressed by Board members about the budget. He asked Mr. Rader to create another budget scenario showing \$300 less per student in per-pupil-funding.

First Reading, Introduction, Board Policies BGB – Policy Adoption; and BGF – Suspension/Repeal of Policy (9.2)

The proposed policy revisions were necessary for improved clarity and alignment with current practice and procedures, and have been reviewed by the Board of Education.

It was recommended by the Board that these two policies be moved to Consent at the October 12, 2011 Board meeting.

Board Retreat Follow-Up (9.3)

The Board of Education held a Board Retreat on Friday, August 26, 2011. Topics of discussion at the Retreat were District financial stability, community outreach and communications, working with legislators, reviewing Board policies, and strategic priorities.

Don Haddad thanked the Board for the tremendous amount of time that members have devoted to Board of Education duties.

ADJOURNMENT

Bob Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Debbie Lammers seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Rick Hammans, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, absent; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

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

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 October 12, 2011.