

**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 8, 2012 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, President, Director District E
Debbie Lammers, Secretary, Director District B
Rod Schmidt, Director District F
Joie Siegrist, Director District A
Bob Smith, Vice President, Director District C
Dori Van Lone, Treasurer, Director District D

Board Members Absent (Excused):

Mike Schiers, Assistant Secretary, Director District G

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

David Burnison, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Dr. Don Haddad, 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)

Action Item 8.1 Approval of Vendors Providing Purchased Services had an addition to the list of vendors that the District will do over \$100,000 worth of business in 2013.

Action Item 8.4 Adoption of Resolution Calling an Election and Declaring a Mill Levy Override Question was exchanged with Action Item 8.3 Approval of Resolution to Adopt a Position of Advocacy in Support of the Ballot Issue-Matters of Public Concern.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

Cecelia Godwin, 606 Pratt Street, Longmont, 80501-Advocate for the Adult Education program. Encouraged Dr. Haddad and the Board to continue the Adult Education program if the mill levy passes.

Marietta Vigil Gonzales, 713 Allen Drive, Longmont 80503-Longmont Sister Cities Board Member thanked the District for their donation of used laptops.

LaVern Johnson, Box 9, Lyons-Announced that the Lyons Historical Society was awarded a State Historical Grant of \$54,148 to complete the restoration of the Lyons Redstone Museum. Thanked the District for their help in completing the project.

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

Board Communications

John Creighton –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Mayors' Meeting.
- Thanked the staff that continues to work with the students over the summer and for their dedication as we prepare for another school year.

Debbie Lammers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Skyline High School event that hosted Cecelia Muñoz, Director of Domestic Policy for the White House-appreciated that Deniece Cook, CTE Principal for the District, was invited to participate about Career and Technical Education programs in the District.
- Attended Innovation Academy for a Smarter Planet-first year for middle school students and would like to see that continue.

Rod Schmidt –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Skyline High School event that hosted Cecelia Muñoz, Director of Domestic Policy for the White House.
- Attended Innovation Academy for a Smarter Planet.

Joie Siegrist –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Innovation Academy for a Smarter Planet.
- Thanked Rebecca Jonas, orchestra instructor from Westview Middle School, for arranging for her students to play the National Anthem at a Rockies game-great

example of engaging students in co-curricular activities that demonstrate musical achievement.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended town hall meeting with State Reps. Jonathan Singer and Matt Jones.
- Attended Skyline High School event that hosted Cecelia Muñoz, Director of Domestic Policy for the White House. Thank you to Patty Quinones and Regina Renaldi for everything they did to make this event happen and how well they represented the school district.
- Thanked Terry Schueler for the work she has done on the Urban Renewal Authorities with Firestone and Erie-great job.

Dori Van Lone –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended the closing ceremony for Innovation Academy for a Smarter Planet.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (5.0)

- Attended New Teacher Orientation-Congratulations to Lory Courtney for the work she did to make a successful start for the new teachers.
- Visited various schools and met with staff members-Congratulations to Rick Ring and his team for the quality of the school facilities and how great they all look.
- Visited with the Nutrition Services staff at Altona Middle School.
- Attended closing ceremony of the Innovation Academy for a Smarter Planet. Pleased to have Brandon Shaffer and IBM Colorado Senior State Executive, Carita Watson, in attendance.
- Attended Boettcher scholarship celebration honoring St. Vrain students Maddie Doering from Lyons Middle/Senior High and Ryan Carson from Silver Creek High School. Forty students in Colorado received Boettcher scholarships.
- Referenced the visitor to tonight's meeting that was an advocate for Adult Education. Adult Education is a program many students have benefited from, but is another example of the state budget cuts that force the District to make drastic decisions.

REPORTS (6.0)

Summer 2012 Construction Activities (6.1)

Rick Ring, Chief Operations Officer, provided the Board of Education with a summary of the summer of 2012 construction activities over \$100,000 or those that had additions to Board approved amounts.

- Erie Middle School-Meeting with parents at 6:00 pm on Thursday, August 9. It is expected that students will not start back to school until Monday, August 20, but that

is still tentative. The immediate need is to make sure the building is safe before allowing staff and students back in.

- Longmont PK-8-Break ground on the new addition in September.
- Alpine Elementary-Security enhancements.
- Burlington Elementary-Technology enhancements in many of the rooms and added interior light.
- Longmont Estates and Northridge Elementary-Security and technology enhancements.

CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)

Bob Smith 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 Intergovernmental Agreements with Boulder, Larimer, and Weld County and the City and County of Broomfield for Participation in the 2012 Election
4. Approval: Approval of Tuition Agreement-Competency Based Diploma Program

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

ACTION ITEMS (8.0)

Approval of Vendors Providing Purchased Services (8.1)

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education approve the list of vendors who are anticipated to provide purchased services over \$100,000 during Fiscal Year 2013. Joie Siegrist seconded.

Dr. Don Haddad will report enrollment numbers to the Board for the St. Vrain Online Academy.

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

Approval of Vendors Providing Purchased Goods (8.2)

Dori Van Lone moved that the Board of Education approve the list of vendors who are anticipated to provide purchased goods over \$100,000 during Fiscal Year 2013. Debbie Lammers seconded.

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

Approval of Resolution Calling an Election and Declaring a Mill Levy Override Question (8.4) (Action Item 8.4 was discussed before Action Item 8.3 this evening.)

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education adopt a resolution for a mill levy override for the November 6, 2012 election. Joie Siegrist seconded.

As the State of Colorado budget crisis has resulted in reduced state funding for K-12 education, the St. Vrain Valley School District's per pupil funding has been reduced significantly from \$7,085 in August 2009 to \$6,332 in August of 2012. This reduction of \$753 per pupil in the last four years has caused the District to reduce staff, delay textbook replacement cycles, spend one-time money reserves, and has diminished our ability to recruit and retain staff.

During the same four years, the 2008 mill levy override dollars has enabled the District to make up for the impact of lost funding to some extent. However, due to a significant increase in student population and continued loss of revenue, it has become necessary for the question of a mill levy override to be placed on the local ballot for the November 6, 2012 election.

Livvy Bahr, 6460 Coralberry Court, Niwot-5th grader in the gifted and talented program at Niwot Elementary supporting the mill levy override.

Paula Peairs, 2017 Sundance Drive, Longmont, 80504-Community Task Force member supporting mill levy override on the ballot on November.

Carolyn Storz, 866 Yellowstone Road, Longmont, 80503-Community Task Force member. Supports the inclusion of a mill levy override on the ballot in November. She feels it is the responsibility of the community to provide an excellent education for our students. Encouraged the Board to let the community decide on a vote of support for the District.

Stacey Bahr, 6460 Coralberry Court, Niwot-Supporting Grassroots St. Vrain and their work in favor of the mill levy override.

Laura McDonald, 8824 Walker Road, Longmont, 80503-Speaking on behalf of Grassroots St. Vrain. Wants the community to sustain the progress the District has made in the last four years by supporting a mill levy override for a quality education for our children. Grassroots St. Vrain strives to let the community have the option to vote for a mill levy override.

Ken Schuetz, 2206 Eagle View Circle, Longmont, 80504-Asked to lead the campaign for the mill levy override. Yes on 3A Committee has been organized and ready to move forward, pending approval by the Board of Education.

Trip Merklein, 2007 Red Cloud Road, Longmont, President of St. Vrain Valley Education Association-Supports the mill levy override and the work of Grassroots St. Vrain. Felt it is critical that this ballot measure be offered to the St. Vrain community.

LaVern Johnson, Box 9, Lyons-Supports the mill levy override, and encouraged the community to pass a referendum in November. She is a member of the Lyons Town Board of Trustees.

Board members each had the opportunity to voice their opinions about the amount to ask the voters for in the mill levy override. Each member varied on that total but concluded that the \$14.8 million dollar figure would be best for the District at this time.

Board members praised the Grassroots St. Vrain group for all that they have been able to accomplish for the District and the community, and agreed with Grassroots St. Vrain that the Board should put the measure on the 2012 ballot and let the community have the opportunity to decide.

Board President John Creighton read the Resolution to the audience.

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

Approval of Resolution to Adopt a Position of Advocacy in Support of the Ballot Issue-Matters of Public Concern (8.3)

Rod Schmidt moved that the Board of Education approve a Resolution adopting a position of advocacy in support of a ballot issue, declaring the issue to be a matter of public concern. Debbie Lammers seconded.

As per Section 1-45-117, C.R.S., of the Fair Campaign Practices Act, the Board is adopting a position of advocacy in support of a mill levy override ballot issue. The Board unanimously and enthusiastically supports the mill levy override ballot issue and urges the voters of the District to vote "yes" on Ballot Issue 3A at the November 6, 2012 election.

Board member Debbie Lammers read the Resolution to the audience.

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

Approval of Resolution to Implement Senior Tax Work-Off Program (8.5)

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education adopt a Resolution in support of implementing a Senior Tax Work-Off Program should the 2012 mill levy override pass. Joie Siegrist seconded.

A Resolution to implement the Senior Tax Work-Off Program was discussed at the Board Meeting on August 1, 2012. This Resolution establishes a property tax work-off program for senior taxpayers and those with disabilities to perform services to the District to reduce their property tax payments in the event of the 2012 mill levy override passage. This Resolution is in line with the discussion of the program, is recommended by the administration, and has been reviewed by District legal counsel.

One hundred applicants will be allowed from each county - Boulder and Weld. Dr. Don Haddad added that this program will mitigate both mill levy overrides (2008 and 2012). Should the mill levy pass in November, applicants will be able to apply before the winter break.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)

First Reading, Discussion, Board Policy DB – Annual Budget (9.1)

Revisions to this policy and accompanying exhibit are necessary due to alignment with current practice, procedure, and applicable statutes and have been reviewed by the administration.

The Board suggested this policy go to Consent at the September 12, 2012 Regular Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Rod Schmidt moved to adjourn the meeting. Dori Van Lone seconded.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 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 September 12, 2012.