

**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 February 13, 2013 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 6:58 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board Members Present:**

John Creighton, President, Director District E  
Debbie Lammers, Secretary, Director District B  
Mike Schiers, Assistant Secretary, Director District G  
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):**

None

**St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:**

David Burnison, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Sean Corey, Principal of Legacy Elementary School  
Stacy Davis, Security Manager  
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools  
Doug Jackson, Assistant Principal of Frederick High School  
Keith Liddle, Principal of Centennial Elementary School  
Linda Lohmann, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent  
Kirsten McNeill, Principal of Prairie Ridge Elementary School  
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Karen Musick, Principal of Frederick Elementary School  
Regina Renaldi, Assistant Superintendent for Priority Schools  
Rick Ring, Chief Operations Officer  
Terry Schueler, Chief Financial Officer  
Connie Syferd, Assistant Superintendent of Student Achievement  
Amy Weed, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent

Brian Young, Principal of Coal Ridge Middle School

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)**

Consent Agenda Item 7.4 was pulled to discuss further, but was approved this evening.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)**

None

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

**Board Presentations**

Bob Norris, 532 Rider Ridge Drive, Longmont-Present to remind the Board to attend the Hispanic Education Foundation Banquet that will be held on May 2, 2013 at 6:00 pm at Frederick High School.

Sonja Y. Marquez (sonia@coloradoimmigrant.org), 1332 Holly Avenue, #1, Longmont, 80501; and District students Kelly Sarceno, Anna M. Gutierrez, and Elizabeth Gutierrez-Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition-present to report on the Colorado ASSET (Advancing Students for a Stronger Economy Tomorrow) Program which supports undocumented students paying in-state tuition if they meet the criteria. They are having a fundraiser on February 15, 2013 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, 803 Third Avenue, Longmont, to raise money for scholarships.

Board President John Creighton asked the Board if they would like to see a Resolution in a March business meeting to support the Colorado ASSET Program, and the Board was supportive of that idea. That Resolution will come before the Board at the March 13, 2013 Regular Board Meeting.

Regina Renaldi introduced Mead Elementary School Principal Betsy Porter, Mountain View Elementary School Principal Nancy Pitz, and Sanborn Elementary School Principal John Wahler, as they were honored by the Board and District administration for their schools winning the myOn Reader national reading contest. Sanborn students read 11,341 books for 1,518 hours which was the most books read in the nation. For their efforts, Sanborn received a check for \$5,000 and myOn donated \$500 worth of books. Second place Mountain View Elementary read 8,536 books for 1,034 hours and won \$3,000. Mead Elementary took third place read 9,019 books for 1,329 hours and won \$2,000.

The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County representatives were present at the meeting to be honored by the Board and District administration for their tremendous support for the mill levy override. Josie Heath, Foundation President; Chris Barge, Director of School Readiness Initiative; and Richard Garcia, Chair of the Board of

Trustees, were all present to accept the Board's appreciation. The Community Foundation received an Excellence in Education award from Dr. Don Haddad. Board President John Creighton thanked The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County for all the work, guidance and support their team provided to help the District pass the mill levy override.

### **Board Communications**

John Creighton –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Finance and Audit Committee meeting.
- Attended Safety Forum at Coal Ridge Middle School-thanked Stacy Davis and John Poynton and his team for their efforts.
- Attended jazz band, swim meets, and wrestling meets at various schools-thanked the dedication of student athletes and their coaches and trainers.
- Attended Leadership Longmont class-hope that all those people can attend the Longmont Chamber of Commerce Unity in the Community event on February 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the Plaza Conference Center.

Debbie Lammers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended High School Student Advisory Council Meeting at Longmont High School.
- Attended Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley Meeting.
- Attended Safety Forum at Coal Ridge Middle School-well organized and presenters were excellent. Thank you to members of law enforcement that presented.
- Attended Great Education Colorado Year of the Student event at the State Capitol with students from all over our District. Thank you to Amy Weed and Mark Mills for organizing the students.
- Attended Niwot High Education Foundation movie night, and the Environmental Club basketball game.
- Attended the Open House at the Career Development Center.
- Thanks to The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County which helped support the District and helped campaign for the mill levy override. Thanked the Foundation, on behalf of the community members that served alongside them on the campaign.

Mike Schiers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Frederick High School Music Boosters Club Meeting.
- Attended Safety Forum at Coal Ridge Middle School.
- Attended Parent Update meeting at Frederick High School.

Rod Schmidt –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Safety Forum at Trail Ridge Middle School-thanked the staff who presented and who were instrumental in creating the Forums.

Joie Siegrist –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended LiveWell Longmont Meeting-thank you to Heather Keith for her work on the Committee.
- Attended Living Well meeting.
- Attended Safety Forum at Trail Ridge Middle-thanked Stacy Davis for her presentation.
- Attended the Open House at the Career Development Center.
- Attended Lyons Middle/Senior High wrestling tournament.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Safety Forum at Trail Ridge Middle-thought it was an outstanding event.

Dori Van Lone –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Finance and Audit Committee Meetings.
- Attended Safety Forum at Erie Middle School:
  - There was a misprint on the phone number for Erie Police Department-it is being corrected and will be sent out.
  - Thanks to the O&M Department for their work on Erie Middle School.
- Attended an Erie wrestling tournament.
- Attended Erie Book Fair.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (5.0)**

Senator Michael Johnston will be presenting the New Finance Act in the next couple of weeks. Senator Johnston is also going to address the New Finance Act at the 2013 CASB Winter Legislative Conference-Dr. Haddad will serve on a panel and Board member Debbie Lammers will be attending the Conference. Dr. Haddad shared a few highlights of how things would change with the New Finance Act:

- Whole purpose is to bring equity to the 178 Colorado school districts. Dr. Haddad likes it because it addresses that there is an education funding problem in Colorado.
- Instead of an October 1 count, schools would go to an average daily quarterly count and, in May, the largest quarter would account for next year's funding.
- Now our District receives part-time funding if a secondary student is not in a certain amount of classes-in the New Finance Act, that same student would be fully funded.
- Emphasis on early childhood-instead of .58 funding, Kindergarten students would be fully funded.
- Lifts cap on Colorado preschool funding-would no longer be partial funding.
- Eliminates the cost of living concept-addresses size of district.
- Would increase funding for at-risk, special education, and ELL students.

- 5-year hold harmless provision so that districts don't lose money in the new student count equation.
- District allocation-some monies could be sent to the schools directly.
- State investment portion that would add \$600 per pupil (not onto the base) as a way to generate additional funds.
- Would pay the election costs of smaller districts and would support with BOCES services.
- State mill levy equalization-\$580 more if a district passes a mill levy override.
- New Finance Act is dependent upon passing a state-wide tax increase in the fall of 2013, and wouldn't go into effect until the 2015-2016 School Year. If it does not pass, funding reverts back to the current plan.

## **REPORTS (6.0)**

### **Frederick High School Feeder Report by High School Student Advisory Council Students (6.1)**

Amy Weed introduced Frederick High School Student Advisory Council students Brynn Burnham, Ginny Ritz-Creager, and Rebecca Vincent. The students reported on all Frederick feeder schools. Principals of all Frederick High feeder schools were in attendance.

### **Senior Tax Work-Off Program Update (6.2)**

Linda Lohmann provided the Board of Education with an update on the Senior Tax Work-Off Program that allows seniors and disabled adults to work for the District in order to reduce their property tax bills. Currently, there are 88 people taking advantage of this tax work-off program. Dr. Haddad thanked Terry Schueler for bringing this program to the Board's attention. He thanked Linda Lohmann for her administration of this program and for supporting the superintendent's office. Her dedication is very much appreciated.

### **School-Based Health Center Update (6.3)**

Regina Renaldi, Assistant Superintendent for Priority Programs, reported on research of school-based health center opportunities for the St. Vrain Valley School District. This topic is at the very beginning stages of research. There are 55 school-based centers in Colorado. Regina and Jackie Whittington will visit a center in Greeley to explore the idea of a school-based health center in St. Vrain Valley.

## **CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)**

Rod Schmidt moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.3, 7.5 and 7.6. Consent Agenda Item 7.4 was pulled for further review. Dori Van Lone seconded.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves

- 2. Approval: Staff Appointments
- 3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the January 9, 2013 Regular Meeting, the January 16, 2013 Regular Study Session, and the January 23, 2013 Regular Televised Study Session
- 5. Approval: Approval of Contract Award-2013 Portable Classrooms Purchase
- 6. Approval: Approval of Contract Award-Lyons Elementary School Retaining Wall Replacement Project

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

- 4. Approval: Approval of Change Order to CMGC Contract-Burlington Elementary School Renovation Project

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education approve Change Order #3 to the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) contract with Golden Triangle Construction for the Burlington Elementary School Renovation Project for \$883,493 for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$2,400,000, and further authorize Rick Ring, Chief Operations Officer, to sign change order documents. Debbie Lammers seconded.

The CMGC contract with Golden Triangle Construction for the Burlington Elementary School Renovation Project was approved at the November 9, 2011 Board of Education meeting. Phase I was completed last summer while Phase II work is planned for summer 2013.

Change Order #3 includes Phase II construction activities adding new carpeting, additional asbestos abatement, plumbing repairs, site lighting, classroom lighting upgrades, a new electric sign, and a new security entrance. This is the final phase of this project.

The Burlington Elementary Renovation project is funded by the 2008 Bond program.

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

### **ACTION ITEMS (8.0)**

#### **Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming National School Breakfast Week, March 4-8, 2013 (8.1)**

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education adopt a resolution proclaiming March 4-8, 2013 as National School Breakfast Program Week. Joie Siegrist seconded.

The School Nutrition Association and the District Nutrition Services Department celebrates National School Breakfast Week each March. This annual event includes specially prepared breakfasts and promotes awareness of the importance of nutrition and physical activity in our children's lives.

Board member Joie Siegrist read the resolution.

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

**Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming "Read Across America Day", March 1, 2013 (8.2)**

Debbie Lammers moved that the Board of Education adopt the resolution proclaiming March 1, 2013 as "Read Across America Day" within St. Vrain Valley Schools in support of the National Education Association's campaign. Dori Van Lone seconded.

A program of the National Education Association (NEA), "Read Across America Day" is celebrated annually on or near Dr. Seuss's birthday of March 2. Reading opens the doors to achievement, and "Read Across America Day" celebrations – whether large or small – are crucial building blocks toward making the joys of reading an integral part of every child's life.

Board member Dori Van Lone read the resolution.

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

**Approval of Superintendent's Contract, 5<sup>th</sup> Addendum (8.3)**

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve the fifth addendum to the Superintendent's contract. Debbie Lammers seconded.

The purpose of this addendum is to amend Superintendent Don Haddad's contract to show an extension for another year, and to make clarifications on his professional memberships. Board President John Creighton noted that, after the SVVEA negotiations, the board will consider Dr. Haddad's compensation package.

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

**Approval of Fiscal Sponsor Agreement and the MOU Between the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley and SVVSD (8.4)**

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education approve the Fiscal Sponsor Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley and the St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J. Dori Van Lone seconded.

The Fiscal Sponsor Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding updates the agreements and commitments between the Education Foundation and the District. The Fiscal Sponsor Agreement allows the Foundation to accept donations and gifts on behalf of individual St. Vrain Valley Schools.

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

#### **Approval of Joint Use Agreement with the Town of Firestone (8.5)**

Dori Van Lone moved that the Board of Education approve the Joint Use Agreement (JUA) of Facilities between the Town of Firestone and the St. Vrain Valley School District, and further authorize the President of the Board of Education to sign contract documents. Mike Schiers seconded.

The St. Vrain Valley School District negotiates Joint Use Agreements with the municipalities in which District facilities are located. Joint Use Agreements are intended to foster partnerships, cooperation and outline shared use of both town/city and District facilities and programs. The JUA with the Town of Firestone will be renewed every three years.

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

#### **Approval of Appointment of Executive Director of Innovation Programs (8.6)**

Rod Schmidt moved that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Ms. Patricia Quinones as Executive Director of Innovation Programs (position funded by Race to the Top Grant), effective March 1, 2013. Dori Van Lone seconded.

The District has employed Ms. Patty Quinones since 2004. She is currently serving as the Principal of Skyline High School, a position she has held for the past five years. She previously served one year as an Assistant Principal at Skyline High School, and three years as an Assistant Principal at Longmont High School. During her tenure at Skyline High School, she has provided outstanding leadership to design and develop the STEM and Performing Arts focus programs. Her success provided both support and direction for the District's successful Race to the Top Grant proposal. Ms. Quinones is being recommended to the new District-level role of Executive Director of



Innovation Programs to work under the leadership of Regina Renaldi in the District-wide implementation of the Race to the Top Grant.

This position is funded by the Grant. Annual salary will be according to schedule.

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

#### **Approval of Appointment of Principal of Skyline High School (8.7)**

Rod Schmidt moved that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Ms. Heidi Ringer as Principal of Skyline High School, effective March 1, 2013. Dori Van Lone seconded.

Ms. Heidi Ringer has been employed by the District since 1994 when she was hired as a teacher. In 2007, she became the Assistant Principal of Skyline High School. During her time as Assistant Principal, she developed into a strong instructional leader, and supported the administration and staff in the successful transition to a STEM and Performing Arts focus school. Ms. Ringer is being recommended for this new opportunity as Principal of Skyline High School and will continue providing strong and visionary leadership supporting the school and community. Annual salary will be according to schedule.

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

#### **Request to Grant Exception to Conflict of Interest Policy (8.8)**

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve Dana Clanin as a District vendor for the purpose of selling a musical instrument/equipment to Altona Middle School. Bob Smith 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."

Dana Clanin is employed by the District as a Band teacher at Altona Middle School. She has need of a new guitar and amplifier for use in her Band classes. She has these personal items in her possession and is willing to sell them to her Band Program at an amount well under market value.

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

#### **Approval of Race to the Top Evaluator Consulting Service (8.9)**

Dori Van Lone moved that the Board of Education approve a contract with EPI International for outside evaluator services in conjunction with the Race to the Top Grant – District. This would encompass evaluator services in the amount of \$360,000 for four years beginning in March 2013 and ending in January 2017. Debbie Lammers seconded.

The St. Vrain Valley School District received a \$16.5 million Race to the Top District Grant. Regina Renaldi reported that a requirement of the initiative is to contract with the services of an outside evaluator. We currently are in year three of a five-year successful contract relationship with EPI International through our Investing in Innovation Grant, and are requesting a new four-year contract for the RTTT initiative with the same organization. A partnership with an outside evaluator was a condition of the grant.

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

#### **Approval of Request to Change Adult Education Graduation Date (8.10)**

Mike Schiers moved that the Board of Education approve the following change of graduation date for St. Vrain Valley Adult Education Program from May 23, 2013 to June 20, 2013. Debbie Lammers seconded.

St. Vrain Valley Adult Education will be closing its doors at the end of June 2013. Because this is the last year that the school will be open, Principal Deniece Cook would like to give students every opportunity to earn the credits that are required to graduate. By extending the graduation date to June 20, 2013, it would give those students one more month to reach that goal, as well as providing opportunity for all to participate in the commencement exercises.

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

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)**

##### **First Reading, Introduction, Board Policy GBEB – Staff Code of Conduct (And Responsibilities) (9.1)**

Changes to this Board Policy are consistent with CASB recommendations and primarily focus on expanding the situations where employee screening for convictions can take place. Revisions to these policies are necessary due to alignment with current practice, procedure, and applicable statutes and have been reviewed by District administration.

The Board of Education recommended that this Board policy be placed in Consent for the March 13, 2013 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, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 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 March 13, 2013.