

**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 11, 2015 at the Educational Services Center Board Room, 395 South Pratt Parkway, Longmont, Colorado. The meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Robert J. Smith at 6:58 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board Members Present:**

John Ahrens, Member, Director District D  
John Creighton, Member, Director District E  
Debbie Lammers, Secretary, Director District B  
Paula Peairs, Treasurer, Director District F  
Mike Schiers, Assistant Secretary, Director District G  
Joie Siegrist, Vice President, Director District A  
Robert J. Smith, President, Director District C

**Board Members Absent (Excused):**

None

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

Shelly Allen, Director Nutrition Services/Warehouse  
Stephanie Anderson, Principal of Columbine Elementary  
Rob Berry, Executive Director of Athletics, Activities and Fine Arts  
Todd Bissell, Principal of Erie Middle School  
Karrie Borski, Principal of Timberline PK-8  
David Burnison, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent  
Eddie Cloke, Principal of Trail Ridge Middle  
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer  
Dede Frothingham, Principal of Alpine Elementary  
Dr. Jennifer Guthals, Principal of Fall River Elementary  
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Rachel Heidi, Assistant Principal of Erie Middle School  
Stephen Hoel, Principal of Rocky Mountain Elementary  
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent

Ella Padilla, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Regina Renaldi, Area 3 Assistant Superintendent for Priority Schools  
Heidi Ringer, Principal of Skyline High School  
Terry Schueler, Financial Services Advisor  
Connie Syferd, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement  
Tori Teague, Assistant Superintendent of Assessment, Curriculum, and Instruction  
Jackie Whittington, Executive Director of Student Services

### **Visitors**

Trip Merklein, President of St. Vrain Valley Education Foundation

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)**

The Agenda was accepted as presented.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)**

Darren Winkelhake, 2307 Bluebird Drive, Longmont, 80504, was present to support the Physical Education (PE) Waiver changes, but would ask that the Board consider allowing the students to waive two PE credits.

Julie Larsen, 1836 Cambridge Drive, Longmont, 80503, was present to support the PE Waiver changes, but she would also like to see Marching Band included in the activities that could be considered for the PE Waiver.

David Merrill, 295 Harvest Point Drive, Erie, Colorado, 80516, was present to support the PE Waiver changes, but would also like to see Marching Band and Drumline included in the activities that could be considered for the PE Waiver.

Stacey Gilbert, 1602 Bluefield Avenue, Longmont 80504, was present to support the PE Waiver changes, but would also like to see the music programs be considered for the PE Waiver.

Parents were encouraged to give Dr. Haddad a call about their concerns.

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

#### **Presentations to the Board**

Mark Mills introduced Erie Middle School Principal Todd Bissell and Assistant Principal Dr. Rachel Heidi who recognized Erie Middle School and Girls Who Code Club students Cassie Mahakian (7<sup>th</sup> grade) and Ashley Willis (8<sup>th</sup> grade) for winning the National Samsung Mobile App Award for creating the “Musiklearn” App that aims to improve brain function for students ages 8 and under through digital word games and music.

The app targets Math and Language skills for students with dyslexia and autism. The two students each received a new Samsung laptop for their reward from Samsung, and Dr. Haddad presented them each with an Excellence in Education award.

### **Board Reports**

John Ahrens –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Student Advisory Council Meeting at the Innovation Center.
- Attended workshop hosted by George K. Baum “Preparing for a Successful Bond Election” in Broomfield with Brian Lamer.
- Attended Erie Middle School awards ceremony for the Girls Who Code Club-18 girls in the Club.
- Attended Colorado Music Educators’ Association concert at Longmont High School.
- Attended 5<sup>th</sup> Grade concert with the Longmont Symphony.
- Attended Longmont LiveWell Meeting.
- Attended Innovation Center Board Meeting-students are creating real-life projects that were amazing.
- Attended high school basketball games.
- Attended Red Hawk Elementary parent teacher conferences.

John Creighton –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Thanks to the Longmont High School Boys’ basketball team for an exciting game Saturday that continues their undefeated season-entire school/gym was packed.
- Thanks to Bob Smith for allowing John to cover for him at Leadership Longmont-thanks to the Longmont Chamber for putting the event on every year and to Kathy Webber-Harding for always doing a great job.
- In the course of his business duties, had a meeting at his office with a developer in the area who offered without hesitation that the success of SVVSD is what’s driving the housing demand in Longmont.

Debbie Lammers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Niwot High Boys’ basketball game and awarded a district sportsmanship medal to a player-thanks to Rob Berry for this great idea and opportunity for board members to get to the games. Thanks to the NHS Principal and Athletic Director for telling the story behind the medals - the student and his parents were very surprised and appreciative.
- Debbie’s husband attended the Niwot High School Education Foundation (NHSEF) event at CyclHOPS. Thanks to Oskar Blues for being a great business partner and for supporting the schools and the NHSEF. Thanks to Dr. Haddad for attending the event and to all the business sponsors from the community that contributed to the successful evening.

- Attended CASB Legislative Resolutions Committee Meeting-went over a number of prospective bills and CASB's position on them-will keep the Board posted on the bills as they progress through the legislature.

Paula Peairs –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Student Advisory Council meeting at the Innovation Center-Connie Syferd gave students an overview of counselor responsibilities and everyone received great feedback from the students.
- Attended Board Policy Review Committee Meetings.
- Attended staff meetings at various schools-enjoyed meeting the staff and opening up a dialogue with them to make the connection between the Board Room and the classroom-encouraged teachers to get their voices heard by completing the TELL Survey.
- Attended Coffee with Congressman Ken Buck event-well attended and large range of issues. Very complimentary of SVVSD-nice to make connections.
- Announced March of Dimes March for Babies Walk in Boulder on Saturday, April 25, at 10:00 a.m. on the CU Boulder Campus, 2000 Colorado Boulevard. More information on [www.marchforbabies.org](http://www.marchforbabies.org).
- Will be attending basketball games to hand out sportsmanship awards.

Mike Schiers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Carbon Valley Chamber of Commerce dinner-shared the importance of relationships with local businesses-businesses are eager to be involved in St. Vrain schools.

Joie Siegrist –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Board Policy Review Committee Meetings.
- Attended various school orchestra concerts.
- Announced that the Career Development Center offers Valentine flower arrangements for sale. Call them at 720-494-3967 for any floral needs.
- Signed up to receive District's Learning Technology Plan newsletter, and encouraged everyone to sign up to receive it to keep updated.
- Visited schools/met with principals across the District-between visits and the Board Policy Overhaul Project has such an appreciation for all the hard work and learning going on at every school and it has strengthened her knowledge of the District.
- Thanked John Creighton for his thoughts on how schools should create an experience students want to show up for, an experience that teachers want to show up to teach, and to create experiences that the community wants to be involved in.
- Thanked Dr. Haddad for his analogy that our District should be a school system and not a District of schools with two important aspects-1) a school system where leaders have the flexibility to customize learning to their individual school, and 2) for the Board to support those leaders by stepping back and letting their expertise continue to allow their school/District to move forward.

- Encouraged community members to visit schools so that they could see that their children are in good hands.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended staff meeting regarding Request For Proposal (RFP) for District health care services-Terry Schueler and Ella Padilla did a great job providing the leadership. Thanks to Tim Wellman, Shelly Murphy and Traci Burtnett for all their work on this project. It will be issued in two parts-medical management and administrative performance. Staff is using a consultant, but Traci Burtnett is doing most of the preparation and organization. The RFP will be sent via a third party-Bidnet.
- Announced that Connie Syferd put together a panel of speakers for a presentation at Longmont High on April 7, 2015 around *The Raising of America Project* which is a documentary about early childhood education to be broadcast on PBS.

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

- Attended middle school All-State Choir Concert at the Bellco Theatre-440 middle school students-45 from St. Vrain Valley.
- Attended Carbon Valley Chamber of Commerce dinner-speakers were very supportive of St. Vrain.
- Attended Niwot High School Education Foundation fundraising event at CyclHOPS-thank you to Board member Debbie Lammers for her past leadership on this Foundation.
- Attended Student Advisory Council Meeting at the Innovation Center. Invited Board members to join the March of Dimes March for Babies Walk in Boulder on Saturday, April 25.
- Announced that Human Resources is starting interviews for Principals for Mead High School, Altona Middle School, and Longmont Estates, and the Area 1 Assistant Superintendent.
- Announced that Negotiations have begun-looking forward to the collaborative process with Trip Merklein.
- Submitting Request For Proposal for District health insurance services tomorrow and will be bringing a recommendation forward to the Board in April.
- Thanks to Joe McBreen and Brian Lamer for completing the transformation of the District phone system to voice over internet protocol (VoIP).
- Announced that Communications is completing updates of all school websites with only 13 schools left to go. Communications reports that there is tremendous traffic on the District website.
- Announced that the installation of school cameras at the middle schools will be completed this summer.
- Very proud of all staff and students when visiting the schools.

### **REPORTS (6.0)**

#### **Skyline High School Student Advisory Council Feeder Report (6.1)**

Regina Renaldi introduced Skyline High Principal Heidi Ringer who then introduced the Skyline High School Student Advisory Council students Mateo Fortes, Yarleny DeLuna, Gabe Chavez, Cali Altenritter and Lois Strope. Skyline feeder system principals that were in attendance: Timberline PK-8 Principal Karrie Borski, Trail Ridge Middle Principal Eddie Cloke, Alpine Elementary Principal Dede Frothingham, Fall River Elementary Principal Dr. Jennifer Guthals, Rocky Mountain Elementary Principal Stephen Hoel, and Columbine Elementary Principal Stephanie Anderson.

Board member Debbie Lammers thanked Patty Quinones who was instrumental in forming the basis of the STEM program at Skyline, and extended appreciation to Principal Heidi Ringer and the staff for forming the STEM program into what it is today. John Creighton directed the Board to visit the Skyline website in order to see a sample of Skyline Student Advisory Council member Lois Strope's award-winning artwork on their website.

### **CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)**

Debbie Lammers moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.10. John Creighton seconded.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the January 14, 2015 Regular Meeting, the January 21, 2015 Study Session, and the January 28, 2015 Regular Meeting
4. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Exhibit GBEC-E – Employee Acknowledgement Form/Drug-Free Workplace Policy Statement
5. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Regulation JIH-R – Student Interviews, Interrogations, Searches and Arrests
6. Approval: Approval of Contract Award-Sanborn Elementary Flooring Bid
7. Approval: Approval of Contract Award-CDC/OCHS PA/Intercom System Project
8. Approval: Approval of Change Orders and Increase of the Guaranteed Maximum Price within CMGC Contract-Mountain View Elementary Renovation Project
9. Approval: Approval of Lease Agreement with Verizon Wireless (Skyline High School)
10. Approval: Approval of Lease Agreement with Verizon Wireless (Career Development Center)

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

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

**Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming National School Breakfast Week, March 2-6, 2015 (8.1)**

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education adopt a resolution proclaiming March 2-6, 2015 as National School Breakfast Program Week. Paula Peairs seconded.

Shelly Allen reported that 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. The District will be hosting 'Bring Your Parent to Breakfast' on March 3, 2015 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Shelly announced that 12 elementary schools (Burlington, Centennial, Central, Columbine, Eagle Crest, Erie, Indian Peaks, Longmont Estates, Mountain View, Northridge, Rocky Mountain and Sanborn) had been given the HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSC) award by the Colorado Department of Education Office of School Nutrition. With this award, each school will receive a plaque, a banner and \$500 for their award level of Bronze.

Board member Debbie Lammers read the resolution.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

**Approval of Waiver of Board Policy KF-R, Community Use of School Facilities (8.2)**

John Creighton moved that the Board of Education allow an exception to the Community Use of School Facilities Policy KF-R and thereby approve a waiver of fees for an International Craft Fair on March 21, 2015 at Central Elementary. John Ahrens seconded.

Mark Mills reported that Board Policy KF-R, Community Use of School Facilities, states that Category II and Category III events are subject to scheduling, facility rental fees, special equipment rental fees, direct costs and supervision and/or custodial cleanup costs if incurred.

Central Elementary would ask that the fees be waived and that vendors would make a donation of \$20 each to Central Elementary. Central would keep half of the fees for their school and/or use to offset any expenses (advertising, etc.) related to the event, and the other half they will donate to their sister school, Moonlight Primary, in Uganda to continue to help fund the construction of their new school.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

**Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley (8.3)**

Debbie Lammers moved that the Board of Education approve the updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley (EFSVV) and the St. Vrain Valley School District. John Creighton seconded.

Kathy Hall is retiring from the EFSVV as Executive Director after volunteering for the last eight years. The Superintendent is seeking to increase the influence and impact of the Foundation by making this a full-time paid position. The Superintendent is recommending funding from the District for this position, and the EFSVV Board is supportive of this reorganization.

EFSVV Board of Directors members Dori Van Lone and Ben Bigelow were present to answer any questions from the Board. A search committee has been formed and the search for a funded Executive Director will start on February 23, 2015, and the committee would like to have the new Executive Director seated by March 15, 2015. The Board thanked former SVVSD Board of Education member Dori Van Lone, Ben, and Eva Gaudio, EVSFF Board President, for their work in putting together this MOU.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

**DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)**

**First Reading, Introduction, Board Regulation IKF-R – Graduation Requirements-Physical Education Waiver (9.1)**

Rob Berry and Connie Syferd reported that, given feedback from parents, students and staff regarding the effectiveness of the current Physical Education one credit waiver, suggested updates to this policy included allowing .5 credit waiver for each completed season of a high school sport, expanding waiver credit to include all high school-level sports including varsity, JV, C and D teams, and applying the PE waiver equitably for students in general and advanced courses. Total PE credits required to graduate will remain at 2.0. A PE waiver will be possible for a maximum of 1.0 PE credit while total credit hours need to graduate remain the same.

Mike Schiers-Marching Band-concerned about who will track each individual student scenario to assure there is no one getting double credit.

Debbie Lammers-Marching Band-concerned about double credit for the band course and a PE course.

Don Haddad-More to PE classes than the physical aspect that can't necessarily be replicated through an outside activity-does not want to dismiss the value of PE curriculum. Dr. Haddad recommends that the policy stay as revised so as not to create complications-principals should be contacted to evaluate each unique circumstance.

It was recommended that this Board policy be moved to Action for the February 25, 2015 Regular Board Meeting.

**First Reading, Introduction, Repeal of Board Policy JIE/JIG – Pregnant/Married Students; Revision of Board Policy JLCB – Immunization of Students; and Repeal of Board Regulation JLCB-R – Immunization of Students (9.2)**

Paula Peairs reported that, as part of the ongoing collaborative Board Policy Review Committee process, the policy owner, District legal counsel and Committee members recommend updates to the above Board policies ahead of the overall schedule so as to provide current direction for those policies that require timely implementation.

Policy JIE/JIG is an original policy from 1968 regarding the rights of pregnant and married students. Current non-discrimination policies cover these rights; therefore, a separate policy is no longer necessary.

Policies JLCB and JLCB-R pertain to immunization requirements. JLCB has been updated to reflect current law and practice. The regulation JLCB-R is outdated and repetitive of the policy statement; therefore, not necessary in the Board policy manual. Jackie Whittington discussed legislative changes in regard to immunizations.

It was recommended that these Board policies be moved to Consent for the February 25, 2015 Regular Board Meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

John Ahrens moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. Debbie Lammers seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

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 11, 2015.