

**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 25, 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 6:32 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
Joie Siegrist, Vice President, Director District A
Robert J. Smith, President, Director District C

Board Members Absent (Excused):

Mike Schiers, Assistant Secretary, Director District G

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

Stephanie Anderson, Principal of Columbine Elementary
Rob Berry, Executive Director of Athletics, Activities and Fine Arts
Michelle Bourgeois, DTS Planning and Project Manager
Damon Brown, Director of Human Resources/Risk Management
David Burnison, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer
Jennifer Giles, 3rd Grade Teacher, Columbine Elementary
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools
Janis Hughes, Principal of Burlington Elementary
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Joe McBreen, Chief Information Officer
Chase McBride, Athletic Director/Assistant Principal of Niwot High School
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent
Ella Padilla, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Nancy Pitz, Principal of Niwot Elementary
Terry Schueler, Financial Services Advisor

Connie Syferd, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement
Tori Teague, Assistant Superintendent of Assessment, Curriculum, and Instruction
Kathi Jo Walder, Principal of Indian Peaks Elementary

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

The Board announced that Dr. Don Haddad was selected from hundreds of nominees to be awarded one of *Education Week's 2015 Leaders to Learn From*. The profile was published on edweek.org on February 24, 2015 and the print edition on February 25, 2015. As part of this recognition, Dr. Haddad has been invited to a special event in Washington, D.C., at *Education Week's* expense, to a special *Leaders to Learn From* event on March 17-18, 2015.

The Board honored Burlington Elementary Principal Janis Hughes for Burlington's designation as one of five schools in the state to be recognized for high achievement for three consecutive years. Principals from those five schools have been invited to be on a special panel at the Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE) to discuss what makes a school successful.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

None

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

Visitors

Third Grade Bilingual Program Teacher Jennifer Giles from Columbine Elementary was in attendance to be congratulated for winning the grand prize of \$100,000 during the recent Jeopardy! TV show's Teacher Tournament. Columbine Principal Stephanie Anderson was present. Dr. Haddad presented Jennifer with an Excellence in Education award.

REPORTS (5.0)

Niwot High School Student Advisory Council Feeder Report (5.1)

Mark Mills introduced Niwot High Athletic Director/Assistant Principal Chase McBride who then introduced Niwot High Student Advisory Council students Matthew Clark, Eric Peairs, Mohika Nagpul and Lauren Sharpe. Student Council member Katherine Gillette was unable to attend. The students presented a video about the Niwot High feeder system. Niwot High feeder system principals in attendance: Nancy Pitz, Niwot Elementary; Janis Hughes, Indian Peaks Elementary, and Kathi Jo Walder, Indian Peaks Elementary. Niwot High Principal Eric Rauschkolb and Sunset Middle Principal Dr. Dawn Macy were unable to attend.

Review of District Technology Plan (5.2)

Joe McBreen and Michelle Bourgeois provided the Board of Education with an extensive update on the District Technology Plan. Out of 6,200 iPads that have been distributed, only .3% has been lost, and 62% of families decided to take out the insurance on them. Michelle urged everyone to spread the word about the Camp iPad for parents. Joe informed those people with students that are seniors that all the student work they have stored in the District's cloud system would be deleted on June 29, 2015. He recommended that students save that information on a flash drive before the end of the school year. They showed a short video so the Board members could get a glimpse of what the Technology Plan has done for district classrooms.

Joe felt that, after this first year of using iPads, those students were much more able to organize and manage not only their schoolwork but their activities outside of school. The interesting challenge now would be for students and their families to learn how to put aside technology and not lose opportunities to enjoy friends and families.

Michelle was honored by Dr. Don Haddad with an Excellence in Education award. Joe noted that the District was fortunate to have Michelle on our staff for the positive impact she has on everyone and her expertise working with students and staff as well as her dedication.

January 2014-2015 Financials (5.3)

Greg Fieth provided the Board of Education with the monthly financial reports in compliance with Board Policy DBI, Budget Implementation/Monitoring for January 2015.

CONSENT ITEMS (6.0)

Debbie Lammers moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 6.1. John Creighton seconded.

1. Approval: Second Reading, Adoption, Repeal of Board Policy JIE/JIG – Pregnant/Married Students; Revisions to Board Policy JLCB – Immunization of Students; and Repeal of Board Regulation JLCB-R – Immunization of Students

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

ACTION ITEMS (7.0)

Approval of Vendor Providing Purchased Goods Over \$100,000 (7.1)

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve Nutrition Services to spend over \$100,000 with Bimbo Bakeries, DBA Earthgrains Baking Company, for the FY15 fiscal year. John Creighton seconded.

Greg Fieth reported that Earthgrains has been awarded the bid to provide fresh bread products for the 2014-2015 school year. Purchase orders for a total of \$99,100 have been issued for the year; however, due to an increase in the use of fresh bread products vs. frozen bread dough this year, purchases from this vendor are expected to exceed \$100,000 for the year.

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

Second Reading, Adoption, Board Regulation IKF-R – Graduation Requirements-Physical Education Waiver (7.1)

John Ahrens moved that the Board of Education adopt the revisions to Board Regulation IKF-R. Paula Peairs seconded.

Revisions include:

- 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, but a PE waiver will be possible for a maximum of 1.0 PE credit. Total credits required for graduation remain the same.

Rob Berry attended to answer questions from the Board. Board member Debbie Lammers thanked Rob for creating the sportsmanship medals for Board members to distribute. The idea was a tremendous hit with the students and parents, and Board members really enjoyed having the opportunity to honor the students.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS (8.0)

Volunteer Screening Process (8.1)

Connie Syferd, Ella Padilla and Damon Brown provided the Board of Education with information regarding a volunteer/visitor background screening process that could be implemented if the Board determines it. With safety being the priority, they detailed

several different kinds of background check systems that surrounding school districts are using and their costs, including the system that Skyline High School is currently using. The District would go through the RFP process to obtain a system should the District decide to proceed with purchasing a system.

Ella thanked Connie and Damon for all the work they have done researching background check systems.

Don Haddad thanked Ella, Connie and Damon for their thorough report and emphasized that if all schools were to go with a background check system, he hoped that the parents and visitors to the schools would still feel welcomed. He felt that it would be logical to start this process at elementary schools should the Board decide to implement a background check system. Don thanked Damon and the level of experience that he has brought to the District, and told the Board what an asset he is to have on the central administrator staff.

Board members discussed their personal feelings on advantages and disadvantages of a background check system for the District, but collectively came to a conclusion that parents would be supportive of it.

Don Haddad will broach the subject with District principals and others and will get back to the Board with his findings.

Dwyer vs. State of Colorado Lawsuit (8.2)

The Board recently received a letter asking to contribute to the legal fund for the *Dwyer vs. State of Colorado* lawsuit which challenges the constitutionality of the negative factor and seeks to uphold the constitutional commitment of increased funding for K-12 public schools. In April of 2010, the Board contributed \$26,204.00 to the *Lobato vs. State of Colorado* lawsuit which was a precursor to this lawsuit.

The case is set to go before the Colorado Supreme Court, and the request by the non-profit law firm "Children's Voices" is for \$.50 - \$1.00 per student to support the plaintiffs' case.

Board members were all in favor of financially supporting the lawsuit, and Board President Bob Smith requested that this topic become an Action Item at the March 11, 2015 Regular Board Meeting. Kathy Gebhardt, Executive Director of *Children's Voices*, will attend to answer any questions the Board may have.

Job & Career Fair (8.3)

Joie Siegrist gave an update on the Job & Career Fair that will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2015, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm at the Boulder County Fairgrounds. She stressed that volunteers were urgently needed for the event. Boulder Valley School District will join St. Vrain this year at the Fair. There will be 30 employers and 600 part-time jobs to

be filled. If you have any questions beforehand, please contact Niki Brady at the Career Development Center at 303-772-3333.

Board Policy Overhaul Project Update (8.4)

Paula Peairs updated the Board of Education and administration on the progress of the Board Policy Review Committee. Board member John Creighton thanked Paula Peairs for her leadership in getting non-curricular student group board policy input and discussion from various interested parties.

ADJOURNMENT

Joie Siegrist moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. John Creighton seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, absent; 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.