

**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 April 22, 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 Bob Smith at 5:30 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 (arrived 5:36 p.m.)  
Joie Siegrist, Vice President, Director District A  
Robert J. Smith, President, Director District C

**Board Members Absent (Excused):**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

John Creighton moved to convene to Executive Session at 5:32 p.m. to the HR Conference Room for the purpose of consulting with the attorney for the District pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b). Paula Peairs seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, absent-arrived 5:36 p.m.; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

The following were present in this Executive Session: John Ahrens, John Creighton, Debbie Lammers, Paula Peairs, Mike Schiers-arrived 5:36 p.m., Joie Siegrist, Bob Smith and Catherine Tallerico, attorney for the District.

Concluding this portion of the Executive Session, at 5:50 p.m., the Board returned to the Board Room and John Creighton moved to convene to a separate Executive Session in

the Board Room regarding an expulsion appeal hearing, CRS 24-6-402(4)(h). Mike Schiers 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].

The following were present in this separate Executive Session: John Ahrens, John Creighton, Debbie Lammers, Paula Peairs, Mike Schiers, Joie Siegrist, Bob Smith, Stacy Davis, David Burnison, Greg Winger, District Expulsion Hearing Officer; Pete Vargas, Chad Seat, Frederick High SRO; Catherine Tallerico, attorney for the District; Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools, and the student and his father.

Concluding the expulsion appeal hearing, by unanimous acclamation at 6:27 p.m., the Board convened to the scheduled and noticed worksession to be followed by the Regular Meeting: [John Ahrens, yes; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

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

David Burnison, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent  
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer  
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools (left at 6:25 p.m. and returned at 7:36 p.m.)  
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
Ella Padilla, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Regina Renaldi, Area 3 Assistant Superintendent for Priority Schools  
Chad Seat, School Resource Officer (SRO) for Frederick High School  
Mark Spencer, Principal of Westview Elementary School  
Connie Syferd, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement  
Tori Teague, Assistant Superintendent of Assessment, Curriculum, and Instruction  
Pete Vargas, Principal of Frederick High School  
John Wahler, Principal of Sanborn Elementary School  
Greg Winger, Principal of Lyons Middle/Senior and District Expulsion Hearing Officer

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)**

The Agenda was accepted as presented.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)**

None

**VISITORS (4.0)**

None

## **REPORTS (5.0)**

### **Honor Seniors from the High School Student Advisory Council (5.1)**

David Burnison and Regina Renaldi introduced and handed out certificates to all seniors on the High School Student Advisory Council that were able to attend the Board Meeting. High school principals in attendance: Frederick High Principal Pete Vargas and Lyons Middle/Senior Principal Greg Winger. Seniors in attendance: Frederick-Tanise Neu and Dylan Dufour; Lyons-Jenna Anderson; Niwot-Katherine Gillett and Eric Peairs; OCHS-Tyler Mathies, Kodie Newby, Patrick Darenberg, and William Darenberg; Silver Creek-Matthew Carson; Skyline-Lois Strobe. The students introduced their family members that were in attendance, and took a group photograph with the Board and administrators who thanked them for their work on the Advisory Council and for being great role models.

### **The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading Video (5.2)**

Connie Syferd and John Wahler shared 'Statisticks Lottery' video from *The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading*.

*The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading* published this video to highlight the School Readiness Gap – why the gap occurs and how we can close it. The video aligns with the District and community initiative, 'Small Talk-Big Results', which builds language awareness and reinforces reading success for the youngest learners, age birth to three.

The Campaign focuses on ensuring that more children in low-income families succeed in school and graduate prepared for college, a career and active citizenship; and highlights the most important predictor of school success and high school graduation – grade-level reading by the end of the third grade.

John Wahler was encouraged with the tools he has available to him, i.e., weekly attendance reports to track student data, etc. Other data resources to assist in their quest to keep students on track include accountability, testing, and promoting high expectations of the parents to keep kids up-to-date on their health screenings, etc. Connie and John reported on the partnership with the City of Longmont's family agencies to assure the overall health of District students.

### **March Financials (5.3)**

At the worksession prior to this Board meeting, information related to the March 2015 Monthly Financial Statements was provided to the Board in compliance with all aspects of Board Policy DBI. Greg Fieth reported on the separate items on the "dashboard" that is a summary of this quarter's financial issues.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2014/2015 Gifts to Schools (5.4)**

Greg Fieth reported on the results of the 3rd quarter 2014-2015 Public Gifts to Schools totaling \$404,650.58. Total gifts to date total \$789,899.54. He also highlighted three of the largest gifts from outside agencies or individuals this quarter.

### **CONSENT ITEMS (6.0)**

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve Consent Agenda Items 6.1 through 6.3. Mike Schiers seconded.

1. Approval: Approval of Purchase of Lenovo Computer Products
2. Approval: Approval of Purchase of Chromebooks and Management Licenses
3. Approval: Approval of Change Order 11 to CMGC Contract-Mountain View Renovation Project

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 (7.0)**

#### **Approval of Recommendation to Hire Black Rock Elementary Assistant Principal (7.1)**

John Ahrens moved that the Board of Education approve the recommendation to hire Ms. DeAnn Dykes as Assistant Principal of Black Rock Elementary School, effective July 1, 2015. John Creighton seconded.

Ms. Dykes graduated from Utah State University with a Bachelor of Science in Special Education. She continued her education at Utah State University where she completed her Master's in Special Education. She also completed her Principal Licensing Program through the University of Colorado, Denver.

Ms. Dykes previously worked at Blue Mountain Elementary School where she was on the school planning team and taught kindergarten, second grade and fifth grade. Prior to that, she taught Kindergarten at Eagle Crest Elementary. Ms. Dykes was also a Learning Specialist at Berinice A. Ray School in Hanover, New Hampshire where she served as a case manager for students with special needs. Annual salary will be according to schedule.

Ms. Dykes was very excited for the opportunity to work with Cathy O'Donnell and her team to continue the wonderful things that are happening at Black Rock. She acknowledged the support of her husband and Blue Mountain Principal Kristie Venrick as a wonderful administrator, mentor and guide to her along her career path.

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 Recommendation to Hire Westview Middle School Assistant Principal (7.2)**

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve the recommendation to hire Mr. Christopher Larson as Assistant Principal of Westview Middle School, effective July 1, 2015. Debbie Lammers seconded.

Westview Principal Mark Spencer reported that Mr. Larson graduated from Gordon College with a Bachelor of Arts in History. He then went on to Lesley University and completed his Master's in Education. He also received a Master of Science in Educational Administration from Purdue University.

For the past year, Mr. Larson has worked in St. Vrain Valley Schools as the Dean of Students for Niwot and Mead Elementary Schools. Prior to that, he worked at Alexander Dawson School in Lafayette, Colorado, where he was a Technology Integration Specialist. Mr. Larson was also the District Coordinator for Administrative and Academic Technology in Triton Regional School District in Byfield, MA. Annual salary will be according to schedule.

Mr. Larson was excited about his new assignment with Westview and to work with Mark Spencer. He appreciated Mark's and Dr. Haddad's confidence in him to be successful in this position. Board members welcomed him to Westview, and were told how he was going to split his time between Niwot Elementary, Mead Elementary and Westview until his official start time at Westview.

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 2014-2015 Teacher Contracts/Non-Renewal Notices (7.3)**

Paula Peairs moved that the Board of Education approve teacher contracts/non-renewal notices, as presented. John Ahrens seconded.

Ella Padilla reported to the Board how the non-renewal list was compiled, and Dr. Haddad reported that the majority of them would get rehired.

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].

### **Board Action Resulting from Executive Sessions (7.4)**

Mike Schiers moved that the Board of Education affirm the decision of the Superintendent with regard to the expulsion appeal. Joie Siegrist 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].

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS (8.0)**

### **Board Policy Overhaul Project Update (8.1)**

Board Member Paula Peairs provided a handout that detailed every Board policy and the action that was taken as well as the reason for the action by the Committee on each policy change recommendation. Paula explained the difference between Regulations and Exhibits, and how the policies were divided into categories and alphabetized for ease in policy searches. She reported that the revised Board policies have been delivered to the Colorado Association of School Boards office for their production of the final Policy Manual. Once CASB sends the final manual, the Board Policy Review Committee will go through each policy for accuracy, and the Board should be ready to review and approve them in its entirety by the June 25, 2015 Board Meeting.

Brian Lamer explained that some of the Board policies that are being recommended for repeal will appear as district procedures and guidelines.

Board members thanked Barb Steege and the Policy Review Committee for their dedication of significant time and attention to this critical Board and district project.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

John Creighton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. John Ahrens 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 May 13, 2015.

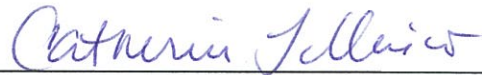
### **CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Regarding the executive session referred to in the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the St. Vrain Valley School District's Board of Education on April 22, 2015, it was duly moved and seconded that the Board enter into an executive session pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(h) regarding a student matter and pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(b), C.R.S. for the purpose of receiving legal advice from the Board's legal counsel, Catherine Tallerico regarding the student matter. The motion carried unanimously and the Board entered into an executive session from approximately 5:30 p.m. to 5:50 p.m.

Ms. Tallerico advised the Board with respect to specific questions and concerns raised by the Board members regarding the student matter and the Colorado law that is applicable to the Board procedures, all such advice constituting privileged attorney-client communications in the opinion of Ms. Tallerico.

### **CERTIFICATION BY REGISTERED ATTORNEY**

I, Catherine Tallerico, Reg. No. 19995, hereby certifies the executive session was devoted to providing specific legal advice to the Board of Directors regarding legal issues and involved only communications which were privileged under applicable Colorado law and Supreme Court rules.



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Catherine A. Tallerico