

**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 May 13, 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  
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:**

David Burnison, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent  
Traci Burtnett, Purchasing Director  
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer  
Erick Finnestead, Principal of Silver Creek High School  
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools  
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent  
Shelly Murphy, District Accountant  
Ella Padilla, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
Terry Schueler, Financial Services Advisor  
Connie Syferd, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement  
Tori Teague, Assistant Superintendent of Assessment, Curriculum, and Instruction

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)**

Action Item 8.5 Approval of Healthcare Administrative Services Contract was revised.

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

None

### **VISITORS (4.0)**

Silver Creek High School Principal Erick Finnestead introduced Silver Creek student Kristian Lee Randell Brubaker who was honored as a Gates Millennium Scholar for the Class of 2015. Kristian introduced her family that was present.

The Longmont SMART Team was scheduled to attend this meeting, but the students were all busy in band concerts, etc., so they will visit another Board meeting in the near future.

Board member John Creighton introduced Sunrise Lions Club member Herold Schulz, who is one of the original founders of the Sunrise Stampede. They presented the Board and administration with Sunrise Stampede t-shirts to promote the 30th Annual Sunrise Stampede that will be held Saturday, June 20, 2015, at Longmont High School. The Sunrise Stampede is an annual 2-mile walk/10K run, and has raised \$190,000 to support SVVSD addiction-free programs. The runners/walkers this year will be able to choose a school that they would like to represent in the race, and the school with the most entrants will receive \$1,000 and the school with the second most entrants will receive \$500. Details can be found at [www.sunrisestampede.com](http://www.sunrisestampede.com).

Trip Merklein, President of the St. Vrain Education Association, was present to support Action Item 8.5 Approval of Healthcare Administrative Services Contract as a member of that steering committee.

### **BOARD RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD & BOARD COMMUNICATIONS/COMMENTS (5.0)**

#### **Board Reports**

John Ahrens –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- St. Vrain is serving students well in giving them a strong sense of a family environment and so many varied opportunities to choose a path to graduation.
- Proud to be on the Board of the Innovation Center-talented people that believe in collaborating with local business so that students are sent out into the world prepared to think outside the box.
- Attended Art Show Artists' Night.
- Attended Innovation for our Future Dinner at Oskar Blues (hosted by Comcast).
- Participated in the March of Dimes Walk.
- Attended Longmont LiveWell Meeting.
- Attended Longmont Cable Trust Meeting.

- Attended Recognition Ceremony.
- Attended Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley Tribute to Teachers Ceremony.
- Attended Pacesetter Awards Ceremony where Laura McDonald was recognized for her leadership in Grassroots St. Vrain and Leadership St. Vrain.
- Attended 5<sup>th</sup> grade field day.
- Looking forward to volunteering time at the Erie Town Fair.
- Looking forward to seeing the P-TECH bill signed on Monday at the Capitol.

John Creighton –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- John felt the legislative process made more changes to student testing than he expected. If the Governor signs it, 3-9<sup>th</sup> Grade will only have the PARCC and CMAS test, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade will have the Explorer Plan test that leads to the ACT, juniors will take the ACT, and this year will be the only senior class to take the CMAS. John feels it is important for us to continue to effect school changes and reforms. Stress levels in the schools are remarkable and shocking to him as he talks with students, and feels there is too much social pressure to keep up with peers. Feels we must ask ourselves what is an appropriate level of stress for students and feels we need to redesign our schools to meet new expectations. Hopes to get the attention of some of the legislators this fall regarding those issues to assure long-term health of students.

Debbie Lammers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Thankful for all the recognition ceremonies and for all the people involved in making them happen, because they are very enjoyable.
- Hope that SVVSD leaders continue to stay in touch with and have input with legislators, so that SVVSD's positive experiences and community involvement can make a real difference in the public education system throughout Colorado now and in the future.
- Attended Colorado School Safety Resource Center Advisory Board Meeting on behalf of CASB – appreciated student representative's presentation and perspectives regarding school safety issues and priorities.
- Attended CASB Day at the Capitol.
- Attended Doing Democracy Day.
- Attended Pacesetter Awards Ceremony where Laura McDonald was recognized for her leadership in Grassroots St. Vrain and Leadership St. Vrain.
- Attended Flagstaff Academy PTO and Board of Directors Meetings.
- Attended Silver Creek High School AP Government class World Conference event-very interesting to watch students take on very complicated international issues.
- Attended Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley Meeting-new Executive Director is a former Foothills United Way executive-thanked Don Haddad and the EFSVV Board for their leadership in finding a great candidate who will move the Foundation forward.
- Attended Hispanic Education Foundation Banquet.

- Attended musical revue at Niwot High School-wonderful sophisticated performance like a dinner theatre-wonderful job by Music instructor Kimberly Watkins.
- Volunteered at the Niwot High School After Prom.
- Attended Town Hall meetings.

Paula Peairs –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended High School Student Advisory Meeting at Niwot High School-message from kids was “What does it mean to be in high school?” Need to be clear to students that all the options are not meant to be overwhelming, and that a traditional path to graduation is appropriate.
- Attended Carbon Valley Chamber event.
- Attended Finance and Audit Committee Meeting.
- Attended Pacesetter Awards Ceremony where Laura McDonald was recognized for her leadership in Grassroots St. Vrain and Leadership St. Vrain.
- Attended Recognition Ceremony.
- Attended Hispanic Education Foundation Banquet.
- Attended Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley Tribute to Teachers Ceremony.
- Attended BOCES graduation-19 graduates-very inspiring student life stories.

Joie Siegrist –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Sanborn PASS Meeting.
- Attended Art Show Artists’ Night.
- Attended Finance and Audit Committee Meeting.
- Attended Lyons Town Council Meeting.
- Attended Doing Democracy Day.
- Attended Pacesetter Awards Ceremony where Laura McDonald was recognized for her leadership in Grassroots St. Vrain and Leadership St. Vrain.
- Attended Innovation for Our Future Dinner at Oskar Blues (hosted by Comcast).
- Attended Westview Middle School Banner Ceremony honoring them as a *Schools to Watch*-Diane Lauer did an amazing job of talking to the students.
- Attended Recognition Ceremony.
- Attended Hygiene Elementary Game Plan for Success Contest-Nina Pears’ essay won \$5,000 award to be used for technology and was presented by Colorado Rockies Coach Vinny Castilla.
- Attended Hispanic Education Foundation Banquet.
- Attended Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley Tribute to Teachers Ceremony.
- Attended Longmont Estates STEM Family Night.
- Attended concerts/athletic events throughout the course of the year-so appreciative of all the opportunities for the students to explore and try something new in SVVSD.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Make note that the Board has been very well represented in all the District events-thank you for participating.
- Attended Northridge STEM event-first graders doing design problem-solving.
- Attended Longmont High School Medical Bio Sciences Fair.
- Attended Capstone project at Silver Creek High School-internships gave students a much better sense of what they would like to do after high school.
- Spoke at *Raising of America* presentation at Longmont High School.
- Attended Art Show Artists' Night.
- Attended Lyons Town Council Meeting.
- Attended Recognition Ceremony.
- Attended Hispanic Education Foundation Banquet.
- Attended Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley Tribute to Teachers Ceremony.
- Attended Northern Colorado School Districts Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Pool Board Meeting-\$3.2 million fund that has seen modest growth. Fund is shared with Windsor and Estes Park School Districts-85% is funded by SVVSD.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Update on Negotiations-will be bringing the Negotiated Agreement to the Board on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Ella's leadership and her team on the meet and confer process.
- Congratulations to Longmont High, Lyons M/S, Niwot High, and Silver Creek who were recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as among the top 8% and 9% of high performing high schools nationally and in Colorado .
- Update on revamped school websites-only two schools left and those will be complete in the next week or two.
- Migration project moving obsolete phone systems to VoIP is complete, thanks to Joe McBreen and his team.
- Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley-Announced the hiring of the new Executive Director as Lee Berg, and Lisa Hoxie will stay on with the Foundation.
- Invited everyone to participate in the Erie Town Fair this weekend-the District will have a booth set up.
- Looking forward to the Retirement Dinner tomorrow night.
- Announced that Niwot High School has a student that received a perfect ACT score.
- Attending the Governor's signing of the P-TECH bill at 9:15 am at the Capitol on Monday, May 18.
- Thanks to the Longmont Community Foundation for their support and the scholarship celebration.
- Attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Day. Despite the rain, Rob Berry, the teachers, kids and coaches are having a great time.
- Thanks to Connie Syferd for her work with the interventionists on the student survey. Will be meeting this summer about how to get detailed information quickly and accurately.
- Invited Board members to attend Leadership Council Meeting at Timberline between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. on May 14, 2015. Awards will be to given administrators-Eye of

the Tiger and Excellence in Education awards. Recognized former State Senator Brandon Shaffer on his work with the P-TECH program.

- Hoping for nice weather for graduation ceremonies.
- Don would be happy to meet with Board members individually about the Negotiated Agreement.

### **REPORTS (6.0)**

None

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

Debbie Lammers moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.8. Joie Siegrist seconded.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the April 1, 2015 Regular Meeting, the April 15, 2015 Study Session, and the April 22, 2015 Regular Meeting
4. Approval: Approval of 2015-2016 Administrative Employment Contracts
5. Approval: Approval of Contract Award-Trash Removal and Recycle Service
6. Approval: Approval of Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) for CDC/OCHS Renovation Project
7. Approval: Approval of Change Orders and Increase of the Guaranteed Maximum Price Within the CMGC Contract-2015 Portable Classrooms Site & Utilities Project
8. Approval: Approval of Construction Manager/General Contractor for Columbine Elementary Preschool Playground Expansion Project

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 (8.0)**

#### **Approval of Recommendation to Hire Mead High School Assistant Principal (8.1)**

Paula Peairs moved that the Board of Education approve the recommendation to hire Ms. Rachael Ayers as Assistant Principal of Mead High School, effective July 1, 2015. Debbie Lammers seconded.

Ms. Ayers graduated from University of Wyoming with a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education and a minor in Mathematics. She continued her education at Colorado State University where she completed her Master's in Education and Human Resource Studies. She also completed her Principal Licensing Program through Colorado State University.

Ms. Ayers previously worked at Mead High School where she was the Dean of Students. Prior to that, she was on the Mead High School Leadership Team, where she served as a member of the planning team to open Mead High School. Ms. Ayers was also a Mathematics Department Head for four years. Annual salary will be according to schedule.

Ms. Ayers was unable to attend due to multiple events at Mead High School.

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

### **Approval of Recommendation to Hire Niwot High School Assistant Principal (8.2)**

Debbie Lammers moved that the Board of Education approve the recommendation to hire Ms. Andrea Smith as Assistant Principal of Niwot High School, effective July 1, 2015. Paula Pairs seconded.

Ms. Smith graduated from Iowa State University with a Bachelor's in Earth and Physical Science Education. She continued her education at the University of Missouri where she received her Master's in Education Administration.

For the past year, Ms. Smith was the Assistant Principal at Peak to Peak Charter School in Boulder Valley School District. Prior to that, she was a Secondary Science Teacher Leader. Ms. Smith also worked at the Hsinchu International School in Hsinchu, Taiwan, where she was acting Assistant Principal and Science Department Chair. Annual salary will be according to schedule.

Andrea was unable to attend the Board Meeting.

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

### **Approval of Recommendation to Hire Indian Peaks Elementary School Dean of Students (8.3)**

Debbie Lammers moved that the Board of Education approve the recommendation to hire Ms. Jessica Warner as Dean of Students of Indian Peaks Elementary School, effective July 1, 2015. John Ahrens seconded.

Ms. Warner graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Arts in History. She then went on to California State University in Fresno, California where she completed her Master's in Education, Reading and Language Arts Option, Specialist Credential in Reading. She also received her Administrative Services Credential from

Chapman University in Visalia, California.

For the past year, Ms. Warner has worked in St. Vrain Valley Schools as a Title 1 Math Interventionist at Indian Peaks Elementary School. Prior to that, she was the Response to Intervention Coordinator, Secondary Literacy Coordinator and Testing Coordinator for Timberline PK-8. Ms. Warner was also a Literacy Coach for Fort Miller Middle School in Fresno, California, where she developed and presented literacy in-services for teachers. Annual salary will be according to schedule.

Ms. Warner was impressed with all the speakers at the Board meeting and thanked the Board and administrators for the opportunity to work at Indian Peaks.

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].

#### **Adoption of Fiscal Year 2016 Capital Reserve Budget (8.4)**

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education adopt the list of Fiscal Year 2016 Capital Reserve allocations, as presented. Paula Peairs seconded.

Brian Lamer reported that the Capital Reserve allocations presented follow the Capital Reserve Handbook that outlines the process and procedure for Capital Reserve fund allocations. Capital Reserve funds represent 4.5% of the per pupil revenue. Brian will share information with the Board on how far behind existing building maintenance is.

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].

#### **Approval of Healthcare Administrative Services Contract (8.5)**

Paula Peairs moved that the Board of Education approve CNIC Health Solutions as a third party administrator of the District's healthcare benefits program beginning January 1, 2016, and authorize the administration to enter contract negotiations and sign the necessary contract documents. The District intends to establish an initial three-year contract to include an additional two- or three-year renewal option. Joie Siegrist seconded.

Terry Schueler introduced Traci Burnett who reported that the District has solicited proposals for a skilled, professional and dedicated healthcare plan administrator to support open enrollment during the Fall of 2015 in preparation for full services beginning January 1, 2016 through the 2018 calendar year. The successful firm will provide healthcare administrative services for the District and assist with meeting other key objectives of controlling expenses, implementing value-based insurance design, maximizing network access, expanding wellness initiative offerings and incentives,



maximizing tools for price and quality transparency, promoting shared decision making and treatment option support, and promoting payment reforms. The selection committee included teachers, classified staff and administrators in a multi-phase process.

Traci introduced Jim Swazye, President and CEO of CNIC Health Solutions who was delighted to meet the Board and very excited to begin the process. They are part of Rocky Mountain Health Plans, and honored to work with the providers in the community.

Shelly Murphy and Trip Merklein were present at the meeting to report to the Board that they were on the committee and learned a tremendous amount. Trip introduced himself as the teachers' representative, and was impressed with the collaborative nature of the committee for a self-funded health insurance plan.

Kim Bimestefer, President of Cigna Mountain States-thanked the Board and administrators for the privilege to serve them, and would like to participate in a debriefing meeting with District administrators.

Dr. Haddad thanked everyone that worked on the process. Bob Smith commended the manner in which Finance and HR worked together on healthcare issues. Board members thanked Bob Smith for his leadership regarding the District's healthcare initiatives and changes.

Terry Schueler clarified that what the Board was approving this evening was for the District to enter into negotiations with CNIC Health Solutions since the RFP process had been completed with them. She also stated that negotiations should be completed no later than the end of June to work on the implementation plan.

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].

#### **Approval of Update of Exhibit H, Additional Services Agreement, of Charter School Contract (8.6)**

John Creighton moved that the Board of Education approve the updated changes to Exhibit H of the charter school contracts for the 2015-2016 school year. Debbie Lammers seconded.

Greg Fieth reported that items included in Exhibit H of the contracts for the charter schools are mutually agreed-upon services or licenses and associated costs provided to the charter schools by the District. Prices and availability of services and licenses are subject to revision annually, regardless of the term of the contract.

Exhibit H has been updated to reflect changes in the pricing of various items for the 2015-2016 school year. Exhibit H for 2014-2015 was provided, as well as a draft for 2015-2016 for comparison purposes. These changes have been provided to the charter schools, and they have agreed on the cost increases presented.

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].

### **Approval of Driver Education Program Vehicles Lease (8.7)**

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education authorize the administration to enter into a motor vehicle lease agreement with Valley Nissan Subaru to provide six Subaru Impreza automobiles for the Driver Education Program at an annual total amount not-to-exceed \$20,000, which includes an additional annual mileage allowance. Further, that the Board authorize Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer, to sign contract documents in accordance with Board of Education policy. John Ahrens seconded.

Greg Fieth reported that St. Vrain currently offers Driver Education and Driver Awareness classes to eligible-aged students, in addition to a Partnering With Parents class to help a parent/guardian gather an understanding of what Driver Education entails. The Program is governed by the Colorado Department of Revenue and funded as a self-supporting enterprise staffed by fully trained, part-time District employees and volunteers.

The District currently owns seven Driver Education Program vehicles ranging from 2000 to 2011 model years with an average mileage of 118,200 per vehicle. SVVSD intends to dispose of a majority of the current fleet through an online surplus auction provider, or acceptable alternative method, in the District's best interest. The proceeds from the sale of the surplus vehicles would supplement the Driver Education Program.

The Purchasing Department and Financial Services issued Request for Proposal (RFP) 2015-050 for Driver Education Program Vehicles to consider the most cost effective vehicle leasing program and/or advantageous purchase pricing to replace the aging program vehicles. Five responses were received for consideration. Valley Nissan Subaru provided the most advantageous vehicle at the most affordable lease pricing of \$205 per month per vehicle, including a 15,000 annual mileage allowance per vehicle, and will provide regular maintenance service at no additional cost to the District.

The successful supplier will provide vehicles and maintenance services to support Driver Education Program class enrollment during the Fall 2015 school year. Funding is available in the Driver Education Program budget.

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 (9.0)**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Debbie Lammers moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 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 June 10, 2015.