

**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 August 26, 2015 at the Educational Services Center Board Room, 395 South Pratt Parkway, Longmont, Colorado. The Regular Meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Robert J. Smith at 6:01 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:

Stacy Davis, Director of Security and Emergency Management
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools
Jackie Kapushion, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent
Ryan Kragerud, Planning/GIS Specialist
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
Terry Schueler, Financial Services Advisor
Connie Syferd, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement
Tori Teague, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction

EXECUTIVE SESSION

John Creighton moved to convene to Executive Session at 6:04 p.m. for the purpose of consulting with the attorney for the District pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b) and for the purposes of legal counsel to instruct negotiators on threatened litigation pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(e). 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].

The following were present in this Executive Session: John Ahrens, John Creighton, Debbie Lammers, Paula Peairs, Mike Schiers, Joie Siegrist, Bob Smith, Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools; Matt Buchler, Principal of Erie High School; Greg Winger, District Expulsion Hearing Officer; Catherine Tallerico, attorney for the District; and Courtney Kramer, Denver legal counsel for the District.

John Ahrens moved to adjourn from the Executive Session and convene to the Regular Meeting, and Paula Peairs seconded. The Board convened to the Regular Meeting by unanimous acclamation at 6:45 p.m.: [John Ahrens, yes; John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

Action Item 7.2 Approval of Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Calendar was revised.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

None

VISITORS (4.0)

Ross Blackmer, Executive Director to the Carbon Valley Park and Recreation District presented their Master Plan to continue to provide quality recreational services to the Tri-Town area. They are preparing to submit a mill levy measure for the 2016 election to fund their Master Plan.

Dr. Haddad awarded Planning/GIS Specialist Ryan Kragerud an Excellence in Education Award for his role in the District obtaining a silver-level designation Bicycle Friendly Business Award from the League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly Business Program.

REPORTS (5.0)

2015 CMAS: Science and Social Studies Achievement, ACT Scores, and Access for ELLs Growth Data (5.1)

Tori Teague provided the Board of Education with an update on 2015 CMAS: Science and Social Studies, ACT, and ACCESS for ELLs Growth Data in the St. Vrain Valley School District.

2015 Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) for Science and Social Studies Annual CMAS: Science and Social Studies testing measures the success of students in mastering academic standards in science and social studies and the success of schools in advancing student learning. Students in grades 5 and 8 are tested in science, and students in grades 4 and 7 are tested in social studies. This is the second year of CMAS testing in these grades and contents.

Students in 12th grade took CMAS: Science and Social Studies in November of 2014. As directed by the Colorado State Board of Education, these summary scores will not be released by the Colorado Department of Education.

Students in the St. Vrain Valley School District completed 8,629 valid CMAS: Science and Social Studies tests in elementary and middle school. The overall participation rate for these tests was 95.3% which is above the state and federal expectation of 95%.

Board President Bob Smith suggested that Ms. Teague add a comparison in the next assessment report that compares ACT results to ACT benchmarks. The Board and Dr. Haddad thanked Tori and her team for the excellent work that they do.

CONSENT ITEMS (6.0)

John Creighton moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 6.1. Paula Peairs seconded.

1. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Policy JICDE – Bullying Prevention and Education; and Board Regulation JLF-R – Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection

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 Executive Director of Legal & Governmental Affairs, Community Relations, & P-TECH (7.1)

Debbie Lammers moved that the Board of Education approve the recommendation to hire Brandon Shaffer for Executive Director of Legal & Governmental Affairs, Community Relations & P-TECH, effective September 1, 2015. John Ahrens seconded.

Ella Padilla reported that Mr. Shaffer graduated from Stanford University with a Bachelor of Arts with honors. He continued his education at the University of Colorado

School of Law where he received his Juris Doctor.

Mr. Shaffer recently left the position of Colorado Board of Parole Chairman where he conducted over 28,000 hearings in 2014. Prior to that, he was a Colorado State Senator representing the Longmont area and served as Senate President. He was the prime sponsor of over 200 pieces of legislation including PERA reform and Autism Spectrum Disorder Coverage. Mr. Shaffer also served as a United States Naval Officer.

Regina Renaldi reported that Brandon would be the P-TECH lead and be an invaluable voice for SVVSD. Funding for this position will come primarily from Race to the Top funds.

Mr. Shaffer introduced his family that was present. He is excited to begin this new role with St. Vrain, and grateful to Dr. Haddad and the Board for the opportunity to join a successful team. Mr. Shaffer's wife is a SVVSD elementary school teacher.

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 Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Calendar (7.2)

John Creighton moved that the Board of Education approve the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting calendar for 2015-2016 as presented. Paula Peairs seconded.

Greg Fieth reported that the Board of Education established the Finance and Audit Committee through Board Regulation DIE-R, Finance and Audit Committee Charter of the St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J Board of Education dated May 14, 2003.

The Committee meets monthly to review the District's financial performance, budgeting process, and self-directed areas of study. These meetings are held in the Operations & Maintenance Conference Room from 4:00-6:00 p.m. and are open to the public.

The Board expressed their thanks for the work of the Finance and Audit Committee, and realizes how important their work is so that, in turn, the Board is able to fulfill their responsibilities.

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 Contract for myON Reader Program (7.3)

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve a two-year contract extension with Capstone Publishers to provide the myON Reader Program to all elementary and K-8 schools. Paula Peairs seconded.

Regina Renaldi reported that myON is a program that supports student access to books online at home and at school. myON reader provides families with infinite access to a growing collection of over 4,000 enhanced digital books that can be read anytime. The District has had access to the program for the past three years and has appreciated and seen strong results and positive feedback from schools and the community. All schools participate in a plan to encourage at-home reading and increased student access to quality books. Our goal with this program implementation is to increase learning time at home with the infusion of reading for all students daily. Total cost for all elementary schools (including preschools), Spark! Discovery Preschool, both K-8 schools and Longs Peak Middle School for an additional two-year contract will be \$312,340.00.

Regina also reported that all school librarians are invited to attend professional development trainings as well as one teacher from each school who then goes back to the schools and trains staff. She was able to secure an important tool kit that, valued at \$134,000, is written into the extended two-year contract at no cost. This tool kit is important because it links to Common Core standards and supplements, as well as connects to, the reading-to-writing portion of myON. Records show that students are progressively reading at a higher level, and they are constantly securing higher-level content of reading materials.

The winner of the summer reading contest has not been announced at this time, but Regina did let the Board know that over 16,000 hours had been read over the summer.

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 reported that the balance of the Board Policy Manual has been received from CASB on Wednesday, August 26, 2015. The Committee will begin proofreading for accuracy each and every policy, and hopes to present them all to the Board for approval by the November Regular Board Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT (9.0)

John Creighton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. 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, 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 September 9, 2015.