

**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 13, 2016 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 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

John Ahrens, Member, Director District D
Debbie Lammers, Secretary, Director District B
Dr. Richard Martyr, Director District E
Paula Peairs, Treasurer, Director District F
Joie Siegrist, Vice President, Director District A
Robert J. Smith, President, Director District C

Board Members Absent (Excused):

Amory Siscoe, Assistant Secretary, Director District G

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

Victoria Bailey, Lyons Middle/Senior Choir Director
Kahle Charles, Executive Director of Curriculum
Renee Collier, Principal of Hygiene Elementary
Stacy Davis, Director of Safety and Emergency Management
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer
Andy Freeman, Longs Peak Middle Science Instructor
Jackie Kapushion, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Jesse Lubbers, Professional Learning Coach
Abby Martinez, Erie Middle Choir Director
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent
Mary Miner, Executive Director of Human Resources
Vicki Mair, Benefits Specialist
Michael O'Toole, District Science Coordinator
Ella Padilla, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Dina Perfetti-Deany, Executive Director of Human Resources

Regina Renaldi, Area 3 Assistant Superintendent for Priority Programs
Matt Romig, Coal Ridge Middle School Choir Director
Brandon Shaffer, Executive Director of Legal/Govt Affairs, Community Outreach and P-TECH
Gary Smith, SWAP Coordinator
Connie Syferd, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement
Tori Teague, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction
Tony Whiteley, Executive Director of Budget
Jackie Whittington, Executive Director of Student Services
Nathan Wubben, Sunset Middle School Choir Director
Brian Young, Principal of Coal Ridge Middle School

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

The Agenda was accepted as presented.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

Parent Teacher Organization representatives from Black Rock Elementary (Robin Kitlowski-President), and Burlington Elementary (Lydia Moy-Co-President) read resolutions of support for placing a 2016 bond measure on the fall ballot. Carolyn Storz, Grassroots St. Vrain Communications Director, was also present to read a resolution of support for the proposed bond.

VISITORS (4.0)

Rob Berry introduced Erie Middle School Choir Director Abby Martinez who is the Chair of the Colorado Middle School All-State Board. She introduced Coal Ridge Middle School Choir Director Matt Romig who introduced his students Payton Parker, Sawyer Parker, and Trevin Haines. Coal Ridge Principal Brian Young was in attendance to support Matt and the Coal Ridge students. Lyons Middle School Choir Director Victoria Bailey was in attendance, but her student Isabelle Twarogowski was unable to attend the meeting. Trail Ridge Choir student Sara Lopez was in attendance. Sunset Middle School Choir Director Nathan Wubben was in attendance with his students Grable Howie, Travis Clifford, and Anita Lee. Nathan is the Secretary of the Colorado Middle School All-State Board. Abby introduced her Erie Middle School Choir students Kristin Green, Jack Laychak, Ashley Ross, Mikaela Schindler, Amber Theune, Emma Thompson, and Mora Walker.

Mark Mills introduced Renee Collier who then introduced Hygiene Elementary School STEAM Coordinator Sherry Legrand. Sherry introduced Hygiene students Nick and Emily Marusiak, Autumn Rutherford, Nick Erdman, Keenan Collier, Nick Kobza, Rowan Motheral, Haley Snow and Isaac Landers who gave a presentation on Hygiene's Hawk Air-Pluto event. Fifth-grader Nick Marusiak told the Board how the students decided how to colonize Pluto and showed a brief video showcasing their Pluto "trip". Sherry Legrand thanked the tremendous support they received from PTO Co-Presidents Mikki

Kobza, and Terri Motheral; Hygiene 5th grade teachers Amy Erdman and Misti Snow who were in attendance, and thanks to the large group of volunteers who could not attend the Board Meeting. Board members congratulated the students and the parents that were involved in the Hawk Air project.

Mark Spencer was present to honor the Westview “Mathletes” students. He thanked the St. Vrain community, Dr. Haddad and the Board for their support. He introduced Westview Math Instructor/coach Cindy Thompson who recognized the students in their group. Those students are Quentin Hess, Carter Kruse, Samuel Ruffing, Spencer Meilstrup, Davita Bird, Morgan Chen, Ada Grace Creighton, Aidan Hansell, Nolan Helmstetter, Michelle Nguyen, Mosiah Nielson, Eliot Collender, Rebecca Pavot, Cailyn Eveland, and Keegan Patterson. Six students were able to attend the Board Meeting. Dr. Haddad presented their group with an Excellence in Education award. Cindy Thompson thanked the students and the parents in attendance, and mentioned that Seagate Corporation sponsors the Boulder County Mathletes.

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

Board Reports

John Ahrens –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Visited the Capitol with Brandon Shaffer regarding HB16-1289-this bill would give monetary support to accredited programs-PTECH being one of them.
- Visited Aspen Ridge Preparatory School-building a new school.
- Member of the Colorado Computer Science Task Force and spoke on the programs St. Vrain uses for computer science-announced a coding class on June 7-hopes to see many teachers participate. Sphero approached him and they are very excited to partner with St. Vrain.
- Visited Red Hawk and they now have every student doing an hour of coding a day.
- Adams 12 staff asked him about P-TECH and would like to benefit from the District's knowledge about P-TECH where students leave school with an Associate's Degree.

Debbie Lammers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended parent meetings at Burlington and Niwot Elementary.
- Attended a Career and Tech Ed inservice at CDC, hosted by Deniece Cook, for all teachers in the District-interesting discussion on career and tech education. Was able to meet Perkins Director Lorrie Toni from the Colorado Community College System.
- Attended on behalf of CASB, the Colorado Department of Public Safety's School Safety Resource Center's Advisory Board Meeting-wonderful presentation from the student group.
- Attended CASB Legislative Resolutions Committee-testified on behalf of District and CASB supporting House Bill 16-1063 regarding mental health communications.

- Attended Doing Democracy Day-Appreciated the efforts of Kent Willmann to create and continue this program.
- Attended an IB Parent Advisory Committee meeting at Niwot High School.
- Attended a Leadership St. Vrain Meeting.
- Attended an Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley Board Meeting.

Dr. Richard Martyr –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Had many discussions with teachers, principals, parents and students about opportunities for students that are not able to meet graduation requirements-two really productive meetings with LHS Assistant Principal Andrea McBreen and LHS Instructor Jackie Bilan.
- Attended and all-day conference on the Boulder campus of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-community outreach function to educate community educators in state-of-the-art sensing technology with opportunities for high school students to have hands-on programs in that field.
- Participated in a field trip to Medtronic Corporation with the LHS Medical & Bioscience Academy with freshman and sophomores that were able to try out surgical and suturing devices.

Paula Peairs –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Boulder County Workforce Job & Career Fair.
- Attended Doing Democracy Day.
- Attended *I Have a Dream* breakfast.
- Attended PTO meetings in her feeder system-impressed that wherever she goes parents are supportive of the bond and concerned for all schools in the District-not just their own.
- Thanked all teachers and staff involved in all the spring testing.

Joie Siegrist –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Is so impressed with all the incredible opportunities that students have here in St. Vrain and is honored to be part of it all.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended a National League of Cities Meeting on early childhood-thanks to Connie Syferd and Shela Blankenship for organizing the partnership.
- Announced that the Longmont City Council passed a resolution for “The Week of the Young Child”. Thanked Connie Syferd for her role in getting many groups together for one common goal of seeing the importance in early childhood education.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Attended Up-A-Creek Robotics event-won first place against teams from around the country. They now qualify for world championships.
- Attended Art Show-10,000 pieces of art. Invited everyone to go see the artwork at the Boulder County Fairgrounds.
- P-TECH-thank you Brandon Shaffer and Regina for your amazing work on the P-TECH program-54 students are ready to start the new class.
- Future Ready training-Announced that Regina Renaldi received a contact from Future Ready Program of the U.S. Department of Education to train other school districts across the country on bringing technology to every student. Congratulations to Regina Renaldi, Joe McBreen, and Michelle Bourgeois for their hard work.
- In the process of hiring a new principal at Frederick High School-thanks to Pete Vargas for his excellent work and leadership transitioning Frederick High School into the new building
- Completed the final interview for the Assistant Principal/Athletic Director for Erie High School and will bring a recommendation to the Board April 27, 2016.
- Update on the proposed bond initiative-a key influencer letter was mailed out-after that a brochure will go out to 58,000 registered voters that articulates all the projects and will be followed by a mailed survey and a phone poll. Two out of four task force meetings have happened so far. At that point, information will come to the Board.
- Passed out flyers on summer technology camps to the Board for all grade levels.
- Announced that the Longmont High Drumline won the state championship-Trip Merklein couldn't be at the Board Meeting because his son is one of the members of the Drumline. Thanks to Drumline teacher/coach David Merrill for his work with these students.

REPORTS (6.0)

Staffing Plans, Open Positions, Hiring Decisions (6.1)

Ella Padilla, gave a brief report to the Board of Education on current staffing plans, open positions, and hiring decisions, and gave the Board members informative handouts regarding the hiring process.

Dr. Haddad thanked Ella and her staff, and stated that the District is able to allocate FTE much sooner in the spring, so the District can address needs as soon as possible.

CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)

Debbie Lammers moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.4 and 7.6 through 7.10. Consent Agenda Item 7.5 was pulled for further discussion. John Ahrens seconded.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the March 9, 2016 Regular Meeting
4. Approval: Approval of Purchase/Trade-In of Network Switch Products

6. Approval: Approval of Contract Award-Erie Elementary Playground Improvements
7. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Exhibit JFABB-E – Admission of Non-Immigrant Foreign Exchange Students
8. Approval: Approval of Lease Agreement with Carbon Valley Recreational District
9. Approval: Approval of Vendor Providing Purchased Services over \$100,000
10. Approval: Approval of the Closure of Schools-Snow Storm

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

Consent Item 7.5 Approval of Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) for 2016 Portable Classrooms Interiors, Site & Utilities Project was pulled for further discussion. Brian Lamer informed the Board members that the District spends \$3,000 to \$4,000 to rebuild the area after moving the portables, but it's not very often that the District gets rid of a portable. The District spends \$2,500 to demolish a portable, and will leave utility lines in place because it is likely that they will be needed again one day.

Debbie Lammers moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 7.5. John Ahrens seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

ACTION ITEMS (8.0)

Approval of Recommendation to Hire Principal of Rocky Mountain Elementary School (8.1)

Dr. Richard Martyr moved that the Board of Education approve the recommendation to hire Ms. Jill Fuller as Principal of Rocky Mountain Elementary School, effective July 1, 2016. Paula Peairs seconded.

Ella Padilla reported that Ms. Fuller graduated from the New Mexico State University with a Bachelor of Science in Communication Disorders. She continued her education at Northern Arizona University where she completed her Master of Science in Speech Language Pathology. She later received her second Master's in Early Childhood Special Education from the University of Northern Colorado. Ms. Fuller completed Administrative Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Colorado, Denver.

Ms. Fuller previously worked as Principal of Meadow Community School in Mapleton School District for four years, where she was instrumental in redefining special education processes and procedures for schools with center-based programs. She also

led the development of an instructional action plan for the school that raised student achievement and created a 21st Century Community Learning Center program that provides extended learning opportunities for students. Prior to that, she was the Principal of the Mapleton Early Learning Center for four years. Ms. Fuller was also the District Child Find Coordinator and Case Manager in Mapleton Public Schools. Annual salary will be according to schedule.

Ms. Fuller introduced her husband and twin sons, and is very excited to join the Rocky Mountain community.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming Tribute to Teachers Day, May 6, 2016 (8.2)

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve the attached resolution proclaiming support for the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley's celebratory event entitled "You're the Top!" and declaring May 6, 2016 as Tribute to Teachers Day. John Ahrens seconded.

Dr. Haddad reported that the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley (EFSVV) is an independent 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization established in 1985. The Foundation's primary mission is to support the Strategic Plan of the St. Vrain Valley School District. As a result, their goal is to supplement the education experience in ways that maximize the effectiveness of teachers and enhance student achievement in an increasingly complex and competitive worldwide environment.

On May 6, the EFSVV will host its annual signature event to honor St. Vrain Valley teachers. This celebration, in its ninth year, includes an Encore Award Program, entertainment and dinner. The "You're the Top!" Tribute to Teachers will not only provide an opportunity to celebrate excellence in teaching but will help raise funds to enhance teaching and interactive classroom learning technology.

Dr. Haddad read the Tribute to Teachers resolution to the audience.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming Teacher/Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week, May 2-6, 2016 (8.3)

Paula Peairs moved that the Board of Education adopt a proclamation in honor of Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week, May 2 - 6, 2016. Dr. Richard Martyr seconded. Dr. Richard Martyr moved that the Board of Education adopt a proclamation in honor of

Teacher Appreciation Week, May 2 – 6, 2016. Paula Peairs seconded.

Ella Padilla reported that, each year, proclaiming these dates as Teacher Appreciation Week and Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week helps to promote public awareness of the importance of the role of teachers in public schools.

As much as any group of employees, the teaching staff is a valued and integral part of providing quality instruction for the students of the St. Vrain Valley School District.

Ella Padilla read the substitute teacher appreciation proclamation and Board member Dr. Richard Martyr read the teacher appreciation proclamation.

Dr. Haddad spoke on behalf of Trip Merklein who was unable to attend. Trip asked him to convey his appreciation to the teaching staff. Dr. Haddad thanked Trip for his true care for the staff and students of the District, and that it is a pleasure to work with Trip.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

Adoption of District Unified Improvement Plan (8.4)

Dr. Richard Martyr moved that the Board of Education adopt the District Unified Improvement Plan. Paula Peairs seconded.

Tori Teague reported in length on the District Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) that, per the Education Accountability Act of 2009, the School Board must adopt by April 15, 2016.

Board members were able to have a very candid conversation about the UIP, and were very appreciative of the work that Tori and the principals do to create it.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

Approval of School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP) Contract (8.5)

Debbie Lammers moved that the Board of Education approve the contract with the Colorado Department of Education to support funding for the School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP). John Ahrens seconded.

Jackie Whittington reported that SWAP is a partnership between the St. Vrain Valley Schools, the Colorado Department of Education, Department of Human Services, and Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. This program supports the development of job seeking, work skills, and employment for students with disabilities ages 15 through 21.

St. Vrain Valley Schools have participated in SWAP for the past 19 years, and has one of the highest closure rates in the state for students seeking, securing, and maintaining employment for those with disabilities. A program coordinator and three specialists are supported through this grant funding. The program is supported and implemented through grant funds only.

Jackie recognized Gary Smith, who was present, for the 18 years that he supported the SWAP Program as the District SWAP Coordinator.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

Approval of Adoption of Middle School Science Textbooks (8.6)

Dr. Richard Martyr moved that the Board of Education approve the adoption and purchase of *Science Techbook*, Discovery Education, 2016, for middle school science; and, that the Board of Education approve a purchase contract to Discovery Education for these materials not to exceed \$315,000 based on the estimated student enrollment for 2016-17; and, that the Board of Education approve a purchase contract to Lab-Aids, not to exceed \$395,000 for the refurbishment of science lab kits. Joie Siegrist seconded.

Kahle Charles thanked the outstanding teachers that piloted the textbooks. He introduced Michael O'Toole, Science Coordinator, who reported that, during the fall of 2014, an instructional materials adoption committee made up of thirteen middle school teachers, three community members, two members of District Technology Services, and two principals from across the District representing grades six, seven and eight was formed to evaluate middle school science programs, pilot the selected program, and recommend a program for adoption by the St. Vrain Valley Board of Education. The committee reviewed the Colorado Academic Standards, current District curriculum, the Learning Technology Plan and current effective teaching practices in science. Utilizing these resources, they developed an evaluation form for middle school science programs.

Materials were solicited from six publishers for initial review and consideration, providing diversity in approaches and philosophy. Publisher presentations were conducted for the final three candidate programs, and a final selection was made for the pilot. Sixteen teachers volunteered to pilot for the 2015-2016 school year representing all middle schools.

Michael O'Toole introduced Andrew Freeman, Longs Peak Middle School Science Instructor, and Anna Mills, Trail Ridge Middle School Science Instructor, who piloted the textbooks in their classrooms. The Board appreciated the considerable amount of time and effort it took to pilot the books.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

Approval of Resolution Adopting Amended 403(b) Plan (8.7)

Dr. Richard Martyr moved that the Board of Education approve a resolution to adopt the amended 403(b) retirement plan pursuant to regulations published by the Internal Revenue Service effective, March 23, 2016. John Ahrens seconded.

Tony Whiteley reported that this amendment to the 403(b) plan would allow plan participants access to their retirement funds under all six IRS-allowed hardship events, rather than only two as was previously defined in the existing 403(b) plan agreement.

When the 403(b) plan was established in January of 2009, no hardship withdrawals were allowed. Effective October 1, 2009, the 403(b) plan was amended to allow two of the six IRS-sanctioned hardship withdrawal provisions. Effective July 1, 2013, the 403(b) plan was frozen per the insurance committee recommendations, grandfathering in all existing participants at that time. Since then, the District has determined that it would be in the best interest of existing plan participants to administer hardship withdrawals in accordance with all six of the Internal Revenue Service regulations.

Two existing allowed hardship withdrawal provisions:

- Imminent foreclosure or eviction of a principal residence
- Payment for certain unreimbursed medical expenses

Remaining four proposed hardship withdrawal provisions:

- Burial or funeral expenses
- Expenses to repair major damage to home
- Purchase of primary residence
- Post-secondary educational expenses

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

Approval of Contract Award-Benefits Broker/Consulting Services (8.8)

Debbie Lammers moved that the Board of Education award the Benefits Broker/Consulting Services contract to Hays Companies of Denver. This is an annual contract beginning on May 1, 2016 with a total annual fee of \$140,000 including all commissions and fees. This annual rate is guaranteed until May 1, 2020. John Ahrens seconded.

Ella Padilla reported that the District has been with the same benefits broker for more than nine years without publicly requesting proposals.

The Purchasing Department issued RFP #2016-053 on February 17, 2016. Eight (8) responses were received on Thursday, March 10, 2016. Four (4) firms were selected for presentations and further review. Award is recommended to the top scoring, qualified, responsive and responsible firm Hays Companies of Denver.

Hays Companies local public sector clients include the cities of Westminster, Fort Collins, Loveland and Lakewood, and the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District. Public school clients include Minneapolis Public Schools, Steamboat Springs School District, Gunnison Watershed Public Schools, Rochester Public Schools and Jamestown Public Schools.

Hays Companies' representative Jana Knox was present to discuss the advantages to the District of working with her company. Vicki Mair was also present to field any questions the Board would have about the contract with Hays Companies.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)

None

ADJOURNMENT (10.0)

Debbie Lammers moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 p.m., and John Ahrens seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; 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 11, 2016.