

**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 January 11, 2017 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
Debbie Lammers, Secretary, Director District B (arrived 6:07 pm)
Paula Peairs, Treasurer, Director District F
Dr. Richard Martyr, Director District E
Joie Siegrist, Vice President, Director District A
Amory Siscoe, Assistant Secretary, Director District G
Robert J. Smith, President, Director District C

Board Members Absent (Excused):

None

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

Alex Armstrong, Sunset Middle School Design Coordinator
Scott Bergamo, St. Vrain Online Global Academy Counselor
Rob Berry, Executive Director of Athletics, Activities and Fine Arts
Joann Dawe, Principal of St. Vrain Online Global Academy
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Shirley Jirik, Principal of Centennial Elementary
Jackie Kapushion, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Dr. Diane Lauer, Assistant Superintendent of Priority Programs and Academic Support
Chase McBride, Niwot High Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent
Dina Perfetti-Deany, Executive Director of Human Resources
Patty Quinones, Assistant Superintendent of Innovation
Eric Rauschkolb, Principal of Niwot High School

Heidi Ringer, Principal of Skyline High School
Terry Schueler, Financial Services Advisor
Audrey Seybold, Principal of Columbine Elementary
Brandon Shaffer, Ex Dir of Legal & Govt Affairs/Community Outreach/P-TECH
Tori Teague, Assistant Superintendent of Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction

Board President Bob Smith read the District Mission Statement.

Mark Mills introduced Niwot High student Rachel Oliver who will be the visiting Student Advisory Council student liaison to the Board for January.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

The Agenda was accepted as presented.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

None

VISITORS (4.0)

Niwot High Principal Eric Rauschkolb reported that the Niwot High International Baccalaureate (IB) program goes through an audit process every five years to track progress and to ensure that IB standards are being adhered to. He thanked the Board, Dr. Haddad, and Trip Merklein of the St. Vrain Valley Education Association for their work in passing the bond that will support our students for generations. Eric shared his pride in Sunset Middle School being named a Middle Years IB World School, and introduced Sunset Principal Dr. Dawn Macy. Dr. Macy introduced Sunset Design Coordinator Alex Armstrong as being instrumental in the IB Program implementation. Dr. Macy thanked Board members for attending the IB evaluation visitation team luncheon and appreciated their support of Sunset. Eric shared statistics on the growth of the IB Program since 1999 and the impact it has had on the number of college scholarships that students have been offered. Eric introduced Niwot IB Coordinator Elzbieta Towlen who shared a presentation that updated Board members about the strengths and growth opportunities of the IB Program evaluation. Elzbieta invited the Board members to attend the remaining self-study meetings on 1/18, 2/15, 3/15, 4/19, and 5/16 from 2:30 to 4:00 in the Niwot High IMC or follow them @SVVSD_NHS_IB. Board members congratulated Dr. Macy and her staff for their accomplishments, and commended the Niwot High staff for the work they've done to make the IB program cohesive throughout all school programs.

Jackie Kapushion introduced the High School Student Advisory Council members that attended the Colorado Association of School Boards Annual Convention to represent St. Vrain Valley. The students told of their experiences there, and what their most valuable lessons learned from the Convention. Students in attendance: Lena Weisman, Skyline; Parker Nicholas, Silver Creek; Doyle Schroth, Frederick High; Rachel Oliver

and Hannah McDonald, Niwot High; and Austin Leech, Silver Creek. Students thanked the Board and Dr. Haddad for providing them the opportunity to attend the Convention.

Trip Merklein, President of the St. Vrain Valley Education Association-did not address the Board.

Andrea Smith, Assistant Principal of Niwot High School-did not address the Board.

Jim Berthold, retired SVVSD Bus Dispatcher-did not address the Board.

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

Board Reports

John Ahrens –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Has been connecting with businesses around the area-thought about a construction certification program to tie in with all the construction of new buildings in the District.
- Talked with Oceans First about exploring oceanography around the world and underwater exploration with ROV robotics.
- Met with Ross Owens at Red Ideas-interested in getting high school students involved with a project and putting up a \$1,000 grant for start-up.

Debbie Lammers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Sunset Middle School Open House-well attended and enjoyed the band.
- Attended a retirement celebration for Josie Heath of the Community Foundation of Boulder County-enjoyed hearing Josie talk about the special relationship with St. Vrain Valley and the Foundation's support throughout the county for early childhood education.

Dr. Richard Martyr –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Pleased with the progress our District is making in the shift in emphasis on the evaluation of our teachers. It's clear that the key to excellent student achievement depends on excellent teachers and teachers committed to leaving no stone unturned to help our students succeed. Congratulated Dr. Haddad, Human Resources and Professional Development to ensure there is no limit to the level of commitment of the District to do whatever they can to hire and retain excellent teachers.

Paula Peairs –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Acting judge at Skyline for the Pre-Calculus class who were constructing and marketing their own roller coasters-amazed at their ideas and how well the students did throughout the process.
- Pleased to see Mead High administration and students attend the Mead Town Meeting where they gave a presentation to the trustees to promote partnership in the

Energy Academy. They did a great job and she was really proud of them-so much support for them from the town.

- Attended Student Advisory Council Meeting at Erie High School-discussed school finance and the bond.

Joie Siegrist –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended a celebration at Lyons Middle/Senior High that recognized them for being a Green Star School-congratulations to them and looking forward to the January 20, 2017 kick-off of the program.
- Thanked all staff involved in the planning and passing of the bond, and the swift selling of the bonds. Because of this planning, SVVSD is way ahead of the game with the new construction and it is so beneficial to the District, students and the community.

Amory Siscoe –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Coal Ridge Middle School Showcase for incoming and current 6th graders. The staff has done amazing work to make sure the incoming students' transition is more comfortable.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Thanked Ella Padilla and Trip Merklein for their work on teacher evaluations.
- Thanked Tori Teague and the principals' leadership for the excellent work they have done on the scorecards.
- Dr. Haddad gave Board members the book "Thank You for Being Late" by Thomas L. Friedman.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Invited Board members to attend the Colorado Workforce Development Council tour on January 19, 2017, starting at 9:45 a.m. at Skyline High School.
- Announced that scorecards will be populated and presented in April with three years' worth of data for each school. Thanks to Tori Teague and Kerri McDermid for their excellent work on scorecards.
- Student safety/wellness survey is complete with 80% percent participation-pleased with results. Thanked Dr. Diane Lauer for coordinating this effort, and results will be shared by her at a future Study Session.
- Teacher evaluations-significant progress made thanks to Ella Padilla, Trip Merklein and a committee of teachers-they are moving from an evaluation process to a growth opportunity process.
- Hiring update-will be posting to replace Regina Renaldi's Assistant Superintendent position the end of January/early February, and have already posted for staff for the new PK-8 in Erie and the new elementary in Wyndham Hill.

- Negotiations-working collaboratively with SVVEA for teachers and Meet and Confer for classified staff.
- Invited the Board members to the Leadership Council Meeting on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at Timberline PK-8 at 7:30 a.m. that will be discussing the book “Thank You for Being Late” by Thomas L. Friedman.
- Thanked Greg Fieth and his team for their work on the amended budget-added to the January 18, 2017 Study Session.
- Commended Dr. Diane Lauer for her excellent work concerning support for dyslexic students-have allocated resources/staff to demonstrate total commitment to all students in the District.
- Financial literacy-looking to start with new graduation requirements. Would like to work with the Board around flexibility of course credit issues.
- Invited Board to safety meetings in March at four locations for bond celebration and safety work that will be performed. Board members suggested sharing student wellness/safety survey information at those meetings.
- Reminded Board members of the ACQUIRE Mental Health Parent and Community Event at Longmont High School on January 12, 2017, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. which is not sponsored by SVVSD but is supported by providing facility use and communications for the event.
- Announced that funding/resources will be allocated to sustain the Race to the Top work and for the refresh of the technology program from 4 years to 3 years. Thanked Regina Renaldi, Jackie Kapushion and Patty Quinones for their work on this endeavor-will share with the Board where some of those dollars are being spent when the amended budget conversation happens at the January 18, 2017 Study Session.

REPORTS (6.0)

School Board Recognition (6.1)

Dr. Haddad praised the Board members for the wonderful work that they do for the District. He read a resolution proclaiming January 2017 Board of Education Month. Dr. Haddad reminded the Board members of the appreciation dinner on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at the Career Development Center at 6:00 p.m. Students and administrators got up to tell how much they appreciate the Board members and how wonderful they are as role models of leadership for the entire staff and District.

Fall Athletics Report (6.2)

Rob Berry reported on the Fall Athletics and Fine Arts achievements for the Fall of 2016. Niwot High Principal Eric Rauschkolb introduced Niwot Assistant Principal/ Athletic Director Chase McBride who then introduced Niwot High State Champion Gymnast Alexis Carroll (Vault). Chase thanked Brian Lamer and his crew for the work they do to maintain excellent athletic facilities.

Board members thanked Rob for his work and for giving them the opportunity to pass out sportsmanship medals.

2nd Quarter Gifts to Schools, 2016/2017 Fiscal Year (6.3)

Greg Fieth provided the Board of Education with a list of public gifts given to the District for the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2017 totaling \$221,562.26.

CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)

Amory Siscoe moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.11. John Ahrens seconded.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the December 14, 2016 Regular Meeting
4. Approval: Approval of Annual Official Posting Location Notice
5. Approval: Approval of Vendors Providing Purchased Services
6. Approval: Approval of Contracts for Solar Panel Project for Five Schools
7. Approval: Approval of Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC)-Contract for Erie PK-8 Project
8. Approval: Approval of Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC)-Contract for Blue Mountain Addition & Renovation
9. Approval: Approval of Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC)-Contract for Eagle Crest Addition & Renovation
10. Approval: Approval of Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC)-Contract for Mead High Addition & Renovation
11. Approval: Approval of Closure of Schools-Inclement Weather

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, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

ACTION ITEMS (8.0)

Adoption of School Priority Improvement and Turnaround Unified Improvement Plans (8.1)

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education adopt the School Priority Improvement UIPs. Dr. Richard Martyr seconded.

Tori Teague reported that, per the Education Accountability Act of 2009, the School Board must adopt UIPs for any schools identified for a Priority Improvement or Turnaround UIP. Those schools are Centennial Elementary, Columbine Elementary School, Skyline High School, and St. Vrain Global Online Academy. The deadline for adoption is January 15, 2017. Principals for all listed schools were in attendance.

At a work session an hour before the Regular Meeting, each of the four principals of the Turnaround schools presented their school's UIP summaries highlighting their major improvement strategies. Tori and the Board members recognized the principals for the work that they are doing to improve.

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, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)

Legislative Update (9.1)

The Colorado General Assembly convenes for its 71st session on January 11, 2017. Brandon Shaffer reported that there will be several education-related legislative initiatives introduced this year. He is looking forward to introducing the staff to legislators at the Legislative Dinner the District is hosting on January 19, 2017, and discussed potential agenda items for that evening's meeting.

Brandon also briefed the Board on the outreach efforts he has participated on in the last few months.

ADJOURNMENT (10.0)

Amory Siscoe moved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:46 p.m. Dr. Richard Martyr seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous acclamation: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, 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 February 8, 2017.