

**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 October 10, 2018 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 5:58 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent (Excused):

Amory Siscoe, Secretary, Director District G

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

Rob Berry, Executive Director of Athletics, Activities and Fine Arts
Matt Buchler, Principal of Erie High School
Josh Drozdowski, Digital Learning Academy Program Coordinator
Lauren Eker, Principal of Erie Elementary School
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer
Stacy Gahagen, Director of Security and Emergency Management
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools
Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent
Bryan Krause, Area Assistant Superintendent
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Dr. Diane Lauer, Assistant Superintendent of Priority Schools and Academic Support
Kerri McDermid, Executive Director of Communications
Kirsten McNeill, Principal of Grand View Elementary
Mark Mills, Area Assistant Superintendent
Patty Quinones, Assistant Superintendent of Innovation
Dina Perfetti-Deany, Area Assistant Superintendent

Tori Teague, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction
Kim Watry, Principal of Erie Middle School

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

Agenda was accepted as presented.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

Cherese Montgomery, 1920 Andrew Alden Street, Longmont, was present to encourage the Board to work with the City of Longmont to secure a city competition-style swimming pool that could handle the high school swim team practices and meets.

Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley (EFSVV) Executive Director Josh Atherton was present to introduce Longs Peak Middle School STEM teacher Colin Rickman. Colin was the recipient of the 2018 Eleanor Venture award, and shared a video of his experiences in Cape Town, South Africa. Josh reminded everyone about the EFSVV 2018 Gala on November 3, 2018, and thanked the Flanders family for the creation and generous support of the travel grant. Board members thanked Colin for sharing his experiences.

VISITORS (4.0)

Board members welcomed Erie High School Student Advisory Council member Christian Haakmeester who was attending the Board Meeting as the student representative of the High School Student Advisory Council.

Damon Brown introduced Josh Drozdowski to the Board as the new Dean of Students for Soaring Heights PK-8. Josh is excited about his opportunity at Soaring Heights PK-8, and thanked the hiring committee and introduced his father. Dr. Haddad and Board members welcomed Josh.

Jim Berthold, Retired District Bus Dispatcher – did not address the Board.

Todd Snidow, Executive Vice President, George K. Baum – present to answer questions on Report Item 6.3 – Bond Sale Update.

Steve Villarreal, President, St. Vrain Education Association – did not address the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE (5.0)

- Announced the November 8, 2018 Discovery Education presentation at the Innovation Center, and the November 9, 2018 Colorado Technology Association event that will recognize Joe McBreen and his team.
- October Count window ended today, and he looks forward to sharing preliminary results at the October Study Session.
- Visited all schools – looking forward to seeing District football teams in playoffs.

- Announced that Northridge Elementary was awarded the Colorado Succeeds \$15,000 prize, presented by Ball Aerospace, for excellence in STEM education.
- Thanked Jackie Kapushion for her leadership in all high profile events happening in the District. Thanked the Board members for attending those events – really appreciates the Board’s visibility. Jackie Kapushion thanked Dr. Haddad for choosing the leadership team she works closely with to create those events.

REPORTS (6.0)

Erie High School Student Advisory Council Feeder Report (6.1)

Bryan Krause introduced Erie High School Principal Matt Buchler who then introduced Erie High School Advisory students Raegyn Patzer, Rylee MacLennan, Cassie Mahakian, Patrick Cummings, and Christian Haakmeester. Erie Advisory member Westley Cody was unable to attend the meeting. Each student serves a two-year term. Their theme this year is “Brilliance across Erie” – highlighting all the STEM programs. The students recognized Grayson Wolff for creating the video they presented. Matt recognized Erie High School for significant gains in their SAT scores, and Black Rock Elementary for their Fourth Grade English Language Arts and Math assessment scores being the highest in the District. The students showed a video of their feeder system, and each shared their plans for the future and introduced their parents. Other administrators who was present from the Erie feeder system were Erie Middle Principal Kim Watry; Erie Elementary Principal Lauren Eker; and Grand View Elementary Principal Kirsten McNeill. Board members commended the students for their presentation, and recognized all the building leaders for attending.

1st Quarter Gifts to School, 2018-2019 School Year (6.2)

Greg Fieth provided the Board of Education with a list of public gifts given to the St. Vrain Valley School District for the first quarter of the 2018-2019 school year totaling \$161,436.55. Greg highlighted a few of the donations from corporate partnerships.

Bond Sale Update (6.3)

Greg Fieth updated the Board of Education on the sale of \$60.34 million in bonds, and introduced Todd Snidow, Executive Vice President of George K. Baum.

On November 8, 2016, the electorate of the St. Vrain Valley School District approved the issuance of \$260.34M in bonds for projects cited as critical needs District-wide. At their September 12, 2018 Regular Meeting, the Board approved selling the last \$60.34M to fund the remaining projects.

On September 19, 2018, the District sold the remaining bonds with a five-year bond maturity. The resulting yields ranged from 1.72% to 2.21% which, combined with the rates locked in at the time of the sale of the initial \$200M in December of 2016, provided a net interest cost of 3.57% for the full issue. Shortening the repayment period to only

five years saved local taxpayers over \$12M in interest expense compared to the original 14-year schedule. The final results of the 2016 bond authorization show that the total principal and interest to be repaid is over \$21M less than the voters approved in 2016.

Todd stated that the timing of the sale of the bonds was critical, and that administration should be very proud of the District's upgraded credit rating from AA to AA+. Dr. Haddad thanked Todd for his years of support, and thanked Greg for his leadership. Two Board members and two Finance and Audit Committee members were able to attend the sale of the bonds. Board members thanked Todd for the opportunity to participate.

CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)

John Ahrens moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.12. Joie Siegrist seconded.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the September 12, 2018 Regular Meeting, the September 19, 2018 Study Session, and the September 26, 2018 Regular Meeting
4. Approval: Approval of Purchase of Refrigerated Truck
5. Approval: Approval of Recommendation to Hire Dean of Students for Soaring Heights PK-8
6. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Policies ADD – Safe Schools; GBEB – Staff Conduct (And Responsibilities); new Board Policy GBEB-R-2 – Staff Conduct (And Responsibilities); GBGA – Staff Health (And Physical and Mental Health Examination Requirements); GBGA-R – Staff Health (Staff Members with Blood Borne Pathogens/ Communicable Diseases); GBGB – Staff Personal Security and Safety; GBK – Staff Concerns/Complaints/Grievances; GCE/GCF-R – Professional Staff Recruiting/Hiring; GDE/GDF – Support Staff Recruiting/Hiring; IJOC – School Volunteers; IJOC-E – SVVSD School Volunteer Application; JICH – Drug & Alcohol Involvement by Students; JLCD – Administering Medications to Students; KBA – District Title I Parent Involvement; new Board Policy KBA-E – School-Level Title I Parent and Family Engagement (School/Parent Compact); new Board Policy KDBA* – Parent Notification of Employee Criminal Charges; and KFA – Public Conduct on District Property
7. Approval: Approval of Donation of District Vehicle
8. Approval: Approval of Exception to Board Policy KF – Community Use of School Facilities-Central Elementary Craft Fair
9. Approval: Approval of Exception to Board Policy KF – Community Use of School Facilities-Skyline High Craft Fair
10. Approval: Approval of Contract for Architect for Black Rock Elementary Renovation Project
11. Approval: Approval of Contract Increase to Architect Agreement for Career Development Center Renovation Project

12. Approval: Approval of Contract Award for St. Vrainnovation Mobile Lab

Board members discussed new Board Policy KBA-E which is very prescriptive regarding roles and responsibilities for staff and parents. Dr. Diane Lauer reported that the wording flows from new Title I legislation and District legal counsel, and the intent is for best practices to be consistent across all District schools.

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

ACTION ITEMS (8.0)

Approval of Accreditation Recommendations for District Schools (8.1)

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve the accreditation recommendations for schools within the St. Vrain Valley School District, as presented. Karen Ragland seconded.

Tori Teague reported that the District Accountability/Accreditation Committee is made up of parents and community members, an elementary principal, a secondary principal, and a teacher. Tori works with the Committee as the liaison from the District. The Committee met on September 11, 2018 to review the performance of all District schools.

St. Vrain Community Montessori is appealing their Improvement Plan rating to CDE and requesting a rating of Insufficient Data because their rating is based on the performance of 20 students who tested. Their enrollment last year was 270.

Board members praised Tori for the amount of work that goes into compiling these measures of student achievement, and encouraged staff and the public to celebrate the progress we've made while taking great pleasure in this year's outcome. Board members asked Tori to pass on their appreciation to the Accountability/Accreditation Committee for all the work that they do on behalf of the District.

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

Adoption of Resolution Approving 2018-2019 District Employee Membership in Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) (8.2)

Paula Peairs moved that the Board of Education adopt a Resolution approving 2018-2019 District employee membership in CHSAA. John Ahrens seconded.

Rob Berry recognized the services of the individuals listed in the Resolution to be within the scope of employment of school district personnel and within the performance of those

duties as employees of the school district, as members of the Board of Directors of the CHSAA or as a member of other CHSAA committees, Legislative Council or interscholastic activity league committees under CHSAA. Board member Paula Peairs read the Resolution.

Board members thanked Rob for his role in CHSAA, and his work with the District coaches that support CHSAA.

Rob assured the Board he has been working on alternative sites for the District swimmers while Centennial Pool is closed until the end of December. The District swimming season starts November 12, so the closing will impact the swimmers for one month.

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

Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming Classified School Employees Week, October 15-19, 2018 (8.3)

Karen Ragland moved that the Board of Education approve a Resolution proclaiming October 8-12, 2018 as “Classified School Employees Week”. Paula Peairs seconded.

Damon Brown stated Classified School Employees Week promotes public awareness of the importance of classified employees in the public school system. He honored classified school employees as a valued and integral part of the school system, and emphasized that their work is as vital to the success of students and teachers. He then read the Resolution.

Erie High School Student Advisory Council member Christian Haakmeester asked about the significance of recognizing the classified staff. Damon explained that roughly half the District’s 5,000 employees are considered classified, and the District believes it is important to recognize the support the classified staff provide because their work is essential to creating a high quality learning environment in all of our schools and classrooms.

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

Approval of Contract for The Wild Plum Center for Young Children and Families (8.4)

Joie Siegrist moved that the Board of Education approve the service agreement between the District and Wild Plum Center for the 2018-1019 school year. The District pays for these slots through the Colorado Preschool Program grant funds that are provided by the State of Colorado. John Ahrens seconded.

Dr. Diane Lauer reported that the District, through its Early Childhood Department and District Advisory Council, enter into this agreement with Wild Plum Center in order to provide preschool services to eligible four-year-old children. The District will pay a monthly tuition rate of \$290 per child placed (not to exceed 58 children). Dr. Lauer answered questions from the Board members regarding the importance of the liaison with Wild Plum Center.

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

First Reading, Discussion, New Board Policy FFA – Dedications, Memorials, and Recognition (8.5)

Karen Ragland moved that the Board of Education adopt new Board policy FFA – Dedications, Memorials and Recognition without a second or third reading. Paula Peairs seconded.

Brian Lamer reported that this new Board policy is proposed to create consistent guidelines for future inquiries about establishing memorials. This policy prohibits physical or living memorials on District property.

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

Approval of Change Order 1 to Construction Manager/General Contractor Contract for Niwot High School Renovation Project (8.6)

Karen Ragland moved that the Board of Education approve Change Order 1 for the amount of \$196,560 to the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) contract with JHL Constructors, Inc., for the Niwot High School Renovation project for a total contract value of \$2,600,680. Further, that the Board authorize Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, to sign contract documents and change orders up to the above referenced amount, in accordance with Board of Education policy. John Ahrens seconded.

Brian Lamer reported that, on May 23, 2018, the Board approved the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) with JHL Constructors, Inc., for the Niwot High School Renovation project for \$2,600,680. This change order amount is already included in the approved total contract value.

Change Order 1 includes the cost associated with moving the modular classrooms, owner requested changes, and unforeseen field conditions uncovered during Phase 1 of construction. Change Order 1 is funded under the 2016 Bond program.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)

Christian Haakmeester suggested additional periodic safety drills should be conducted during unstructured time, i.e., passing periods and lunch hours. Stacy Gahagen shared that, in January, schools will be going back to unannounced drills at any time of the day, per statute.

Board Reports (9.1)

John Ahrens –

Recognitions/Comments:

- Attended the Grand Opening of the Innovation Center – great opportunity for students.
- Attended Erie Urban Renewal Authority Meeting.
- Looks forward to working with students at the Colorado Association of School Boards Conference in Colorado Springs in December – he encouraged all High School Advisory Council students to sign up to attend the Conference.
- Honored to be involved with Apple, Inc. – he praised the District’s success building collaborations with businesses.
- Exciting new connections with Ocean First – it will offer opportunities for students to study outside of the classroom in environments all over the world.

Dr. Richard Martyr –

Recognitions/Comments:

- Teacher Excellence – recognized and thanked all teachers – 240 of this year’s approximately 2,000 teachers are new to the District. Research shows that October is the most stressful part of the year for teachers – however, during his school visits, he sees teachers who are fully engaged, and completely connected to creating only the best of learning environments. We have wonderful teachers.
- Leadership Excellence – thanked Dr. Haddad for the Fall Superintendent Forums, for the leadership base he has built throughout the District, and for the connections he’s made throughout the community to make this District the best model of excellence.
- Partnerships for Excellence – thanked Dr. Diane Lauer and Patty Quinones for coordinating and hosting CU-Boulder Partners Collaborative, a group of school district leaders meeting with CU’s School of Education with the intent to explore ways to strengthen the pathway to recruit and retain great teachers. In addition to SVVSD, participants included Denver Public Schools, Boulder Valley School District, and Adams 12 School District.
- Partnerships for Excellence – The Colorado Association of School Boards will convene their 78th Fall Delegate Assembly Conference in Colorado Springs on October 19-20, 2018. This group will be considering 31 resolutions from school

districts throughout the state on a broad range of issues – he will represent our District and share results.

Paula Peairs –

Recognitions/Comments:

- Thanked all the teachers for the Parent/Teacher Conferences, and the parents for feeding the teachers.
- Attended the second High School Student Advisory Meeting – only seniors were present because juniors were testing. Great feedback from students on the 8th to 9th grade transition.
- Exciting to watch the cross country team meets and to be involved with homecoming.
- Thanked all staff for their work to ensure a smooth start to this fall semester.

Karen Ragland –

Recognitions/Comments:

- Attended three Niwot High football games and was proud that they had won three.
- Attended Grand Opening of the Innovation Center – thanked everyone involved.

Joie Siegrist –

Recognitions/Comments:

- Thanked Dr. Haddad and Jackie Kapushion for hosting Fall Superintendent Forums.
- Toured the Innovation Center with the Finance and Audit Committee.
- Attended St. Vrain Band Night – enjoyed the bands/students.

Bob Smith –

Recognitions/Comments:

- Attended St. Vrain Band Night – amazing to see how our District bands stood out.
- Looking forward to discussing the October Count and the Health Insurance topics at the October Board Study Session.

ADJOURNMENT (10.0)

Joie Siegrist moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m., and Karen Ragland seconded. The motion carried by unanimous acclamation: [John Ahrens, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, absent; Bob Smith, yes].

Respectfully submitted,

John Ahrens, Assistant Secretary of the Board of Education

Barb Steege, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education

Read and approved or corrected and approved on November 14, 2018.