

**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 22, 2019 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 Joie Siegrist at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Board Members Absent:**

None

**St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:**

Anne Atherton, eLearning Coordinator  
Dr. Damon Brown, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Traci Burtnett, Purchasing Director  
Kahle Charles, Executive Director of Curriculum  
Chris Chou, Longmont High School Science Teacher  
Teresa Ewing, Computer Science Teacher at Niwot High School  
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer  
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent  
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
Kelly Lubkemann, Longmont High School Science Teacher  
Mark Mills, Area Assistant Superintendent  
Rick Olsen, Principal of Longmont High School  
Eric Rauschkolb, Principal of Niwot High School  
Ashlie Swanson, eLearning Coordinator

Tony Whiteley, Executive Director for Budget/Finance

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)**

Agenda was accepted as presented.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)**

None

**VISITORS (4.0)**

Dr. Haddad introduced Executive Director Ken DeLay from the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB), and thanked him for his 20 years of advocating for all Colorado school districts. Board members commended him for his leadership and advocacy, and expressed their appreciation for CASB's invaluable training when they began their Board work. They assured him that he was leaving behind an excellent organization, given his effectiveness as a leader and his dedication and commitment to the school districts of Colorado. Dr. Haddad honored Ken with a Superintendent's Excellence in Education award, and a coin that signifies "no barriers" for all the obstacles that Ken has overcome in his 20 years with CASB.

Mark Mills introduced Longmont High School Principal Rick Olsen. Rick introduced Longmont High School Science Teacher Chris Chou, Advisor to the Medical and BioScience Academy (MBSA). Chris introduced students Katie Byrne, Beck Fieth, Emma Hall, William Murphy, and Zoe Lowe. The seniors shared their plans for the future, and introduced their parents. Board members expressed their appreciation to Chris Chou for building the infrastructure of the MBSA and SMART Team, being an exceptional teacher, and for providing the opportunities she has given to the students of Longmont High.

Rick Olsen introduced Longmont High School Science Teachers and Advisors Chris Chou and Kelly Lubkemann for the SMART (Students Modeling A Research Topic) Team. Kelly introduced the students of the SMART Team who were able to attend the Board Meeting: Rose Adler, Caleb All, Colby Austin, Graham Daniel, Ezra Fehlbert, Maya Greer, Grayson Hubbell, Annette Perez, Lauren Roberts, Erin Skaggs, Emma Grasmick, and Jackson Whitted. Senior Colby Austin explained the research topic. The seniors shared their plans for the future, and introduced their parents.

Mark Mills introduced Niwot High School Principal Eric Rauschkolb. Eric congratulated the Longmont High School SMART Team and MBSA students and Teacher/Advisor Chris Chou. He thanked Ken DeLay for his service to Colorado school districts. Eric introduced Niwot Computer Science Teacher Teresa Ewing, and shared why Teresa was such a special teacher. Teresa left a career in engineering to become a teacher, and is a founding member of the Up-A-Creek Robotics. Teresa was awarded the 2019 Outstanding High School Educator from CU Boulder. Dr. Haddad honored her with the Superintendent's Excellence in Education award. Board members congratulated her on

her awards, thanked her for sharing her engineering talent with the students, and commended her for being committed to encouraging more girls to join her computer science classes.

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

Steve Villarreal, President, St. Vrain Valley Education Association – was present to report to the Board on Action Item 7.2 Approval of the 2019-2020 Negotiated Agreement with the St. Vrain Valley Education Association.

## **REPORTS (5.0)**

### **Purchasing Cost Savings Report (5.1)**

Traci Burtnett provided the Board of Education with a report regarding the key functions and efficiencies in the Purchasing Department for fiscal years 2017 and 2018. The Purchasing Department is made up of four buyers, herself, and a secretary. The Purchasing Department provides buying and contracting services in support of all District schools and departments. It also coordinates the sale and disposal of District surplus property. The Department tracks its effectiveness using established key performance measures including procurement cost savings data, vendor participation, solicitation process lead time, and surplus property sale proceeds and disposal process. Board members expressed their appreciation to her and her staff for their established integrity and fiscal responsibility to the taxpayers.

### **District Financial Statements – April 2019 (5.2)**

Greg Fieth reported on the April 2019 financial statements, and highlighted the status and trends that were most relevant. There were no concerns with the approved spending plan at this time, and he reminded everyone that financials are available on the District website.

### **Introduction of Superintendent's Proposed Budget, FY20, All Funds (5.3)**

Tony Whiteley introduced the Superintendent's Proposed Budget--All Funds, for Fiscal Year 2020 that was first discussed at the May 15, 2019 Board Study Session and the May 20, 2019 Finance and Audit Committee Meeting. The Public Hearing of the FY20 Budget will take place on June 12, 2019, and the final budget adoption is scheduled for June 26, 2019. He reminded everyone that this document can be found on the District website with a printed copy also available in the Finance Department. Dr. Martyr referenced pages 15, 21, and 22 of the new budget to request further discussion and explanation. Board members thanked Tony for his presentation of the FY2020 budget to the Finance and Audit Committee.

### **eCredit Recovery Report (5.4)**

Kahle Charles introduced eCredit Recovery Program eLearning Coordinators Anne Atherton and Ashlie Swanson. Anne updated the Board with a PowerPoint presentation

regarding the progress of the eCredit Recovery Program. The eCredit Recovery Program began in 2011 to offer students the opportunity to recover credit from failed courses, allowing them to get back on track for graduation. The Program includes 54 teachers and serves 1,535 students on average. Kahle noted that there will be a transition from traditional summer school this year to the eCredit model, and will begin a skills recovery program in middle schools in the coming school year. He credited Mark Mills with having the vision to create the eCredit Recovery Program, and thanked Dr. Haddad, Dr. Kapushion and the Board for their support. Dr. Haddad honored Anne and Ashlie with Superintendent's Excellence in Education awards for their leadership in the Program.

### **CONSENT ITEMS (6.0)**

Karen Ragland moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 6.1 through 6.3. Chico Garcia seconded.

1. Approval: Approval of 2019/2020 Administrator Contracts
2. Approval: Approval of Purchase of Microsoft Software Licensees
3. Approval: Approval of Contract Award for Sanborn Elementary School Project

Dr. Martyr suggested in the future that Board members should review and be familiar with the salary ranges of the administrative contracts by job title.

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

### **ACTION ITEMS (7.0)**

#### **Approval of Vendor Providing Purchased Goods Over \$100,000 (7.1)**

John Ahrens moved that the Board of Education approve vendor Wilson Language Training who is anticipated to provide purchased goods over \$100,000 during Fiscal Year 2019. Bob Smith seconded.

Greg Fieth reported that this updated information is presented to comply with the District's policy requirement that the Board approve all vendors to whom the District pays over \$100,000 in a single fiscal year, per Board Policy DJ/DJA – Purchasing/ Purchasing Authorization. This is specifically to address vendors who provide goods/ services that are not competitively bid, competitive bids that are extended into a new fiscal year, or FY19 newly awarded contracts.

Greg reported that Wilson Language Training provides the "Foundations" curriculum planned for full-day Kindergarten. Foundations is a research-based program used to provide multisensory, systematic and explicit instruction in reading foundations. Foundations' lessons focus on carefully sequenced skills that include print knowledge, alphabet awareness, phonological awareness, phonemic awareness, decoding,

vocabulary, fluency, and spelling. These supplementary materials will be used in District Preschool and full-day Kindergarten classrooms to advance foundational reading skills.

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

### **Approval of the 2019-2020 Negotiated Agreement with the St. Vrain Valley Education Association (7.2)**

Paula Peairs moved that the Board of Education approve the changes to the Negotiated Agreement between the St. Vrain Valley Education Association (SVVEA) and the St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J, as outlined in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) presented, effective July 1, 2019, upon approval by the Board of Education. Bob Smith seconded.

Dr. Damon Brown reported that the negotiation teams for the District and for SVVEA met for several months in the spring for discussions regarding proposed language changes in the existing Agreement, including compensation matters. The discussions resulted in a number of tentative agreements and the MOA that was presented.

Dr. Brown introduced Steve Villarreal, President of the St. Vrain Valley Education Association (SVVEA), and thanked him for his collaborative leadership. Board members and Dr. Haddad expressed their appreciation to both the Human Resources Department staff and the SVVEA representatives for all that they were able to accomplish to attract and keep the best teachers.

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

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS (8.0)**

#### **Chinese Instructional Program (8.1)**

Dr. Haddad reported that the Colorado Department of Education no longer endorses the Confucius Institute. The Confucius Institute is a non-profit public educational organization affiliated with the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, whose stated aim is to promote Chinese language and culture, support local Chinese teaching internationally, and facilitate cultural exchanges. In order to prepare for the 2019-20 school year, District administration will begin the hiring process of several Chinese instructors, and will replace cancelled classes with a Spanish option or online training.

### **ADJOURNMENT (9.0)**

Karen Ragland moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m., and John Ahrens seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous acclamation: [John Ahrens, yes; Chico Garcia, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Respectfully submitted,

John Ahrens, Secretary of the Board of Education

Barb Steege, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education

Read and approved or corrected and approved on June 12, 2019.