

**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 February 12, 2020 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 (arrived 6:13 pm)  
Jim Berthold, Member, Director District C  
Chico Garcia, Member, Director District G  
Dr. Richard Martyr, Member, Director District E  
Paula Peairs, Vice President, Director District F  
Karen Ragland, Treasurer & Assistant Secretary, Director District B  
Joie Siegrist, President, Director District A

**Board Members Absent (Excused):**

None

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

Rachael Ayers, Principal of Mead High School  
Betsy Ball, Principal of Mead Elementary School  
Josh Barnett, Principal of Mead Middle School  
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer  
Todd Fukai, Executive Director of Human Resources  
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent  
Katie Kelly, LTC for Mead Elementary School  
Bryan Krause, Area Assistant Superintendent  
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
Dr. Diane Lauer, Assistant Superintendent of Priority Schools and Academic Support  
Patrick Mount, Chief Technology Officer  
Richard Peebles, Executive Director of Security and Safe School Environment  
Valerie Pelletier, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher for Mead Elementary School  
Dr. Andrea Smith, Principal of Lyons M/S High School

Johnny Terrell, Executive Director of Student Services  
Cyrus Weinberger, Principal of Soaring Heights PK-8  
Travis Whitcomb, Language Arts Teacher for Mead Middle School  
Kylea Winka, Dean of Students for Mead Elementary School

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)**

Agenda was accepted as presented.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)**

None

### **VISITORS (4.0)**

Board members welcomed Mead High School student Minsun Morales-Jimenez who attended the Board Meeting as the student representative for the High School Student Advisory Council. Board members thanked her for her important role in the Council. Minsun shared the academic and co-curricular activities that she is involved in at Mead High School.

Todd Fukai reported that Heather Johnson from the American Heart Association was unable to present the bronze level Worksite Health Achievement Award to Human Resources this evening as planned. The presentation will be rescheduled to a future Board Meeting.

Todd Fukai introduced David Glover who is the Dean of Students for Lyons M/S High School, effective February 10, 2020. David thanked the Board, Dr. Haddad, and Dr. Andrea Smith for the opportunity. He shared that he grew up in Lyons and is excited to be back and working with the Lyons' community. He introduced his wife, Taylor.

Todd Fukai introduced Meghan Quirk who will be the Assistant Principal for Soaring Heights PK-8, effective July 1, 2020. Meghan was very appreciative of the opportunity to work at Soaring Heights and thanked Dr. Haddad and Cyrus Weinberger for the opportunity.

Brian Harper, Board Treasurer for St. Vrain Community Montessori School (SVCMS) – present to answer any questions for Discussion Item 9.1 Memorandum of Understanding Between St. Vrain Valley Schools and SVCMS.

Jennifer Kemp, Board President for SVCMS – present to answer any questions for Discussion Item 9.1 Memorandum of Understanding Between St. Vrain Valley Schools and SVCMS.

Katie Torres, Head Master, SVCMS – present to answer any questions for Discussion Item 9.1 Memorandum of Understanding Between St. Vrain Valley Schools and SVCMS.  
Steve Villarreal, President, St. Vrain Education Association – did not address the Board.

## **SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE (5.0)**

- Feedback on a survey of our students in each of 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades in each high school revealed that the students would like to maintain the high school start time of 7:45 a.m. instead of the alternative start time of 8:00 a.m. – another example of the High School Student Advisory Council taking leadership and making an impact.
- Announced that Brian Lamer will be seeking a recommendation from the Board for a suitable location for a District swimming pool by Spring Break. The pool would be paid for by using interest earned on the 2016 bond.
- Announced optional AP Saturday Study Sessions that are free to all SVVSD students. Study Sessions will be held from 8:00 am to Noon at the Innovation Center on March 7, March 14, April 4, and April 11, 2020.
- Handed out packets of information to the Board members to look at prior to the February 19, 2020 Study Session. These packets of information represent three phases for the upcoming study session: Snapshots of achievement and success and progressive goals and their proposed results and strategies through the 2020-2021 school year. Board members were encouraged to call him with any questions.
- Announced that the hiring process is off to a great early start with many strong internal candidates and many teacher applicants. Decisions on Principals for Longmont High, Timberline PK-8, and an Assistant Principal/Athletic Director for Frederick High School will soon be made. A retired Principal will be working with the entire leadership team to start laying the foundation for staffing the new Elementary #28 in Erie with final decisions made in August.
- Visited many schools – appreciates the work and great energy of all teachers, staff and student leadership throughout the District.
- Recognized Steve Villarreal for his leadership and deep level of commitment to all students, teachers and classified staff.

## **REPORTS (6.0)**

### **Mead High School Student Advisory Council Report (6.1)**

Bryan Krause introduced Mead feeder administrators and thanked them for their dedication. He introduced Mead Middle School Principal Josh Barnett. Josh thanked Bryan, the Board, and Dr. Haddad for their support of Mead High School and its students. He announced that the students would be giving the Board members a quiz to see how much they knew about the Mead feeder schools on iPads that were provided. Josh thanked Mead Elementary LTC Katie Kelly for the creation of the quiz. He introduced Elisha Whitcomb and his father Travis who is a Language Arts teacher at Mead Middle School and Elisha's sister. Betsy Ball introduced 5<sup>th</sup> grader Carter Pelletier and his mother Valerie who is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher for Mead Elementary. Rachael Ayers introduced Mead High School Student Advisory Council students Caden Campbell, Fernando Contreras Acosta, Keegan Caldwell, Kenna Stephen and Minsun Morales-Jimenez. The seniors of Mead High School shared their future plans and introduced family members that were present. Mead feeder administration present: Rachael Ayers, Principal of Mead High School; Betsy Ball, Principal of Mead Elementary; LTC Katie Kelly

of Mead Elementary School; Kylea Winka, Dean of Students of Mead Elementary; and Josh Barnett, Principal of Mead Middle School. Board members commended the students for the entertaining quiz and appreciated that they learned so much about the Mead feeder system. They thanked the Mead administration for their attendance and support of the students.

### **Wellness, Culture, Safety Inventory (WCSI) Update (6.2)**

Dr. Diane Lauer introduced Patrick Mount and Johnny Terrell and each reported to the Board of Education a different portion of results of the WCSI survey. The WCSI is an online, anonymous inventory which replaces the Youth Risk Behavior Survey/Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (YRBS/HKCS) that was once implemented in our District. All high schools administered the inventory in grades 9-12 in order to learn more about the climate within St. Vrain Valley Schools. The WCSI is generated in partnership with Panorama Education, a company that has successfully worked with numerous school districts across the country and specializes in surveys.

A PowerPoint presentation showed that there was a total of 7,181 respondents out of 9,500 students in grades 9-12. That constitutes a 75.5% student response rate which is up 6.8% from the rate of the previous year. This is the fourth year of data that has been collected, so trends were available. It is anticipated that there could be comparisons to other Colorado school districts once they take the YRBS/HKCS survey this year. Dr. Haddad gave a brief history about reasons the District switched from administering the YRBS/HKCS survey to the WCSI survey and shared how the District will financially sustain administration of the survey.

Dr. Haddad and Board members appreciated the work that has gone into this important survey information. Dr. Haddad reminded everyone that these resources are designed to mitigate personal situations that begin outside of our school district, and that the District's objective is to address adverse behaviors before they start. He also reported that all students in the District will benefit from the resources the District provides due to the results of the survey. Board members appreciated that there is a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Committee in place to assist the students. Mead High School Student Advisory Council member Minsun Morales-Jimenez was personally very appreciative of the SEL and its assistance to students.

### **CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)**

Karen Ragland 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 January 8, 2020 Regular Meeting, the January 15, 2020 Study Session, and the January 22, 2020 Regular Meeting

4. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Policies BC – School Board Member Conduct; BC-R – School Board Member Financial Disclosure; BEC – Executive Sessions; BEDA – Notification of School Board Meetings; and CBF – Superintendent’s Conduct
5. Approval: Approval of Fee Adjustment to Architect Agreement for Spark! Discovery Preschool Renovation Project
6. Approval: Approval of Fee Adjustment to Architect Agreement for Mead Middle School Addition & Renovation Project
7. Approval: Approval of Change Order 7 to Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) Contract for Niwot High School Renovation Project
8. Approval: Approval of Contract Award for ESC Shop Coating Project
9. Approval: Approval of Recommendation to Hire Assistant Principal for Soaring Heights PK-8
10. Approval: Approval of Recommendation to Hire Dean of Students for Lyons Middle/Senior High School
11. Approval: Approval of Cancellation of All District After-School Activities on 2/3/20 and Late Start on 2/4/20

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

### **ACTION ITEMS (8.0)**

None

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)**

#### **Memorandum of Understanding Between St. Vrain Community Montessori School (9.1)**

Brian Lamer highlighted a few changes to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between St. Vrain Community Montessori School (SVCMS) and the St. Vrain Valley School District. SVCMS desires to develop property owned by the District for their new school site. The District is planning to designate \$1,000,000 of District funds toward the project. The MOU outlines each party’s obligation, expectations and authority for the process of development.

The 10-acre property is located approximately 600 feet east of the Innovation Center on Quail Road. The District has been working with both the City of Longmont and Boulder County to satisfy annexing the property into the City of Longmont. The building cannot be more than 54,000 square feet and must be developed by the year 2026. Modularity may be placed in the interim of building until the District could submit a new bond to voters which, if approved, could include funding for a permanent structure. If the building is built and SVCMS ceases operation, up to \$1,000,000 of the District’s original investment reverts back to the District with the District purchasing anything valued over \$1,000,000,

plus the publicly financed bonds contributed. Dr. Haddad reminded everyone how successful SVCMS is, and shared his excitement for them to have a permanent structure in order to invite more students to attend their school. Board members thanked SVCMS Head Master Katie Torres, SVCMS Board President Jennifer Kemp, and SVCMS Board Treasurer Brian Harper for attending. Board members unanimously agreed that this topic should return as an Action Item at the February 26, 2020 Regular Meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT (10.0)**

Board President Joie Siegrist reminded everyone that the February 19, 2020 Study Session was moved from Mead Middle School to the Educational Services Center Board Room. Only the Board members, Dr. Haddad and Dr. Kapushion will be attending the Study Session. The next Regular Board Meeting will be held in the Board Room on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 beginning with Financials at 5:30 p.m.

Board President Siegrist thanked student Minsun Morales-Jimenez for her involvement in the High School Student Advisory Council, her courage sharing her personal experiences, and assured her that all students should be heard and have their needs met. Minsun thanked the Board members for the opportunity to attend the Board Meeting.

Karen Ragland moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m., and John Ahrens seconded. The motion carried by unanimous acclamation: [John Ahrens, yes; Jim Berthold, yes; Chico Garcia, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, 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 March 11, 2020.