

**MINUTES  
ST. VRAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**OPENING OF MEETING**

The Board of Education of the St. Vrain Valley School District met on July 8, 2020 at the Educational Services Center, 395 South Pratt Parkway, Longmont, Colorado. The Special Meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Joie Siegrist at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board Members Present:**

Jim Berthold, Member, Director District C  
Chico Garcia, Member, Director District G  
Dr. Richard Martyr, Member, Director District E  
Joie Siegrist, President, Director District A

**Board Members Absent (Excused):**

John Ahrens, Secretary, Director District D  
Paula Peairs, Vice President, Director District F  
Karen Ragland, Treasurer & Assistant Secretary, Director District B

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

Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent

**Visitors:**

There could be no public participation at the Board Meeting due to COVID-19 regulations by Colorado Governor Jared Polis. The public had an opportunity to leave messages on a dedicated link on the District website that would be read by a Board member during the Board Meeting.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

None

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

In compliance with the current terms of the executive order by Colorado Governor Jared Polis requiring no meetings greater than 10 people, a personal six-foot distance from other people, and anyone leaving their home must wear a mask, there were no visitors and no physical public participation.

Board President Joie Siegrist read comments from the public posted on the dedicated link on the District website. All comments were related to COVID-19 and how school starting in the fall would impact their children. Members of the public that submitted comments:

Kim Coventry, Wendy McMillan, Melissa Trecocke Houghton, Elizabeth Honan, Ania Plocha, Katie Topham, and Chris Johnston.

Dr. Haddad addressed the concerns from the public comments. He thanked them for their comments and encouraged anyone with questions to contact him or any Board member.

## **REPORTS**

### **COVID-19 Report**

Dr. Haddad updated the Board on the current proposed process to start school in the fall according to the state mandates and local health department requirements and reminded everyone that the process continues to evolve.

- For grades adopting the hybrid model (7, 8, 10, 11, 12), teachers/students will use technology unique to the District enabling students to participate in the classroom virtually 50% of the time and in the building 50% of the time. This synchronous learning experience will be dramatically different than their experiences in the spring that were conducted under emergency conditions.
- Reviewed the learning choices for each grade level planned for the fall depending upon current guidelines. Should students have difficulty transitioning to a different learning option, all situations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to individually assess the needs of the student. Students will be provided extra support online on some weekday evenings and during the day on Saturdays.
- Reviewed the health and safety measures planned for the fall.
- The wearing of masks will be a requirement for all staff and students with built in breaks from wearing masks for the younger students.
- Hallway markings are being added to each school to aid in social distancing during passing periods.
- Staff and students will be required to check their temperatures before they come to school. No one will be allowed in the buildings with a temperature higher than 100.4° F. and the District will ask for parental support on the temperature checks.
- Drinking fountains will be disabled and replacement air filters will continue to be monitored and replaced in exhaust fans of all schools to ensure adequate air flow.

- For students preferring 100% online instruction, the District has partnered with the Florida Virtual School to provide LaunchEd Virtual Academy, a robust online support to students, using District teachers.

Dr. Jackie Kapushion shared a handout entitled “Leveraging Quality Online Content for Distance Learning” that provides information to support teachers when creating fully online content and developing active learning experiences for students using Schoology and Seesaw formats. The District is striving to create as normal an experience for the students as possible and will encourage them to use safe practices and also to seek normal peer experiences and build friendships while gaining a quality learning experience.

Dr. Haddad reinforced his commitment to equality and nondiscrimination for the well-being of every student and staff member in the District.

Board members appreciated the comprehensive nature of the report from Dr. Haddad and Dr. Kapushion and their responsiveness to the community to keep families informed. They applauded the foresight of the staff to assure every teacher had a laptop and the available bandwidth for synchronous teaching.

### **ACTION ITEMS (1.0)**

#### **Adoption of Resolution for 2020-2021 Educational Process of the District (1.1)**

Jim Berthold moved that the Board of Education adopt a resolution to define the 2020-2021 school year educational process of the District during the COVID-19 crisis. Chico Garcia seconded.

Dr. Jackie Kapushion reported that, due to the disruption in normal school operations because of the COVID-19 crisis, the Colorado Department of Education has given authority to local school boards to define the educational process for its students for the 2020-21 school year. The educational process includes length of the academic year calendar, minimal instructional hours, and further defines the acceptable means to deliver instruction. The purpose of the proposed resolution is to allow the District and its schools flexibility related to student contact time and attendance as a result of emergency closings and other unforeseen circumstances.

Board member Dr. Richard Martyr read the resolution.

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

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chico Garcia moved to adjourn the meeting and Jim Berthold seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m. by unanimous acclamation.: [John Ahrens, absent; Jim Berthold, yes; Chico Garcia, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, absent; Karen Ragland, absent; Joie Siegrist, yes].

Respectfully submitted,

Joie Siegrist, President of the Board of Education

Barb Steege, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education

Read and approved or corrected and approved on August 12, 2020.