

**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 August 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  
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:**

Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer  
Todd Fukai, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources (via Webex)  
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent  
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
Dr. Diane Lauer, Assistant Superintendent of Priority Schools and Academic Support (via Webex)  
Johnny Terrell, Executive Director of Student Services (via Webex)

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)**

Board Policies LBD\* – Relations with District Charter Schools and JII – Student Concerns, Complaints, and Grievances were pulled from 7.8 Consent Items to be further reviewed by District legal counsel.

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

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. Board President Joie Siegrist thanked the community for their messages and appreciated their input and feedback.

### **VISITORS (4.0)**

In compliance with the current terms of the executive order by Colorado Governor Jared Polis requiring no large gatherings, 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 explained that the Board would read a maximum of 10 minutes of the public comments that were sent to the Board through the dedicated District website link. Many of the submissions were questions that Dr. Haddad has addressed in his email communications with parents, and detailed information is also available on the District website. HR-related comments were excluded from being read. Board member Karen Ragland read several of those **comments from the public**. All comments were related to how the current process to starting school in the fall would impact their family:

Noelle Green 8/8/20	1346 Washburn St., Erie	Sophie Plante 8/9/20 20:37:32	717 Tanager Circle
Sophie Plante 8/9/20 20:39:30	717 Tanager Circle	Mara Harner	1121 Northridge Dr., Erie
Noelle Green 8/10/20	1346 Washburn St., Erie	Kelly	Goshawk Drive
Kelly	Alpine Street	Stephen Bott	10171 Dowdle Dr., Golden
Aaron Mattmiller	3714 Mountain Vw Ave	Rachel	1609 Cedarwood Drive
Angi Mattmiller	3714 Mountain Vw Ave	Wade Hendricks	1854 Breen Ln, Superior
Richelle Burnett	8274 Cattail Dr., Niwot	Scott G	2040 Heron Court
Feliz Gutierrez	2040 Heron Court	Andrew Roberts	2001 Amethyst Drive
Susan Lindgren	2393 Tucson Court	Jeanne Dworak	425 Long View Court
Katy Fererro	1042 Neon Forest Circle	Becky Feiran	4738 Scenic Ave., Frederick
Adrienne Tomaszewski	1503 Willowbrook Drive	Sam Tomaszewski	1503 Willowbrook Drive
Eric Tomaszewski 8/10/20	1503 Willowbrook Drive	Amanda Tomaszewski 8/10/20	1503 Willowbrook Drive
Caryl Zukauskas	6361 Saddleback Avenue	Lauren	2955 Lakeshore Drive
Amy Wilkins	3404 Feather Reed Ave	Nikki Miller	837 James Street
Elizabeth Honan	620 Ken Mar Court	Vanetta Parkes	5620 Boulder Hills Drive
Lindy Feneide	5002 Maxwell Avenue	Angela Roberts	2001 Amethyst Drive
Ann-Marie Linehan	5000 William Place	Gary Thomas	6334 Saddleback Avenue
Meggan Van Kessel	1749 Dorothy Circle	Jill Caceres 8/10/20	7128 Mt. Sherman Road
Kim Francis	1662 Holland Way	Lindsay Diamond	7303 North 115 <sup>th</sup> Street
Lynn Lyndon	6124 Trevarton Drive	Sydney Strickland	10810 North 49 <sup>th</sup>
Eric Tomaszewski 8/11/20	1503 Willowbrook Drive	Gina Tajchman	1228 Button Rock Drive
Jill Caceres 8/11/20	7127 Mt. Sherman Road	Kimberly Watkins	1682 Dorothy Circle
Amanda Tomaszewski 8/11/20	1503 Willowbrook Drive	Laura Ruth	1707 Dorothy Circle
Erin Jeffreys	5230 Retreat Circle	Kellie Brown	1815 Fountain Court
Lynne Norder	869 Mircos Street, Erie		

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (5.0)**

- Feedback on the graduation ceremonies was positive and provided closure and fond memories for students/families. Graduation videos/pictures for each high school are available on the District website.
- Dr. Haddad and Brian Lamer give a brief overview of the 2016 Bond projects – approximately \$34M for remaining projects. A complete Bond activity update will be given at the September 23, 2020 Board Meeting.
- Thanked Dr. Diane Lauer and Learning Services for providing professional development to 900 teachers throughout the summer, as well as facilitating new teacher orientation for 120 new teachers.
- Announced 622 children are enrolled in Community Schools' daycare program for children of parents/teachers. Teachers will be allowed to bring their children to their classrooms.
- Announced there are approximately 2,900 students enrolled in LaunchEd Virtual Academy. The deadline to enroll was August 12, 2020, so firm numbers can be reported soon.
- Announced that the District has developed three tiers of accommodations for staff with pre-existing medical conditions, depending upon the severity of the situation, for exemptions to working in their current positions because of COVID-related reasons.
- Administration prepared a series of preliminary student count days for August and September that will lead up to the official Student Count Day in October. The first Student Count Day will be Thursday, August 20.
- Updated the Board on Brandon Shaffer's legislative work the District is pursuing, in partnership with Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE).
- Met with two parents involved in a group called "Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ)" along with Johnny Terrell and Olga Cordero. Dr. Haddad and two Board members will attend one of their meetings.

Dr. Kapushion reported on blended and synchronous learning, attendance and grading procedures, and highlighted the differences in online learning from the emergency implementation in the spring to the plans for the fall. She reported there will also be sharing online tools to support parents learning more about Seesaw and Schoology. Dr. Kapushion shared handouts on the process of taking attendance for each grade level during full-time online learning and another on Weld and Boulder County COVID-19 statistics.

## **REPORTS (6.0)**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Gifts to Schools – FY 2019-2020 (6.1)**

Greg Fieth provided the Board of Education with a list of public gifts given to the St. Vrain Valley School District for the fourth quarter of the 2019-2020 school year totaling \$154,605.59. The total of all gifts given to the District for the 2019-2020 school year total \$838,761.39.

During the course of the year, the District receives many cash and gift donations for its programs. These gifts are accepted by the principal, the superintendent or the Board of Education according to Board Policy KCD, Public Gifts to Schools. Compared with the 2018-2019 school year, fourth quarter gifts totaled \$276,871.32 and total gifts that school year totaled \$1,192,588.09.

### **COVID-19 Update (6.2)**

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

- Acknowledged that he is unable to accommodate every hardship request from staff and the parent community, but has granted exceptions to as many cases as possible. He continues to be in contact with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for the latest revisions in COVID information. Dr. Haddad would like to avoid school closures that quarantine teachers and students and feels ongoing, sporadic closures would be unmanageable. Dr. Haddad thanked the staff, parents and students for their support through this trying time.
- District athletics have been divided into Seasons A, B, C, and D. Tennis, golf, cross country, and softball have already begun.
- Executive Director of Student Services, Johnny Terrell, monitors data tracking District COVID cases. COVID testing will be available to District staff at no cost.
- Assured the Board that the curriculum that will be used for online learning is the same as students would receive in person and will be taught by our high-quality St. Vrain Valley teachers with the best technology available.
- Assured the Board that District staff is doing everything in its power to give students the best learning experience possible and to continue, as they always have, to mitigate the learning gap.

Board members expressed their appreciation to Dr. Haddad and Dr. Kapushion and their administrative team that have responded to challenges during the pandemic, and for responding to the enormous number of questions about the decision-making process from parents. They also acknowledged Kerri McDermid and her Communications team for the incredibly thorough email to parents with links to detailed information for families.

### **2016 Bond Activity Update (6.3)**

Brian Lamer reported that voters approved the 2016 \$260.3 million Bond program in November of 2016. To date, the District has opened over 215 additional classrooms, putting the bond at 87% complete as we move into the fall of 2020. The first phase of the Bond mainly focused on projects to help mitigate capacity concerns in the Erie, Tri-Town, and Silver Creek feeders. Additional projects are underway to help enhance safety and security, educational programs, and building preservation items.

Brian reported in depth on the completed projects and those projects that are underway or beginning in the fall of 2020. Board members expressed their appreciation to Brian and his team for delivering on the promises to the community to build safe, quality school structures.

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

Karen Ragland moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.7. John Ahrens seconded. Consent Agenda Item 7.8 First Reading, Adoption, Board Policies was pulled for further discussion and additional changes to Board policies GBGA, GDE/GDF, and IKA. Board Policies JII – Student Concerns, Complaints, and Grievances and LBD\* – Relations with District Charter Schools were both pulled from the agenda to be further reviewed by legal counsel.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the June 10 and June 24, 2020 Regular Meetings and the July 8 and July 22, 2020 Special Meetings
4. Approval: Approval of Change Order 5 to Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) Contract for Longmont High School Addition & Renovation
5. Approval: Approval of Easement Agreement with Town of Erie for Elementary 28
6. Approval: Approval of Change Order 2 to CMGC Contract for Elementary 28
7. Approval: Approval of Change Order 2 to CMGC Contract for Mead Elementary School

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].

Board Vice President Paula Peairs reported on the process of Board policy review and adoption procedures. Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) begins the process by tracking legislation that affects the policies. CASB then compiles those policies that need to be revised to comply with the new laws and sends that list of policies to school administration. Administration consults with District legal counsel and is then responsible to bring those policies forward to the Board for adoption.

Board members expressed their appreciation to Paula for her participation on the Board member policy committee and her clear explanation of the policy adoption process.

The following Board policies have revisions to reflect changes to current laws, rules, and regulations of Colorado legislation, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Colorado Department of Education. They were recommended for adoption by CASB, district administration, and District legal counsel.

- 7.8 Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Policies AC – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity; AC-E-1 – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (Sample Notice); AC-E-2 – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (Complaint Form); New AC-R-1 – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (Complaint and Compliance Process); New AC-R-2\* – Sexual Harassment Investigation Procedures (Title IX); Repeal of Policy ACE – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability; ADC – Tobacco-Free Schools; EBBA – Prevention of Disease/Infection Transmission (Handling Body Fluids); EBBA-R – Prevention of Disease/Infection Transmission (Handling Body Fluids and Substances); EBCE – School Closings and Cancellations; GBA – Open Hiring/Equal Employment Opportunity; New GBAB – Workplace Health and Safety Protection; GBGA – Staff Health (And Medical Examination Requirements); GCE/GCF – Professional Staff Recruiting/Hiring; GDE/GDF – Support Staff Recruiting/Hiring; IC/ICA – School Year/School Calendar/Instruction Time; IKA – Grading/Assessment Systems; JB – Equal Educational Opportunities; JBB\* – Sexual Harassment of Students; JLCC –Communicable/Infectious Diseases; and KI – Visitors to Schools

Paula Peairs moved to adopt Consent Agenda Item 7.8 Board policies AC, AC-E-1, AC-E-2, new Board Policy AC-R-1, new Board Policy AC-R-2\*, approval to repeal Board Policy ACE (AC-E-1 takes its place), approval of Board Policies ADC, EBBA, EBBA-R, EBCE, GBA, new Board Policy GBAB, GBGA (with suggested changes), GCE/GCF, GDE/GDF (with suggested changes), IC/ICA, IKA (with suggested changes), JB, JBB\*, JLCC, and KI. Jim Berthold seconded.

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)**

#### **Approval of Charter Agreement Extension for Carbon Valley Academy (8.1)**

Chico Garcia moved that the Board of Education approve a one-year extension of Carbon Valley Academy's Charter Agreement. Jim Berthold seconded.

Greg Fieth reported that, in June 2019, the Board approved a three-year standardized operating contract, defining operating parameters for all District charter schools.

In addition, each charter school has an individual charter agreement with the District based on their original charter school application. This charter agreement defines the school's goals, objectives, student performance standards, and measurement criteria. Board policy LBD-R guides the charter renewal process.

Carbon Valley Academy's Charter Agreement was due for renewal on June 30, 2020; however, their Executive Director, Tony Carey, retired in June 2019 and during the administrative turnover, this date was missed. We are requesting a one-year extension of Carbon Valley Academy's Charter Agreement to allow the new administration to prepare the renewal documents.

Greg confirmed that Carbon Valley Academy is currently in compliance with the terms of their lapsed charter contract with the District.

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].

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

None

### **ADJOURNMENT (10.0)**

Board members expressed their appreciation to Dr. Haddad and the Communications team for the 2020 Teacher and Staff Convocation "Let's Take a Walk" as a unifying and inspirational way to begin the school year, and wished everyone a great start to the new school year.

Board President Joie Siegrist announced that the August 19, 2020 Study Session has been cancelled. The next Regular Board Meeting will be held in the Board Room on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

Karen Ragland moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 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 September 9, 2020.