

**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 September 23, 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:

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):

John Ahrens, Secretary, Director District D

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Brandon Shaffer, Executive Director of Legal/Govt Affairs, Community Outreach & P-TECH (via Webex)
Bryan Zwisler, Construction Manager (via Webex)

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

The public had an opportunity to leave messages on a dedicated email address that would then provide an opportunity for the first 10 people to read their comments in person at the

Board Meeting. Board President Joie Siegrist announced no members of the public left messages wishing to speak to the Board.

VISITORS (4.0)

In compliance with the current terms of the executive order by Colorado Governor Jared Polis mandating no large gatherings, a personal six-foot distance from other people, and anyone leaving their home must wear a mask, there was one visitor and no other physical public participation.

Josh Atherton, Executive Director of St. Vrain Valley Schools Education Foundation, was present to announce the change in name of the Education Foundation to the St. Vrain Valley to the St. Vrain Valley Schools Education Foundation (SVVSEF). He showcased their new website and logo and acknowledged the people that helped create them, and stressed the importance of brand recognition for their organization.

Josh proudly announced that the Sunrise Stampede created \$22,000 to support special education students and teacher innovation grants. The Annual Gala is completely virtual this year and will be held on November 14, 2020. He was happy to report that scholarship applications are now online and acknowledged his Business Manager Tammy Palombo for her work creating the online application.

Josh announced the creation of a COVID-19 Emergency Fund to help students which immediately raised \$50,000. The Foundation entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with A Woman's Work and the OUR Center to ensure the funds would be dispersed to those that needed it the most. The Emergency Fund is still open, and people can learn more by visiting the Foundation's website at stvrainfoundation.org. He thanked the Board members, Dr. Haddad, and Dr. Kapushion for their support and use of District resources.

Board members thanked Josh for his update and his support of the teachers and families of the District, and his positive partnerships with the community.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (5.0)

- Thanked the community for their support and positive feedback from the Virtual Town Hall. It was clear that families are ready for their children to come back to school in person as it becomes safer, while adhering to the state and county health department guidelines.
- Cost to the District for COVID testing in September was \$300,000. Of the 1,300 tested staff members in September, two were positive. The District will provide free COVID testing to staff members for the month of October.
- Announced that the District has a solid stock of protective gear – N95 masks, sanitizing wipes, gloves, gowns and face shields that the health departments suggested the District have on hand for staff safety.

- As the District faces a significant reduction in funding, expressed his appreciation for the support of the Education Foundation and the community support for the past mill levy overrides and bonds.
- Updated the Board on Season A athletics – cross country, tennis, softball, golf, and most recently the start of football.
- Congratulated Altona Middle School Math Teacher Linda Cochran who received the United States Presidential Award for Teaching Excellence in Math, Science, and Engineering.

Dr. Kapushion updated the Board on the work her team is doing to calculate FTE for all schools and LaunchED for hiring purposes, professional development support for teachers, and supporting principals that need to communicate to their families as students return to classrooms. She agreed with Dr. Haddad's optimism, sharing celebrations, and is looking forward to welcoming students back on October 5.

REPORTS (6.0)

2020 General Election Ballot Initiatives (6.1)

Brandon Shaffer joined the Board Meeting via Webex to report on the upcoming ballot initiatives that affect school districts. Voters will determine the outcome of multiple referred measures and citizen initiatives. A copy of the 2020 State Ballot Information Booklet ("Blue Book") with descriptions of each ballot initiative was provided.

The conversation focused on the following initiatives because they have the most relevance to public education: (a) Amendment B – Repeal of the Gallagher Amendment; (b) Proposition EE – Cigarette Tobacco and Nicotine Products Tax; (c) Proposition 116 – State Income Tax Rate Reduction; and (d) Proposition 118 – Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program.

Board members appreciated Brandon's insight about each of the initiatives and affirmed the importance of paying close attention to these state-level initiatives and the ways the results could affect the District.

2016 Bond Activity Update (6.2)

Brian Lamer reported on how the \$260 million 2016 Bond was leveraged with other funds so that the overall funds available for Bond-related projects increased to \$313 million. To date, \$274 million has been spent and 88% of the planned projects are complete.

Bryan Zwisler joined the meeting via Webex and provided a detailed PowerPoint presentation with pictures of each of the construction projects. Bryan appreciated the support from Brian Lamer, Rick Ruffino, Matt Tredennick the District Architect, District Maintenance Department, and the District Technology Services' staff for their partnership in each project.

Board members appreciated his presentation and the visuals that were included, and noted that each of the feeders were invested in proportionately with a clear commitment to excellence for each community to feel the pride in their neighborhood school buildings. They thanked the community for their financial support and trust, and expressed their appreciation to the construction team fulfilling the promise to the community to build the very best schools for each St. Vrain community, worthy of the excellent teachers and programs the District provides. The entire Board looks forward to future grand openings with students present.

CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)

Jim Berthold moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.3. Paula Peairs seconded. Board member Paula Peairs pulled Consent Agenda Item 7.4 and Board member Dr. Martyr pulled Consent Agenda Items 7.5 and 7.6 to discuss these Board policies further.

1. Approval: Approval of Contract Award for Cleaning Services
2. Approval: Approval of Easement Agreement for Lyons Middle/Senior High Auditorium Addition & Renovation Project
3. Approval: Approval of Fee Adjustment 1 to Architect Agreement for the Silver Creek High School Pool Addition
4. Approval: First Reading, Repeal of Board Regulation AC-R – Reporting Discrimination/District Response to Discrimination Complaints; Adoption of Revisions to Board Regulations AC-R-1 – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (Complaint and Compliance Process) and AC-R-2* – Sexual Harassment Investigation Procedures (Title IX)
5. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Exhibit CC-E – St. Vrain Administrative Organizational Chart
6. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Regulation JFBA/JFBB-R – Open Enrollment

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

7.4 First Reading, Repeal of Board Regulation AC-R – Reporting Discrimination/District Response to Discrimination Complaints; Adoption of Revisions to Board Regulations AC-R-1 – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (Complaint and Compliance Process) and AC-R-2* – Sexual Harassment Investigation Procedures (Title IX)

Paula Peairs reported that Board Regulation AC-R was being repealed because its information was now covered by Board Regulations AC-R-1 and AC-R-2*. Minor revisions to Board Regulations AC-R-1 and AC-R-2* pertain to Title IX and to clarify responsibilities of the Superintendent and his designees.

Paula Peairs moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 7.4. Jim Berthold seconded.

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

7.5 First Reading, Adoption, Board Exhibit CC-E – St. Vrain Administrative Organizational Chart

Dr. Martyr acknowledged the functional administrative structure under the Assistant Superintendent of Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction and wanted to highlight an enlightened structural solution to a programmatic need. Dr. Haddad ensured that instructional technology functions by design to support all aspects of the teaching and learning experience.

Dr. Martyr moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 7.5. Karen Ragland seconded.

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

7.6 First Reading, Adoption, Board Regulation JFBA/JFBB-R – Open Enrollment

Dr. Martyr acknowledged the minor change in the registration open enrollment process that siblings of students who have been granted open enrollment status may, at the discretion of the principal, be approved for open enrollment, as long as the sibling will have concurrent enrollment in at least the first year as the originally approved student.

Dr. Martyr moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 7.6. Chico Garcia seconded.

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

ACTION ITEMS (8.0)

First Reading, Discussion, Board Policies BEDH – Public Participation at School Board Meetings, and BEDH-R – Public Participation at School Board Meetings (8.1)

Chico Garcia moved that the Board of Education adopt revisions to Board Policy BEDH – Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Board Regulation BEDH-R – Public Participation at School Board Meetings, and to schedule these Board policies for a second reading in Consent at the October 14, 2020 Regular Board Meeting. Jim Berthold seconded.

These Board policies have minor revisions to reflect current practice that are recommended by Board President Joie Siegrist and outside legal counsel.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, absent; 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 President Joie Siegrist announced the next Regular Board Meeting will be held in the Board Room on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. She also reminded the public/staff that the October 21, 2020 Study Session is cancelled. Public participation will begin in person for up to 10 people at the October 14, 2020 Regular Meeting. The public can leave their name, address, and phone number at boardofeducation@svvsd.org to be scheduled to speak at a Board meeting.

Karen Ragland moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m., and Jim Berthold seconded. The motion carried by unanimous acclamation: [John Ahrens, absent; Jim Berthold, yes; Chico Garcia, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, yes; Paula Peairs, yes; Karen Ragland, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes].

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Ragland, Treasurer & 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 October 14, 2020.