

**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 24, 2021 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:**

Deniece Cook, Principal of Career Development Center/Olde Columbine High School (Webex)  
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer  
Todd Fukai, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources (Webex)  
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent  
Dr. Diane Lauer, Assistant Superintendent for Priority Programs and Academic Support (Webex)  
Kerri McDermid, Chief Communications and Global Impact Officer (Webex)  
ToniJo Niccoli, Assistant Principal of Career Development Center/Olde Columbine High School, and St. Vrain Online Global Academy (Webex)  
Dina Perfetti-Deany, Area Assistant Superintendent (Webex)  
Brandon Shaffer, Executive Director of Legal/Governmental Affairs, Community Outreach, and P-TECH (Webex)  
Stacey Struessel, Principal of St. Vrain Online Global Academy (Webex)

Charles Webber, Assistant Principal of Career Development Center/Olde Columbine High School (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. Larissa Barton and Dan Maloit were members of the public that spoke to the Board this evening.

### **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 were no other visitors.

Todd Fukai introduced LuAnn Tallman via Webex as the next Principal of Central Elementary School. LuAnn was honored to join the Central and St. Vrain Valley family with the long-time caring community supporting Central. She looks forward to the scheduled tour of the school and to meet the Central families. She is excited about the IB program at Central, and is deeply honored and committed to the families of St. Vrain Valley. Board members welcomed her and congratulated her on her new position.

Todd Fukai introduced Amanda Holden via Webex as the next Principal of Eagle Crest Elementary School. Amanda thanked Todd Fukai, Dr. Haddad, and the Board for their warm welcome. She is excited to move back to Longmont, and inspired by the work already happening at Eagle Crest. Board members welcomed her and congratulated her on her new position.

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

- COVID Update – sent a letter to parents, families, teachers and staff detailing plans for students to come back to the classroom full-time Monday through Thursday after Spring Break. Students will have the opportunity to utilize the school libraries on Fridays which will be open spaces to catch up on their work. The letter also indicated the extension of classes through the month of June on a voluntary basis, Monday through Thursday, for K-8 students and the continuation of after-school tutorials. Dr. Haddad expressed the District's concerns with 4-day school weeks to the Colorado Department of Education and Governor Polis, and feels students should be in school five days a week. The District also feels that there should be extended learning opportunities during the summer. Summer opportunities in St. Vrain Valley will be Project Launch, the Jump Start program, eRecovery, STEM camps, and robotics. Dr.

Haddad appreciates the community support and patience as the District attempts to accommodate 33,000 St. Vrain Valley families, and is very proud of District staff and teachers on how they've worked through the pandemic. He feels that, if anything can be appreciated from the impact of COVID, it has highlighted the importance of public education. Some processes that were developed during the pandemic will continue in schools after COVID, such as cleaning protocols, HVAC improvements, hand sanitizing, and a potential opportunity to extend into weekends a focus school option around the hybrid model.

- Thanked the Board, his administration team, teachers, students, parents about the way everyone came together in these very challenging times.
- Vaccination Update – beginning February 8, the K-12 teaching staff and classified staff were invited to receive their first vaccination and, in some cases, their second vaccine. By Spring Break, it is hoped that all employees will have received their first vaccine and, most employees their second vaccine, in order to more safely begin in-person learning immediately after Spring Break.
- Quarantining protocol will still be in effect and students will be allowed to continue the synchronous learning model if they choose while continuing with all protocols for safety. Thanked UCHealth, Nextera, and Safeway for their support to move through vaccinations for 5,000 employees in two weeks.
- With the heavy snow falling during this Board Meeting, Dr. Haddad assured everyone that he will be monitoring roads into the early morning hours and will decide prior to 5 a.m. whether anything should be cancelled/postponed.
- Board President Siegrist announced that Board Study Sessions resumed last week and that the focus of these Study Sessions is to learn more about the operational systems of each of the District departments, and she encouraged everyone to listen to the audio recordings of the Study Sessions on the District website.

## **REPORTS (6.0)**

### **District Financial Statements – January FY 2021 (6.1)**

Colorado Revised Statute (C.R.S.) 22-45-102(1)(b)(I-IV) requires the Board of Education to review the financial condition of the school district at least quarterly during the year. In addition to first and second quarter reports, the District has elected to present monthly financial statements during the remainder of the year.

At the work session prior to this Board meeting, Greg Fieth reported information related to the January 2021 monthly financial statements in compliance with all aspects of Colorado Revised Statutes. Nutrition Services and Community Schools were heavily impacted because of COVID.

## **CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)**

John Ahrens moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.3 and 7.5. Consent Agenda Item 7.4 was pulled for further discussion. Karen Ragland seconded.

1. Approval: Approval of Recommendation to Hire Principal for Central Elementary School
2. Approval: Approval of Recommendation to Hire Principal for Eagle Crest Elementary School
3. Approval: Approval of Purchase of Chromebooks & Google Management Licenses
4. Approval: Approval of Request to Grant an Exception to Board Policy GBEA – Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest-Boele
5. Approval: Approval of Change Order to Contract Award for Cleaning Services

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].

7.4 Approval of Request to Grant an Exception to Board Policy GBEA – Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest-Boele. Board members wish to reinforce careful review of potential conflicts of interest. As a result, conflict of interest matters will become Action Items on Board agendas in the future.

Dr. Martyr moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 7.4 and Chico Garcia 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 Renaming Olde Columbine High School, the Career Development Center, and St. Vrain Online Global Academy (8.1)**

Jim Berthold moved that the Board of Education approve the renaming of the Career Development Center (CDC) to Career Elevation and Technology Center (CETC), Olde Columbine High School to New Meridian High School, St. Vrain Online Global Academy to St. Vrain Virtual High School, and the campus at 1200 South Sunset Street as Global Acceleration Campus. John Ahrens seconded.

Dina Perfetti-Deany shared the process staff used to develop this recommendation. The proposal was submitted by Kerri McDermid and Dina as part of a comprehensive rebranding initiative for the campus and programs at 1200 South Sunset Street.

Advisory committees were formed to rebrand Olde Columbine High School, Career Development Center (CDC), and St. Vrain Online Global Academy. As part of that effort, it was determined that the program and school names should be updated to better represent the current mission and role of the programs on this campus and the community they serve.

During the 2019-2020 school year, the Communications team and the Area Assistant Superintendent hosted advisory group meetings comprised of District leadership, staff, students, parents, and business partners. Advisory group discussions focused on each program's purpose, values, and goals. This resulted in options for updated names that better reflect the direction and purpose of the programs. Further input was gathered from stakeholders on the name options and the selection was narrowed to a final recommendation. The process was interrupted and placed on hold when school closures occurred due to the start of the COVID pandemic crisis in March of 2020. The process of communication with stakeholders was restarted in 2020-2021, in conjunction with long-term planning for the campus and programs.

Dina and Kerri thanked Dr. Haddad for authorizing the capital improvements that will be made (new entry way and prominent visuals in the corridors) and for all the opportunities the students are afforded in the future-ready focus of the programs.

Board members expressed their appreciation for the care that went into each step of creating the individual new names and for the funds that will be invested in the transformation.

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].

### **Approval of 20-21 School District Calendar Adjustment (8.2)**

Karen Ragland moved that the Board of Education approve a change to the 2020-2021 District Calendar. Jim Berthold seconded.

Dr. Diane Lauer reported that, due to the COVID pandemic and increases in numbers of students graduating, a number of changes in graduation dates/times needed to be made to adhere to social distancing measures. In order to make this accommodation, the graduation date for Universal High School needs to shift from May 27, 2021 to May 28, 2021. Olde Columbine High School graduation needs to change from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. on May 28.

Board Policy IC/ICA School Year/School Calendar/Instruction Time states "Any change in the calendar except for emergency closings or other unforeseen circumstances shall be preceded by adequate and timely notice of no less than 30 days." Having approval by the Board on February 24, 2021 more than satisfies this policy so that the District is able to communicate that change to parents and students.

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].

**First Reading, Discussion, Board Policies JRA/JRC – Student Records/Release of Information on Students; KDB – Public’s Right to Know/Freedom of Information; and KDB-R – Public’s Right to Know/Freedom of Information (8.3)**

Paula Peairs moved that the proposed revisions to Board Policies JRA/JRC – Student Records/Release of Information on Students; KDB – Public’s Right to Know/Freedom of Information; and KDB-R – Public’s Right to Know/Freedom of Information were approved and can be scheduled for their second reading at the March 10, 2021 Regular Meeting. Karen Ragland seconded.

Kerri McDermid reported that revisions to these policies were made to ensure alignment with current practice and procedures and have been reviewed by administration and outside legal counsel.

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].

**Update to Approval of Vendors Providing Purchased Services Over \$100,000 (8.4)**

Jim Berthold moved that the Board of Education approve the vendors presented who are anticipated to provide purchased services over \$100,000 during Fiscal Year 2021. Chico Garcia seconded.

Greg Fieth brought forth two vendors, Ampersand Therapy and Brightmont Academy, that the District could potentially use purchased services that would exceed \$100,000 in the 2020-2021 school year.

This updated information is presented in an effort to streamline 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 services that are not competitively bid, competitive bids that are extended into a new fiscal year, or FY21 newly awarded contracts.

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 President Joie Siegrist announced the next Regular Meeting will be held in the ESC Board Room on Wednesday, March 10, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., and the Study Session on March 17, 2021 will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Mead Middle School.

Dr. Haddad announced that the District is waiving the facility rental fee for Front Range Community College to hold their graduation ceremony at Longmont High School's Everly-Montgomery Field on May 13, 2021.

Karen Ragland moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 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 10, 2021.