

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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## ARAPAHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER SIX

### Littleton, Colorado BOARD OF EDUCATION Minutes of Regular Meeting

April 12, 2007

#### *Call to Order*

President Diana Holland called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Education Services Center, 5776 South Crocker Street.

#### **Present**

Diana Holland, President  
John Dunn, Vice President  
Sue Chandler, Secretary  
Bob Colwell, Treasurer  
Renée Howell, Assistant Secretary

#### **Others in Attendance**

Connie Bouwman, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services  
Lucinda Hundley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services  
Kirk Madsen, Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
Scott Murphy, Superintendent  
Mike Owens, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

#### *Executive Session: Negotiations Update*

MOTION: Ms. Chandler moved that the Board of Education convene into executive session to discuss negotiations with Mr. Scott Murphy, Mr. Mike Owens, Ms. Lucinda Hundley, Mr. Kirk Madsen, Mr. Scott Myers, Mr. Stan Damas, and Ms. Connie Bouwman per Colorado Revised Statutes 26-4-602—Meetings—Open to Public section (4) (e) relating to negotiations. SECOND: Mr. Colwell. AYE: Chandler, Colwell, Dunn, Holland, Howell. MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

The regular meeting began at 6:50 p.m.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Holland asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the March 22, 2007, regular meeting. There were none.

MOTION: Mr. Colwell moved that the Board of Education approve the March 22, 2007, regular meeting minutes as presented this evening. SECOND: Ms. Howell. AYE: Chandler, Colwell, Dunn, Holland, Howell. MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

#### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Murphy reminded Board members of the Board Candidate Workshop Thursday, April 19, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Boardroom and the LPS Retirement Celebration on Friday, April 27, 6 p.m. at the Pinehurst Country Club.

Mr. Murphy recognized the district security department that will be featured in two separate articles focusing on school security in an upcoming issue of *Security Dealer Magazine*. In addition, Guy Grace, district security director, presented at the

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Safe School Summit held in Denver a couple of weeks ago. His topic was *Bringing Technology Into the Public School Security World*.

Mr. Murphy announced that Options students Daniel Mattison and Melissa Hahnenberger have both been awarded the highest level of the nine-county Metropolitan Mayors and Commissioner's Youth Award. They will both receive a one-year, full tuition scholarship to a Colorado community college of their choice and will be honored at a dinner at the Denver Center of the Performing Arts in May.

## **Board Reports/Requests**

Mr. Colwell attended the Gifted and Talented (GT) Advisory meeting.

Ms. Howell judged a talent show at Heritage High School, attended several meetings with the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education Coalition (STEM-EC) and the South Metro Denver legislative meeting. She also attended the Arapahoe High School Make a Wish event and participated in an education legislative meeting at Denver East High School.

Ms. Chandler visited Sandburg Elementary School and watched students build a robot and tell it what to do. She noted that the LPS Foundation had a very successful event with the Spirit of Littleton dinner. The dinner will be held at the same site next year. Ms. Chandler indicated that Mr. Bob Young, executive director of the Foundation, is attending a foundation conference at the National School Board Association's (NSBA) annual conference. Ms. Chandler is on a planning committee for the Greater Littleton Youth Initiative (GLYI) conference scheduled for November 9.

Mr. Dunn attended the Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning (RMSEL) meeting. He noted a new charter school has opened in Aurora and it will also be an expeditionary learning school. Mr. Dunn also attended the PTO Presidents Council (PPC) meeting this week where new officers were selected.

Ms. Holland said the next District Accountability Committee (DAC) meeting is April 18 with a student panel. She went on to say that the GLYI meeting is tomorrow. She noted the Art Attack reception is at Arapahoe High School on Tuesday, April 17. Ms. Holland said she, Ms. Howell, Ms. Chandler and Mr. Murphy will be attending the NSBA conference in San Francisco, April 13-16.

## **Citizens' Requests to Speak to the Board**

Jack Randall complimented the teams representing Littleton Preparatory and Goddard Middle School at the Science Olympiad competition in Fort Collins.

Sam Drury shared information on goals, plans, results and accountability. He noted that district achievement does not have much visibility on the district Web site.

## **Action**

### **Consent Agenda**

Ms. Holland asked if there were any items on the consent agenda for further discussion.

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Mr. Owens noted a number of new administrators are being forwarded for Board approval. Ms. Hundley introduced them as follows: Carla C de Baca, coordinator for special education; Jesús Escárcega, coordinator of English Language Acquisition (ELA) programs; and Ron Lee, assistant director of special education.

MOTION: Mr. Colwell moved that the Board of Education approve the recommended consent agenda numbered 1.1 concerning Personnel Recommendations with the additions this evening. SECOND: Ms. Chandler. AYE: Chandler, Colwell, Dunn, Holland, Howell. MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

## **Textbook Adoption: *Everyday Mathematics*, 3rd Edition—Kindergarten**

At its March 22 meeting, the Board discussed a new edition of *Everyday Mathematics*, which is currently in use in grades K–5. The new edition is proposed for use in kindergarten. Administration recommended approval of the new edition for kindergarten.

MOTION: Ms. Howell moved that the Board of Education approve the new edition of *Everyday Mathematics*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, for kindergarten. SECOND: Mr. Colwell. AYE: Chandler, Colwell, Dunn, Holland, Howell. MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

## ***Discussion***

### **Textbook Adoption: Multiple Copy Literature List**

Ms. Connie Bouwman, assistant superintendent of learning services, explained that the multiple copy literature list is a compilation of titles, both fiction and nonfiction, that are used periodically for classroom instruction at various grade levels. The proposed additions have undergone a thorough review by the Materials Approval Committee, which is charged to review books teachers recommend for use in language arts instruction.

Ms. Susan Dalton, curriculum coordinator, presented the five titles ranging from K–2 saying they are aligned to the science and social studies curriculum.

Ms. Howell asked why the list is just K–2 and the response was these are the only books that were forwarded by the buildings. A more extensive list will be presented to the Board after the summer.

This item will return for action on April 26.

### **Ten-Day Late Start Review Panel**

Ms. Bouwman and Ms. Lucinda Hundley, assistant superintendent of student support services, presented this item. Ms. Hundley indicated at the February 8, 2007, Board meeting, the Board directed administration to convene a Blue Ribbon Panel to study the effectiveness of the 10-day late start embedded time model.

Ms. Hundley said the purpose was to form an oversight group to monitor this model with strong participation from the community. She noted the four basic charges of the committee: advise district administration regarding the effectiveness of the late start model; study impacts of embedded time calendar on students, parents, and school site; study other calendar models in other school districts; analyze if the amount of time is sufficient in the approved model.

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Ms. Hundley said the committee membership consists of one community representative from each of the formal district advisory committees; one representative from the LPS Foundation; one representative from the calendar committee; one principal from each level; one representative from the Littleton Education Association (LEA); one from the Classified Employees Advisory Council (CEAC); one from the community at large; elementary and secondary level directors; and co-chairs, Connie Bouwman, assistant superintendent of learning services; and Lucinda Hundley, assistant superintendent of student support services.

Ms. Hundley said it was their desire to keep the membership to a reasonable number. She presented the timeline as follows: convene committee no later than January 2008; committee recommendations to administration by October 2008; and administration update to the Board by December 2008.

Mr. Colwell noted there are no teachers on the committee. Ms. Howell asked if data will be gathered for the committee. Ms. Hundley said data would be gathered, such as what is the absentee rate before and after the PLC days, and what schools are learning about sufficient PLC time.

Mr. Dunn said it seems like a large committee and asked if it will break up into subcommittees. The response was yes and some people will have double roles. He also suggested changing the name of the committee to the Embedded Time Review Panel.

Ms. Chandler asked how many members are on the current calendar committee as a comparison. The response was approximately 18 members. Ms. Howell asked how people would apply for this committee. The response was for those that already have a group or committee, they would select a representative. For the community at large member, a selection process has not yet been decided.

The following citizen addressed the Board.

Sam Drury said he appreciated the willingness of the committee to take a rigorous look at how this 10-day late start is working out and is interested in the measure of effectiveness.

Littleton High School students, Jerica Barton and Katie Marshal, said they felt the PLC was a great idea, but were concerned about taking educational time away from the students that need a particular class in a given week.

Ms. Chandler said student input at all levels is important. Mr. Colwell said perhaps there should be teacher from each level on the committee. Board members agreed. Ms. Howell said she liked the idea of a stakeholder group.

Ms. Bowman said administration has worked within the block schedule so there is no lost time to any one particular class. Dr. Jerry Anderson, director of secondary education, said there will be rotating days, so all classes are evenly impacted.

### **2007–2008 Employee Benefit Plans**

Mr. Mike Owens, assistant superintendent of human resources, indicated that annually the district negotiates health plans and premium rates with its various health insurance carriers for the next fiscal year. This past fall, the district went out

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to bid for its health plans and received a number of proposals that were reviewed by the Insurance Committee with a subsequent recommendation to the bargaining teams. Mr. Owens presented the plans and corresponding rates to be paid by the employer and employee. He noted that after they are finalized through the collective bargaining process with the Littleton Education Association (LEA), they become part of the overall Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Mr. Owens reported that a tentative agreement between the district and LEA on the health plans and rate structure has been reached. He then reviewed the following process and timeline.

In the fall of 2006 the District Insurance Committee reviewed bids and plan designs; January 2007 the committee recommended companies, rates, plan designs to negotiating teams; January–March the recommendations were reviewed and discussed by negotiating teams; March 2007 plan design and contribution levels were finalized.

Components of the tentative agreement include: 1) implements recommendations from the district insurance committee, 2) maintains one current health insurance carrier (Kaiser), 3) replaces Cigna with Aetna, 4) for the Aetna plans, sets a common district contribution for both plans (HMO and POS), 5) the monthly employee cost for “employee only” is the same for Aetna HMO and Kaiser or \$5 month.

Mr. Owens noted for Kaiser, there are no plan design changes and an overall 3.1 percent increase in rate. He went on to say that comparing Cigna with Aetna, assuming current enrollment levels, the total premium costs for next year will drop by \$557,763 or 7.2 percent. The projected increase is significantly less than recent years; projected decrease in total premiums is \$32,748 compared to 2006–2007, and by restructuring the contribution levels, the projected increase in cost to the district is \$72,679 or 0.88 percent compared to this year. This decrease is well under the amount included in the 2007-2008 budget, and there is no increase for vision, dental or life premiums.

Mr. Dunn asked if the majority of providers in the Cigna plan are also in the Aetna plan. Mr. Owens responded that 91 percent of the primary care providers accept both insurance companies. With respect to care facilities, 94 percent are the same. He also asked what is the percentage of employees currently enrolled in each plan. The response was 65 percent in Cigna; 35 percent in Kaiser. Mr. Dunn asked if there was conversation with Aetna about a multiyear agreement, and Mr. Owens said no insurance provider will go beyond one year.

Mr. Colwell said it is significant to get these decreases at a reasonable cost. Ms. Holland thanked the insurance committee for their work. Mr. Colwell asked if experience numbers are provided to the insurance carriers in order to get a proposal back. Ms. Chandler asked if the feedback on the insurance plans comes back to Human Resources. Mr. Owens said it will come from a variety of sources such as the insurance committee, the teacher association, and individual calls to Human Resources.

This item will return for action at the April 26 meeting.

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## **Board Policy KCB and KCB-R—Review of Decisions at Request of Community Members**

Ms. Hundley indicated that administration is bringing forward recommended revisions to Board Policy KCB and KCB-R—Review of Decisions at Request of Community Members per the direction of the Board of Education in order to bring clarity to appropriate use of this policy.

Ms. Hundley noted the purpose for the revisions was to reduce redundancy and clarify when appeals can be made directly to the Board. Language was added to KCB to state that if a review process is already specified in another document, this policy would not apply. In the regulation, there is parallel language on the discretion of the Board if they hear a request, and administration is proposing to change the timeline for filing a request from 120 days to 30 calendar days.

Ms. Holland said the policy appears to have a number of deadlines before reaching the Board. Mr. Colwell asked if 30 days is a reasonable time frame. Ms. Chandler asked if it would be appropriate to reference the other codes; for example, student code of conduct or athletic code. Ms. Hundley said she would consult with Steve Overall regarding the number of days a citizen would have to notify the superintendent to request placement of an item on the agenda for either a public or executive session with the Board. She also said once a reference is noted, all pertinent references must be included.

This item will return for action on April 26.

## **Electronic Reading Assessment Title Selection**

Ms. Bouwman presented book titles recommended for use in the electronic reading assessment program at middle level. These titles are available for student self-selection as independent reading. Readers use the following criteria to evaluate books prior to recommending for inclusion in this program:

- Is the book appropriate for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning style, and social development of the students?
- Does the book have the potential to stimulate growth in reading?
- Do books recommended represent a variety of genres?

Ms. Dalton reiterated that these titles are middle school independent reading. Ms. Dalton said the list came from Newton Middle School, and there was strong support for all of the titles on this list. She noted those titles that reference the *Warriors* book series.

Ms. Howell asked what kind of warriors, and the response was they are animals. Mr. Colwell asked if other schools use the materials. Ms. Dalton noted that Newton Middle School uses this program and it is particular to this program.

This item will return for action at the April 26 meeting.

## ***Future Agenda/Adjournment***

Mr. Murphy distributed a draft agenda for the April 26 meeting. Action items included Nonrenewal of Probationary Teacher Contracts—Recommendations for

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the 2007–2008 School Year. Discussion items included Physical Education Curriculum Revisions, Long-Range Budget Update, Accountability Tools for Embedded Time, Family and Consumer Sciences Curriculum Revisions and Textbook Adoption, and Course Addition and Textbook Adoption: Business Marketing.

MOTION: Mr. Dunn moved that the Board of Education meeting adjourn.

SECOND: Ms. Howell. AYE: Chandler, Colwell, Dunn, Holland, Howell.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Holland  
President

Sue Chandler  
Secretary

mcB01-25-07 (4/27/2007)