

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

ARAPAHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER SIX

Littleton, Colorado BOARD OF EDUCATION Minutes of Regular Meeting

June 11, 2009

Call to Order

Vice-president Renée Howell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Education Services Center, 5776 South Crocker Street.

Present

Renée Howell, Vice President
Sue Chandler, Secretary
Lucie Stanish, Treasurer
Mary Nichols, Assistant Secretary

Absent

Bob Colwell, President

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

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Howell asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the May 28, 2009, regular Board meeting. There were none.

MOTION: Ms. Stanish moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 28, 2009, regular Board meeting as presented. SECOND: Ms. Chandler. AYE: Chandler, Howell, Nichols, Stanish. MOTION CARRIED: 4-0.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Murphy announced that the Arapahoe High School hockey team, which is part of the High Plains Hockey League, was the Tier 1 champion and was named a winner of *The Denver Post* Youth Excellence in Sports award for May. Arapahoe senior Eric Law was recognized as Athlete of the Week by the *Post*. Mr. Murphy reported that a large number of student athletes along with four coaches from all three high schools have been selected by the *Post* for All-Colorado and all-league teams. Mr. Murphy also said that *Newsweek Magazine* has named both Heritage and Littleton high schools as top high schools in the country.

Mr. Murphy said he will meet with the legislative school finance interim committee on June 29 to present an overview of school finance.

Mr. Murphy introduced Joe Ferdani, president of the Colorado School Public Relations Association (COSPPRA). Mr. Ferdani presented an award of excellence in writing to Diane Leiker, director of communications, and Mr. Murphy for the article

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they co-authored titled “There’s More to School Than Academics.” Ms. Leiker also received an award of merit in print advertising.

Board Reports/Requests

Ms. Nichols had no report.

Ms. Chandler attended the Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning (RMSEL) board meeting and said the new director will start in July.

Ms. Stanish stopped in briefly at the beginning of the secondary schools Literacy Institute and was inspired to see so many in attendance. She also attended the end-of-year administrative picnic. Ms. Stanish said the LPS Foundation has begun a search for a new director.

Ms. Howell commented that the front lawn and gardens at ESC looked great and asked Mr. Madsen to thank his staff. She mentioned an article featuring Jeanne King, director of food services, that highlighted the summer free lunch program at Field Elementary School. Ms. Howell attended portions of the Literacy Institute and Inspired Writing training and thanked those who organized these events as well as those in attendance. She attended a recent State Board of Education meeting and the year-end administrative picnic. Ms. Howell also mentioned that the Colorado Supreme Court heard oral arguments in *Lobato v. State of Colorado* that concerns the adequacy of Colorado’s school finance system.

Citizens’ Requests to Speak to the Board

There were none.

Action

Consent Agenda

Ms. Howell asked if there was any additional information about personnel recommendations on the consent agenda. Mr. Mike Owens, assistant superintendent of human resources stated that four teachers are being rehired who were previously nonrenewed.

MOTION: Ms. Chandler moved that the Board of Education approve the recommended consent agenda numbered 1.1 concerning Personnel Recommendations with the additions made this evening. SECOND: Ms. Nichols AYE: Chandler, Howell, Nichols, Stanish. MOTION CARRIED: 4-0.

Fiscal Year 2009–2010 Adopted Budget

Mr. Scott Myers, chief financial officer, explained that, in accordance with statute, the district’s proposed 2009–2010 budget has been available for public review and comment. No objections have been registered. He stated that the budget document will be available on the district’s web site.

Mr. Myers briefly reviewed budget appropriations for all funds. He explained that the designated grant fund was increased by \$38,000 from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. He noted that all other fund appropriations are down overall and total appropriations are flat for FY 2010 when compared to FY 2009. Mr. Myers said minor changes have been made to the proposed budget presented on May 28, 2009, that reallocate some expenses to the designated grant fund.

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Mr. Myers reviewed local mill levy revenue, noting the downward trend in mills because there is no inflation factor applied to these funds. Mr. Myers reiterated information about the School Finance Act (SFA) funding, which describes the factors that affect the per pupil revenue (PPR) increase of 4.6 percent from the state. These factors include a one percent reduction due to declining enrollment in LPS, and the restricted reserves for the state fiscal emergency of two percent. This brings the total increase in SFA funding to 1.6 percent over 2008–2009. Mr. Myers reviewed general fund revenues and expenditures, noting that overall revenue is up one percent, and expenditures are going down only about \$600,000, even after the \$4 million budget reduction. He said this is due primarily to cost increases in health premiums and in PERA. Mr. Myers compared the projected 2010 general fund balance of \$12.5 million to the 2007 general fund balance of \$20 million. He also highlighted the student activities and athletic fee increases that go into effect in fall 2009, and stated the fees are in line with other school districts and will lower the general fund contribution needed to support athletics and activities.

Ms. Howell thanked the business services staff members for their work on the budget during these challenging times. She asked what action will be needed by the district after the June 20 state economic forecast. Mr. Myers responded that it will take some time for the state to complete its analysis, and the restricted reserves for the state's fiscal emergency could increase. Ms. Howell suggested that the chart that shows the SFA funding be placed on the district website.

Ms. Chandler asked about the Village preschool program budget, and Mr. Myers acknowledged some budget increases, but noted the Village has offsetting revenue. Ms. Chandler asked about the increase in the number of students in the career and technical education program. Mr. Murphy said administration will gather more information and respond to the Board. Ms. Chandler asked if property tax revenue is likely to go down in future years. Mr. Myers responded that this revenue projection has been carefully researched and should be very close to the actual amount. Ms. Chandler thanked Ms. Hundley for her management of special education funding as costs continue to rise.

Ms. Howell asked how parents will be notified about the fee increases for activities and athletics. Mr. Murphy responded that communication materials from the schools are being revised, and the Board will be kept informed if parents express concern.

MOTION: Ms. Stanish moved that the Board of Education approve the budget appropriation resolution for fiscal year 2009–2010 as presented this evening.

SECOND: Ms. Nichols. AYE: Chandler, Howell, Nichols, Stanish. MOTION CARRIED: 4-0.

Discussion

Proposed Revisions to Student Code of Conduct

Ms. Lucinda Hundley, assistant superintendent of student support services, reviewed changes to various policies that are contained in the district's Student Code of Conduct Handbook. She explained that most revisions consist of clean-up and clarification, as well as additional language required by law.

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Ms. Hundley said that proposed revisions to Board Policy JH, Student Absences, include additional language due to changes in statute, and new language that enables students to make up work after an unexcused absence. In Board Policy JHB, Truancy, proposed new language adds specificity to the policy and deletes language for consistency with Policy JH.

Ms. Nichols asked if tardiness when a student is detained by another teacher is a problem, and Ms. Hundley responded that the new language was added for clarity. Ms. Nichols asked about the appeals process parents may use when they disagree with an administrative decision. Ms. Hundley responded that this is covered in Board Policy KCB, Review of Decisions at Request of Community Members. Ms. Stanish said she appreciates the additional policy language concerning make-up work.

Ms. Hundley stated that Board Policy JICDA, Student Code of Conduct, is the “catch all” policy related to student behavior. Proposed revisions include updating language that describes electronic devices. Ms. Nichols asked if cell phones are included in these electronic devices, and Ms. Hundley responded that an administrator would need a compelling reason to search a student’s cell phone, and Policy JIH, Student Interrogations and Searches would be followed.

Ms. Hundley said changes to Board Policy JICEC, Student Distribution of Noncurricular Materials, add a reference to technology and clarify that distribution is in the school setting. Ms. Chandler asked how a school setting is defined in terms of this policy, and Ms. Hundley responded that it includes regular school hours or a school-sponsored event.

Proposed revisions to Board Policy JKD/JKE-2, Suspension/Expulsion of Students with Disabilities, add clarifying language. The associated regulation, JKD/JKE-2-R contains proposed revisions that conform to changes in the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Ms. Stanish asked if the wording could be changed, and Ms. Hundley responded that the proposed language comes directly from the statute and is not negotiable. Ms. Nichols asked if the new language concerning definitions of a weapon, etc., is the same for students who do not have an individual education plan (IEP), and Ms. Hundley responded that the language is the same for all students.

Ms. Hundley reviewed changes to Board Policy JRA/JRC, Student Records/Release of Information on Students. She explained that administration proposes the addition of photographs to the definition of “directory information.” She further explained that directory information is not automatically released without parent consent. Ms. Hundley said that administration will likely bring additional proposed revisions to this policy to the Board at a later date. Ms. Hundley reviewed proposed language added to Board Policy JS, Student Use of the Internet, stating that the language helps to update technology definitions and Internet uses. Ms. Howell said she appreciates the updated language and suggested this policy be shared with the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB).

This item will be brought to the Board for action on June 18.

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Proposed Revisions to Student Code of Conduct

Ms. Hundley stated that the change to a single athletic code district-wide has been successful. She reviewed proposed changes to the code, which includes the change in athletic fees. Ms. Hundley said this is one way parents will be notified about the fee increase. Ms. Hundley reviewed the changes in the due process and appeal process, noting that athletic directors often need additional time to speak with students and gather information.

This item will be brought to the Board for action on June 18.

Proposed Revisions to Board Policy EGAEA—Electronic Mail and Internet Services

Mr. Dan Maas, chief information officer, reviewed proposed changes to Board Policy EGAEA, Electronic Mail and Internet Services, which expands the definition of the Internet, adds a prohibition about publishing information about students or staff without permission, and updates e-mail archival information. Ms. Chandler asked if an e-mail message is retained by the district if it is deleted by the user, and Mr. Maas said yes, if it is the user's district e-mail account.

This item will be brought to the Board for action on June 18.

Proposed Revisions to Board Policy GBEE—Staff Use of District Technology

Mr. Maas reviewed proposed changes to Board Policy GBEE and GBEE-R, Staff Use of District Technology, which update and clarify the purposes and uses of the Internet.

This item will be brought to the Board for action on June 18.

Board Policy Revision: EFI and EFI-R—Wellness Policy

Mr. Kirk Madsen, assistant superintendent of operations, said that proposed changes to Board Policy EFI and EFI-R, Wellness Policy, bring the policy into compliance with new statutes and state Board of Education rules. Proposed changes to the regulation separate standards concerning food from those that pertain to beverages. Mr. Madsen reviewed the beverage standards, noting that no diet soda is allowed at any level. He stated that school-related events where adults make up a significant portion of those in attendance are exempt from the rules. Mr. Madsen said that Coca Cola offers five 100 percent juice options and their Fuze beverages meet the high school standards.

Ms. Chandler asked if chocolate milk meets the beverage standards, and Mr. Madsen said that low-fat chocolate milk does meet the standards. Ms. Howell asked if these new standards are likely to change students' buying habits. Ms. Chandler said the Wellness Committee had discussed this, and while there may be a drop in vending sales initially, it is likely sales will go up after the initial adjustment period.

Mr. Chandler suggested a change to the language in Number 2 d on page 1 of the policy to indicate the district supports offering healthy choices for all classroom activities where food and beverages are served. Ms. Stanish agreed with the change in language. Mr. Madsen will make the suggested change for the Board's review on June 18. Ms. Chandler suggested adding language to the regulation regarding

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offering healthy choices. Mr. Madsen suggested that the Wellness Committee could propose additional policy revisions that could be presented to the Board at a later time.

This item will be brought to the Board for action on June 18.

Board Policy Revisions: JFBA and JFBA-R—Intradistrict Choice/Open Enrollment and Transfers

Ms. Hundley stated that the proposed addition to this policy and regulation was requested by principals and relates to resident students who are optionally enrolled and wish to return to their home school. Ms. Hundley said that research indicates that if a student misses more than 10 days of classroom work, it becomes very difficult to catch up. The recommended policy language supports this research.

This item will be brought to the Board for action on June 18.

Future Agenda/Adjournment

Mr. Murphy distributed a draft agenda for the June 18, 2009, Board meeting. Action items include School District Director Election, Exclusive Beverage Contract, Student Code of Conduct Policy Revisions, District Athletic Code Revisions, Board Policy Revisions: EGAEA—Electronic Mail and Internet Services, Board Policy Revisions: GBEE—Staff Use of District Technology, Board Policy Revisions: EFI and EFI-R—Wellness Policy, and Board Policy Revisions: JFBA, JFBA-R—Intradistrict Choice/Open Enrollment and Transfers. Discussion items include Federal Stimulus Funds: Title I Program, and Extension of 2006–2009 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

MOTION: Ms. Chandler moved that the Board of Education meeting adjourn.

SECOND: Ms. Stanish. AYE: Chandler, Howell, Nichols, Stanish.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renée Howell
Vice-President

Sue Chandler
Secretary

ks (8/18/09)