

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

ARAPAHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER SIX

Littleton, Colorado BOARD OF EDUCATION Minutes of Regular Meeting

August 27, 2009

Call to Order

President Bob Colwell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Education Services Center, 5776 South Crocker Street.

Present

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Colwell asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the August 13, 2009, regular Board meeting. There were none.

MOTION: Ms. Chandler moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the August 13, 2009, regular Board meeting as presented. SECOND: Ms. Nichols. AYE: Chandler, Colwell, Nichols, Stanish. Ms. Howell abstained due to her absence on August 13. MOTION CARRIED: 4-0.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Murphy mentioned an article in the TLC Meals on Wheels program newsletter that features its recent move to the Ames Facility. The program will host a community open house on September 24, 4–6 p.m. Mr. Murphy commented on an article in the *Littleton Independent* that highlights one LPS family's move from Ames to Franklin Elementary School. He said district schools are off to a good start for the 2009–2010 school year. Superintendent's staff members were in schools on the first day. Mr. Murphy said enrollment projections are flat at the elementary level and up at middle and high school. He said Heritage High School has 122 new students. Additional staffing is being provided as needed to schools with higher than projected enrollment.

Board Reports/Requests

Ms. Nichols attended the first Gifted and Talented Executive Council meeting for the new school year. They considered charges to present to the Board. She also attended the Educational Technology Advisory Committee (ETAC) meeting in place of

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Ms. Howell and noted there were a number of students in attendance. Ms. Nichols attended the Senior Citizens Tax Rebate Volunteers' Breakfast, and enjoyed back-to-school night at Heritage High School. Ms. Nichols invited Board members to read an article in the August 12 *Education Week*, "Whatever Happened To Grade Skipping?"

Ms. Chandler attended a recent Greater Littleton Youth Initiative (GLYI) meeting and commented about the new people in attendance and the renewed energy among group members. She attended a Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning (RMSEL) workshop, and a health and wellness meeting hosted by The Colorado Trust. She also attended the Senior Citizens Tax Rebate volunteers' breakfast and the Western Welcome Week (WWW) parade.

Ms. Howell attended WWW Taste of Littleton, the Administrators' Leadership breakfast, and the New Teacher breakfast. She attended a Colorado STEM Network (CSN) government relations meeting, and a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Business and Education Coalition (STEM-EC) meeting. Ms. Howell commented that the school year is off to a great start.

Ms. Stanish attended a planning meeting for a leadership preconference session at the 2010 International Society for Technology in Education conference that will be held in Denver. She attended the Littleton Community Retreat planning meeting and noted that the retreat scheduled for April 2010 has been postponed indefinitely. She attended the Senior Citizens volunteers' breakfast and the WWW parade. Ms. Stanish announced that the LPS Foundation has hired Beth Best as the new director. The Littleton Stride fundraiser for the foundation will be held on November 7, and will be a family-friendly event. She also said the GLYI will have a fundraiser at the Celtic Tavern on September 9.

Mr. Colwell participated in the WWW parade and attended the Franklin Elementary School barbeque. He attended the Region 5 Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) board presidents meeting. Mr. Colwell said a personal business client donated an Indian ceremonial headdress, which Mr. Colwell passed on to Mr. Booth, Arapahoe High School principal. Mr. Booth will give the headdress to the Arapaho Nation Tribe.

Citizens' Requests to Speak to the Board

Mr. Sam Drury spoke about public visibility of student academic achievement progress with a focus on CSAP results.

Action

Consent Agenda

Mr. Colwell asked if there was any additional information about personnel recommendations on the consent agenda. Mr. Mike Owens, assistant superintendent of human resources, said all classroom teaching positions are filled. Ms. Howell asked if the teacher transferring from Lenski to on-line instructor is part of the LPS@Home program, and Mr. Dan Maas, chief information officer, responded yes.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Murphy stated that the wording change to Board Policy BD—Board Meetings/Regular Meetings/Special Meetings, requested by the Board at the August 13 meeting has been made.

MOTION: Ms. Nichols moved that the Board of Education approve the recommended consent agenda numbered 1.1 concerning Personnel Recommendations with the additions made this evening, and 1.2 Board Policy Revisions: BD—Board Meetings/Regular Meetings/Special Meetings.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

Littleton Public Schools 2009–2010 Legislative Priorities for the 2010 Session of the Colorado General Assembly and Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) 2009–2010 Resolutions

Mr. Scott Myers, chief financial officer, reviewed the 2010 Legislative Priorities and the CASB proposed resolutions, which must be submitted tomorrow.

Ms. Chandler stated that the resolutions are relevant to the current climate.

Mr. Colwell thanked Ms. Chandler for bringing health and wellness to the forefront.

Mr. Colwell asked how the proposed resolutions will be submitted to CASB, and Mr. Myers responded they will be sent electronically from his office. Ms. Nichols said that a subcommittee reviews the resolutions submitted by various school districts and selects those that are forwarded to the Delegate Assembly.

MOTION: Ms. Stanish moved that the Board of Education approve the 2009–2010 Legislative Priorities and the Colorado Association of School Boards 2009–2010 Resolutions as presented this evening. SECOND: Ms. Howell. AYE: Chandler, Colwell, Howell, Nichols, Stanish. MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

Discussion

Alternative Education Update

Ms. Lucinda Hundley, assistant superintendent of student support services, explained that the purpose of this evening's update on alternative education in LPS is primarily to provide information on program changes and new innovations. Ms. Hundley introduced Ms. Karen Goodwin, director of alternative education.

Ms. Goodwin reviewed the alternative programs available in LPS, which include: Pathways, Redirection Center, Options High School, Center for Online Studies (COLS), and Student Attendance Review Board (SARB). Ms. Goodwin said Pathways, which serves students in Grades 7–9, has moved to the Whitman Facility. She briefly reviewed the instructional programs and community partnerships that are part of Pathways.

The Redirection Center serves approximately 50 expelled and students at risk of expulsion in grades six through nine, in both a day and evening program. Ms. Goodwin reviewed the instructional programs that support students at Redirection. A grandmother shared the positive experience her granddaughter has had at Redirection.

Ms. Goodwin gave an overview of the district's truancy intervention program, noting that 171 students were referred to the program in 2008–2009. Of those, 43 percent were students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Ms. Goodwin said prevention

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

efforts with younger students can help reduce the number of students who drop out of school. Outcomes of the program included 61 percent of referred students improved a failing grade, and 54 percent improved attendance. The district encourages schools to refer students to the program after fewer hours of absence.

The restorative justice program has grant funding to help students who are suspended or expelled. A new teacher has been hired using grant funds who will train school-based teams to use Positive Behavior Support and other programs to reduce suspensions and expulsions.

Mr. Corey Frye, principal at Options High School, explained that Options serves 180 students in Grades 10 through 12 that are referred from one of the three traditional high schools in LPS. Options students now have access to additional classroom space, along with the gym, library/media center, and cafeteria at Whitman. Mr. Frye noted that the school sets high expectations for its students and had a 92 percent graduation rate in 2009.

Ms. Melinda Ness, gifted and talented education coordinator, reviewed the Center for Online Studies (COLS) program, which has both day and evening classes housed at Arapahoe Community College. The program is designed for high school students needing a non-traditional learning environment as well as students who have dropped out or need to recover credit to earn a high school diploma. Ms. Ness highlighted various aspects of the program including a summer school fee-based pilot program and an evening fee-based program for students who are currently attending high school full-time but need to recover credits to graduate. Ms. Ness also said that the course completion rate has improved for students attending COLS, which results in an improved graduation rate. In 2009, 35 COLS students graduated from the three district high schools. A COLS student spoke about the positive impact the COLS program has had on his view of education. Ms. Ness thanked the Board for its continued support of the COLS program.

Mr. Colwell thanked staff and teachers for the great job they are doing to help students. Ms. Howell expressed her thanks for the innovative ideas, and noted the success of the COLS program in just four years. Ms. Stanish commented on the importance of alternative programs for students. Ms. Chandler said a 92 percent graduation rate at Options was cause for celebration. Ms. Nichols thanked teachers and administration for contributing to student success.

Future Agenda/Adjournment

Mr. Murphy distributed a draft agenda for the September 10, 2009, Board meeting. Discussion items include Gifted and Talented Advisory Council (GTAC) Year-End Report and Charge, Student Achievement Index: On or Above Grade Level, Preliminary Enrollment Update, Enhancing Education Through Technology (ETT) Competitive Grant Partnership with Sheridan School District, and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Update.

Mr. Murphy announced that there will be a special Board meeting on September 3 relative to the upcoming Board director election.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Colwell
President

Sue Chandler
Secretary

ks (10/2/09)