

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

ARAPAHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER SIX

Littleton, Colorado BOARD OF EDUCATION Minutes of Regular Meeting

September 11, 2008

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
Sue Chandler, Secretary
Renée Howell, Vice President
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 28, 2008, regular Board meeting. There were none.

MOTION: Ms. Howell moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the August 28, 2008, regular Board meeting as presented. SECOND: Ms. Nichols. AYE: Colwell, Howell, Nichols, Stanish. Ms. Chandler abstained due to her absence on August 28. MOTION CARRIED: 4-0.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Murphy commented about the Facility Use Task Force forum on September 10, noting it was the first of two scheduled forums. The next forum will be September 22 at Heritage High School. He said there was good input from many people in the community. He said that the first K-12 leadership meeting of the new school year included an overview of the year-long focus to close the achievement gap in order to reach the district's 90 percent student achievement goal.

Mr. Murphy said Arapahoe and Heritage high schools, as well as the Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning (RMSEL) were named in *5280 Magazine* list of Denver's top schools. He also said Arapahoe High School technology teacher, Karl Fisch was recently featured in an article published by "Education News Colorado."

Six LPS teachers were recognized for their accomplishments at the state and national level. Nikki Kucharski was named the *Denver Post* and *Rocky Mountain News* 2008 All Colorado Girls Lacrosse coach of the year. Kristin LeClaire, an AHS language arts teacher was named a 2008 Boettcher Foundation Teacher Recognition

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award winner. Stu Lienemann, a math teacher at AHS was named the *Denver Post* 2008 All Colorado Boys Track and Field coach of the year. He led the team to the 5A state championship last year. Stanford Paris, who retired from LPS last spring, received the 2008 Colorado Theatre Educator of the Year award from the Alliance for Colorado Theatre. Dr. Irma Princic, HHS language arts teacher was named a 2008 Boettcher Foundation Teacher Recognition award winner. Tony Winger, an instructional coach at Heritage, was also named a 2008 Boettcher Foundation Teacher Recognition award winner. Mr. Colwell congratulated the teachers for their accomplishments on behalf of the Board.

Board Reports/Requests

Ms. Stanish attended two Littleton High School football games and helped at the freshman dance. She attended the career and technology education breakfast at Heritage High School and the Internet safety program for seventh graders at Euclid Middle School presented by Mike and Cassandra Harris. Ms. Stanish also attended the Facility Use Task Force forum on September 9.

Ms. Howell attended the Facility Use Task Force forum on September 9, and the career and technology education breakfast.

Ms. Chandler attended the career and technology education breakfast. She said Mike Harris, who presented a program on Internet safety at Euclid Middle School recently, will speak at an upcoming Circle of Concern consortium meeting.

Ms. Nichols attended the career and technology education breakfast and the Facility Use Task Force forum. She also attended the first meeting of the Gifted/Talented Advisory Council.

Mr. Colwell attended the career and technology education breakfast and noted that the recent changes made to the district's family and consumer sciences curriculum in the area of culinary arts were evident. Mr. Colwell attended the first meeting of the Parents' Presidents' Council (PPC), the Facility Use Task Force forum, and the Board work session with the superintendent's staff on September 10.

Citizens' Requests to Speak to the Board

Sam Drury addressed the Board regarding public visibility of LPS student academic achievement progress, specifically CSAP longitudinal growth.

Action

Consent Agenda

Mike Owens, assistant superintendent of human resources, noted that 13 teachers who had previously retired, resigned, or were nonrenewed have been rehired in various teaching capacities.

MOTION: Ms. Stanish 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. Howell. AYE: Chandler, Colwell, Howell, Nichols, Stanish. MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

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Discussion

Board Policy ICA—School Year/School Calendar: Revisions to Regulation ICA-R, and Exhibit ICA-E

Lucinda Hundley, assistant superintendent of student support services, reviewed changes to the regulation associated with Board Policy ICA—School Year/School Calendar. These changes bring the regulation into alignment with current law. Ms. Hundley also reviewed changes to the exhibit associated with this policy that defines the Board’s calendar values. These changes are based on the Board’s calendar values workshop held June 12, 2008. Ms. Hundley said the calendar committee will convene in October, and the Board will review proposed calendars for 2009–2010 and 2010–2011 at its January 15, 2009 meeting. According to policy, calendars must be approved by the first Board meeting in February. These school year calendars will include the following: 1) ten late-start days for Professional Learning Communities (PLC); 2) end first semester before Winter Break; and 3) end the school year before Memorial Day.

Ms. Stanish asked about the statement in the policy that states a two-year calendar shall be prepared each year, noting that the district has been preparing a two-year calendar every other year. Ms. Hundley said administration will look into this and report back to the Board. Ms. Stanish also noted that the values reflect what is important to the development of school year calendars. Ms. Howell asked Ms. Hundley to convey to the calendar committee that development of the school year calendar development process does not need to be a lengthy process. Ms. Howell also asked that the calendar values be posted on the calendar page of the district web site. Ms. Chandler asked that the calendar committee ensure there are enough minutes of student-teacher contact time to cover emergency closures such as snow days. She also expressed appreciation for the inclusion of full-day kindergarten hours requirement in the regulation, and noted that the wording of number 13 in the calendar values was appropriate.

Revisions to the regulation and exhibit are provided to the Board for information; no action to approve revisions is required.

Gifted and Talented (G/T) Advisory Council Annual Report and 2008–2009 Charges

Ms. Hundley introduced Melinda Ness, coordinator of gifted and talented education, who serves as the administrative liaison for the G/T Advisory Council. Ms. Ness commented that the council has an active, knowledgeable group of members who serve as positive advocates for gifted and talented students in LPS. She introduced Maureen Supple, a parent who chaired the council in 2007–2008.

Ms. Supple reviewed the 2007–2008 council charges and the findings of the council. She reviewed the 2008–2009 proposed charges, which include the continuing charge to explore the question, “What should a year’s academic growth look like for a G/T student? She commented that the council will have three years of student achievement data from Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) to review during this school year. Ms. Supple also noted that the Board will be asked to approve the list of proposed council members for 2008–2009.

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Ms. Stanish said it was exciting to see that the council plans to explore online opportunities for G/T students. Ms. Nichols, who serves as the Board liaison to the G/T Advisory Council, thanked Ms. Supple for her dedication to the council along with the other parent volunteers who put in many hours of service to LPS.

Ms. Howell commented that the MAP data should be very useful to the council.

Ms. Chandler asked about changes to the printed 2008–2009 membership list.

Ms. Ness responded that the chair-elect position has been filled by Jill Mayer, an elementary school parent. The committee is still seeking a Sandburg parent representative and a secondary principal representative. Mr. Colwell commented that this is a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers. Mr. Murphy remarked that while serving recently on a panel discussing school finance, at-risk student funding came up. He noted that people typically think of economically disadvantaged students in this context, but it also includes gifted and talented students. Mr. Murphy said he is an advocate for G/T students.

Ms. Hundley commented that defining a year's growth for G/T students is challenging and she appreciates parents joining the conversation. She also noted that online learning has great potential for acceleration opportunities for G/T students. She said the council provides a great service to the district.

Mr. Colwell thanked Ms. Ness, Ms. Supple, and the council members for the dedication to G/T education.

2008–2009 Preliminary Enrollment Count

Scott Myers, chief financial officer, reviewed the preliminary enrollment data from September 2, noting the enrollment changes from the October 1, 2007, count as well as commenting on actual versus projected enrollment numbers. He reminded the Board that the official count day is October 1, with the next preliminary count day scheduled for September 12. Mr. Myers said that elementary enrollment is fairly stable and up slightly from projections, while middle school enrollment is lower than projections. At the high school level, enrollment is lower than 2007, but slightly higher than projections. Mr. Myers said the preliminary full-time equivalent (FTE) count is very close to projections, and overall, enrollment numbers are positive.

Mr. Colwell thanked Mr. Myers for his excellent work on projections and said he appreciated the detailed information about each school's enrollment. Ms. Howell said that comments about crowded hallways at Arapahoe High School continue. She also commented that perhaps the addition of full-day kindergarten at Ames contributed to their higher enrollment. Ms. Chandler said she will be interested to see if possible changes in the housing market will affect LPS enrollment.

Ms. Stanish remarked that kindergarten enrollment looks strong. Mr. Colwell asked if any adjustments in staffing have been necessary. Mr. Owens responded that Centennial received an additional 1.0 FTE, and Arapahoe received an additional 0.5 FTE.

Mr. Colwell thanked the business services staff for their work in handling enrollment counts.

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Future Agenda/Adjournment

Mr. Murphy distributed a draft agenda for the September 25, 2008, Board meeting. Action items include Gifted and Talented Advisory Council (GTAC) 2008–2009 Charge and Membership. Discussion items include District Accountability Committee (DAC) Year-End Report and 2008–2009 Proposed Charge and Membership, Student Achievement Index: On or Above Grade Level Report, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Update, and Board Policy BIBA—Board Member Training and Continuing Education.

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Colwell

President

Sue Chandler

Secretary

ks (9/22/08)