



Building Bright Futures

OFFICIAL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 6, 2008
Seminar Room

Jefferson County School District R-1
1829 Denver West Dr., Bldg. 27
Golden, Colorado

Our mission: To provide a quality education that prepares all children for a successful future.

STUDY/DIALOGUE SESSION: The Board met in its entirety – Scott Benefield, President; Jane Barnes, First Vice President; Dave Thomas, Second Vice President; Sue Marinelli, Secretary; Richard Rush, Treasurer - in study/dialogue session at 5:30 p.m. in the Seminar Room at Education Center, Golden, Colorado. Cindy Stevenson, superintendent, represented the administration. A break was taken from 7:03 p.m. to 7:18 p.m.

PURPOSE: The Board met to review the first quarter financial report with members of the Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) and the external auditor.

DISCUSSION: Staff reported on their continuing cash monitoring to the Board as covered at the October 16 meeting. The external auditing firm, Clifton Gunderson, reported its findings on the first quarter. The members of the Financial Oversight Committee shared their disappointment in the defeat of ballot issues 3A and 3B, stating that issues they had brought forward to the Board in September would need to be addressed more quickly given a lack of new resources and that FOC members were happy to be called upon as needed.

Staff reviewed highlights of the first quarter financial report, including the cash report, general fund, capital reserves, special revenue, enterprise funds, internal service and charter school reports. Staff confirmed coverage for supplemental retirement agreements and the Mountain Phoenix charter school loan.

CONCLUSION: The Board members thanked the three attending FOC members for their continued insights and the entire committee's work on behalf of the Board for oversight of financial issues facing the district.

PURPOSE: At 6:29 p.m., the Board continued its study/dialogue session in the Seminar Room to discuss student advisors.

DISCUSSION: Board members reviewed what had occurred prior to this meeting regarding beginning a student advisor program within Jeffco Public Schools. Board members reaffirmed their interest in hearing from a student perspective on matters before the Board.

CONCLUSION: The Board directed the superintendent to schedule interviews of student applications for November 20, beginning at 4:30 p.m. Community superintendents will work with Board members to support communications with student advisors. District 5 schools will be given application information for potentially interested students. Time will be scheduled monthly in study session to meet with student advisors, who will be Board appointees to the County Student Council.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION #1 (Accept Recommendation for Dismissal): Upon motion by Ms. Marinelli, seconded by Mr. Thomas, it was unanimous to accept the recommendation of the superintendent for dismissal of teacher, Anna Bruegmann (Attachment A).

Aye: Ms. Barnes, Mr. Benefield, Ms. Marinelli, Mr. Rush, Mr. Thomas

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:18 p.m., upon motion by Sue Marinelli, seconded by Dave Thomas, the Board voted unanimously to meet in executive session to discuss a personnel matter, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(F)(I).

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for November 20, 2008.

Helen Neal, Recording Secretary

Approved and entered in the proceedings of the District on November 20, 2008.

Secretary of the Board of Education

President of the Board of Education

Attachment A – recommendation for teacher dismissal

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Education, Jefferson County School District No. R-1

FROM: Dr. Cynthia Stevenson, Superintendent of Schools *CMS*

RE: Recommendation of Anna Bruegmann Teacher Dismissal

DATE: November 6, 2008

Pursuant to the procedures specified in the Colorado Teacher Employment, Compensation and Dismissal Act of 1990, C.R.S. § 22-63-302, I recommend that the Board of Education dismiss Anna Bruegmann from her position as a teacher with the Jefferson County School District. The basis for this recommendation of dismissal is insubordination and other good and just cause.

Ms. Bruegmann was hired to teach Social Studies at O'Connell Middle School in August 2002. Ms. Bruegmann has a B.A. degree in Sociology and a M.A. in Education from the University of Colorado. She became a teacher after spending some time in private industry.

On August 6, 2008, Ms. Bruegmann was attending a teacher inservice in preparation for the beginning of the school year. She was observed by Patti Montgomery, Principal, Heather Stewart, Assistant Principal, Loren Huwa Assistant Principal at O'Connell Middle School, as well as several other staff members, to appear to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol in violation of District Policy GBEC. Because of their reasonable suspicion that Ms. Bruegmann was under the influence of alcohol, and pursuant to District Policy GBEC, Ms. Bruegmann was given a direct verbal order to submit to a drug/alcohol test. Ms. Bruegmann refused to submit to the test. Ms. Bruegmann was then placed on administrative leave. Ms. Bruegmann provided several different explanations for her apparent intoxication on August 6, 2008. The District attempted to verify Ms. Bruegmann's explanations and repeatedly asked Ms. Bruegmann to provide information regarding her medical condition, if any, that would manifest symptoms similar to being under the influence of prohibited drugs or alcohol. Ms. Bruegmann has failed or refused to provide such information.

Ms. Bruegmann's refusal to submit to a drug/alcohol test and failure or refusal to respond to the District's legitimate request for information regarding her particular medical condition, if any, is insubordination and other good and just cause justifying this recommendation for dismissal.