



Building Bright Futures

OFFICIAL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION

September 11, 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; and, Sue Marinelli, Secretary - in study/dialogue session at 5:04 p.m. in the Seminar Room at Education Center, Golden, Colorado. Cindy Stevenson, superintendent, represented the administration. Breaks were taken at 7:04 p.m. to 7:14 p.m.

PURPOSE: The Board met to review the 4th quarter financial report with members of the Financial Oversight Committee.

DISCUSSION: The Board received the staff report covering the cash report, general fund, carryforwards, capital funds, special revenue, enterprise funds, internal service and charter school reports. Staff confirmed that employees hired with grant funds are given information at hire informing them the job is not permanent and new employment would need to be secured once grant funding has ended. Staff confirmed that actuals on the supplemental retirement fund activity were as projected.

The members of the Financial Oversight Committee shared its concerns with the Board regarding the unsustainable model of district funding and personnel costs. For a business driven by personnel, the compensation/benefits with the current revenue stream must be managed in a new way to remain financially viable in the future. Board members noted that funding public schools is a statewide problem and all options should be considered to address this issue.

CONCLUSION: The Board thanked the business community members of the FOC for their continued oversight of financial issues facing the district.

PURPOSE: At 6:03 p.m., the Board met with invited guests representing Jeffco residents without children in Jeffco Schools.

DISCUSSION: The Board asked its guests to respond to the following questions: 1) what does 'global perspective' mean to you and do we need a global perspective to prepare kids for the future? (2) what are the skills kids will need for a future we don't know? (3) What skills are needed to be developed for the workplace? (4) Are our expectations high enough? (5) Are we doing anything right?

Conversations noted: students will surpass their teachers in a digital age; students' learning must be expedited through the use of technology; teach students to handle complex issues as well as time management and study skills before they graduate; foster a greater understanding, thoughtfulness and tolerance of cultures, respectful behaviors, students won't be isolated in the future; assist families/students in need earlier in a student's school career to open possibilities for that student; students need to know how to write, comprehend and digest written words/texts; smart use of capabilities of internet/technology; creativity and imagination needed; critical thinking, problem solving, communication/engagement skills will help students when they encounter and resolve complexity; give students second chances; celebrate and be accountable for failure; the joy of work; work students in teams and small groups, learn to learn; integrate math/science with writing; offer electives; help parents understand, draw them in through as many options as possible and they will help their child. Efforts need to continue with those students on the cusp, struggling to achieve; those not immediately self-directed; high school students thinking about careers/how to apply knowledge in a subject to paid work; and kindergarten for all.

CONCLUSION: The Board thanked its guests for spending the time for good conversation and insight on the goals of the Board and Jeffco students.

PURPOSE: At 7:14 p.m., Board met to review its process for appointment to the vacant director district 5 board seat.

DISCUSSION: With the assistance of district legal counsel, the Board learned that nothing in statute sets a required process. The appointee will serve until the November 2009 election. The Board has 60 days to appoint a new member.

CONCLUSION: The Board determined it would interview all 10 applicants, 15 minute interviews, three questions will be provided ahead of time to applicants. A final interview will be conducted with 3-4 applicants are the screening interview on September 18.

PURPOSE: The Board continued at 8:18 p.m. in review of its travel and mileage budget.

DISCUSSION: The Board reviewed prior year expenditures and current budget documents.

CONCLUSION: The Board will reallocate mileage funds among members and receive regular expenditure reports.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for September 18, 2008.

Helen Neal, Recording Secretary

Approved and entered in the proceedings of the District on October 2, 2008.

Susan A. Marinelli

Secretary of the Board of Education

Scott Benfield

President of the Board of Education