



*Building Bright Futures*

## OFFICIAL MINUTES

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REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 11, 2008  
Board 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.*

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**STUDY/DIALOGUE SESSION:** A majority of the Board met – Scott Benefield, President; Dave Thomas, Second Vice President; Sue Marinelli, Secretary; and, Richard Rush, Treasurer - in study/dialogue session at 5:07 p.m. in the Seminar Room at Education Center, Golden, Colorado. Cindy Stevenson, superintendent, represented the administration. Jane Barnes, First Vice President, was excused.

**PURPOSE:** The Board met with board officers of the Jefferson County Administrators Association (JCAA).

**DISCUSSION:** JCAA officers welcomed Rick Rush as an honorary member and welcomed Mike Long, new executive director taking Mary McNeil's position. The Board and administrators continued a discussion of how the JCAA priorities were established regarding budget reductions. Guiding their priorities were members' involvement in the budget workgroup process, the difficulties seen in communication with staff and community to reduce existing programs seen to be working to begin new programs, and the evaluation of the core mission to meet the needs of students. Members urged the Board to be thoughtful and cautious about changing district efforts that are working for students. The officers observed that the Board might learn lessons from past reductions in how to determine trade-offs in the current reduction process. Administrators shared their concerns in reducing staffing while increasing graduation requirements and keeping the support of instructional coaches with progress monitoring systems in place.

**CONCLUSION:** The Board members thanked the administrators for their input on the budget reductions.

1. **PRELIMINARY**

01. **CALL TO ORDER:** A regular meeting was called to order by Scott Benefield, president of the Board of Education, at 6:15 p.m. in the Board

Room of the Education Services Center, 1829 Denver West Drive, Golden, Colorado, Thursday, November 20, 2008.

02. **WELCOME TO THE AUDIENCE:** Mr. Benefield welcomed the audience and acknowledged the Falcon Bluffs Middle School Jazz band and their director, Steve Martin.

03. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** At the invitation of Mr. Benefield, the assembly repeated the Pledge of Allegiance.

04. **ROLL CALL:** Roll call indicated that the Board was present in its entirety - Scott Benefield, President; Jane Barnes, First Vice President; Dave Thomas, Second Vice President; Sue Marinelli, Secretary; and Rick Rush, Treasurer. Cynthia Stevenson, Superintendent, represented the administration.

05. **APPROVE AGENDA:**

MOTION #1 (Approve Agenda): Upon motion by Ms. Marinelli, seconded by Mr. Thomas, it was unanimous to approve the agenda as presented.

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

2. **COUNTY STUDENT COUNCIL:** Members of county student council updated the Board of Education on their attendance at a diversity conference and an update on the plans for the 2009 Senior Ball, March 14, 3-6 p.m. at Wheat Ridge High School. Board members requested that students discuss their priorities of possible budget reductions at the January county student council meeting.

3. **BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:** Mr. Benefield noted Amy Rogers, recording secretary, was absent due to her celebration of her last evening of 39 years of age.

Board members attended the Colorado Association of Schools Boards annual conference December 4-7 and discussed sessions attended.

Ms. Marinelli noted upcoming legislative work and the direction the country may take on education under the new administration.

Ms. Barnes reported on her advisory committee work with Education Commissioner Dwight Jones.

Mr. Rush visited Miller Special and Warren Tech schools and anticipates visiting Columbine area schools.

4. **PUBLIC AGENDA:**

01. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Public correspondence received by the Board of Education was made available for public perusal.

02. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No members of the public signed up to speak to the Board of Education.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

MOTION #2 (Approve Consent Agenda): Upon motion by Ms. Marinelli, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented: 5.01, Approval of Minutes for November 18, 20, December 2 and 6, 2008; 5.02, Charter Renewals for Study-Jefferson Academy Elementary, Jefferson Academy Middle, Jefferson Academy Senior, Rocky Mountain Academy of Evergreen (EL-13, Charter Schools Application and Monitoring); 5.03, Approval of 403(b) Plan Document (EL-5, Financial Planning/Budgeting; EL-6, Financial Administration) (Attachment A); 5.04, Approval of Amendment to the Supplemental Retirement Plan (EL-6, Financial Administration) (Attachment B); 5.05, Employment (EL-3, Staff Treatment); 5.06, Administrative Appointments (EL-3, Staff Treatment); 5.07, Resignations/Terminations (EL-3, Staff Treatment); 5.08, Supplemental Funds-Colorado Parent Child Foundation, Family Literacy (EL-6, Financial Administration); 5.09, Supplemental Funds-Colorado Parent Child Foundation, Family Literacy (EL-6, Financial Administration); 5.10, Supplemental Funds-Lowes, Van Arsdale Elementary (EL-6, Financial Administration); 5.11, Supplemental Funds-CDE Food/Nutrition Services (EL-6, Financial Administration); 5.12, Supplemental Funds-Center for Civic Education, DLEA (EL-6, Financial Administration); 5.13, Application to the City of Lakewood for Fees Paid in-lieu-of Land Dedications (EL-6, Financial Administration; EL-7, Asset Protection) (Attachment C); 5.14, Contract Award-Paper Products for Food and Nutrition Services (EL-7, Asset Protection); 5.15, Expulsion of Students (EL-10, Treatment of Students).

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

6. **ENDS DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING AGENDA:**

01. **REPORT ON JEFFCO MATHEMATICS ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (EL-11):**

Jill Fellman, director of Mathematics, Debbie Backus, chief academic officer, and Priscilla Straughn, executive director for the Department of Learning and Educational Achievement presented the implementation and student achievement data for district wide and the 85 elementary schools using the Jeffco Mathematics Achievement Program (JMAP).

02. **REPORT ON GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION PROGRESS (EL-11):**

Blanche Kapushion, interim-director of Gifted and Talented, and Colleen Anthony and Ruth Rodgers, resource teachers from the Gifted and Talented department; Debbie Backus, chief academic officer, and Ruth Stern, executive director of Exceptional Student Services, presented information on their efforts to refine the identification process to include under identified and underserved special populations in Jeffco.

7. **STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AGENDA:**

01. **CERTIFICATION OF THE CANVASS OF THE COORDINATED GENERAL ELECTION HELD ON NOVEMBER 4, 2008 (EL-1):**

MOTION #3 (Adopt Resolution Certifying Election): Upon motion by Ms. Marinelli, seconded by Mr. Thomas, it was unanimous to adopt the resolution acknowledging receipt of the certified results of the November 4, 2008 general election on ballot questions 3A and 3B. (Attachment D)

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

02. **CERTIFICATION OF THE 2008 MILL LEVIES FOR COLLECTION IN 2009 (EL-6):**

MOTION #4 (Adopt the Resolution Certifying Mill Levies): Upon motion by Ms. Marinelli, seconded by Mr. Thomas, it was unanimous to adopt the certification resolution as presented to the Board prior to the meeting. (Attachment E)

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

8. **DEVELOP NEXT AGENDA:** The Board discussed its work calendar and the agenda items for the special meeting of December 18, 2008. Board committee assignments will be postponed to December 18.
9. **STUDY/DIALOGUE SESSION:** The Board met in its entirety in study/dialogue session at 8:37 p.m. in the Seminar Room at Education Center, Golden, Colorado. Cindy Stevenson, superintendent, represented the administration.

**PURPOSE:** The Board met with executive board members of the Jefferson County Education Association (JCEA) to discuss budget reductions.

**DISCUSSION:** JCEA board members outlined their council recommendations on budget reductions and shared personal experiences related to: 1) maintaining class sizes per contract ranges; 2) examining programs to discontinue in order to manage teacher workload; 3) support for progress monitoring systems at current teacher numbers (no

increase in workload); 4) support efficiencies in district practices. Teachers shared the value of early release/late start opportunities for teachers to plan for increasing student performance. Trade-offs, teacher expertise and workload, and communication with parents were areas discussed with the Board and superintendent.

**CONCLUSION:** The Board members thanked the teachers for their input on the budget reductions.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Board, the regular business meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held Thursday, January 15, 2009.

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Helen Neal, Recording Secretary

Approved and entered in the proceedings of the District on January 15, 2009.

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Secretary of the Board of Education

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President of the Board of Education

Attachment A – resolution of 403(b) Plan Document

Attachment B – resolution of Supplemental Retirement Plan Amendment

Attachment C – resolution for City of Lakewood for Fees Paid in-lieu-of Land Dedications

Attachment D – resolution to Certify Election of November 4, 2008

Attachment E – resolution to Certify Collection of Mill Levies in 2009