



Building Bright Futures

OFFICIAL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 18, 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: A majority of the Board met – Jane Barnes, First Vice President; Dave Thomas, Second Vice President; Sue Marinelli, Secretary; Richard Rush, Treasurer - in study/dialogue session at 5:38 p.m. in the Seminar Room at Education Center, Golden, Colorado. Cindy Stevenson, superintendent, represented the administration. Scott Benefield, President, joined the meeting at 5:52 p.m. Breaks were taken from 6:27 p.m. to 6:34 p.m., from 7:28 p.m. to 7:35 p.m. and 8:31 p.m. to 8:34 p.m. The Board amended its meeting agenda, postponing the presentation on the I²a Progress Monitoring System Evaluation to January 22.

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

DISCUSSION: The external auditor's management letter gave the district a clean opinion. Of two findings, both have already been corrected. The members of the Financial Oversight Committee noted that the district remains in a strong financial position with the one concern being long-term viability when employee costs are tied to the revenue stream. The members shared their advice with Board members on what private sector businesses do in downturns in the economy related to employee costs and how district finances can and cannot do the same.

Staff responded to questions of the Board and FOC members related to the CAFR.

CONCLUSION: The Board members thanked the FOC members for their continued oversights in matters financial for the district.

PURPOSE: At 6:34 p.m., the Board continued its study/dialogue session in the Seminar Room with members of the Classified School Employees Association's Board.

DISCUSSION: The leadership of the district's classified employees shared their perspective on budget reductions in all support areas of the district and their impacts to existing services supporting schools. Many of these support areas have taken significant reductions in operations since 1983, with many areas' budgets not having seen budget increases in years. The Board discussed staffing, custodial and transportation support, clinic aide and para-educator positions, hiring of skilled labor, trade-offs in reductions and the recommendations made by classified employees through the budget workgroup process.

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

PURPOSE: At 7:35 p.m., the Board continued its study/dialogue session in the Seminar Room with a discussion with its student advisors.

DISCUSSION: The Board and student advisors discussed a wide range of issues including the expectations of the student advisor role, communications expectations and meeting schedules. Additionally, students addressed graduation requirements, budget reductions, use of technology in classrooms, athletics and electives.

CONCLUSION: The Board members will meet monthly with student advisors and students committed to checking their emails for information from the Board office.

PURPOSE: At 8:34 p.m., the Board continued its study/dialogue session in the Seminar Room to determine committee assignments.

DISCUSSION: Board members discussed and confirmed existing committee assignments but for the compensation study team and an early childhood group.

CONCLUSION: Rick Rush will replace Sue Marinelli on the compensation study team. Sue Marinelli will attend the early childhood group on behalf of the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION #1 (Approve Consent Agenda): Upon motion by Ms. Marinelli, seconded by Mr. Thomas, it was unanimous to approve the items on the consent agenda: 2.01, District Policy for Study – Investment Policy (EL-6); 2.02, Award of Contract: Mondo Publishing (EL-8).

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

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for January 15, 2009.

Helen Neal, Recording Secretary

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

Secretary of the Board of Education

President of the Board of Education