



Building Bright Futures

OFFICIAL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 16, 2015
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.

1. Preliminary

1.01 Location: Board Room, Education Center

1.02 Call to Order

A special meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Ken Witt, President of the Board of Education, in the Board Room of the Education Center, 1829 Denver West Dr., Building 27, 5th floor, Golden, Colorado, Thursday, April 16, 2015.

1.03 Roll Call

Roll call indicated that the Board was present in its entirety – Ken Witt, President; Julie Williams, First Vice President; Lesley Dahlkemper, Second Vice President; John Newkirk, Secretary; and, Jill Fellman, Treasurer. Dan McMinimee, Superintendent, represented the administration. Jane Barnes, facilitated the retreat portion of the meeting. Breaks were taken from 5:33 p.m. to 5:36 p.m., and 7:41 p.m. to 7:55 p.m.

1.04 Approve Agenda

Motion #1 (Motion to Approve Agenda): Upon motion by Mr. Newkirk, second by Ms. Fellman, the Board voted to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Mr. Newkirk, second by Ms. Fellman

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Ms. Dahlkemper, Ms. Fellman, Mr. Newkirk, Ms. Williams, Mr. Witt

2. Study/Dialogue Session

2.01 Retreat: School Panel on Innovative Practices Within Jeffco Schools (EL-11)

PURPOSE: The Board of Education explored innovations in the delivery of public education within Jeffco Schools covering programs from Lumberg Elementary on its Technology innovation, Pennington Elementary on its Time innovation, Falcon Bluffs Middle School on its SPARK program, and Bell/Deer Creek Middle schools on the STEM programs.

DISCUSSION: Principals and teachers provided an overview of each program, why the model was chosen, successes and challenges faced, and what they would recommend for future implementation at other schools. Lumberg actions focused on the use of technology to increase student growth scores, and redesigning classrooms and student outcomes to create 21st century learners. Pennington actions aimed to serve more students' needs through an expanded 8.5 hour school day, with minimal instruction time, to offer extracurricular activities, staggered staff time, uninterrupted core competencies, as needed. Falcon Bluffs Middle School provided SPARK, a pedometer program to measure 20-30 minutes of daily activity to have student brains ready for learning. Staff found kids enjoyed the movement, referrals decreased by 75%, student performance on assessments increased and 15 Jeffco schools engage this program. Bell and Deer Creek middle schools' focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and iSTEM (innovative) provides problem-based and project-based work for students, which may be an instructional change for teachers (teacher facilitated and student inquiry driven) and professional development support has been provided. The inquiry learning environment has led to student collaboration, a pre-engineering program at the middle level, and the need to engage more female students.

Board discussion covered electives/interpersonal offerings and curriculum development of STEM/STEAM, measurements of academic impact, home involvement supporting studies, whole child learning including entrepreneurial, civic, professional and personal competencies, structuring staff for student success, collectively and through collaboration addressing needs, replication and cost of programs, overlap of community partnerships in support of programs, family contracts on technology, and needed facilities changes to support these innovative programs.

CONCLUSION: The Board gained an understanding of the dynamic programs offered within Jeffco Schools to increase student engagement and achievement.

2.02 Retreat: Guest Panel on Innovative/Creative Practices in Public Education (EL-11)

PURPOSE: The Board of Education heard about innovative/creative ideas for public education from invited guests Tony Lewis/Donnell-Kay Foundation, Scott Fast, Michael Cushman/DaVinci Institute, and John Evans and Tammy Thorn/School Leaders for Colorado.

DISCUSSION: Discussion covered futurist visions of computers as teachers, no standardized tests as student data will be collected in many other ways, time for creativity and teamwork, facilities with movable walls and shared workspaces, teachers free for 'coping skills' develop of students. Job preparation for Colorado focused on the need for more career tech (i.e., Warren Tech) programs, use of ACT WorkKeys and professional skills assessments and training for students stepping into jobs as they graduate. Panelists offered veterans of military service the opportunity to continue service as principals and teachers through alternative licensure programs.

Board discussion continued to review facilities, human capital, curriculum and choices available to students/families, and how schools/district system are managed.

CONCLUSION: The Board of Education thanked each panelist for joining the discussion on ways to improve the delivery of public education as the Board has immediate decisions pending on facilities and budget.

2.03 Draft Board Meeting Schedule 2015/2016

PURPOSE: The Board of Education reviewed a draft meeting schedule for the next school year.

DISCUSSION: The Board discussed two meetings a month with the first meeting on August 27, 2015.

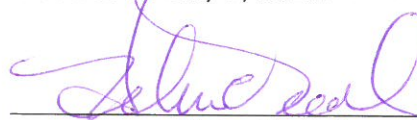
CONCLUSION: The Board provided guidance on changes prior to the final schedule being brought on May 7, 2015 for Board approval.

2.04 Board Work Calendar

The Board reviewed and revised its work calendar for the meeting of May 7, 2015.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for May 7, 2015.



Helen Neal, Recording Secretary

Approved and entered in the proceedings of the District on June 11, 2015.


Secretary of the Board of Education
President of the Board of Education