



Building Bright Futures

OFFICIAL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 23, 2014
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

1.02 Call to Order

A special meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.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, Saturday, August 23, 2014.

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. A break was taken from 11:07 a.m. to 11:17 a.m.

1.04 Approve Agenda

Motion #1 (Motion to Approve Agenda): Upon motion by Mr. Newkirk, second by Ms. Fellman, the agenda was approved as revised with the removal of the executive session on negotiations direction with district employees regarding the JCEA Tentative Agreement and fact finding.

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 Norming with the Superintendent

PURPOSE: For the Board of Education to reach agreements for board behaviors, board/staff relationships, and goals for board and district work for 2014/2015.

DISCUSSION: Board facilitator Jane Barnes guided discussion to include the commonalities of service as a board member, Jeffco Schools' mission and how board members might align with each other and the superintendent. Common themes included serving and caring for all children, concern for the quality of the district, measurable goals, and good governance.

The Board reviewed its four board/staff linkage policies. Discussion covered shared communications, school visits, the statutory reference for B/SL-2, Unity of Control, 'shall do' direction of superintendent outside the guidance of B/SL-3, Delegation to the Superintendent, and internal/external reports and the availability of those reports to the public.

Review of the board governance process policies GP-1, 2, 6, 8, 11, and 14 proceeded with acceptance and revisions were not offered. Discussion covered communications including majority/minority reports, all voices heard in board discussions, safe and respectful environments for public and board member perspectives to be shared, notice to board member of changes to meeting agendas to follow policy (i.e., GP-6 #3b, #3c; GP-8 #2, #6, #18, #19).

Ends policies were discussed regarding monthly presentations on progress, measurements, evidence, investment of funds and challenges to address.

CONCLUSION: The Board agreed: to keep its current practice on board/staff linkage policy B/SL-1, Global Governance-Management Control, with a revisit in December if needed; to policy language of B/SL-2, B/SL-3 and B/SL-4, Monitoring Superintendent Performance; to inform the superintendent and chief of staff on visits to schools ahead of time; to provide information to the five-member board as soon as possible on board work issues; and, to keep policies that are clear on the roles of board and superintendent for community understanding. The superintendent committed to providing clear and quick communication as well as to share information through the chief of staff and the Board's Weekly Update. The Board will review its Ends policies in the fall after student achievement data is available.

2.02 Facilities Planning Preview

PURPOSE: For the Board of Education to be informed of the state of facilities, enrollment/utilization issues, and short/long range planning issues.

DISCUSSION: Steve Bell, chief operations officer, and Tim Reed, executive director of Facilities, presented facilities issues needing Board direction on a number of fronts in the coming months and responded to Board questions. Discussion covered areas of growth in Jeffco due to population growth and affordable housing, percent usage by school facility, facility condition index (Jeffco's average facility rating: 19.6 percent; rated low average), utilization and enrollment changes by area, current facility needs due to high growth, and most efficient use of space and funds with acceptable parameters development by the Board.

The Board asked about the Jefferson County Assessor's opinion regarding 2090 S. Wright St. as district property. Staff responded that the court decision delegated the property to the City of Lakewood for open space and it is no tax liability for the district.

CONCLUSION: The Board will schedule presentations in the fall for direction on high growth needs, capital financing options and planning parameters for the draft facilities master plan.

2.03 Budget Development Process 2015/2016

PURPOSE: For the Board of Education to receive early recommendations and provide input on the 2015/2016 budget development process.

DISCUSSION: Chief Financial Officer Lorie Gillis shared plans for changes and improvements to budgetary practices including student based budgeting, third party citizen budget tool and an earlier timeline for action on the 2015/2016 budget. Discussion covered learning from other districts that have implemented student based budgeting, charter funding, reserve projections, compensation redesign, enrollment impacts on budget, and public hearings on the 2015/2016 budget in May 2015.

CONCLUSION: Board members expressed support for increased input by district accountability/SPAC and other community groups and individuals in an earlier timeline for Board consideration prior to budget decision-making.

2.04 Communication Processes

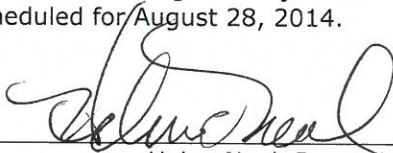
PURPOSE: For the Board of Education to receive information to improve current practices on board correspondence, public comment, community engagement and board contact with staff/principals.

DISCUSSION: Board members discussed the amount of time being taken for responses to written correspondence and for the public comment portions of meeting agendas as well as alternatives for community engagement with the Board. Topics also covered included the upcoming board work calendar, presenters for the resolution on assessments, fact-finder's report, reports on student achievement, and compensation redesign and strategic compensation data in October

CONCLUSION: The Board agreed that Public Comment Part One would be extended to one hour; time for Public Comment would be allotted based on the number of speakers signing up: 1-20 speakers three minutes/individual or 10 minutes/group; 21-30 speakers two minutes/individual or five minutes/group; over 30 speakers individuals have one minute to speak to the Board; sign up will be made available at 10 a.m. the Monday before the meeting; the Board president will call out corrections to speakers on the sign up for part one and part two during the meeting as necessary; guardian notice will be added to the sign up system; and, the Board will address at a later time what time limits will be established for groups when over 30 speakers sign up to speak to the Board.

4. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for August 28, 2014.




Helen Neal, Recording Secretary

Approved and entered in the proceedings of the District on November 6, 2014.



Secretary of the Board of Education



President of the Board of Education