



Building Bright Futures

OFFICIAL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 26, 2010
3AB Conference 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 5:05 p.m. by Dave Thomas, President of the Board of Education, in Conference Room 3AB of the Education Center, 1829 Denver West Drive, Golden, Colorado, Tuesday, October 26, 2010.

1.03 Roll Call

Roll call indicated that a majority of the Board was present - Dave Thomas, President; Jane Barnes, First Vice President; Laura Boggs, Second Vice President; and, Robin Johnson, Secretary. Dr. Cynthia Stevenson, Superintendent, represented the administration. Paula Noonan, Treasurer, arrived at 5:49 p.m. A break was taken from 6:50 p.m. to 7:03 p.m.

The Board President requested that later in the meeting the Board determine when an executive session could be scheduled in November to discuss the superintendent's contract.

2. Study/Dialogue Session

2.01 Budget Forums (EL-5)

PURPOSE: The Board of Education will finalize plans for its budget forum presentations to the community on Saturday, November 13, 2010.

DISCUSSION: The Board role-played a budget forum for the three members who have not hosted a community meeting. Discussion identified the need for a 'frequently asked questions' (FAQ) list and script for Board members; clarification in the video on the amount of reductions and reserves needed to balance the budget; and, staff assignments by Board member.

CONCLUSION: The Board will receive an FAQ list and script prior to the budget forums.

2.02 Facilities and Student Achievement (Ends 8)

PURPOSE: The Board of Education will have a better understanding of how school buildings are related to student achievement. Staff will present 'best practices' related to grade level structures.

DISCUSSION: The superintendent outlined that the decisions on district facilities would ultimately be determined by fiscal, educational and community drivers. Following the October 7 presentation on effective teaching, staff from the Division of Instruction reviewed what matters most and what will change student achievement for the better related to three educationally structured models: 6-8 grades; K-8 grades; and 7-12 grades. Information reported was based on national research data found for each model. The key variable for any model is the effective teacher. Board discussion covered the effects of closing schools on the Board's number one value: student achievement (disruption decreases student achievement); the trade-offs with no movement of 6th grade or creating 7-12 structures; the cost and delivery method of profession development for teachers, and variations of programs and community needs among articulation areas.

CONCLUSION: The Board directed the superintendent to return with possible facilities scenarios, minimizing disruptions to increase student achievement, for further Board discussion and direction.

2.03 Unified Improvement Plan (Ends 1)

PURPOSE: The Board of Education will receive additional information on the Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) required by the state.

DISCUSSION: District staff shared the state of Colorado form completed by schools and reviewed the cycle of product and process work in problem-solving required of administrators and a school's staff and community. The UIP combines the federal and state improvement plans: adequate yearly progress (federal) and district performance framework. Discussion covered sanctions, the restructuring process and timelines for monitoring schools' performance.

CONCLUSION: The Board gained an understanding of the monitoring of school and district performance through the Unified Improvement Plan.

2.04 Scheduling Issues

PURPOSE: The Board of Education will address upcoming scheduling needs.

DISCUSSION: The Board President reminded members that he would be absent for the regular meeting of November 4 and the First Vice President would need to leave the meeting by 6 p.m.

CONCLUSION: The Board agreed to alter the start time to 3 p.m. for the November 4 regular business meeting so that Ms. Barnes may participate in the majority of the meeting. The Board agreed, along with the superintendent, to extend the November 10 deadline to respond to the superintendent's intent to enter into negotiations on her contract. The Board added an executive session on the superintendent's contract to the November 18 meeting agenda.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for November 4, 2010.




Helen Neal, Recording Secretary

Approved and entered in the proceedings of the District on December 16, 2010.



Secretary of the Board of Education



President of the Board of Education