



Building Bright Futures

OFFICIAL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 15, 2012
Conference Room 4E

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: Education Center

1.02 Call to Order

A special meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Lesley Dahlkemper, President of the Board of Education, in Conference Room 4E of the Education Center, 1829 Denver West Drive, Golden, Colorado, Thursday, March 15, 2012.

1.03 Roll Call

Roll call indicated that a majority of the Board was present – Lesley Dahlkemper, President; Jill C. Fellman, Secretary; and, Robin Johnson, Treasurer. Dr. Cynthia Stevenson, Superintendent, represented the administration. Paula Noonan, First Vice President, joined the meeting at 5:05 p.m. Laura Boggs, Second Vice President, joined the meeting at 5:26 p.m. A break was taken from 6:30 p.m. to 6:36 p.m.

1.04 Approval Agenda

Motion #1 (Approve Agenda as Presented): Upon motion by Ms. Fellman, second by Ms. Johnson, the Board of Education approved the meeting agenda as presented.

Motion by Ms. Fellman, second by Ms. Johnson
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Ms. Dahlkemper, Ms. Fellman, Ms. Johnson

2. Study/Dialogue Session

2.01 Monitoring: Second Quarter Financial Report (EL-5, 6)

PURPOSE: The Board of Education monitored the districtwide financial condition as outlined in Board executive limitation policies 5 and 6, Financial Planning and Budgeting, and Financial Administration, respectively.

DISCUSSION: District staff, external auditors and the Chair of the Financial Oversight Committee responded to Board questions on the funds, departments and schools monitored. Key points included the charter school expenditures over budget and the general fund

balance declining due to timing of property tax collections. Discussion also covered state revenue projections and the impact to Jeffco revenue, reserve levels in 2013/2014, and the transportation fee and ridership. The Financial Oversight Committee Chairperson noted that given the challenges facing the district, staff are responsible stewards of taxpayer money and could not be more transparent in management of funds.

CONCLUSION: The Board thanked the Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) and district staff for taking the time to meet and discuss district financial issues. A board member offered it would be helpful if the FOC could review the senior property tax exemption pending legislative action.

2.02 Jeffco Work on Diversity and Inclusion (EL-11)

PURPOSE: The Board of Education received information to understand the process and actions taken in the district and schools to address issues of diversity affecting Jeffco students.

DISCUSSION: District staff and high school students outlined the strategies used in schools, by the district, teachers and students to engage students in appropriate behaviors and responses in order to increase student achievement. Discussion covered all the aspects used to provide supports to students to ultimately provide for a culturally proficient school community: outside resources available to the district (i.e., U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Civil Rights, University of Colorado, Metro State College, Anti-Defamation League, EEOC); the Teacher Liaison Committee, with 100 percent volunteer participation from each school in the district; situational supports for schools and families; ongoing review of discipline data; expectations of principals, discussed at Quadrant Meetings; the "ABC focus" (attendance, behavior, course failure) used by school administration with struggling students; and, the broadening of academic relationships among students and adults in schools. Board members questioned staff on activities and expectations at athletic events.

CONCLUSION: The Board thanked the students and district staff for providing an overview of the work underway to improve student achievement in schools across the county and, in particular, where it may be challenged due to shifts in the demographics of school communities.

2.03 Board Policy Monitoring/Review: GP 9-12

PURPOSE: The Board of Education monitored its work against governance process policies 9 through 12, and reviewed policy language for agreement or revision.

DISCUSSION: In review of GP-9, Board Member Conflict of Interest, Board members discussed when/if a board member may abstain from voting on an issue and if independent consultants listed on a board member's business webpage result in a conflict if the board member is not doing business with the district. No comments were made in review of GP-10, Board Member Financial Disclosure. Revisions were discussed for GP-11, One Voice Commitment, to reflect a clearer statement of moving forward once a board decision has been made and member responsibilities in communication of same. In review of GP-12, Board Committee Principles, a majority of Board members agreed that board members should not attend board committee meetings so that the advice and information received from an advisory committee is shared among Board members equally and at the same time.

CONCLUSION: The Board directed staff to provide information on board member voting abstention, revisions to GP-11, and posting of Board advisory committees on the Board webpage. As full agreement on board member attendance at advisory committees could not be met this discussion will be added to the March 23 session agenda.

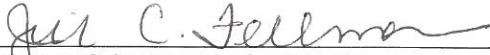
3. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for April 5, 2012.



Helen Neal, Recording Secretary

Approved and entered in the proceedings of the District on April 5, 2012.



Secretary of the Board of Education



President of the Board of Education