

BOARD Meeting Activity
May 10, 2023

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Education convened into executive session to discuss: legal advice [per C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b)] particular matters: whistleblower and parent partnership policies, internal complaint procedure, and interest-based bargaining with the Colorado Springs Education Association; negotiations [per C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e)] particular matters: Interest Based Bargaining (IBB) with the Colorado Springs Education Association and Meet and Confer with Executive Professionals and Educational Support Professionals (ESP); and personnel [per C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f)] particular matter: employee worker's compensation claim.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

The ProStart Culinary Team at Odyssey Early College and Career Options placed first at The Colorado ProStart Student Invitational (CPSI), receiving a gold medal and invitation to Washington, D.C., for the National Invitational, where they will represent Colorado against teams from all other states. The ProStart Culinary Team is part of the D11 Career Pathways program offered to all D11 high school students through Odyssey-ECCO at the Roy J. Wasson Academic Campus. As State Champions, students each received \$21,500 in scholarships.

Four Doherty High School SkillsUSA student participants won State Champion at the annual SkillsUSA Colorado State Leadership and Skills Conference (SLSC) in early April! Students were awarded the title and will travel to Atlanta, GA, for the National Leadership Conference (NLSC) in July. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry working together to empower members to become world-class workers, leaders, and responsible citizens.

Seven Palmer students earned first prize for their City Park/Open Spaces Design Challenge entries in the 2023 Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT) National Design + Construction Competition. These students have been invited to Washington, D.C., to present their design to a panel of judges composed of CEOs from some of the leading design and construction firms in the United States.

The Mitchell High School "Mitchell Inspiration" team was recognized at the PEAK Parent Center's State Conference as the recipient of the "Allies in Inclusion" award. Mitchell Inspiration

was honored for their long-time practice of self-directed IEPs and the team of teachers' and students' work in making changes for inclusivity by presenting locally, at the state level, and some virtual national conferences about their self-directed IEP journey.

SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT- GRADUATION CELEBRATIONS

Under Jeff Hodur's direction, the Coronado Chamber Choir performed Road Home by Stephen Paulus acapella to open up the celebration.

Five students at various matriculation points in their educational path spoke, including:

- Coronado High School 12th-grade student Ana Lucia Ferguson spoke about positive experiences with School District 11 that have impacted her educational endeavors. Ana recognized her teacher, Brent Urban, the director of Cougars Care at Coronado High School, who "Gets Stuff Done."
- Odyssey ECCO 12th-grade student Jade Schaf spoke about things she will be most proud of when considering her journey with District 11. Jade thanked her teacher, Dr. Melinda Joy Mingo, who encouraged her to be more present in her community and to speak up on things that she believes are important.
- Russell Middle School 8th-grade student Mae Holmes recognized Mr. Daniel Riecks and described why she chose Mr. Riecks as one of her favorite teachers.
- Henry Elementary School 5th-grade student William Hatch spoke about his favorite school memory, the 5th-grade camping trip to Estes Park. In addition, he gave a shout-out to his teacher, Ms. Bierschenk.
- Adams Elementary School kindergarten student Isa'Maria Rodriguez spoke regarding her favorite activities in school. She thanked her teacher Ms. Beneake.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Gaal highlighted the following in his presentation:

- The Colorado College soccer camp and Stroud Scholars program.
- Award-winning schools recognized by the Colorado Department of Education.
- Attendance measures and initiatives leading to increased attendance in schools across the District.
- Scott Elementary School and the "Genius Hour."
- Colorado Sun newspaper reporter Michael Booth and Odyssey ECCO 9th-grade biology students in Ms. Powell's class discussed issues concerning water rights.
- The work of the District 11 McKinney Vento team and their recent visit to Palmer High School.
- Doherty High School teacher Mr. Ryan Reed's Inclusive Theater class and the plans to expand this program into all D11 comprehensive High Schools in the future.
- Social Media Teacher Tuesday's recap.
- Status on recent staffing reports, including discussion about current vacancies.
- Newly hired Principals and Assistant Principals.
- Thanked and recognized members of the Executive Cabinet.

Velvet Stepanek, a Family, School, and Community Partnerships (FSCP) Celebrations Committee member highlighted initiatives and events at Penrose Elementary School, including their Camping Night, Thanksgiving Block Party, Cookies with Santa, March Madness, and an upcoming Summer Send Off event. Ms. Stepanek also highlighted the Community Resource Night recently held at Mitchell High School and recognized and thanked the individuals who worked together to make this event a success. She also mentioned the FSCP Retreat and the work being done at schools across the district.

Superintendent Gaal introduced the new D11 Engage Director, Dr. Jessica Wise.

Board Members' Reports

The Board members reported on their various activities.

CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of April 26, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes

The Board of Education approved the April 26, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes. Certified copies of the Board of Education's official minutes may be obtained from the Records Management Center. The requester will bear the cost of copying, per Board Policy BEDG. All minutes are available in BoardDocs through the Board of Education District website after approval by the Board of Education.

Personnel Recommendations - May 10, 2023

The Board of Education approved the Personnel Recommendations for May 10, 2023.

Policy JLCD - Administering Medicines to Students

The Board of Education adopted the revised policy JLCD, Administering Medicines to Students.

Policy JLCDC - Medically Necessary Treatment in School Setting

The Board of Education adopted the policy JLCDC, Medically Necessary Treatment in School Setting.

ACTION ITEMS

Contract Awards

There were no contract awards.

Budget Transfer (Transportation)

The Board of Education approved the General Fund Contingency Transfer for Transportation's deficit in accordance with Policy DBJ.

Interim Chief Operations Officer Kris Odom, Executive Director, Facilities, Operations & Transportation Terry Seaman, and Director of Transportation CJ McCampbell, walked the Board through a presentation that provided details about this budget transfer request.

This \$589,651 budget transfer request is needed to transparently shore up the Transportation Budget. Several requirements are embedded within the request, including commodity price increases, higher-than-expected reliance on contracted student transportation, and administrative oversight that should have identified underbudgeted accounts.

Bridget Donovan discussed the legal requirements regarding the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act and transportation.

FTE Approval (Chief Financial Officer)

The Board of Education approved the request for 1.0 FTE for a Chief Financial Officer position.

Superintendent Michael Gaal requested an additional 1.0 FTE for the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) position. The CFO is responsible for advising the superintendent and school board on the financial and budget matters of the district. This position is essential in developing the district budget and guides the development of long-term capital financing methods.

Superintendent Gaal discussed the background of the CFO position in District 11 and the recommendations of the Board and the DAC committee. The role of the CFO and the COO were noted.

Instructional Materials and Secondary Courses Approval

The Board of Education approved the instructional materials and new or amended courses as submitted.

This item was presented to the Board as non-action at the April 26, 2023, regular board meeting. Director of Curriculum & Instruction Karol Gates and her team addressed questions and provided additional information to the Board.

Resolution 2023-33, Mental Health Awareness Month

The Board of Education adopted Resolution 2023-33 in support of Mental Health Awareness Month.

Project Aware Coordinator Nicole Herrera prepared and presented this agenda item noting that National Mental Health Awareness Month in Colorado Springs School District 11 shines a light on mental health in hopes of reducing community-wide stigma, providing support, educating the public, and advocating for equal health and well-being.

Proposed Board Meeting Dates for FY 2023-2024

The Board of Education approved the Board Meeting Dates for FY 2023-2024.

Prepared by Secretary to the Board of Education Melisa Olsen

This item was presented to the Board as non-action at the April 26, 2023, regular board meeting.

Per Board Policy BE, School Board Meetings/Regular Meetings/Special Meetings/Work Sessions, the Board meets in regular session on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARING on Mill Levy Override (MLO) Plan Amendments to Program Implementation Plans (PIPs) 2017-1, 2017-3 and 2017-11, with introduction of new PIPs 2017-12, 2017-13, 2017-14 and 2017-15.

There were two citizen comments for the Public Hearing on the Mill Levy Override (MLO) Plan Amendments to Program Implementation Plans (PIPs) 2017-1, 2017-3, and 2017-11, with the introduction of new PIPs 2017-12, 2017-13, 2017-14 and 2017-15.

Mill Levy Override Plan Amendments to Program Implementation Plans (PIPs) 2017-1, 2017-3, and 2017-11, with introduction of new PIPs 2017-12, 2017-13, 2017-14 and 2017-15.

Interim Chief Operations Officer Mrs. Kris Odom provided a history of the district's two current Mill Levy Overrides (MLOs) and described the citizen's oversight committee, the process followed before bringing these items to the Board Of Education, and the Mill Levy Override governance requirements. She discussed the Mill Levy Override Oversight Committee (MLOOC) meetings that have taken place regarding the proposed plan amendments and new PIPs and the MLOOC and DAC budget review of each PIP addressed in this agenda item. Chief Odom recognized that each one of these items needs a "super majority" vote of 5 director approvals.

MLO 2017 PIP 1: Comprehensive Student Support Model (Amendment)

The original materials/services/supplies budget in 2017 was proposed at \$319,500 to support 24 FTE. This PIP was fully implemented last FY, with 63.5 FTE, and the supply budget has not increased beyond \$80,000. This amendment increases the supplies/materials/services budget by \$35,881 for additional assessment survey costs, 2nd Step MS SEL curriculum, and general office supplies.

MLO 2017 PIP 3: Education Support Professionals (ESP) Attraction & Retention (Amendment)

There is \$700,000 in the recurring undesignated contingency reserve that would be greatly useful if PIP 3 Attract and Retain ESP was adopted to help offset anticipated market compensation adjustments for FY 2023-24. This will use up most of the remaining undesignated recurring fund's balance from the inflationary adjustment levied in December 2022 by the Board.

MLO 2017 PIP 11: Contingency Reserve Fund Balance (Non-Recurring) (Amendment)

This Plan amendment provides clarity between paying property taxes (11a) and non-recurring contingency funds realized mid-year by the audited financials (11b). As a result of the annual financial audit and the board-approved inflationary adjustment in December 2022, there is currently a total of \$3,976,704 within this PIP, awaiting allocation for one-time funds distribution.

MLO 2017 PIP 12: Mitchell Promise (New)

This new PIP will fund the Mitchell Promise, a scholarship opportunity for our highest-poverty high school. This is a 50% match (up to \$200,000) with Pikes Peak State College (PPSC) and is for a two-year degree.

MLO 2017 PIP 13: Preschool Enhancement to Universal Preschool Program (UPK) (New)

Supplemental funding provides the opportunity to serve preschool students not served through UPK, either due to failing to meet the risk factors or limited state funding.

MLO 2017 PIP 14: Undesignated Inflationary Fund Balance (Recurring) (New)

This program provides a place for undesignated recurring funds for a short time until an assigned allocation is determined within 12 months. Some uncertain movement is occurring within the ESSER Grant and charter school opportunities. These funds (currently \$764K) may be used for various needs that may not be fully realized until the start of the new school year. The capital program PIP is currently decreased to cover any recurring needs.

MLO 2017 PIP 15: Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Instructional Software (New)

This program accommodates the need for a Curriculum PIP under the 2017 MLO, similar to that under the 2000 MLO. Placing this program under the 2017 MLO allows for growth and potential inflationary increases to its budget going forward.

A thumbs-up majority from the Board was achieved to move Mill Levy Override Plan Amendments Program Implementation Plans (PIPs) 2017-1, 2017-3 and 2017-11, 2017-14, and 2017-15 forward to action as one item, and Mill Levy Override Plan Amendments to Program Implementation Plans (PIPs) 2017-12 and 2017-13, forward to action as individual agenda items.

Resolution 2023-37 Student Fees, Fines, and Charges for SY 2023-2024

Area Superintendent Sherry Kalbach presented this agenda item to the Board.

Ms. Kalbach noted measures to reduce student fees in recent years and efforts by school staff to ensure that costs do not hinder student participation in school activities.

Board of Education Policy JQ calls for a fair mechanism by which students pay reasonable fees to help defray the cost of such programs, activities, and amenities to the school district without making them prohibitively expensive.

This resolution sets the student and parent fees/fines and charges for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 22-23-117 Miscellaneous Fees, a list of fees/fines collected shall be approved by the Board of Education in a resolution authorizing the collection of such fees/fines. The schools are asked to update the fees/fines collected at their sites each year. The resolution allows the fee/fine schedule to be updated during the year, and any revisions presented with the following year's fee/fine schedule for Board of Education approval.

The Board of Education should be satisfied that the fees, fines, and charges are adequate and equitable for district customers and that the fees, fines, and charges are fairly authorized and enforced.

Key staff updating the fees, fines, and charges include all District 11 principals; Area Superintendents Brandan Comfort, Darren Joiner, Sherry Kalbach, Scott Mendelsberg, and Bryan Relich; Facilitator Gifted and Talented Emily Andrews; Director of Policy & Archives Dr. Gregory Ecks; Facilitator for Arts/Music Laurilea McDaniel; Director of Athletics Chris Noll; Director of Food and Nutrition Services Janine Russel; and Director Instructional Technology and Library Services Melissa Smead.

The new and updated student fees/fines are in red (yellow background), and deleted fees/fines are crossed out (pink background).

The Board agreed via a thumbs-up majority approval to request additional information regarding maximum per-family fees for extracurricular activities to understand what the cost to the district would be if the family maximum amount were applied to all extracurricular activities.

Policy GBC - Whistleblower Protections

The Director of Policy and Archival Resources, Dr. Gregory B. Ecks, prepared and presented this agenda item.

This policy was previously presented to the Board as a non-action item and reviewed in the April 19, 2023, Work Session.

Policy GBC - Whistleblower protections is being reintroduced for adoption by the Board of Education. The policy contains updated language and has been reviewed to align with applicable state and federal law.

The Board agreed to postpone Policy GBC - Whistleblower Protections indefinitely until Superintendent Gaal can take the time to examine the new law and to go back through the policy committee as needed to determine the impact of the new law on this policy and our district.

Policy AKB - Parent Partnership

The Director of Policy and Archival Resources, Dr. Gregory B. Ecks, prepared and presented Policy AKB, Parent Partnerships, which is being recommended for adoption by the Board of Education. The policy establishes the foundation for the partnership between the District and parents. The policy draws on existing language to align policy sections and regulatory practice.

This policy has gone through the policy committee and a legal review.

The Board agreed via thumbs-up approval to bring this item to the May 17, 2023, Work Session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/TASKS

Request for New Agenda Items from Board Discussion/Tasks

There were no requests from board members for new agenda items, discussions, or tasks.

CALENDAR REVIEW

President Melpakam reminded board members to complete school visits to their assigned schools and noted the following dates:

Wed., May 17th, Special Meeting, boardroom

Wed., May 17th, Work Session, boardroom

Graduations on May 18th, 19th

There are no scheduled meetings for the week of May 22.

President Melpakam will alert the Board of any additional needed meetings.

Town Hall meetings on May 15, 16, and 17 and a virtual meeting on May 18 to discuss aligning educational spaces with district academic needs.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m.