

**BOARD Meeting Activity  
Regular Board Meeting  
Wednesday, August 23, 2023**

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**AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**D11 Students Take Top Honors at the 2023 FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) National Leadership Conference**

The 2023 FCCLA National Leadership Conference (NLC) took place in Denver, CO, from July 2-6, drawing more than 7,900 students, educators, and guests from across the nation. This gathering provided a valuable platform for attendees to expand their leadership skills, sharpen their talents, explore career pathways, and listen to inspiring speakers.

The highly anticipated Students Taking Action with Recognition (STAR) Events were at the heart of the conference. Over 4,300 FCCLA members competed in these events. STAR Events are pivotal in supporting student development by enhancing their classroom experience and guiding them toward successful career pathways. With over 30 events, participants can demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and abilities by addressing important issues concerning families, careers, or communities. Students acquire valuable skills and industry insights needed to thrive in the 21st century by researching the topic and implementing projects to advocate for positive change.

Holmes Middle School Students had eleven of fourteen students place in the Top Ten of their STAR events. The following students earned gold and first place: Eliana Moore in Focus on Children. Laney Bushman and Jonas Friesema in Sports Nutrition and Estella Baltes in Teach and Train took second place in their events. Elsie Walker and Tully Thomas in Focus on Children, Jett Friesema, Bryce McDonald, and Samuel Wilshusen placed 4th in Food Innovation. Sarah Lovato and Reagan Heron earned a silver in Chapter in Review Display and were among the top ten winners. Campbell Riggs in Repurpose and Redesign and Aliah DeLaRosa in Promote and Publicize FCCLA! earned silver medals, and Olivia White received a bronze in National Programs in Action.

Coronado High School had three of five students placed in the Top Ten in their STAR events. Riley Walker earned a GOLD medal and placed 4th in Nutrition and Wellness, Ava Friesema and Haley Cross (team event) earned a SILVER medal and placed 8th in Promote and Publicize FCCLA, Lucy Berumen earned a SILVER medal in Career Investigation and Kaitlyn Deyoe earned a BRONZE medal in Teach and Train. Coronado High School also received the National Public Relations Award and \$500.

Odyssey ECCO High School had one student qualify for Nationals. Brittany Garces Zermeno earned a BRONZE medal in Early Childhood Education.

The students' projects exemplify their dedication, creativity, and commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of others. Their accomplishment at the national level is a testament to their hard work, teamwork, and unwavering passion.

## **BOARD SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE**

From time to time, the Board may recognize and celebrate outstanding performances, contributions, and successes throughout District 11. This is an opportunity to recognize the efforts of schools, staff, students, parents, and community members.

The Board of Education presented Mr. Glenn Gustafson with the Board Spotlight on Excellence Award. Board members thanked Mr. Gustafson for his devotion to District 11, recognized some of his accomplishments over his 30-plus years of employment with the District, and thanked him for his continued support to the Board and districts across Colorado since his retirement.

Former Colorado Springs School District 11 Superintendent Dr. Nicholas Gledich shared information and examples of Mr. Gustafson's work for District 11 and how it supported the mission and vision of the District through their years of working together.

Superintendent Gaal acknowledged Mr. Gustafson's continued work with the state of Colorado and his passion and dedication to his work.

Mr. Gustafson addressed and thanked the Board.

## **SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT – HOWBERT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Howbert Elementary School Principal Toby Lefere presented a PowerPoint slide show about the Howbert outdoor and environmental education program.

Library Technology Educator Lisa Schott and Howbert Elementary School students led Board directors in three outdoor learning activities about wildlife survival needs and resources, water molecules and the water cycle, and camouflage. Students presented data and information they collected related to these activities.

Principal Lefere presented information on the alignment of these outdoor educational exercises with grade-level Colorado Academic Standards and provided school academic growth data. Howbert parent Molly Till addressed the Board regarding the outdoor education path at Howbert and noted specific traits she has witnessed in her students that she attributes to the outdoor learning opportunities that integrate nature and learning.

Superintendent Gaal recognized and thanked Lisa Schott for her work bringing these outdoor lessons into the Board Room.

The Howbert Elementary School Showcase presentation can be viewed on BoardDocs.

## **SPECIAL REPORTS**

### Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Gaal highlighted the following in his report:

- Coronado High School student Evelyn Kellner, who designed the 2023-2024 Elevate Challenge Coin, and her former Holmes Middle School Art Teacher Jennifer Petersen.
- The D11 partnership with the American Heart Association. Courtney, a representative of the American Heart Association, addressed the Board and meeting attendees, acknowledging schools that participated in the Kids Heart Challenge and awarding Superintendent Gaal the "Heart of Gold" for his support of heart health for the community.
- Preliminary CMAS predictive data analysis indicating improvements in the School Performance Framework for schools that were in turnaround, priority improvement, and improvement status during

the 2022-2023 school year. Area Superintendent's introduced principals from the following schools, many of whom addressed the Board, thanking them for their support and acknowledging the hard work of all their school staff:

- West Elementary School Principal Carolyn Graham and West Middle School Principal Ronald Hamilton
  - Interim Coronado High School Principal Addie Arnell
  - Holmes Middle School Principal Anthony Karr
  - Buena Vista Elementary School Principal Angela Prochnow
  - Adams Elementary School Principal Michelle Slyter and Assistant Principal Leticia King
  - Queen Palmer Elementary School Principal Christina Butcher
  - Martinez Elementary School Principal Tara Berry and Assistant Principal Tiffany Brown
  - Carver Elementary School Principal Lisa Bizzell
  - Fremont Elementary School Principal Tracy Squires
  - Mitchell High School Principal George Smith
  - Galileo Middle School Principal Julia Scott
  - Penrose Elementary School Principal Katie Schoolmaster
- Superintendent Gaal recognized the district's achievements, acknowledging the continued work ahead.
  - The vision for the district elevating from a K-12 focus to a PreK-14 focus.
  - The arc of change framework: systems and structures, adult capacity, and students.

Comments by the Board followed, including recognition of the hard work of all staff related to the improvement plans for schools last year and statements of resolve to continue to support schools in the hard work ahead toward continued improvements.

The Superintendent's Board Report presentation can be viewed on BoardDocs.

#### Board Members' Reports

The Board members reported on their various activities.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

#### Approval of August 9, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes

The Board of Education approved the August 9, 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 - August 23, 2023

The Board of Education approved the Personnel Recommendations for August 23, 2023.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### Contract Awards: 2023 Election Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)

The Board of Education authorized the Executive Director of Procurement and Contracting, Rosa Garcia, to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the 2023 Coordinated Election to be held on November 7, 2023, at a total estimated cost of \$170,722.87 to allow for the District's Board Election.

The Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the November 7, 2023, Coordinated Election between the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners, the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder, and Colorado Springs School District 11 is required to place the District's election questions, specifically for the Board of Directors election question to be placed on the ballot. The IGA must be executed by August 29, 2023, along with a 50% deposit (\$85,361.43) of the estimated cost for our participation in the election. Our estimated total cost, as calculated by

the County Clerk, is \$170,723, which is subject to change based on a proportional share of the actual election costs. This is within the approved budget (as amended) amount set aside. This IGA has obtained legal review and signature.

The Designated Election Official, the primary liaison between the County Clerk and the District, is Ms. Phoebe Bailey.

#### Budget Transfer, Appropriations, and FTE Approvals: Transportation

The Board of Education approved the \$100,000 transfer from student transportation to operations and maintenance.

Chief Operations Officer Kris Odom provided background information regarding this budget transfer request. The yellow bus fleet replacement plan currently has a recurring budget of \$600,000 in a capital reserve account. However, there is not an existing white fleet replacement plan or budget. There are 139 white fleet vehicles, most over 15 years old. White fleet vehicles support Security, Food and Nutrition Services, Facilities Operations and Maintenance, Information Technology, Warehouse, and Transportation.

The request is for a budget transfer of \$100,000 from the yellow fleet fund to the white fleet fund as a permanent replacement for the white fleet. With this immediate transfer, the District can purchase four Chevy Trailblazers for Security patrols that are a 24/7 operation. Transportation will cycle four of the oldest Security vehicles into other needed areas.

#### Budget Transfer, Appropriations, and FTE Approvals: Capital Projects

The Board of Education approved the capital projects contingency transfers and new projects totaling \$2,395,000.

Capital Program Manager Jennifer Hotaling explained that contingency transfers are needed for these four ongoing projects due to underestimating the amount of budget necessary to carry over from FY23:

- Coronado Track and Field Upgrade - \$475,000
- Doherty Track and Field Upgrade - \$555,000
- Grant HVAC Upgrade - \$325,000
- Academic Support Plan - Budget \$345,000

Funding for three new projects out of the capital reserve contingency fund:

- Swigert Retaining Wall - \$375,000
- Holmes Bleachers Motorization - \$40,000
- Mitchell Courtyard Design and Construction - \$280,000

#### Budget Transfer, Appropriations, and FTE Approvals: 2023 Election Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)

The Board of Education approved the general fund contingency transfer in the amount of \$170,000 for the 2023 Election Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA).

#### Resolution 2024-04, Hispanic Heritage Month

The Board of Education endorsed Resolution 2024-04, honoring Hispanic Heritage Month.

The observance of Hispanic Heritage began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.

Annually, the Board of Education has issued a resolution honoring this historic event, which symbolizes the

immense contributions made by all Latinos from Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean to the success of our great nation.

### **NON-ACTION ITEMS**

#### Resolution 2024-03, FY23-24 Legislation Liaisons

The Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education policy BJA requires employees representing the District in legislative matters to have prior approval by the Board of Education. This resolution identifies those employees authorized to represent District 11 in legislative matters. Representation may be in the form of testimony at the capitol, attendance at meetings, advocacy discussions with elected officials, or information venues that involve legislative or governance matters.

The District believes it is advantageous to take an active role in developing K-12 education legislation at the national, state, and local levels.

The Superintendent or designee will be responsible for coordinating and communicating these types of activities between the designated representatives and the Board of Education.

The Board agreed via thumbs-up acknowledgment to move this item to consent at the September 13, 2023, Regular Meeting.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/TASKS**

#### Request for New Agenda Items from Board Discussion/Tasks

Director Ott requested that the Board schedule a time to designate the CASB delegate for the new year.

### **CALENDAR REVIEW**

- Wednesday, August 30, 2023, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m., Board Retreat, off-site at the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Museum
- Wednesday, September 6, 2023, Work Session
- Wednesday, September 13, 2023, Regular Board Meeting

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.