

Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Board Business Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2017

Board Business Meeting Minutes

A - Doug Levinson B - Paul Pitton C - John Williams D - Tom Parrish E - Greg Mikolai						Board of Education Mesa County Valley School District 51 Business Meeting Minutes: September 19 , 2017 Adopted: November 14, 2017	
	A	B	C	D	E		
						AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
Present Absent	x x	x x	x x	x x	x x	A. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL ➤ Mr. Williams welcomed attendees to the September Business Meeting and gave instructions for meeting participants to address the Board, <i>under Item G, Audience Comments.</i>	6:00 p.m.
Motion Second Aye No	x x	x x	x x	x x	x x	B. AGENDA APPROVAL	Adopted
Motion Second Aye No	x x	x x	x x	x x	x x	C. MEETING MINUTES AND SUMMARY APPROVAL C-1. August 22, 2017, Board Work Session Meeting Minutes	Adopted
						D. RECOGNITIONS D-1. Gold Status in Environmental Leadership Program, Mt Garfield and Redlands Middle Schools [Resolution: 17/18: 12] ➤ Mr. Parrish asked members of the Environmental Leadership Program to come forward. Mr. Petie Pope, Environmental Health and Safety Manager and Mr. Jory Sorensen, Redlands Middle School Principal came forward to be congratulated on demonstrating admirable commitment to creating a healthy and safe environment for our learning community. District 51 was awarded a Gold Leader in the Environmental Leadership Program from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. To be considered a Gold Leader, an entity must have an operational environmental management system, provide documentation of health and safety efforts, demonstrate past achievements to show a lasting commitment to improving environmental performance and set continual environmental improvement goals. These individuals, along with student representatives, have been invited to Denver in October to attend the Governor's Banquet to be recognized for their hard work. The Board and Superintendent are proud to recognize these individuals for their commitment to creating a safe and healthy environment and taking care of our planet.	
						D-2. CCTM Outstanding Math Leader Award, Mr. Jim Butterfield [Resolution: 17/18: 13] ➤ Mr. Mikolai asked Mr. Butterfield, Principal from Bookcliff Middle School, to come forward. The Colorado Council of Teachers of Mathematics recognized Mr. Butterfield as the Outstanding Math Leader. He met the criteria of someone who contributes to mathematics education. Individuals are selected by showing a commitment to improving mathematics learning for students, advocating for mathematics, supporting the advancement of math education in a variety of venues and demonstrating professional growth by keeping up with new developments in education through conferences and workshops. Mr. Butterfield has demonstrated a commitment to supporting teachers and students, and leading by example. He supports teachers by providing	

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						<p>resources and professional learning opportunities, and expects all students to demonstrate ownership of their learning. The Board and Superintendent thanked Mr. Butterfield for the commitment to staff and students.</p> <p>E. BOARD REPORTS/COMMUNICATIONS/REQUESTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Pitton commended on the performance he watched of a Hispanic Heritage presentation. ➤ Mr. Williams reported on the Bond and Mill meetings he has attended. He offered Ms. Kellie Flennigan to come talk to the Board for further details. ➤ Mr. Mikolai reported working with R5 High School on a project regarding the Colorado National Monument for a project based learning activity. He reported it was impressive to see the hard work and dedication. <p>F. LEGISLATIVE REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Pitton reported visiting with Mr. Dan Thurlow, Colorado House of Representatives. He discussed the Gallagher Amendment and he would like to see a freeze to Gallagher, as well as, a cap put on Tabor. Mr. Pitton stated the Claire Davis Act was approved and he will report further on this Act at a later date. <p>G. AUDIENCE COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Williams asked if anyone would like to comment to the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ms. Kris Clark, P.O. Box 417, Fruita, CO 81521 Ms. Clark spoke about a group of parents from Fruita who are concerned about the future of the AG Program. Dr. Haptonstall reported the idea is to keep the program going status quo or even expand the program. He is working with Western Colorado Community College and Colorado Mesa University to extend the program. Dr. Haptonstall stated he would be willing to meet with the FFA Advisory Committee. b) Mr. Billy Johnson, 737 Ash Drive, Fruita, CO 81506 Mr. Johnson outlined Outdoor Education Classes which he would like to see implemented in all schools. He would like to see more science, health and fitness, environmental literacy programs and education for the community regarding things happening in classrooms. He stated he would like the Board to be concerned with what is happening in classrooms. c) Mr. Bill Somerville, 945 17 ¼ Road, Fruita, CO 81506 Mr. Somerville has been involved with the AG program at Fruita Monument for the past twenty years. The program has 135 students who Mr. Somerville feels are not being served. He is unhappy with the current teacher. He does not understand why Mr. Hudson is not allowed to stay with the program. He voiced concern regarding the District's actions regarding the AG program. 	

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						<p>d) Ms. Cindy Hayes, P.O. Box 11, Fruita, CO 81521 Ms. Hayes spoke about her daughter's success in the Fruita AG program. She stated her daughter would like to be an FFA or AG teacher and is currently attending college to become a teacher. She reported students wear their dress uniforms with pride. They often are represented at the state and national competitions. Ms. Hays is in hopes the promises made by the District are true. She will pay attention to what happens with the future of the AG Program at Fruita Monument High School.</p> <p>e) Mr. Dennis Simpson, 2306 E. Piazza Place, Grand Junction, CO 81506 Mr. Simpson agrees the District needs money. He does not like the Bond proposal. He stated the proposal is not an intellectually honest proposal. He shared the investment and interest concepts. Mr. Simpson is worried about the wording in the ballot. He would like to see the money, if received, put into a high interest account to build more money. He would like to make sure the process is the best value for District 51. He expects accountability with taxpayers' money.</p> <p>f) Mr. Herb Feinzig, 4340 N. Club Circle, Unit C, Grand Junction, CO 81506 Mr. Feinzig stated he is in support of the Bond and Mill. He offered his services to work with District 51 to help improve education in the community. He stated he has a long history in education. The Board thanked Mr. Feinzig for his time.</p> <p>H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT H-1. Community Hospital Services, Mr. Chris Thomas, CEO for Community Hospital ➤ Mr. Chris Thomas and other representatives from Community Hospital provided the Board with an update on the District's five-year partnership with the hospital. Before the partnership began, in 2011, the District's self-funded health plan borrowed \$1.7 million from the general fund, largely due to expensive claims. In order to encourage more employees to see a physician early (before their health worsens and becomes a much larger issue.) The District collaborated with Community the following year. Community Hospital provided an employee health care clinic and the District started offering employees annual health screenings in 2012-2013. The clinic includes numerous providers, including after-hours care. In 2014, deductibles were lowered with the health screenings, and plan savings were reinvested in the workforce. In 2016, the District's insurance program began offering a Community Health Partnership Plan, which steered patients to Community Hospital and offered savings. Community Health Partnership Plan also offers a 12-week Lifestyle Medical Program which helps the employees develop</p>	

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						<p>health skills. Today, District premiums have been stagnant since 2014 for individuals and stable since 2015 for families. Deductibles have been the same since 2014. Mr. Thomas stated he hopes to see the District's partnership with Community Hospital grow and evolve, in particular by encouraging healthy behaviors over multiple tests and procedures. The Board thanked Mr. Thomas for his partnership.</p> <p>H-2. Staffing Update, Mrs. Colleen Martin, Executive Director for Human Resources, Mrs. Cindy Starr, HR Certified Applicant Specialist</p> <p>➤ Mrs. Starr and Mrs. Martin updated the Board on current open positions. Many of these positions are difficult to fill, as they are highly specialized and require specific licensure or certification. Substitutes are currently covering many of the positions.</p> <p>H-3. Community Partnership, Mr. Matt Diers, Executive Director of High Schools and Academic Alternative Schools</p> <p>➤ Mr. Diers updated the Board on a variety of partnerships the District has with community organizations to offer students career preparation opportunities. The District has several examples of partnerships, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The District Youth Apprenticeship Program (CareerWise), which the Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce was instrumental in implementing. Eleven businesses have taken apprentices. The Emerging Workforce Committee and its subcommittees, the Career Link Committee and the Youth Collaboration Committee. Career Internship Development Coordinator Ms. Darcy Weir, who runs the Chamber's YEA, Youth Entrepreneurs Academy, which starts next month for 2017-2018. The Grand Junction Economic Partnership, which consults with the District to help improve education pathways. The Mesa County Workforce Development Board, which helps with the Kick Start Program, paid internships, job search services and D51 Youth Apprentice Program. The Mesa County Workforce Center, which has the Mesa County Work Ready Community Initiative, ACT Work Keys testing program and National Career Readiness Certification. Alpine Bank and Colorado Mesa University, who run the quarterly Student of the Month Luncheons. <p>➤ The Board thanked Mr. Diers for the report.</p> <p>H-4. Communications Report/District Initiatives Update</p> <p>➤ District 51 is working on ways to embed behaviors, which will help the District realize the vision to Engage, Equip and Empower our learning community today for a limitless tomorrow. There is also continued support for implementation of Social and Emotional Learning and the District Learning Model, including working with high school teachers who are exploring new ways of grading and reporting.</p>	

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Motion Second Aye No	x	x	x	x	x	I. CONSENT AGENDA I-1. Personnel Actions I-1-a. Licensed Personnel [Resolution: 17/18: 16] I-1-b. Classified Personnel [Resolution: 17/18: 15] I-2. Gifts [Resolution: 17/18: 14]	Adopted
Motion Second Aye No	x	x	x	x	x	J. BUSINESS ITEMS J-1. Policy Second Reading/Adoption J-1.a. IHBG, Home Schooling J-1.b. JEA, Compulsory Attendance Age J-1.c. JFC, Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts J-1.d. JH, Student Absences and Excuses	Adopted
Motion Second Aye No	x	x	x	x	x	J-2. Resolution to Lease Activity Bus [Resolution 17/18:17] ➤ Mr. Phil Onofrio, Chief Financial Officer, stated he obtained a one percent reduction in interest rates over the previous lease.	Adopted
						K. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION ➤ Mr. Parrish commended everyone for his or her continued efforts. ➤ Mr. Williams reported on the poor quality of the auditorium at Central High School.	
						L. FUTURE MEETINGS ➤ Reviewed.	
Motion Second Aye No	x	x	x	x	x	M. EXECUTIVE SESSION ➤ LEGAL ADVICE: C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b) for a conference with legal counsel for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions concerning Board Policy HBA and support staff representation. ➤ Present: Mr. Mikolai, Mr. Williams, Mr. Parrish, Mr. Levinson, Mr. Pitton, Mr. David Price, Attorney, Mrs. Colleen Martin, Executive Director of Human Resources, Dr. Ken Haptonstall, Superintendent	8:06 p.m.
Motion Second Aye No	x	x	x	x	x	➤ Motion to Return to Open Session ➤ Time spent: 54 minutes	Adopted
Motion Second Aye No	x	x	x	x	x	N. Adjournment	9:00 p.m.
						Terri N. Wells, Secretary Board of Education	

**Recognition:
Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
Environmental Leadership Program
Mt. Garfield Middle School
Redlands Middle School**

Board of Education Resolution: 17/18: 12

Presented: September 19, 2017

The Board would like to invite Mr. Petie Pope, Mrs. Rocio Roybal and Mr. Jory Sorensen to the front.

The Board of Education would like to recognize and congratulate these individuals for their leadership in environmental and school safety. Mr. Petie Pope, Environmental Health & Safety Manager, Mrs. Rocio Roybal, Principal at Mt. Garfield Middle School, and Mr. Jory Sorensen, Principal at Redlands Middle School, have demonstrated admirable commitment to creating a healthy and safe environment for our learning community.

Because of their efforts, District 51 was accepted as a Gold Leader in the Environmental Leadership Program from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. To be considered a Gold Leader, an entity must have a fully operational environmental management system, provide documentation of health and safety efforts, demonstrate past achievements to show a lasting commitment to improving environmental performance, and set continual environmental improvement goals.

These individuals, along with student representatives, have been invited to Denver in October to attend the Governor's Banquet to be recognized for their hard work that awarded them the Gold Leader status.

Colorado's Environmental Leader Program members are recognized as entities that inspire and challenge other organizations to higher levels of environmental performance. The Board of Education and Superintendent Haptonstall are proud to recognize these individuals, and District 51 as a whole, for their commitment to creating a safe and healthy environment, and taking care of our planet. Congratulations.

The Board would like to invite Mr. Jim Butterfield to the front.

The Board of Education would like to recognize and congratulate Mr. Jim Butterfield, Principal of Bookcliff Middle School, for his recent recognition as the Outstanding Math Leader by the Colorado Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Mr. Butterfield was nominated for this honor, meeting the criteria of someone who contributes to mathematics education. Individuals are selected for this award by showing a commitment to improving mathematics learning for students, advocating for mathematics and supporting the advancement of math education in a variety of venues and demonstrating professional growth by keeping up with new developments in education through conferences and workshops.

Mr. Butterfield has demonstrated a commitment to supporting teachers and students, and leading by example. He supports teachers by providing resources and professional learning opportunities, and expects that all students demonstrate ownership of their learning.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Haptonstall are proud to recognize Mr. Jim Butterfield for this distinct honor of Outstanding Math Leader. Thank you for your commitment to staff and students.

Communications Update

August 17 – September 12, 2017

Includes

Earned Media Coverage

Paid Media Coverage

Electronic Direct Communication

Events

Social Media Reports



Earned Media

The Daily Sentinel

Aug 17, Sub-par results for D51 pupils

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/subpar-8232results-8232for-d518232pupils/>

Aug 17, School district asks ballot help from university

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/school-district-asks-ballot-help-from-university/>

Aug 20, No issue more critical than funding for D51

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/opinion/articles/no-issue-more-critical-than-funding-for-d51>

Aug 19, Williams, Parrish plan to seek re-election to school district board

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/williams-parrish-plan-to-seek-reelection-to-school>

Aug 22, District 51 mulls insurance options for its employees

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/district-51-mulls-insurance-option-for-its-employe>

Aug 27, Campaign to raise taxes for schools now underway

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/campaign-to-raise-taxes-for-schools-now-underway>

Aug 28, Dozens attend initial community forum about school mill levy, bond

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/dozens-attend-initial-community-forum-about-school>

Aug 31, Accident at Fruita 8/9 prompts calls for change

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/accident-at-fruita-89-prompts-calls-for-change/>

Sept 1, District 51 rank slips in analysis by state

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/district-51-rank-slips-in-analysis-by-state>

Sept 2, Five candidates certified to vie in D51 board race

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/district-51-rank-slips-in-analysis-by-state>

Sept 3, The most significant asset for our future needs our investment

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/opinion/articles/the-most-significant-asset-for-our-future-needs-ou>

Sept 5, Getting careers in gear

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/getting-careers-in-gear/>

Sept 6, Local officials offer support for 'Dreamers'

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/local-officials-offer-support-for-dreamers/>

Sept 12, Couple who built Fruita a program pulled from classes

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/couple-who-built-fruita-ag-program-pulled-from-cla>

KKCO/KJCT

Aug 17, Colorado Department of Education has released the 2017 state test results

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/440964543.html>

Aug 18, R-5 High School looking for donations

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/440964173.html>

Aug 20, D51 schools to give out free eclipse glasses to students and staff

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/441189903.html>

Aug 21, Teachers use solar eclipse as learning experience

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/Teachers-use-solar-eclipse-as-learning-experience-441344413.html>

Aug 21, KKCO Athlete of the Week: Clay Payne

<http://www.nbc11news.com/video?vid=441344823>

Aug 22, District 51 superintendent continues on with 90 day plan; focuses on trust

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/District-51-superintendent-continues-on-with-90-day-plan-441476633.html>

Aug 23, Grand Junction High School collecting eclipse glasses to send abroad

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/441583753.html>

Aug 25, District 51 receives school health professional grant

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/District-51-receives-school-health-professional-grant-441783563.html>

Aug 30, Teen girl hit by car in Fruita, police say

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/442242743.html>

Aug 31, D51 schools participate in suicide awareness campaign

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/442420933.html>

Sept 1, Crosswalk safety training for D51

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/442518603.html>

Sept 7, Bethe1 to campaign to promote connectedness, and prevent suicide

<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/Bethe1to-campaign-aims-to-promote-connectedness-and-prevent-suicide-443159763.html>

KREX

Aug 17, D51 behind state on SAT, CMAS scores

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/d51-behind-state-on-sat-cmas-scores/792130227>

Aug 17, Citizens for School D51 receives anonymous donation

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/citizens-for-school-d51-recieves-anonymous-donation/791772922>

Aug 18, Elementary resources

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/elementary-resources/793774176>

Aug 21, Science teacher is able to get 1,000 solar glasses for students

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/science-teacher-is-able-to-get-1000-solar-glasses-for-students/795312417>

Aug 23, Bond & Mill Levy Discussion with District 51

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/bond-mill-levy-discussion-with-district-51/796965111>

Aug 27, Career pathways for high school students

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/career-pathways-for-high-school-students/799851556>

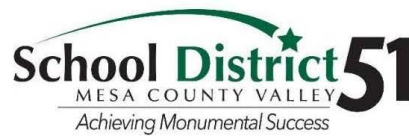
Sept 7, Organizations teach you to #BeThe1To make a difference

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/organizations-teach-you-to-be-the-one-to-make-a-difference/806671156>

Paid Media Coverage

The following ads have appeared weekly on the Education page of the Daily Sentinel

September 4



COMMUNITY MEETINGS WITH THE D51 SCHOOL BOARD

6 - 7:30 P.M.



Have a question for the D51 School Board?

Now's your chance to ask it!



This fall, all members of the community are invited to attend a series of Community Meetings with D51 School Board members. Mark your calendars for the event closest to you and come enjoy a dialogue with the board. Find more information at www.d51schools.org!

- Thursday, Sept. 7 – 6 p.m. in the Palisade High School Library
- Thursday, Sept. 14 – 6 p.m. in the Central High School Library
- Thursday, Sept. 21 – 6 p.m. in the Orchard Mesa Middle School Cafeteria
- Monday, Sept. 25 – 6 p.m. in the Grand Junction High School Library
- Monday, Oct. 2 – 6 p.m. in the Fruita 8/9 School Library
- Monday, Oct. 9 – 6 p.m. in the Redlands Middle School Cafeteria



Did You Know?

A lot has changed in the last eight years in District 51

District 51 has more students....



....and fewer employees

	ENROLLMENT	STAFF
2009-10	22,030 students	2,321.17 full-time equivalent staff
2016-17	22,105 students	2,145.97 full-time equivalent staff

There are more successes



GRADUATION RATE

2010: 74%
2017: 80.4%

D51 STUDENTS IN COLLEGE CLASSES

2013-14: 270
2016-17: 360



STUDENTS IN AP

2009-10: 1,096
2016-17: 2,667

As well as more struggles

FREE/REDUCED LUNCH

2009-10: 9,612 (45%)
2016-17: 10,924 (51%)



STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

2009-10: 2,337
2016-17: 2,849

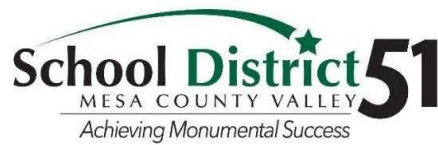
HOMELESS STUDENTS

2009-10: 235
2016-17: 349



Thank you for your continued support as your schools grow!

There are many ways to help improve the future of a child. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please call 970-254-5114 or email communicate@d51schools.org. Learn more at www.d51schools.org.



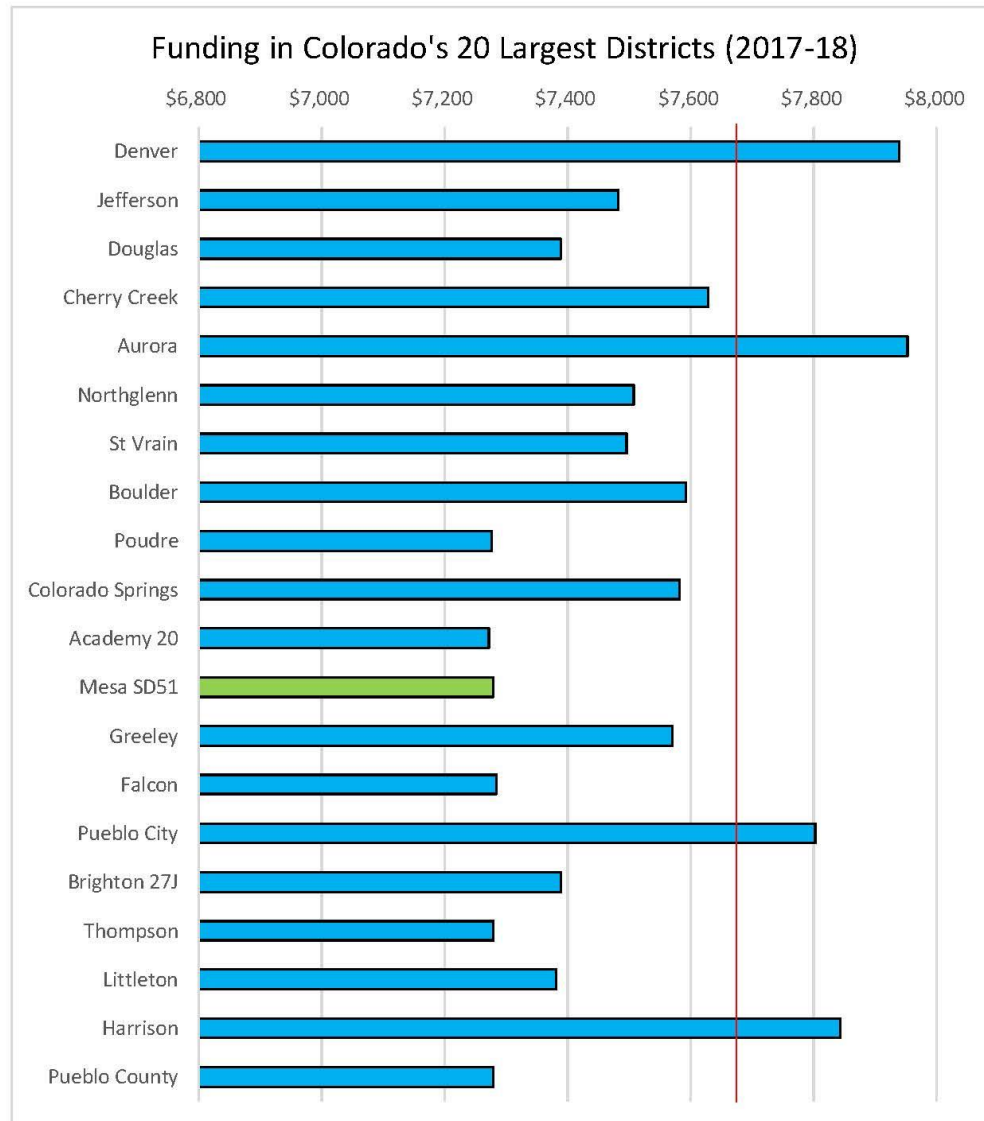
Did You Know?

District 51 is one of the lowest-funded school districts in Colorado

District 51 will receive \$7,279 per student through the state funding formula this year. The state average is \$7,662 per student.

Why are we nearly \$400 below the state average? While smaller districts and some of the very largest districts get more funding, the state considers District 51 just the right size to get some of the lowest funding in the state.

The funding formula churns out a number for each district to receive per student based on enrollment, local cost of living, number of at-risk students, and other factors. Some districts add more money onto the formula through mill levy overrides and bond measures, which is why the top 30 districts vary widely in funding. See how we compare with the top 30 districts by enrollment in the chart below.



Red Line = State Average Funding Per Student

Electronic Direct Communications

August Parent Newsletter



School District 51 Family and Community Newsletter | August 2017



What's in store this year for the D51 Learning Model

District 51 is now in the third year of transforming to a 21st century education system. What does that mean? Learn more in the video above and in [this article](#).



Board approves ballot language
District 51 School Board members decided June 20 to pursue a bond measure and a mill levy override in the Nov. 7 General Election. This Tuesday, they approved the [exact language of those questions](#). Learn more about them [here](#).



Taking in the solar eclipse
Kids from across District 51 enjoyed Monday's solar eclipse with special glasses, filtered telescopes, and some basic methods, like a pinhole projector. Teachers used the opportunity to make science come to life!



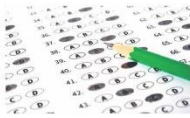
D51 School Board Community Meetings start Sept. 7

Do you have a question for the School Board? Come to one of the six Community Meetings with board members this fall! Find the meeting closest to you [here](#).



GJHS students find a use for used solar eclipse glasses

Grand Junction High School's Interact Club is collecting used solar eclipse glasses to send to kids in Asia and South America to view the next eclipse. Have glasses to donate? Drop them off or mail them to the school [here](#).



CMAS/PARCC results are in
The Colorado Department of Education released CMAS/PARCC test results last Thursday, Aug. 17. See state, district and school results [here](#) and learn how teachers use each child's test results to tailor instruction in this [article](#).



Teachers hone skills at Elevate
D51 teachers chose to put their summers on pause July 31 and Aug. 1 for the second-ever [Elevate Summit](#) in Grand Junction. Elevate brought together 550 educators and administrators to learn about the D51 Learning Model and fine-



Moving ahead as one in D51

District 51 employees filled the stands at Stocker Stadium for an all-staff meeting on Aug. 14. In this video, Dr. Haptonstall explains how we are all reshaping education.

Fun for the Whole Family

Aug. 25: Free admission at [Colorado National Monument](#).

Aug. 26: [Fruita Bike Ride](#), 9 a.m. to noon. Fruita Community Center. Free.

Sept. 4: Last day of 2017 season at [Lincoln Park Pool](#), 1:30-7:30 p.m. Admission \$1-\$5.

Sept. 5: Final [GJ Rockies](#) home game of 2017 season, 6:40 p.m. Suplizio Field, \$9-\$11.

D51 gets \$557,300 health grant
District 51 is one of 42 recipients of a [School Health Professional Grant](#) that will create 8 part-time counseling jobs at elementary level and 4 full-time high school social worker jobs for mental health and substance abuse prevention.



Teachers of the Year throw out first pitch at GJ Rockies game

Three talented teachers were honored at the Aug. 6 GJ Rockies game. These special teachers are:

- Nicki Delpizzo – Thunder Mt. Elementary
- Brian Rush – Palisade High School
- Katie Jenkins – Montrose



Meet the new superintendent!
Dr. Ken Haptonstall has been on the job for less than two months, and he's already making a difference in District 51. Get to know the new superintendent [here](#).



Helping kids start the year
Thank you to all who donated supplies to our annual Stuff the Bus school supply drive - you helped make this one of the best - if not the best - years we've ever had! Also, a big thanks to the Rotary Club for donating more than \$15,000 in supplies to classrooms!



the D51 Learning Model and fine-tune their classroom practices.



Check out the new look of www.d51schools.org

The School District 51 [website](#) has a new, more user-friendly look. The new home page features an easy-to-read calendar of events, news, interactive lunch menus, quick links to frequently used parts of the site, and more!



Mental health, disabilities topics at local conference Sept. 23

The Western Slope Abilities Conference for parents, educators, and service providers will take place from 7:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 23 at the DoubleTree by Hilton. Learn more [here](#).



D51 earns financial transparency award for 19th consecutive year

Congrats to the D51 Finance Department for earning the [Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting](#) for the 19th year in a row! The award recognizes financial transparency.



Learn more about concussion treatment, prevention, recovery
A [concussion management town hall meeting](#) will take place this Saturday, Aug. 26, at the DoubleTree by Hilton. If you would like to attend, RSVP to 970-644-3024 or hgray@gjhosp.org.



From everyone at School District 51, we're glad to have you in our family!

We may be the largest employer in Mesa County, with approximately 2,800 staff at any given time, but we're all focused on one goal - providing the best education possible for your kids. We wish you a wonderful new school year, and encourage you to keep reading these monthly newsletters to stay in touch with what's going on in your school district!



District 51 Insider

School District 51 Staff Newsletter | August 2017



May 23 Board Brief

June 6 Board Brief

June 20 Board Brief

August 8 Board Brief

August 22 Board Brief

Recognize!

Do you know a student, staff member, or school that has received a State or National award? [Send us some information](#) so we can recognize them at the next Board of Education Meeting (if applicable).

Communications Report

Every month, the Communications department puts together a brief snapshot of what we've been up to. [Read the current report here.](#)



Aug. 26, Evening Under The Stars, 5:30pm. Sherwood Park. Free.

Aug. 26, Fruita Bike Rodeo, 9am-12pm, Fruita Community Center. Free.

Sept. 1, First Friday Art Event, 6:30pm. The Art Center. Free

Sept. 7, Men In Heels Race, 5:30pm, Downtown Farmer's Market.

Sept. 10, Dog Days at Lincoln Park, Lincoln Park Pool.

Sept 23, Western Slope Abilities Conference, Education & resources for those who support people with disabilities and/or mental health issues. \$75. Registration Required.

Help Us Out

Do you know of any **Discounts for D51 employees?** (gym memberships, technology, subscriptions, retail discounts, etc.) Please [send us an email](#) so we can make information available to staff! [Click here to see what we have so far!](#)



Dr. Ken Haptonstall, Superintendent of Schools, welcomes you to the 2017-18 school year! Read more about Dr. Haptonstall in this [Meet the Superintendent](#) piece.

In This Edition

[Bond and Mill Levy Election Information](#)

[Communications Report](#)

[Human Resources Update](#)

[D51Wellness Updates](#)

[Technology Update](#)

[D51 Foundation Update](#)

[Click here for the 2017-18 staff calendars](#)

The District 51 Bond and Mill Levy Election

On June 20, 2017, School Board members voted unanimously to pursue a bond measure and mill levy override in the Nov. 7, 2017, Coordinated Election. Employees of District 51 need to ensure that they are aware of, and comply with the Fair Campaign Practices Act. [Read more about the Act, and how it affects you.](#)

[Read more](#) about the Bond and Mill Levy and what they would do for D51 schools.

All Staff Kick Off

On August 14, School Board Members, MVEA, and the D51 Foundation welcomed back nearly 3,000 D51 employees. Check out the photos below!



Staff Spotlight

On August 14, the Nutrition Services Department purchased 600 pastries and provided several gallons of coffee, water, and juice to nearly 3,000 staff members who attended the Staff Kick Off at Stocker Stadium. They were able to serve everyone using the Lunch Lizard Vehicles. Well done, team!

Overwhelmed by all the **Acronyms and Jargon?** (What's an IEP? Or PBL?) [Check out this list](#), and [let us know](#) if we're missing any!

Stay Connected

[D51 Community](#) - Local events and promotions.

[D51 News](#) - Primary source for things happening in District 51.

[Staff News](#) - Exclusive information for D51 staff.

[D51 Classifieds](#) - A forum for D51 staff to search for or post items for sale.

[D51 Communications](#) - Help us get the word out about great things happening in D51!



D51 Foundation Update

The D51 Foundation has been hard at work! [Click here](#) to read an update from Executive Director, Angela Christensen.



Staff News

Staff News is now on Yammer! [Join Yammer to stay connected to colleagues in District 51](#), and to receive news updates from across the district. You can also subscribe to email updates.

Human Resources Did You Know?

HR has been gearing up for the start of school. Here are a few things that have happened during the past few months:

- We welcomed roughly 230 new staff members to D51 and assisted nearly 115 existing staff in transferring to a new position;
- Assignments were rolled and evaluation systems prepped for the new year;
- We just wrapped up an amazing Jump Start Academy and New Teacher Orientation; and
- Completed a successful substitute training with nearly 180 participants!

Human Resources is here to support you as the work of educating our students begins! [Click here](#) for a list of Who's Who in Human Resources. We wish everyone a successful startup to a great year!

District 51 Wellness Program

The D51Wellness Team wants to welcome everyone back to school! We hope that you have a healthy and happy school year. [Click here](#) for updates about the Wellnews Program, and [click here](#) for the D51Wellness Calendar for the entire school year!



And thank you to everyone who participated in the Summer Squat Challenge! Here are the challenge Winners:

[Kareese Allen, Chipeta Elem](#)

[April Durham, Palisade HS](#)

[Click here to log in](#) to your wellness portal.

Questions? Forgot your username or password? Contact [Gussie Nishi](#).

D51 Technology Infrastructure Update

Quiz Time: Do you know what "Technology Infrastructure" means? [Click here to find out](#) and impress your friends.

We Are D51

We know that we work with some pretty amazing people, and we like stories. We want to start a series to highlight staff of all positions across District 51. Is there a coworker you really enjoy working with? Or have you noticed someone doing something really cool or noteworthy? [Fill out this nomination form](#) and we just might pay them a visit to hear their story and recognize them.



School District 51

Engage, Equip, and Empower
our learning community today for a limitless tomorrow

#WeAreD51

Did we miss something?

We want to hear from you! Staff are welcome to ask questions about the information you read, or provide suggestions for future articles.

Submit your ideas/feedback/comments to [Cat Foster](#)



Board Brief, August 22

BOARD BRIEFS

August 22, 2017 Board Business Meeting

Board approves ballot language

On Tuesday night, D51 School Board members adopted a resolution approving the specific wording of a mill levy override question and a bond measure question for the Nov. 7, 2017,

General Election. The wording chosen by the board is exactly what will appear on the November ballot. You can find it [here](#).

The mill levy override question will appear as the first question on the ballot and will sunset in 10 years. Dan O'Connell, Colorado K-12 Finance Team Director for municipal finance experts RBC, said at Tuesday's meeting that most districts have the words "including but not limited to" in their override questions, but District 51's question only allows the \$6.5 million per year that would be raised by the override to be used for four specific purposes listed in the question:

- Adding five more instructional days to the school calendar,
- Acquiring student instructional resources and implementing staff training,
- Providing up-to-date technology resources, and
- Providing ongoing maintenance of and improvements to district facilities and grounds.

The bond measure will be the second question on the ballot, and can only be used for capital expenditures. The bond question limits the district's bond spending to four specific items, unless costs come in less than predicted, in which case the board can spend any remaining money on other capital expenditures, as they did with the 2004 bond, which used savings to build Chipeta Elementary. The four capital expenditures in the bond question are:

- Replacing Orchard Mesa Middle School (constructed in 1960) with a new facility on the same site;
- Repairing, renovating, or making additions to school buildings, including upgrades to heat and air conditioning systems and plumbing to provide for the health and safety of students and teachers;
- Acquiring, purchasing, equipping or furnishing school buildings, including school safety and security equipment, technology and internet or network equipment; and
- Adding gymnasiums to Dual Immersion Academy Elementary School and Palisade High School.



Monument Health Presentation

St. Mary's Hospital has partnered with Rocky Mountain Health Plans and Primary Care Physicians to create a health care network called Monument Health.

Executives from St. Mary's and Monument Health presented the board with an overview of how a self-funded health insurance plan would work with a Monument Health plan and asked the board to consider having a third plan (a Monument Health Plan) in addition to the two health insurance plans D51 has now, which are the Community Health Partnership (CHP) plan and the Standard PPO plan.

Monument requested identical premiums for each plan. They stated that by doing this the D51 self-funded health plan would save money due to increased discounts they would offer on billed charges to the Monument Health plan as well as an expectation of decreased utilization. Board members requested more information, including a cost comparison performed by a third party who would compare what procedures cost under the current plan and what they would have cost under Monument.



Business Items

The board had first reading of the following policies:

- IHBG, Home Schooling
- JEA, Compulsory Attendance Age
- JFC, Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts
- JH, Student Absences and Excuses

The board also voted to approve an agreement for six employees serving on Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) committees or the CHSAA Board of Directors and approved an extension of the Juniper Ridge Community School contract through the board's next work session on Sept. 5 to allow extra time to go over a new contract.



Superintendent's 90-Day Plan Update

Superintendent Ken Haptonstall provided an update on his first 90 days as superintendent. Since taking over in July, Dr. Haptonstall has been visiting schools across the district; visiting with kids, parents and community members; and hosted an all-staff meeting Aug. 14. He plans to come back to the board in September or October with plans for expediting the transformation of the D51 Learning Model.



Finance Award

For the 19th year in a row, the District 51 Finance Department received the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. On Tuesday, the board honored Director of Financial Services Vi Crawford and accountants Cara Golden and Ashley Zhang for their work on financial transparency.

Future Meetings

Sept. 5: Board Work Session, 6 p.m., Harry Butler Board Room

Sept. 7: Community Conversation with the Board, 6 p.m., Palisade High School Library

Sept. 14: Community Conversation with the Board, 6 p.m., Central High School Library

Sept. 19: Board Business Meeting, 6 p.m., Harry Butler Board Room



BOARD BRIEFS

Sept. 5, 2017 Work Session

CMAS/PARCC and Accreditation

State test scores released in mid-August showed mixed results for District 51. Out of 16 CMAS/PARCC test categories (grades 3-9 in English Language Arts, grades 3-8 in math, and three



high school-level integrated math tests), District 51 saw growth in six testing areas and decreases in 10 testing areas year-over-year. Participation in CMAS and PARCC testing was up 10.77 percentage points this spring compared to last spring, but participation still lagged 1.5 percentage points behind the state average of 90 percent. Colorado schools will continue to give CMAS/PARCC tests in the spring of 2018. The state has selected Pearson, which delivers CMAS social studies and science testing and PARCC, to offer a new Colorado-only math and ELA test starting in the spring of 2019.

CMAS/PARCC performance, growth, and participation are major factors in deciding a district's accreditation rating and a school's performance framework rating. Based on this data as well as graduation and dropout rates, matriculation rates, PSAT and SAT scores, and test growth in certain subgroups, the district's preliminary district rating is Accredited with Improvement Plan: Low Participation.

Not counting students who had parental permission to be excused from testing, D51 met the 95 percent participation threshold for CMAS math and ELA testing, but not for CMAS science testing. Areas where the district is doing well include growth in English Language Learner math, high school math achievement and growth, graduation rates, and PSAT and SAT math growth. Areas that need more work include middle school ELA, math and science achievement; and graduation rates for students with disabilities.

The deadline to submit an appeal for either a district or school rating is Oct. 16. The district is currently reviewing potential school candidates for appeal and seeking clarification from CDE on allowable conditions for an appeals request.



Future Meetings

Sept. 7: School Board Community Meeting at 6 p.m. in the Palisade High School Library

Sept. 13: School Board Community Meeting at 3:15 p.m. at Gateway School

Sept. 14: School Board Community Meeting at 6 p.m. in the Central High School Library

Sept. 19: School Board Business Meeting at 6 p.m. in the Harry Butler Board Room

Sept. 21: School Board Community Meeting at 6 p.m. in the Orchard Mesa Middle School Cafeteria

Sept. 25: School Board Community Meeting at 6 p.m. in the Grand Junction High School Library

Juniper Ridge Contract

The D51 Board of Education voted 5-0 to approve a resolution to renew the contract for Juniper Ridge Community School, subject to final review of some exhibits and approval from the district's legal counsel.



Resolution to Support Mineral Lease Grant Application

Board members approved a resolution supporting an application for a grant from the Mesa County Federal Mineral Lease District. If approved, the grant dollars would provide nearly \$50,000 for the Magnify Science Education Project, which would supplement math and science education in District 51 elementary schools.



Legislative Update

Amy Attwood, lobbyist for D51, provided an update from the 2017 state legislative session and predictions about the 2018 state legislative session. Some major education bills from 2017 include House Bill 1340, which establishes a study group to examine potential ways to change the school funding formula, and House Bill 1375, which requires school districts to share mill levy dollars with charter schools starting in 2019-20.

Some possibilities for 2018 include a bill that would set a statewide standard mill levy rate, a bill to address teacher shortages, legislation about PERA, and a bill to address what happens after a school has been on turnaround status for at least five years.

Social Media

As of September 12, we had 10,139 "likes" on Facebook, an increase of 60 "likes" since August 17. Our posts have focused on media coverage of various events, information about emergency incidents at schools, information about board meetings, etc. Each week, we have focused on a different topic. Topics include calendar days, budget, the D51 Learning Model, Colorado school finance, and D51 maintenance.

A full social media report is available upon request, or at this link: [District 51 Report, August 17 – September 12](#)

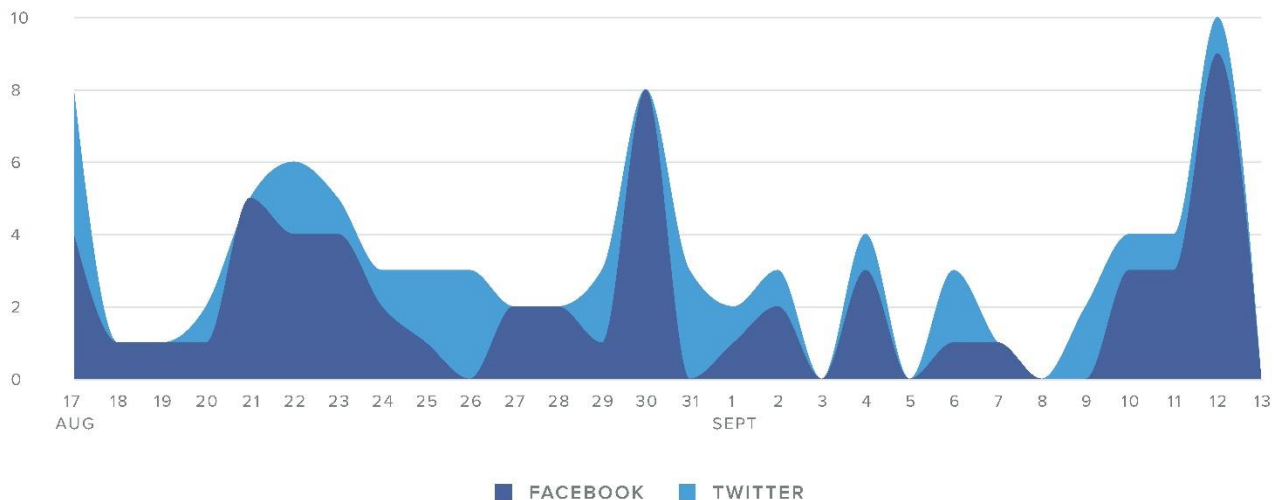


Stats by Profile/Page

Profile/Page	Total Fans / Followers	Fan / Follower Increase	Messages Sent	Impressions	Impressions per Post	Engagements	Engagements per Post	Link Clicks
 Mesa ...strict 51 Facebook Page	10,138	0.59%	74	429,875	5,809	4,198	56.7	1,145
 School Distri... @district51	2,927	0.90%	10	18,195	1,820	203	20.3	30

Audience Growth

AUDIENCE GROWTH, BY DAY



Audience Growth Metrics

	Totals	Change
Total Fans	13,065	▲ 0.7%
New Facebook Fans	55	▼ 63.1%
New Twitter Followers	26	▲ 160.0%
Total Fans Gained	81	▼ 49.1%

Total fans increased by

▲ 0.7%

since previous date range

Board of Education Resolution: 17/18: 16

Adopted: September 19, 2017

Name	School/Assignment	Effective Date
Retirements		
Scroggins, Stephen	GJHS/Social Studies	September 8, 2017
Resignations/Termination		
Hudson, Jennifer	Itinerant/Floating Substitute	September 12, 2017
Smith, Kelly	R5/Counselor	August 31, 2017
Taylor, Sean	GMMS/SPED SNB	August 28, 2017
Wilson, Stephanie	Loma/2 nd Grade	May 25, 2017
Leave of Absence		
Hinkle, Kathleen	MGMS/Science	August 24, 2017
New Assignments		
Criscola, Rebecca	R5/Counselor	August 28, 2017
Elder, Laura	MGMS/SPED SSN	September 11, 2017
Fisher, Melissa	BTK/School Social Worker, Crisis	September 18, 2017
Flores, Courtney	BTK/School Social Worker, Crisis	September 18, 2017
Hammond, Sara	BTK/School Social Worker, Crisis	September 18, 2017
Harvey, Christopher	GJHS/Social Studies	September 11, 2017
Lambert Amos, Martha	Elementary/Behavior Therapist	September 5, 2017
McGilton, Hilary	Wingate/2 nd Grade	September 13, 2017
Meyer, Michael	GJHS/SPED Moderate Needs	August 10, 2017
Morris, Genevieve	BTK/Suicide Prevention	September 12, 2017
Page-Applebee, Kathleen	DIA/Interventionist	August 16, 2017
Rossman, Jennifer	RMS/SPED SSN Autism	September 11, 2017

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on September 19, 2017.

Terri N. Wells
Secretary, Board of Education

Board of Education Resolution: 17/18: 15

Adopted: September 19, 2017

Name	School/Assignment	Effective Date
Retirements		
King, Eugene	Admin/Director of Custodial and Grounds	August 15, 2017
Resignations/Termination		
None at this time.		
Leave of Absence		
None at this time.		
New Assignments		
Apodaca, Pete	Admin/Custodial Coordinator	September 11, 2017

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on September 19, 2017.

Terri N. Wells
Secretary, Board of Education

Board of Education Resolution: 17/18: 14

Adopted: September 19, 2017

Donor	Coldwell Banker Shafer & Associates
Gift	School supplies
Value	\$200.00
School/Department	R.E.A.C.H. Program / Students in need

Donor	Mays Concrete
Gift	Cash
Value	\$150.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Football team training shirts

Donor	Mylissa Rogers and Family
Gift	Solar eclipse viewing glasses
Value	\$350.00
School/Department	Appleton Elementary / Students and staff

Donor	Fuller Orchards
Gift	Plywood and hand tools
Value	\$2,000.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Tech ed. classes

Donor	Diorio's Pizza of Palisade
Gift	Cash
Value	\$50.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Future Business Leaders of America

Donor	Jolley Smiles, PC
Gift	Cash
Value	\$50.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Future Business Leaders of America

Donor	Anonymous
Gift	Cash
Value	\$9,000.00
School/Department	Scenic Elementary School / Purchase chrome books

Donor	Monte Riggle
Gift	Cash
Value	\$5,500.00
School/Department	West Middle School / Advanced tech ed. classes

Board of Education Resolution: 17/18: 14

Adopted: September 19, 2017

Donor	The Employees of Industrial Insulation Supply
Gift	Cash
Value	\$450.00
School/Department	Fruita Middle School / Computers for technology and engineering classroom

Donor	Whistler Entertainment, Inc.
Gift	Cash
Value	\$750.00
School/Department	Music Education / Risers at Grand Junction High School

Donor	Ethel Purcell
Gift	Violin
Value	\$200.00
School/Department	Music Education / Orchestra classes

Donor	Dr. Dave Noffsinger DDS
Gift	School supplies
Value	\$60.00
School/Department	Broadway Elementary School / Students and staff

Donor	Jolley Smiles
Gift	500 pencils
Value	\$75.00
School/Department	Broadway Elementary School / Students and staff

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education, in accepting the donations listed above, extends their appreciation and acknowledges these important partnerships within the community which support learning for all students.

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on September 19, 2017.

Terri N. Wells
Secretary, Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

IHBG

HOME SCHOOLING

Adopted: October 21, 1980

Revised: November 16, 1993

Revised: November 19, 2002

Revised: September 19, 2017

Page 1 of 2

When a parent/guardian of a student below the age of 16 wants to establish a home-based educational program for a child, the following procedures shall be followed in accordance with law:

1. The parent/guardian must submit on an annual basis written notification of establishment of the home-based program to the superintendent or designee 14 days before the program is established.
2. The parent/guardian must certify in writing the name, age, place of residence and number of hours of attendance of each of the children in the program.
3. The superintendent or designee shall give the parent 14 days written notice to produce records required by law if there is probable cause to believe the program is not in compliance with the law.
4. Each student in a home-based program shall be evaluated when the student is in the third, fifth, seventh, ninth and 11th grades. The student's academic progress shall be evaluated either by giving a nationally standardized achievement test or by submitting an evaluation of the student conducted by a qualified person as defined in state law.

The superintendent or designee shall be responsible for reviewing the student's evaluation which either shall be submitted to the district or to an independent or parochial school in Colorado. If the test or evaluation results are submitted to an independent or parochial school, the name of the school shall be provided to the district.

5. If the student's composite score on the test is above the 13th percentile, the student shall continue to be eligible for the home-based educational program. If the score is at or below the 13th percentile, the parent/guardian shall be given the opportunity to have the student re-tested using an alternate version of the same test or a different nationally standardized test selected by the parent/guardian from a list supplied by the State Board of Education.
6. If the evaluation conducted by a qualified person indicates that the student is making sufficient academic progress according to ability, the student shall continue to be exempt from compulsory attendance.
7. If the composite score on a retest continues to be at or below the 13th percentile or if the evaluation conducted by a qualified person indicates that the student is not making sufficient academic progress, the district shall take steps to require the parent/guardian to enroll the student in a public, independent or parochial school.

Extracurricular and interscholastic activities

Students participating in home-based educational programs shall have the same rights as district students to participate in district extracurricular and interscholastic activities if they meet the requirements of state law and district policy. Such participation is subject to the same rules of any interscholastic organization or association of which the district is a member.

If a student withdraws from the school district more than 15 days after the start of the school year and enters a home-based educational program, the school district shall remain the child's district of residence. If the child was eligible to participate in extracurricular or interscholastic activities when he or she withdrew, the child will remain eligible to participate for the remainder of the academic year.

Habitually truant students

Any student who has been declared habitually truant at any time during the last six months of attending public school before the proposed enrollment in a home-based educational program may not be enrolled unless the parent/guardian first submits a written description of the curricula to be used along with the written notification required in paragraphs #1 and #2 above.

Re-entering district schools

A student from a home-based program may re-enter the district's schools at the beginning of the next term. With the consent of the student's parent/guardian, the district shall place the student at the grade level deemed most appropriate by the district. All students from home-based programs must demonstrate proficiency in the district-adopted content standards at their appropriate placement level. The district may test the student to determine placement.

The district shall accept the transcripts from a home-based educational program. In order to determine whether the courses and grades earned are consistent with district requirements and district academic standards, the district shall require submission of the student's work or other proof of academic performance for each course for which credit toward graduation is sought. In addition, the district may administer testing to the student to verify the accuracy of the student's transcripts. The district may reject any transcripts that cannot be verified through such testing. See policy IKF.

LEGAL REFS.:

C.R.S. 22-7-409 (1.2)(d)(I)(C)(III) (*home school students not required to take state assessments*)

C.R.S. 22-33-104.5 (*home-based education law*)

C.R.S. 22-33-104.5 (3)(f) (*scores on nationally standardized tests or evaluations required in paragraph 4 above, are not considered when the state awards academic performance grades to each school*)

C.R.S. 22-33-107 (*compulsory attendance law*)

C.R.S. 22-32-116.5(2) (*extracurricular and interscholastic activities*)

CROSS REFS.:

JEA, Compulsory Attendance Ages

JGA, Assignment of Students to Classes

JJIB, Interscholastic Sports

Mesa County Valley School District 51

JEA

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AGES

Related: JEA-R

Adopted: June 13, 1972

Revised: April 1, 1997; August 6, 2002, May 22, 2007

Adopted: June 17, 2008

Adopted: September 19, 2017

Page 1 of 2

Every child who has attained the age of six (6) years on or before August 1 of each year and is under the age of seventeen (17) is required to attend public school during each school year for at least one thousand fifty-six (1,056) hours if a secondary school pupil, nine hundred sixty-eight (968) hours if an elementary school pupil in a grade other than kindergarten, nine hundred (900) hours if a full-day kindergarten pupil and four hundred fifty (450) hours if a half-day kindergarten pupil, with such exceptions as provided by law. Exceptions include a child:

1. who is temporarily ill or injured or whose absence is approved by the building principal;
2. who is enrolled for a minimum of one hundred seventy-two days in a independent or parochial school which provides a sequential program of instruction which includes, but is not limited to, communication skills of reading, writing, and speaking, mathematics, history, civics, literature and science;
3. who is absent for an extended period due to physical, mental or emotional disability;
4. who has been suspended, expelled or denied admission in accordance with the provisions of state law and board policy;
5. to whom a current age and school certificate or work permit has been issued pursuant to the "Colorado Youth Employment Opportunity Act of 1971", article 12 of title 8, C.R.S.;
6. who is in the custody of a court or law enforcement authorities;
7. who is pursuing a work-study program under the supervision of a public school;
8. who has graduated from the twelfth grade;
9. who is being instructed at home:
 - a. by a teacher certified; or
 - b. under a non-public home-based educational program pursuant to § 22-33-104.5, C.R.S.; or
10. who is enrolled in a school where the state board of education has approved a lesser number of days.

Parent/Guardian Responsibility. Colorado law (§ 22-33-104(5)(a), C.R.S.) declares that two of the most important factors in ensuring a child's educational development are parent/guardian involvement and parent/guardian responsibility. The law further declares that it is the obligation of every parent/guardian, except parent(s)/guardian(s) whose children are enrolled in an independent or parochial school or a nonpublic home-based educational program, to ensure that every child under such parent's/guardian's care and supervision receives adequate education and training and, therefore, that every parent/guardian of a child who has attained the age of six (6) years on or before August 1 of each year and is under the age of seventeen (17) years shall ensure that such child attends the public school in which such child is enrolled in compliance with the requirements of the law.

Enforcement of Compulsory School Attendance. The Board shall designate one or more of the employees of the district to act as attendance client manager for the district. It is the attendance client manager's duty in appropriate cases to counsel with students and parent(s)/guardian(s) and investigate the causes of nonattendance and report to the Board so as to enforce the provisions of the School Attendance Law of 1963. The maximum

Mesa County Valley School District 51

JEA

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AGES

Related: JEA-R

Adopted: June 13, 1972

Revised: April 1, 1997; August 6, 2002, May 22, 2007

Adopted: June 17, 2008

Adopted: September 19, 2017

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number of unexcused absence that a student may incur during any calendar year before judicial proceedings may be initiated is ten (10) days, or an accumulation thereof.

With respect to a child who is “habitually truant” (meaning a child who has attained the age of six (6) years on or before August 1 of the year in question and is under the age of seventeen (17) years having four unexcused absences from public school in any one month or ten unexcused absences from public school during any school year – absences due to suspension or expulsion of a child to be considered “excused” absences for the purposes of truancy enforcement under this section) the school shall:

1. Annually, at the beginning of the school year and upon any enrollment during the school year, the parent/guardian of each child enrolled in a district school shall be notified in writing of the parent's/guardian's obligations pursuant to section 22-33-104(5), C.R.S.;
2. Annually, at the beginning of the school year and upon any enrollment during the school year, obtain from the parent/guardian of each child a telephone number or other means of contacting such parent/guardian during the school day; and
3. Establish a system of monitoring individual unexcused absences of children which shall provide that, whenever a child fails to report to school on a regularly scheduled school day, and school personnel have received no indication that the child's parent/guardian is aware of the child's absence, school personnel or volunteers under the direction of school personnel shall make a reasonable effort to notify by telephone such parent/guardian.
4. Develop a plan for a student who is declared habitually truant with the goal of assisting the child to remain in school. When practicable, the child's parent/guardian shall participate with district personnel during the development of the plan. Appropriate school personnel shall make all reasonable efforts to meet with the parent/guardian to review and evaluate the reasons for the child's truancy;

Cross Reference:

JFC Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts
JH, Student Absences and Excuses

Legal References:

C.R.S. 22-14-101 et seq. (dropout prevention and student re-engagement)
C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1) (MM) (board may authorize school employee to represent school district in judicial proceedings to enforce compulsory attendance)
C.R.S. 22-33-104 (compulsory school attendance ages)
C.R.S. 22-33-104.5 (home-based education)
C.R.S. 22-33-105 (suspension/expulsion)
C.R.S. 22-33-107 (enforcement of school attendance laws)
C.R.S. 22-33-108 (judicial proceedings to enforce school attendance laws)

The Board recognizes and promotes the importance of obtaining a high school diploma, as a diploma assists students to lead healthy and productive lives after graduation. Those youth who withdraw from school and prepare to face life with less than a high school education will have a much more difficult time entering the workforce or pursuing other goals. Therefore, the Board strongly urges every teacher, counselor, principal, parent/guardian and citizen to exert all the influence which he/she can command to keep all district students in school through high school graduation.

Principals, teachers and counselors are encouraged to make dropout prevention a priority through personal contacts with students and specialized programs. The goal is to enable those students who are considering dropping out or have dropped out of school to return and resume their programs with a minimum degree of disruption.

To emphasize the importance of a high school diploma and to encourage students to reconsider their decision to withdraw from school, the principal or designee shall notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) in writing, when the principal or designee has knowledge that a student has dropped out of school. Such written notification shall be in accordance with this policy's accompanying regulation. For purposes of this policy, "dropout" shall mean any student included in the district's "student dropout rate," as defined by the rules of the State Board of Education.

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. [22-2-114.1](#) (*dropout rate reporting*)
 C.R.S. [22-14-108](#) (*written notice of dropout status*)
 C.R.S. [22-32-118.5](#) (*intervention strategies for students in grades 6-9 at risk of dropping out*)
 C.R.S. [22-33-104](#) (*compulsory school attendance*)
 C.R.S. [22-33-203](#) and 204 (*services for expelled and at-risk students*)
 C.R.S. [22-35-109.5](#) (*dropout recovery programs*)
 1 CCR [301-1](#), Rule 13.01(*definition of "student dropout rate"*)
CROSS REF.: [IKE](#), Graduation Requirements

Mesa County Valley School District 51

JH

STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Related: JH-R

Adopted: June 13, 1972

Revised: June 7, 1988; October 20, 1998

Policy Manual Review: August 6, 2002

Revised: September 19, 2017

The board finds and determines that it is necessary to establish policies and practices to govern student attendance for schools of the district. One criteria of a student's success in school is regular and punctual attendance. Frequent absences may lead to poor academic work, lack of social development and possible academic failure. No single factor may interfere with a student's progress more quickly than frequent tardiness or absence.

According to state law, if a child is of compulsory attendance age, it is the obligation of every parent(s)/guardian(s) to ensure that every child under his/her care and supervision receives adequate education and training, and attends school. Student attendance is a direct responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student. It shall be the policy of the district to promote and foster an efficient instructional atmosphere by implementing practices designed to promote full attendance by all students. The practices designed to encourage attendance shall include reasonable efforts to inform and counsel students and parent(s)/guardian(s) regarding the district's attendance requirements and the value of full attendance.

Each year the board establishes the school attendance period by adopting a school calendar. Secondary students are required to be in attendance 1,056 hours and elementary students 968 hours during each school year. Continuity in the learning process and social adaption is seriously disrupted by excessive absences. In most situations, the work missed cannot be made up adequately. Students who have good attendance generally achieve higher grades, enjoy school more and are more employable after leaving school. For these reasons, the board believes that a student must satisfy two basic requirements in order to earn full class credit: (1) satisfy all academic requirements and (2) exhibit good attendance habits as stated in this policy.

Excused Absences

The following shall be considered excused absences:

- a. temporary illness or injury;
- b. pre-arranged absence approved by the principal or designee;
- c. extended period of absence due to documented physical, mental or emotional disability;
- d. absence due to a work-study program under the supervision of the school;
- e. absence due to school sponsored activity; and
- f. absence caused by detention from a court or law enforcement authority.

The district may require suitable proof regarding the above exceptions, including written statements from medical sources.

If a student is in out-of-home placement (as that term is defined by C.R.S. 22-32-138 (1) (e)), absences due to court appearances and participation in court-ordered activities shall be excused. The student's assigned caseworker shall verify the student's absence was due to a court appearance or court-ordered activity.

Absences due to disciplinary suspensions or expulsion shall not be considered "excused."

Unexcused Absences

An unexcused absence is defined as an absence that is not covered by one of the foregoing exceptions. Each unexcused absence shall be entered on the student's record. The parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student receiving an unexcused absence shall be notified orally or in writing by the district of the unexcused absence.

In accordance with law, the principal or designee has the discretion to impose academic penalties, which relate directly to classes missed while unexcused. The administration shall develop regulations to implement appropriate penalties including, but not limited to, the imposition of an academic penalty for classes or activities

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missed while unexcused and appropriate reduction in the amount of credit a student will receive for make-up work performed during a period of suspension.

The principal or designee shall consider the correlation between course failure, truancy and a student dropping out of school in developing these procedures and shall implement research-based strategies to re-engage students with a high number of unexcused absences.

The maximum number of unexcused absences a student may incur before judicial proceedings are initiated to enforce compulsory attendance is ten (10) days during any school year.

Make-up Work

Make-up work shall be provided for any class in which a student has an excused absence unless otherwise determined by the principal or designee or unless the absence is due to the student's expulsion from school. It is the responsibility of the student to pick up any make-up assignments permitted on the day returning to class. There shall be two (2) days allowed for make-up work for each day of absence.

Make-up work shall be allowed following a student's suspension from school with the goal of providing the student an opportunity to keep up with the class and an incentive to attend school. This work may receive full or partial credit to the extent possible as determined by the principal or designee.

Unless otherwise permitted by the principal or designee, make-up work shall not be provided during a student's expulsion. Rather, the district shall offer alternative education services to the expelled student in accordance with state law. The principal or designee shall determine the amount of credit the expelled student will receive for work completed during any alternative education program.

Tardiness

Tardiness is defined as the appearance of a student without proper excuse after the scheduled time that a class begins or a student leaving a class, more than fifteen (15) minutes early, without a proper excuse. Because of the disruptive nature of tardiness and the detrimental effect upon the rights of the non-tardy student to uninterrupted learning, appropriate penalties may be imposed for excessive tardiness. Parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be notified of all penalties regarding tardiness.

In an unavoidable situation, a student detained by another teacher or administrator shall not be considered tardy provided that the teacher or administrator gives the student a pass to enter the next class. Teachers shall honor passes presented in accordance with this policy. The provisions of this policy shall be applicable to all students in the district, including those above and below the age for compulsory attendance as required by law.

Legal References.: C.R.S. [22-14-101](#) et seq. (dropout prevention and student re-engagement)
C.R.S. [22-32-109](#) (1)(n) (length of school year, instruction & contact time)
C.R.S. [22-32-109.1](#) (2)(a) (conduct and discipline code)
C.R.S. [22-32-138](#) (6) (excused absence requirements for students in out-of-home placements)
C.R.S. [22-33-101](#) et seq. (School Attendance Law of 1963)
C.R.S. [22-33-105](#) (3)(d)(III) (opportunity to make up work during suspension)
C.R.S. [22-33-108](#) (judicial proceedings to enforce school attendance laws)
C.R.S. [22-33-203](#) (educational alternatives for expelled students and determination of credit)

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1 CCR [301-78](#) Rules 1.00 et seq. (standardized calculation for counting student attendance and truancy)

Cross References: [IC/ICA](#), School Year/School Calendar/Instruction Time
[JEA](#), Compulsory Attendance Ages
[JF-R](#), Admission and Denial of Admission (Procedures for Students in Out-of-Home Placements)
[JFC](#), Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts
[JHB](#), Truancy
JHD, Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance
[JK](#), Student Discipline
[JKD/JKE](#), Suspension/Expulsion of Students (and Other Disciplinary Interventions)



**Resolution for Lease Agreement
For Activity Buses**

Board of Education Resolution: 17/18: 17

Adopted: September 19, 2017

A Resolution of the Board of Education of Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Master Lease Purchase Agreement for the acquisition of certain equipment for District purposes; Ratifying Action Previously Taken Concerning the Referenced Lease; and Providing for Other Matters Relating Thereto.

WHEREAS, the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51, Mesa County, Colorado (the “District”) is a duly and regularly created, organized and existing school district, existing as such under and by virtue of the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the District (the “Board”) has the power, pursuant to Section 22-32-110(1)(c), Colorado Revised Statutes, to provide furniture, equipment, library books and everything needed to carry out the education program of the District; and

WHEREAS, for the purpose of financing the costs of acquiring buses for school purposes (the “Leased Property”), the District has determined that it is in the best interest of the District and its residents and taxpayers to enter into a Master Lease Purchase Agreement, including any amendments and/or supplements thereto required for any advance or draw thereunder (collectively, the “Lease”) with a lender (the “Lender”) in an amount not to exceed \$750,000, for the purpose of acquiring such buses in order to replace certain buses in an aging fleet (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of such Lease, the Lender will advance funds for the Project to the District (an “Advance”), and such funds related to the Advance may be held in an escrow account pursuant to the terms of an escrow agreement, as may be amended or supplemented for each specific Advance, by and between the District, the Lender, and an escrow bank selected to provide such services (if so required, the “Escrow Agreement”), or may be otherwise made available to the District in order to implement the Project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Lease, and subject to the right of the District to terminate the Lease and other limitations as therein provided, the District will pay certain rental payments (“Rent”) in consideration for the right of the District to use the Leased Property; and

WHEREAS, the District’s obligation under the Lease to pay Rent shall be from year to year only; shall constitute currently budgeted expenditures of the District; shall not constitute a mandatory charge or requirement in any ensuing budget year; and shall not constitute a general obligation or other indebtedness or multiple fiscal year financial obligation of the District within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory limitation or requirement concerning the creation of indebtedness or multiple fiscal year financial obligation, nor a mandatory payment

obligation of the District in any ensuing fiscal year beyond any fiscal year during which the Lease shall be in effect; and

WHEREAS, Section 11-57-204 of the Supplemental Public Securities Act, constituting Title 11, Article 57, Part 2, Colorado Revised Statutes (the "Supplemental Act"), provides that a public entity, including the District, may elect in an act of issuance to apply all or any of the provisions of the Supplemental Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51, MESA COUNTY, COLORADO:

Section 1. Ratification and Approval of Prior Actions. All action heretofore taken (not inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution) by the Board or the officers, agents or employees of the Board or the District relating to the Lease, the Escrow Agreement, and the implementation of the Project is hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.

Section 2. Finding of Best Interests. The Board hereby finds and determines, pursuant to the Constitution and the laws of the State of Colorado that the acquisition and implementation of the Project and financing the costs thereof pursuant to the terms set forth in the Lease are necessary, convenient, and in furtherance of the District's purposes and are in the best interests of the residents and taxpayers of the District and the Board hereby authorizes and approves the same.

Section 3. Supplemental Act; Parameters. The Board hereby elects to apply all of the provisions of the Supplemental Act to the Lease and in connection therewith delegates either the President, the Superintendent or the Chief Operations Officer of the District independent authority to make any determination delegable pursuant to Section 11-57-205(1)(a-i), Colorado Revised Statutes, in relation to the Lease, and to execute a sale certificate for any Advance or other disbursement of funds (the "Sale Certificate") setting forth such determinations, including without limitation, the term of the Lease, the Rent to be paid; and the interest rate on the rental payments under the Lease, subject to the following parameters and restrictions:

(a) the Lease Term shall not extend beyond ten years past the date of the Advance;

(b) the aggregate principal amount of the amounts available under the Lease, shall not exceed \$750,000;

(c) the interest rate on any Advance under the Lease shall not exceed 5.00%;

(d) the Lease shall be subject to prepayment as described in any lease addendum or supplement.

Pursuant to Section 11-57-205 of the Supplemental Act, the Board hereby delegates to any of the President, the Superintendent or the Chief Operations Officer the independent authority to sign the Lease, including any addendums or supplements, and any term sheet or commitment as may be required by a Lender, to select the Lender and any escrow bank, and to

execute any agreement or agreements in connection therewith. The Board also hereby delegates to any of the President, the Superintendent or the Chief Operations Officer to determine the amount and the timing of any Advance under the Lease subject to the parameters set forth above.

Section 4. Approval of Documents. The Lease and any Escrow Agreement, in such form as is on file with the District and as hereafter approved by the President, the Superintendent or Chief Operations Officer, are in all respects approved, authorized and confirmed, and the President, the Superintendent or the Chief Operations Officer are hereby authorized and directed for and on behalf of the District to execute and deliver the Lease and the Escrow Agreement, provided that any and all such documents may be completed, corrected or revised as deemed necessary by the parties thereto in order to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

Section 5. Authorization to Execute Collateral Documents. The Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to attest all signatures and acts of any official of the District in connection with the matters authorized by this resolution and to place the seal of the District on any document authorized and approved by this resolution. The President, the Secretary and other appropriate officials or employees of the District are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this resolution, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, executing, attesting, authenticating and delivering for and on behalf of the District any and all necessary documents, instruments or certificates and performing all other acts that they deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement and carry out the transactions and other matters authorized by this resolution. The approval hereby given to the various documents referred to above includes an approval of such additional details therein as may be necessary and appropriate for their completion, deletions therefrom and additions thereto as may be approved by bond counsel prior to the execution of the documents. The execution of any document or instrument by the aforementioned officers or members of the Board shall be conclusive evidence of the approval by the District of such document or instrument in accordance with the terms hereof and thereof.

Section 6. No General Obligation Debt. No provision of this resolution or the Lease shall be construed as creating or constituting a general obligation or other indebtedness or multiple fiscal year financial obligation of the District within the meaning of any constitutional, statutory provision, nor a mandatory charge or requirement against the District in any ensuing fiscal year beyond the then current fiscal year. The District shall have no obligation to make any payment with respect to the Lease except in connection with the payment of the Rent and certain other payments under the Lease, which payments may be terminated by the District in accordance with the provisions of the Lease. The Lease does not constitute a mandatory charge or requirement of the District in any ensuing fiscal year beyond the then current fiscal year or constitute or give rise to a general obligation or other indebtedness or multiple fiscal year financial obligation of the District within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitation and shall not constitute a multiple fiscal year direct or indirect debt or other financial obligation whatsoever. No provision of the Lease shall be construed or interpreted as creating an unlawful delegation of governmental powers nor as a donation by or a lending of the credit of the District within the meaning of Sections 1 or 2 of Article XI of the Colorado Constitution. The Lease shall not directly

or indirectly obligate the District to make any payments beyond those budgeted and appropriated for the District's then current fiscal year.

Section 7. Reasonableness of Rentals. The Board hereby determines and declares that the Rent due under the Lease, in the maximum amount authorized pursuant to Section 3 hereof, constitutes the fair rental value of the Leased Property and does not exceed a reasonable amount so as to place the District under an economic compulsion to renew the Lease or to exercise its option to purchase the Leased Property pursuant to the Lease. The Board hereby determines and declares that the period during which the District has an option to purchase the Leased Property (i.e., the entire maximum term of the Lease) does not exceed the useful life of the Leased Property.

Section 8. No Recourse against Officers and Agents. Pursuant to Section 11-57-209 of the Supplemental Act, if a member of the Board, or any officer or agent of the District acts in good faith, no civil recourse shall be available against such member, officer, or agent for payment of the Rent. Such recourse shall not be available either directly or indirectly through the Board or the District, or otherwise, whether by virtue of any constitution, statute, rule of law, enforcement of penalty, or otherwise. By the acceptance of the Lease and as a part of the consideration of their sale or purchase, the Lender specifically waives any such recourse.

Section 9. Severability. If any one or more sections, sentences, clauses or parts of this resolution shall for any reason be held invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remaining provisions of this resolution, but shall be confined in its operation to the specific sections, sentences, clauses or parts of this resolution so held unconstitutional or invalid, and the inapplicability and invalidity of any section, sentence, clause or part of this resolution in any one or more instances shall not affect or prejudice in any way the applicability and validity of this resolution in any other instances.

Section 10. Repealer. All bylaws, orders, and resolutions, or parts thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent only of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed to revise any bylaw, order, or resolution, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.

Section 11. Interpretation. This resolution shall be so interpreted and construed as to effectuate its general purpose.

Section 12. Effective Date. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED this September 19, 2017.

MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
NO. 51, MESA COUNTY, COLORADO

President

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Secretary

