Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Board Business Meeting Minutes ***May 21, 2024***

Board Business Meeting Minutes

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Every student, every day, learning for life!

A - Jośe Luis Chávez
B - Barb Evanson
C - Andrea Haitz
D - Will Jones
E - Angela Lema

Board of Education
Mesa County Valley School District 51
Business Meeting Minutes: May 21, 2024
Adopted: June 18, 2024

	A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
						BUSINESS MEETING	5:00 p.m.
Present	x	x	x	x	x	A. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE/ROLL CALL	
Absent							
Motion					x	B. AGENDA APPROVAL	Approved
Second				x			
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion					x	C. MEETING MINUTES AND SUMMARY APPROVAL	Adopted
Second		x				C-1. April 2, 2024 Board Work Session	
Aye	x	x	x	x	x	C-2. April 16, 2024 Board Business Meeting	
No						C-3. April 22, 2024 Board Special Meeting	
						C-4. April 29, 2024 Board Special Meeting	
						D. RECOGNITIONS	
						D-1. Boettcher Scholarship. Mrs. Evanson read the recognition for Christinamae Sheley from PHS, who earned the Boettcher Scholarship.	
						D-2. FBLA State Placers and National Qualifiers – Ms. Angela Lema called the following students forward: Ronan Norman, Britton Hovland, Bailey Edwards, Evan Prosser, Sawyer Jacobson, TIanluo Zhu. A resolution was read congratulating these students on being Future Business Leaders of America State Placers and National Qualifiers.	
						D-3. Mr. Jones called forward the FCCLA State Winners and National Qualifiers and read the resolution recognizing their achievements. Present were: Aidan Innis, Alyssa Johnston, Gabriela Spriggs, Kerri Muniz, Victoria Reister, Lynessa Aspund, Alayah Craig, Addison Fox, Violet Gray, Alyssa Ortiz, Kai Ruebush, Kennedy Stephen, Kirra Trousdale, Makayla Trousdale, Katarina Weber and Delaney Wright.	
						D-4. Mr. Jones also acknowledged the following Speech & Debate State Placer and National Qualifiers: Lynessa Asplund, Kennedy Stephen, Annika Walla, Ian Allen.	
						D-5. Mr. Jones recognized Annika Walla as the WSL Speech & Debate Student of the Year and WSL Speech & Debate New Coach of the Year, Ethan Bollinger and District Coach of the Year, Tracy Seremak.	
						D-6 National School Nurse Certifications were recognized by Mr. Jose Luis Chavez which included: Robyn Winfrey, Sabrina Motta, Morgan Leyda, Brielle Etcheverry and Krista Fredrick.	
						E. BOARD REPORTS	
						E-1. Good Things – the following events were reported on: ➢ 7 graduations celebrated counting In Steps. There will be one more this Friday. ➢ KPP Interviews ➢ Expulsion Reports – 58% reduction in expulsions from last year.	

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E-2. Committee/Activity Updates

- Mrs. Haitz mentioned the policy committee is continuing to work through policies that need to be reviewed.

F. D51 HAPPENINGS AND CELEBRATIONS

- Ciera Colson, Marketing & Communications Specialist came forward & spoke about events, including:
- Golden Apple winner Jen Foster Art Teacher @ STEAM @ Tope
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Ms. Colson shared a video to thank teachers for all they do, in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week.
- Water Festival fun mixed with education.
- Project SEARCH to help individuals with disabilities.
- School Nurse Day, School Principal Day, Nutrition Services Teams and Communications Department were all recently celebrated.
- Special Olympics with over 400 D51 students from 35 schools.
- PHS Fish Hatchery releasing fish into Colorado River in May.
- Graduation of over 1400 students. One ceremony left this week.

G. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

G-1. Legislative Update

- Amy Atwood, D51 Lobbyist, presented virtually. The following was highlighted:
- How school funding evolved in the session which concluded on May 8.
- Most bills in recent history, with over 500 passed, 180 failed.
- School funding both short & long term was a major topic this year.
- School Finance Interim Committee & School Finance Task Force.
- Task Force worked on an overhaul of the system this year.
- Three bills accomplished to help school funding.
- These three bills fixed some but not all school funding issues.
- The bills address the equity of school funding, not adequacy.
- Future legislation should come out of the adequacy studies.
- Budget stabilization has been brought down to zero for the 24/25 school year.
- Discussed new finance formula for 25/26 budget year.
- Moving from 5 yrs to 4 yrs for the new formula is a problem for D51. D51 supported with amendment. The averaging issue was resolved, even with opposition from wealthier districts and other stakeholders.
- A property tax bill was introduced at the very end of the session. Loss of local revenues will be backfilled by the state.
- Questions from the Board about the BSF being brought down for now. The formula for this year does not include the factor.
- Another bill passed so retired teachers can come back to teach without hurting their PERA benefits.
- D51 was the leader behind the PLSA provision.

G-2. MVEA Negotiations Update

- Dr. Hill gave a quick update regarding negotiations. Discussed the following:
- May 2-4 and 10,11 & 17 negotiations were held.

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						➢ Committees worked throughout the year to work on issues to be discussed in May. ➢ On May 17, a consensus was met on issues such as 7% COLA and a 1-step movement for all eligible staff. ➢ GMI stipends verbiage. ➢ MVEA will reimburse 100% of MVEA President's salary and benefits, including District's PERA contribution. ➢ School psychologists placement & schedule. ➢ Language regarding TOSA's. ➢ Lane placement for school psychologists. ➢ Extra-curricular salary schedule changes. ➢ New employee info time for MVEA, increased number of participants for Content Area and Curriculum Design teams. ➢ Collaboration language between MVEA & D51 BOE members and district leaders. ➢ Displayed new salary schedule for 24/25 once agreement is ratified and adopted. ➢ Celebration of where starting teacher salaries were before compared to now. Major difference since 20/21 school year. ➢ Next steps were discussed. H. AUDIENCE COMMENTS ➢ Ricki Howie – Grand Junction, discussed reminding Board to get materials out to public not until after 11am today. She feels KEC – Public Complaints about Instructional Materials, policy is unclear in paragraph 4 versus paragraph 6 as who can file complaints about reading books and incidents. Need description of when, where and how process of complaint can be reviewed by the community. She stated it should be explained with school first informally then how is it to be understood. She asked if you need to do CORA to find out if there was a complaint made? ➢ Sara Fletcher – 81507, She gave thanks to volunteer School Board members and complimented Board on taking on these policies, including library, instructional materials and cell phones. Questioned: How will this be implemented and what guardrails will be in place regarding materials that are appropriate for age, language levels, etc. How will it be implemented? Agrees all materials should be available for parents. Appreciate processes were streamlined and the complaint processes. ➢ Kim Bohrer – 81501, Gave thanks to BOE for volunteering and their hard work. Good job on cell phone policy. Website looks good. Thanks for raises and for new school board members stepping up and volunteering.	
Motion Second Aye No	 x	 x	 x	 x x	x x	I. CONSENT AGENDA I-1. Licensed and Administrative Personnel Actions I-1.a. Licensed & Administrative Personnel Actions [Resolution 23/24: 94] I-1.b. Non-Renewals [Resolution 23/24: 95] I-2. Gifts [Resolution 23/24: 96] I-3. Grants [Resolution 23/24: 97]	Adopted

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Motion					x	J. BUSINESS ITEMS	Adopted
Second				x		J-1. Policies 2nd Readings/Adoption	
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No						J-1a. Policy IJL – Library Materials Selection J-1b. Policy IIJ – Instructional Resources Selection and Adoption J-1c. Policy JICJ – Student Use of Cell Phones & Other Personal Electronic Devices J-1d. Policy KEC – Public Complaints About Instructional Material ➢ Processes and reviews were discussed. Board thanked community for providing input on policies and age appropriateness. Board asked about books and using alternative materials – who is responsible? Process now is acquired by the schools, and if parent gives enough notice, the curriculum team makes an alternate choice. The choice regards the context and the teacher and parent can often come to an agreement. Usually teachers have an alternate in mind already. ➢ Cell phone policy – Dr. Hill pointed out creating engaging spaces that foster learning by removing distractions from the classroom. Also, mentioned the differentiation between PK-8 and high school. Phones will need to be turned off, not just on vibrate. Research shows if in pocket, it is still distracting. Not on your person. High School is differentiated where prohibited during class instruction time. Phones are not encouraged during other times but not prohibited. Policy discusses what happens if policy is violated. Exceptions are listed also ie. medical or IEP reasons. Communications need to be given to substitute teachers regarding policy and exceptions. Teachers should leave information for subs as to who may be able to have phones due to IEP, etc. Board clarified this is not just phones, but earbuds, smart watches, laptops etc. Tweaks can be made after year starts if necessary.	
						K. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION ➢ None	
						L. FUTURE MEETINGS L-1. June 4, 2024, Harry Butler Board Room, 5:00 p.m., Board Work Session L-2. June 18, 2024, Harry Butler Board Room, 5:00 p.m., Board Business Meeting	
						M. FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS ➢ None	
Motion				x		N. ADJOURNMENT	6:40 p.m.

Amy Navarette, Assistant Secretary
Board of Education

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Recognition:
Boettcher Scholars Award Recipient

Board of Education Resolution 23-24: 91 Presented: May 21, 2024

Would Christinamae Sheley please join me in front of the room?

We are excited to announce another District 51 student was added to the recipient list for the 2024 Boettcher Scholarship.

The Boettcher Scholarship is a highly sought-after scholarship that allows our most dynamic thinkers, doers, and difference-makers to pursue higher education within the state while continuing to make positive impacts in their communities.

Each year, over 1,500 students apply for the Boettcher Scholarship, but fewer than 50 receive it. This prestigious scholarship is awarded to students who excel academically, demonstrate strong leadership potential, are committed to their communities, and possess outstanding character.

Christinamae will join Central High School Senior Bryce Davis as the one other 2024 Boettcher Scholarship recipient for District 51.

Known as an exceptionally dedicated student, Christinamae commutes three hours every day to attend the IB program at Palisade High School. Her perseverance is evident as she strives to maintain her academic and extracurricular commitments. She is the founder of the Palisade FTC Robotics Club, Co-President of the National Honor Society, Concertmaster for the Palisade Symphonic Orchestra, and a concurrent student at CMU. Additionally, every summer, she volunteers as an intern at the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum in Hawaii, giving back to the community there. Her intelligence, determination, and resilience have led to her receiving the Boettcher Scholarship.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill would like to congratulate Christinamae on this outstanding achievement. Your hard work, dedication, and commitment have paid off, and we look forward to watching you represent D51 as you continue on to higher education in Colorado.

Recognition:
Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
State Winners and National Qualifiers

Board of Education Resolution 23-24: 92 Presented: May 21, 2024

Would the students who qualified for the Future Business Leaders of America National Competition please join me at the front of the room?

In early April, the District's four comprehensive high school FBLA chapters broke club records as they attended the Colorado State Leadership Conference in Denver. At the event, students engaged in and competed in business-oriented activities alongside more than 3,300 students from across Colorado. The State Competition allows them to demonstrate their abilities and gain valuable preparation for their future endeavors. FBLA, or Future Business Leaders of America, is a nationwide association that helps over 230,000 members prepare for careers in business.

The students standing here with us tonight have displayed exceptional dedication and hard work. They have demonstrated their skills, knowledge, and professionalism in various FBLA competitions.

Your success in FBLA reflects your individual accomplishments and highlights the commitment, support, and guidance your teachers, advisors, and mentors have provided throughout the year.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill would like to recognize and congratulate the following students for advancing to the National Competition. We are excited to watch you embrace this opportunity with passion and determination, knowing you are among the best and brightest in the nation.

FROM CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
Advisor, Mary Doane
Ronan Norman, Intro to Programming, 3rd Place

FROM FRUITA MONUMENT HIGH SCHOOL
Advisor, Kathaleen Recker

Britton Hovlan, Help Desk, 4th Place

Jacob Cornelison and Audy Sanders, Network Design Team, 4th Place

FROM GRAND JUNCTION HIGH SCHOOL

Advisor, Suzanne Dunlap

Taytin Knoblich, Personal Finance, 1st Place

FROM PALISADE HIGH SCHOOL

Advisor, Melissa Wright

Bailey Edwards, Accounting, 1st Place

Will Neese, Public Policy & Advocacy, 2nd Place

Evan Prosser, UX Design, 3rd Place

Sawyer Jacobson, UX Design, 4th Place

Leo Zhu, Intro to Programming, 4th

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Recognition:
Family, Career, & Community Leaders of America
State Champions and National Qualifiers

Board of Education Resolution 23-24: 93 Presented: May 21, 2024

Would the students who placed at the state level and qualified for the National Competition for the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America please join me at the front of the room?

In April, these students competed in the State FCCLA Competition. FCCLA, or Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, is a student-led organization that focuses on family and consumer sciences education, leadership development, and community service.

Students from GJHS, PHS, FMHS, and Fruita 8/9 represented the Western Slope with flying colors at their State Leadership Conference in Denver, which saw over 1,000 Colorado students showcasing their projects and participating in leadership activities. These students had the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, abilities, and strengths in a range of categories related to family and consumer sciences. The 2024 FCCLA State Competition resulted in three State Champion titles and sixteen National Qualifiers for this summer's FCCLA National Leadership Conference.

The skills these students have mastered throughout this process, and the knowledge they continue to gain and expand upon will help them pursue future community leadership roles in their chosen fields. They are hard workers, dedicated and talented students, and natural-born leaders.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill would like to recognize and congratulate all of you on this outstanding accomplishment. Thank you for representing our district so well. We look forward to your success at the FCCLA National Competition this summer!

Grand Junction High School
Aidan Innis, Food Innovation, State Champion
Alyssa Johnston, National Programs - Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety, State Champion

Fruita Monument High School
Kerri Muniz and Victoria Reister in Promote and Publicize FCCLA, State Champions

Palisade High School

Lynessa Asplund, Kennedy Stephen, and Alayah Craig in Entrepreneurship

Kai Ruebush in Fashion Design

Gabriela Spriggs, Sustainability Challenge, State Champion

Katarina Weber and Addison Fox in Food Innovation

Kirra Trousdale and Makayla Trousdale in Job Interview

Alyssa Ortiz in Early Childhood Education

Violet Gray in Nutrition and Wellness.

Delaney Wright in Leadership

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Recognition:
Speech and Debate State Placer and National Qualifiers

Board of Education Resolution 23-24: 98 Presented: May 21, 2024

Will Lynessa Asplund, Kennedy Stephen, Annika Walla, and Ian Allen from the Palisade High School Speech and Debate Team please join me at the front?

The National Speech & Debate Association District Tournaments are held annually to determine the qualifiers for the National Tournament in speech, debate, and congressional debate. The Palisade High School Speech & Debate team recently competed at the Congressional Qualifying Tournament, with one student earning 2nd place and three qualifying for nationals.

Ian, a Senior at Palisade, earned All-State honors after placing 2nd at the state competition for International Extemporaneous Speaking. Ian began his journey in speech and debate just a year ago, but his remarkable progress and achievements this season demonstrate his exceptional growth and excellence.

Following their success at the incredibly competitive state competition, Lynessa, Kennedy, and Annika will head to Nationals in Des Moines, Iowa, where they will compete against 6,700 students from over 1,500 schools.

Under the leadership of Tracy Seremak, who was named “District Coach of the Year” for her outstanding commitment to students and the Speech and Debate Program, the team continues to excel and bring home numerous wins.

Placing in state and qualifying for nationals showcases these young students' public speaking, critical thinking, and persuasive communication skills. Your dedication and passion for what you do are truly impressive.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill would like to congratulate Lynessa, Kennedy, and Annika and Ian on this accomplishment and thank Coach Seremak for your continued dedication to this program. We look forward to hearing of your success at the National Competition this summer!

Recognition:
Speech and Debate Student and Coaches of the Year

Board of Education Resolution 23-24:99 Presented: May 21, 2024

Will Annika Walla, Ethan Bollinger, and Tracy Seremak please join me at the front of the room?

The Board of Education is proud to celebrate the outstanding achievements of several individuals who have excelled in the Western Slope Speech & Debate community. These students and coaches have demonstrated dedication, skill, and leadership in their respective roles, all contributing to the success and reputation of our district's speech and debate program.

Annika Walla, a Palisade High School speech and debate team captain, was named the Student of the Year by the Western Slope Speech & Debate coaches. This recognition is a testament to her dedication to speech and debate, her impressive leadership, and her outstanding character.

Central High School Speech and Debate Coach Ethan Bollinger was awarded New Coach of the Year by the Western Slope Speech & Debate League. This well-deserved recognition reflects his dedication and passion for guiding and mentoring students in the art of speech and debate.

And finally, we celebrate Palisade High School Coach Tracy Seremak, who was named District Coach of the Year by the Western Slope Speech & Debate League. Tracy's leadership and steadfast dedication to the speech and debate community continue to have a positive impact as she inspires and shapes the success of countless students.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill would like to congratulate these three individuals on their impressive recognition and for their contributions to the excellence of our speech and debate programs. Well deserved!

Recognition:
School Registered Nurse NBCSN Certification

Board of Education Resolution 23-24: 100 Presented: May 21, 2024

Would Robyn Winfrey, Sabrina Motta, Morgan Leyda, Brielle Etcheverry, and Krista Fredrick please join me at the front of the room?

At District 51, we are fortunate to have exceptional school nurses who diligently serve our students and staff every day. From administering medication and managing chronic conditions to promoting wellness and health education, our school nurses serve a significant role in helping our students stay healthy, safe, and ready to learn, which in turn supports our families.

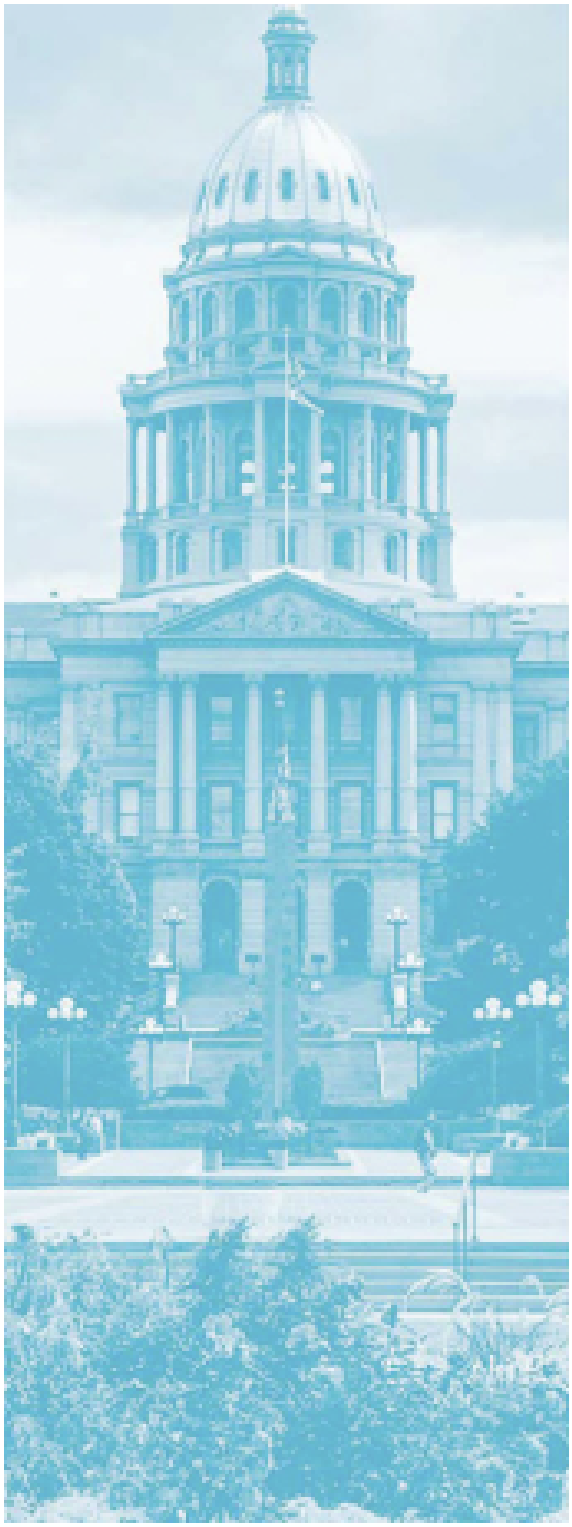
Recently, these five D51 School Registered Nurses passed their National School Nurse certification exam. The National Board of Certification of School Nurses (NBCSN) awards the Nationally Certified School Nurse credential to Registered Nurses with exceptional education, clinical experience, and expertise. Earning the NBCSN takes a substantial amount of dedication and hard work, through hours of studying, practice, and perfecting their skills.

Our School Registered Nurses continue to set the bar high as they work to ensure they can provide the very best care for our students. We are incredibly fortunate to have them in our district.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill would like to congratulate these outstanding nurses on their achievements. Thank you for the dedication, commitment, and passion you show in serving our learners.

Attwood

PUBLIC AFFAIRS



MESA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT 51

2024 End of Session Report

The 2024 legislative session has concluded. Throughout the session, major topics such as education funding, affordable housing, and firearm restrictions were at the forefront, with a strong focus on transportation, and energy and environmental issues. I am honored to represent the District at the Colorado State Capitol. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Amy Attwood

Amy Attwood | Amy@AmyAttwood.com | 720-840-4912

Major Bills

Your comprehensive bill chart is HERE. It contains details on all of the bills we tracked on your behalf during session.

Bill #	Short Title	Sponsors	Status
HB24-1039	Non-Legal Name Changes	House: B. Titone (D) S. Vigil (D) Senate: F. Winter (D) J. Marchman (D)	**PASSED** - The bill passed in a much different form than as introduced, which now requires every school board of education to implement written policies that prohibit gender expression discrimination, including the use of a student's preferred name. The use of a student's preferred name in the discrimination statute will follow the prohibition of discrimination based on a student's hair texture, hair type, or a protective hairstyle that is historically linked with race. The written policy must state that it is discriminatory to intentionally use a name other than a student's preferred name. The bill clarifies that discrimination based on gender expression includes the use of an individual's chosen name, and such discrimination is against anti-discrimination laws. The same anti-discrimination school district policies currently in place will now need to apply to the use of a student's preferred name.
HB24-1076	Purple Star School Program	House: M. Weissman (D) R. Marshall (D) Senate: R. Fields (D)	**PASSED** - This bill establishes the Purple Star School Program in the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). It recognizes public schools that support military-connected students and families with a "purple star" designation. Schools must meet certain criteria, including appointing a military liaison and hosting events. The Governor will recognize and award certificates to these schools each April.
HB24-1167	Prohibit Student Seclusion	House: J. Bacon (D) R. English (D	**FAILED** - Had this bill passed, it would have banned seclusion as a disciplinary measure in public schools. It required the State Board of Education (SBE) to adjust rules by November 1, 2024, and by July 1, 2025, establish a resource bank for alternatives to seclusion. The bill mandated reporting seclusion incidents to school administration and parents, with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) having enforcement authority over investigations. The bill's sponsors are committed to working with stakeholders and bringing the issue forward again in 2025.
HB24-1363	Charter Schools Accountability	House: T. Story (D) L. Garcia (D) Senate: L. Cutter (D)	**FAILED** - This bill aimed to overhaul the Colorado Charter Schools Act, proposing significant changes such as eliminating automatic waivers of specific state education laws for schools authorized after June 30, 2024. It also sought to increase accountability by requiring schools to specify waived laws or policies in the charter agreement, approved by the State Board of Education. Additionally, the bill addressed governance issues, financial transparency, and educator evaluations within charter schools.

Bill #	Short Title	Sponsors	Status
SB24-017	Distribution of State Share of District Total Program	Senate: P. Lundeen (R) J. Bridges (D) House:B. McLachlan (D) R. Pugliese (R)	**PASSED** - This bill alters the distribution schedule of the state's portion of a school district's total program funding. Instead of 12 equal monthly payments, the distribution will align with the projected timing of the district's receipt of property tax revenue, ensuring more equal monthly payments when combined with the local share. Districts can choose to opt out of this new schedule.
SB24-088	Entity Authorizes Charter Schools Transparency	Senate: P. Lundeen (R)J. Coleman (D)	**FAILED -** The bill aimed to enhance the annual report and evaluation of charter schools by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) starting in FY 2024-25. It required detailed data and comparisons on enrollment, performance, expenditures, administrative oversight, centralized enrollment systems, and charter school applications and funding. All involved parties, including school districts, charter schools, and the state Charter School Institute (CSI), would have been obliged to provide necessary information to CDE.
SB24-131	Prohibiting Carrying Firearms in Sensitive Spaces	Senate: S. Jaquez Lewis (D) C. Kolker (D) House:K. Brown (D) M. Lindsay (D)	**PASSED** - The bill bans carrying firearms openly or concealed in government buildings, school properties, higher education campuses, and polling locations during elections. Violations are class 1 misdemeanors, with exceptions for law enforcement and concealed carry permit holders in certain areas.
SB24-188	Public School Finance	Senate: J. Buckner (D) R. Zenzinger (D) House:B. McLachlan (D) S. Bird (D)	**PASSED** - The bill increases per-pupil funding for the 2024-25 budget year, sets a new base funding level, and establishes total program funding for schools. It also adjusts deadlines for implementing new measures, modifies requirements for special education grants, and raises the cap on administration spending. Additionally, the bill clarifies eligibility for concurrent enrollment courses and exempts the educator licensure cash fund from reserve limits, allocating appropriations for implementing the School Finance Act.

Lawmakers Take Historic Steps On School Funding

Big changes in store for Budget Stabilization Factor, funding formula, and property taxes

For many years, lawmakers and education advocates in Colorado have been discussing the issue of school funding. Only minor adjustments to the funding system established in 1994 have remained largely unchanged since Amendment 23 was passed nearly 25 years ago.

The logjam broke this year with the passage of three bills that accomplished three important things:

- The passage of an annual school funding package that does not include the Budget Stabilization Factor (BSF) for the first time in over a decade. SB24-188
- Reform of the school funding formula to direct more money to at-risk, English language learners and special education students and increase overall spending by $571.3 million by 2030-31. HB24-1448
- Creation of a two-tier property tax system that protects school district revenues even as new limits will be placed on tax revenues for all local governments. SB24-233

Legislative leaders and advocates acknowledge that the bills only fix some schools funding problems.

First, the reforms do not address the "adequacy" of school funding – whether schools are spending enough to accomplish goals like certain levels of student achievement. Two studies commissioned by the 2023 legislature are looking at that issue and will report next year.

Second, it is impossible to guarantee that the reforms are financially sustainable. Legislative sponsors have repeatedly stressed that they have structured their bills to ensure that the Budget Stabilization Factor will never need to be invoked again. But there is no guarantee that recession, future law changes, restrictive ballot measures, or other unforeseen circumstances will not pose new challenges.

Key Funding Bills

Funding for 2024-25 – Total Program Funding will be $9.73 billion, again, with no BSF. The total program will be $561.7 million higher than this school year's funding. Base per-pupil funding is $8,496, up $419. The average per-pupil funding will be $11,450, up from $10,670. A key element of the bill is $35.9 million of additional support for rural districts, which is being made a permanent part of the finance formula. (HB 24-1430, the long appropriations bill, and SB 24-188, the annual school finance act.)

Formula Reform – House Speaker Julie McCluskie has been in the thick of school finance discussions for years and finally pushed reform across the finish line. The bill is complicated but reorders and adjusts the weights of factors like at-risk, ELL, special education, district cost of living, district size, and remoteness. These are used to calculate the customized per-student funding allocated to individual districts. The bill was finessed, so no district technically will lose funding. D51's involvement in the drafting of the bill and amendments throughout the process made it possible that no district will lose money. The support for the new formula from the D51 Board was crucial to the bill's passage.

The new formula will launch in the 2025-26 school year and be phased in over six years, with full implementation in 2030-31. The bill includes "circuit breaker" provisions that allow the Joint Budget Committee to pause implementation of the new formula in case of adverse economic or revenue conditions.

In 2025-26, the bill increased Total Program Funding to $10 billion, an increase of $89.2 million compared to current law. Compared to projected funding in 2024-25, TPF will be $274.2 million higher. (The reform measure is HB 24-1448.)

Property Tax Stabilization – The legislature, introduced on the session's 118th day, is not only an education finance bill but also intended to control the growth of property taxes. However, sponsors wanted to protect local school revenues, which have proliferated in the last couple of years and made retirement of the BSF possible (at least for now).

Starting next year, the bill creates two assessed values for each residential property: a slightly higher one for mill levies assessed by school districts and one for all other local government entities. The bill includes a "hold harmless" payment of $351.6 million to school districts in 2024-25 to account for some loss of local revenues. There are smaller payments in the following two years. All the money would come from the State Education Fund. (The bill is SB 24-233.)

The best way to learn the details of these bills is to read the fiscal analyses prepared by legislative staff economists.

- SB 24-188 – https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024A/bills/fn/2024a_sb188_r1.pdf
- HB 24-1448 –https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024A/bills/fn/2024a_hb1448_r3.pdf
- SB 24-233 - https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024A/bills/fn/2024a_sb233_r2.pdf

Other Education Finance Issues

Two relatively new education programs, Healthy School Meals for All and Universal Preschool, caused problems for the Joint Budget Committee. Their popularity and rapid growth created pressure to subsidize both programs with more General Funds than committee members were comfortable with.

Due to the higher-than-anticipated costs, the committee had to increase 2023-24 funding for healthy meals by $54.6 million. That included $15.5 million in General Funds.

A measure in the 2024-25 package of budget bills included provisions requiring an advisory group to work with the Department of Education and local districts on maximizing federal funding. More notably, HB 24-1390 saved money by cutting funding for non-meal parts of the program, including grants for local food purchasing, technical assistance, and wage stipends for food service workers. In future years, those programs will be subject to available appropriations.

Long bill funding for universal preschool includes an increase of $53.8 million in total funds, including $7.2 million in General Funds, in part to pay for additional FTE and funding for the program's local coordinating organizations. A JBC-sponsored bill, SB 24-1387, creates a reserve in the Preschool Programs Cash Find, which can not be spent without JBC authorization. (Most preschool funding comes from tobacco taxes.)

Finally, JBC also wrestled with funding for the Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program and, in the end, needed more funds to reimburse BEST for the $20 million swept from the fund during the pandemic (HB 24-1395).

Non-Financial Fills Passed During the 2024 Session

District Operations

Payment of district revenues - SB 24-017 – The bill adjusts the schedule of state share payments from twelve to nine to align with local property tax revenue, smoothing out monthly income and district cash flow.

Remote testing - SB 24-070 – This bill was significantly amended and now requires the Department of Education to develop policies for home-based, virtual administration of computer-based state assessments for students enrolled full-time in online schools or online programs. Initial use of online tests will be next year, with full implementation in 2025-26.

Purple Star School Program - HB24-1076 - The bill creates the Purple Star School Program to award designation to schools that provide services and support to military-connected students and their families. To qualify, schools must designate a staff member as a military liaison, maintain a partnership with a local military installation, publish a resolution on the school's website, and host events in November and April. Each April, the Governor will recognize each Purple Star School and present it with a certificate.

Charter Schools

Mill levy equalization - The long appropriations bill, HB 24-1430, contains $49.2 million to fund mill-levy equalization of schools authorized by the Charter School Institute. That is an increase of $22.2 million to comply with a 2023 bill requiring total 2024-25 budget funding.

Inclusion in bond issues - HB 24-1154 – This bill allows school boards to include CSI-supervised schools within their boundaries in bond issue proposals. The measure consists of requirements for how to do that and procedures for protecting a district financially if a school closes.

Construction grants – The funding formula reform bill, HB 24-1448, also includes $11.5 million in the Building Excellent Schools Today program for charter school facilities.

Educators

Hiring retired teachers - HB 24-1044 – This bill sets up a quota system under which districts can hire specified numbers of retired teachers who can work for up to six years without losing their PERA benefits.

Special education teachers - HB 24-1087 – The measure allows teachers who complete alternative preparation, including work experience, to be awarded special education certification.

Student educator stipends - HB 24-1290 – This bill continues the student educator stipend program with $4.2 million from the State Education Fund.

Teacher mentorships - HB 24-1376 – The bill expands the Teacher Mentor Grant Program in the Department of Higher Education to include novice teachers and provides additional funding of $100,000.

Preschool & After School

Childcare facilities - HB 24-1237 – This bill originally proposed giving the Department of Local Affairs $3 million for technical assistance, planning, and capital grants for childcare facilities. The funding was cut to $250,000.

After-school programs - HB 24-1331 – This establishes a grant program for non-profit groups that provide after-school programs. Its original funding of $5 million was trimmed to $3.5 million.

Safety, Security & Health

School safety grants – During the long bill debates, Republicans repeatedly attempted to increase funding for the School Security Disbursement Program in the Department of Public Safety.

The program had $16 million in 2022-23 but no funding in the current year. During the conference committee process, the JBC added a $2 million General Fund for the program.

Overdose treatment - HB 24-1003 – Under this bill, opiate antagonists and detection devices can be stocked on school buses if a district adopts a policy to do so. This extends the current law covering school buildings.

Weapons detection - HB 24-1123 – Firearm detection systems will be approved for school safety grants, but this bill provides no additional money.

Bullying - HB 24-1285 – Under this bill, bullying based on weight would be added to the legal definition of bullying in schools.

Educator safety - HB 24-1320 – In response to recent incidents of teachers being assaulted, this bill creates a task force to study the problem and develop recommendations.

Students

Student preferred names - HB 24-1039 – Originally proposed by a student advisory group, the bill requires school boards to implement written policies that prohibit gender expression discrimination, including using a student's preferred name. Using a student's preferred name in the discrimination statute will follow the prohibition of discrimination based on a student's hair texture, hair type, or a protective hairstyle historically linked with race. The written policy must state that intentionally using a name other than a student's preferred name is discriminatory. The bill clarifies that discrimination based on gender expression includes the use of an individual's chosen name, and such discrimination is against anti-discrimination laws. The same anti-discrimination school district policies currently in place will now need to apply to using a student's preferred name.

Graduation attire - HB 24-1323 – This bill allows students (from preschool to college) to wear "cultural or religious significance" objects at graduation or continuation ceremonies. Such clothing can not wholly cover graduation robes nor violate school dress codes, but dress codes can not infringe on student gender identity, gender expression, religion, or culture. Districts also may prohibit ornaments that could disrupt or interfere with ceremonies.

Ninth-grade success - HB 24-1282 – The bill appropriates $2 million for the ninth-grade student success grant program.

A new diploma endorsement - SB 24-014 – This measure allows districts to grant a diploma endorsement in "climate literacy."

Defeated Bills

Education bills that were defeated (or withdrawn by sponsors) included requirements for air conditioning in schools and buses (HB 24-1068), a Republican school safety proposal (HB 24-1310), a controversial push for greater charter school financial transparency (HB 24-1364), an income tax credit for parents who volunteer at schools (SB 24-114) and a ban on use of student seclusion (HB 24-1167).

Several education bills also "died on the calendar," legislative jargon that describes bills that did not make it out of committee or out of the first chamber when the legislature adjourned for good. Some of those measures involved the quality of digital education materials (HB 24-1247), income tax credits for teachers (HB 24-1221), and a study of school lunchtime policies (HB 24-1301).

FY 24-25 Budget Update

While 94 state legislators come into the Capitol in January and work until early May, the six members of the Joint Budget Committee start work in November and toil throughout March, when they unveil the annual "long bill" budget package.

After the budget package emerged from the two houses in mid-April, the Joint Budget Committee removed most of the amendments added to realign the package with its vision. The budget, thus finalized, encompassed a total spending of $42.88 billion, with significant allocations of $16 billion GF, $11.52 billion cash funds, and $12.52 billion federal funds, each playing a crucial role in the state's financial landscape. The budget package and specific bill funding total $1.06 billion, a 7 percent increase over the current 2023-2024 budget.

To deliver that budget, the JBC and the governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting used several creative techniques to raise the money needed to support the spending they wanted. Those included sweeping some cash funds, reclassifying some revenues in ways that reduced the TABOR surplus, and "swapping" one-time ARPA dollars.

Key takeaways from the budget include:

- Significant funding is devoted to K-12 education, property tax relief, and housing initiatives.
- The K-12 Budget Stabilization Factor does not play a role in the calculation of school funding.
- The Health Care Policy and Financing and Human Services departments take almost two-thirds of the total increase.
- Nearly $70 million is appropriated to Corrections for competency evaluations and restoration.
- Three percent raises for state employees, along with approval of a step pay system.
- Two percent increase in community provider rates, less than JBC originally approved.
- Higher education is funded at $132 million above the Governor's request, with resident tuition increases capped at 3 percent and non-resident at 4 percent.

The decisions made by the Joint Budget Committee may pose challenges for the 2025 JBC. As staff Director Craig Harper highlighted in a May 1st memo, the 2024-25 budget "uses approximately $457.8 million in one-time funding to support General Fund expenditures. Assuming the vast majority of the $457.8 million in one-time money is going to ongoing uses, backfilling that amount of one-time money with ongoing revenues in FY 2025-26 and beyond will be a formidable task." This foresight is crucial to understand the potential future challenges and plan accordingly.

Session Overview

The Year of the Deal

The 2024 Colorado legislative session made historic efforts around taxation, education funding, transportation, energy development, and air quality – thanks in large part to some creative deal-making.

Reform of state income taxes and local property taxes were bipartisan efforts, while legislation on transportation and energy development was more partisan. The Democratic majority in both chambers drove bills on land use, housing, and gun control. Although the support of the Democrats was present, it was not guaranteed that the bills would pass in their original form, nor that they would all be passed.

The biggest deals involved both chambers of the legislature, members of both political parties, Governor Polis, and important outside interest groups. Deals were struck on local property taxes, state taxes, energy development, transportation funding, damage caps for litigation, and education funding.

Local Property Taxes – Introduced on May 6 and finally passed in the waning hours of the last day on Wednesday, May 8, SB24-233 reduces valuations for both residential and commercial property, makes other changes in the tax system, and creates separate valuation systems for school districts and for all other local governments. Proponents hope the bill will mollify conservative interest groups pushing ballot measures that would limit state and local finances. However, leaders of those groups said they were keeping their options open, and there was no deal to pull the ballot initiative by the time lawmakers went home.

State Taxes – Governor Polis has long advocated for reducing state income tax rates. Democratic legislators have resisted that idea while simultaneously thinking of creative ways to tap the TABOR surplus to fund policy goals through mechanisms such as tax credits. SB24-228 tweaks the methods to pay TABOR refunds, starting with the 2023-24 surplus by reinstating a temporary income tax cut. For the 2024-25 surplus, there will be a temporary cut in state sales taxes.

Other bills that passed will reduce the TABOR surplus. Among them are $33.8 million in senior tax rebates (HB24-1052), a $136 million expansion of the earned income tax credit for lower-income taxpayers (HB24-1134), and up to $684 million for other credits for lower-income Coloradans with children (HB24-1311).

Tax credits were popular with lawmakers this session – nearly 50 bills were introduced.

Energy Development and Transportation Funding – Governor Polis brokered a deal under which Democratic legislators pulled some air quality bills the oil and gas industry did not like in exchange for the industry pulling the plug on some ballot measures. In exchange, lawmakers passed SB24-229, which sets new emissions standards and industry regulation practices, and SB24-230, which assesses a fee on oil and gas production. That is projected to raise $109 million – to be used mostly for transportation projects, a top Governor priority. That latter bill may face legal challenges over whether there is a proper nexus between the fee and the use of the money for transportation.

Tort Reform – As the session began, the Colorado Trial Lawyers Association quite publicly decided they could make more progress at the ballot than at the legislature and started the process of filing several ballot measures to eliminate damage caps and impact peer review in medical settings. Coloradans Protecting Patient Access and property and casualty insurance stakeholders countered with their own set of ballot initiatives, including caps on contingency fees. If a ballot fight occurred in November, estimates of the total cost were as much as $60 million. Negotiations intensified in the last few weeks of the session, with Governor Polis' office, particularly his Chief of Staff Alec Garnett, playing the role of dealmaker. In exchange for dropping the ballot initiatives, both sides agreed to support HB24-1472, which raises caps on awards in medical malpractice and personal injury lawsuits. The bill, introduced the Sunday before adjournment, sailed through the process with a notably short twenty-three-minute hearing in the House Judiciary Committee.

Education Funding – House Speaker Julie McCluskie made some masterful deals to pass a significant reform of the state's K-12 funding formula, a goal that has eluded legislators for years. Speaker McCluskie's HB24-1448 reorders and adjusts the weights of factors used to calculate the customized amounts of per-student funding allocated to individual districts. The intention is to direct more funding to at-risk students, English language learners, and special education. The bill was finessed, so no district technically would lose funding. The plan will increase overall K-12 spending by $571.3 million by 2030-31.

The other signal accomplishment of 2024 was the passage of a 2024-25 school funding package (HB24-1430 and SB24-188) that does not include using the Budget Stabilization Factor (BSF) to trim school funding and balance the overall state budget. Total Program Funding will be $9.73 billion, $561.7 million higher than this school year's funding. A key element of the bill is $35.9 million of additional support for rural districts, which is being made a permanent part of the finance formula. Legislative leaders say they believe the funding increases are sustainable and that future lawmakers will not have to invoke the BSF to control education spending. Other education experts are not as optimistic.

Other Major Issues

Land Use and Housing – The failure of Polis' omnibus land use bill in 2023 caused a shift of tactics for the 2024 session, and multiple bills on the subject were introduced. Advocates of density, increased use of mass transit, more affordable housing, and renters' rights believe progress has been made on those issues.

- HB24-1313 – This complex bill, intended to encourage transit-oriented housing development, was the centerpiece of land use legislation.
- HB24-1007 – This ban on local laws setting residential occupancy limits was one of the first housing bills to pass.
- HB24-1152 – Some local governments will have to ease restrictions on constructing accessory dwelling units under this bill.
- HB24-1098 – Renters will gain greater protection against evictions and lease terminations at the end of the contract under this bill.
- SB24-094 – This measure sets standards for the habitability of rental units.
- HB24-1304 – This proposal to limit the power of local governments to require parking in residential developments was significantly amended down from its original form.

Measures to change requirements for stairwells in multi-story buildings HB24-1239 and change taxation of short-term rentals HB24-1299 were defeated. There also were successful bills to limit the powers of homeowners' associations over individual property owners. Attempts to change construction defect laws failed, creating another session of stalemate regarding a problem that has affected condominium construction for years.

Gun Control – Legislative Democrats moved aggressively on this issue, and a long list of bills sparked lengthy partisan debates in both chambers, particularly in the House. Despite the solid Democratic majorities, advocates saw somewhat mixed success.

The highest profile measure, HB24-1292, proposed a ban on assault weapons and advanced further than a similar bill in 2023. However, the Senate sponsor had it postponed indefinitely when it became clear there was no path to passage. The most sweeping proposal, SB24-131, originally proposed a broad ban on carrying weapons in almost any public space. It passed after being narrowed to prohibiting weapons in government buildings (including the Capitol) and on K-12 property and higher education campuses.

Bills that passed included a requirement for training to get concealed carry permits (HB24-1174), secure storage of guns in vehicles (HB24-1348), licensing requirements for firearms dealers (HB24-1353), and expanded authority for the Colorado Bureau of Investigation to investigate gun crimes (SB24-003).

Everything Else - As happens every year, lawmakers pack as many issues as possible into their 120-day session. Here are some other bills of interest that passed:

- Driving while texting – SB24-065, passed at the end of the session, prohibits using cell phones while driving, with exceptions for hands-free devices.
- Front Range Rail – SB24-184 would increase rental car fees to raise about $55 million a year for transit projects. The rental car industry has threatened a ballot measure to counter the bill.
- Electrical grids – SB24-218 directs Xcel Energy to develop plans for upgrading its electrical grid.
- Immigrant aid – Hotly contested in the session's final days, HB24-1280 establishes grants for community organizations that help integrate immigrants into society.
- Libraries - SB24-216 sets up library procedures for handling requests for removing books. (It does not apply to school districts.)
- Medical education – HB24-1231 will fund medical education facilities on four Colorado campuses, including an osteopathic medical school at the University of Northern Colorado. HB24-1153 will require continuing education for physicians.
- Mortuary regulation – In response to recent scandals, SB24-173 establishes state regulations for funeral directors and other mortuary workers.
- Right to repair – HB24-1121 would require companies to make it easier for customers to repair their appliances and devices.
- Social media – HB24-1136 would require social media sites to provide pop-up warnings about youth social media use. A more aggressive approach failed when SB24-158 died.

Notable Measures that did Not Pass

- Liquor licenses – HB24-1373 sought to protect smaller liquor stores from the expansion of more prominent outlets.
- Police conduct – HB24-1460 would have strengthened existing laws on police misconduct but died on a tie vote on the House floor.
- RTD – HB24-1447 started as a bold plan to reform the transit agency and more closely integrate it into state transportation planning.
- Safe injection sites – HB24-1028 would have allowed cities to let such centers open.

The Tone of the Session

Despite having comfortable majorities in both chambers, there have been persistent conflicts within the Democratic Party, particularly in the House, between progressives and more moderate Democrats. Additionally, a small group of Republicans have been trying to control the conversation by filibustering despite losing the votes.

The Republican House minority has its own divisions, and those flared up early in the session when a two-year-old drunken driving case involving Minority Leader Mike Lynch came to light. He was replaced by Rep. Rose Pugliese of Colorado Springs.

The divisions seemed less intense relative to 2023.

The Stats

There were 705 bills introduced in the 2024 session, 472 in the House, and 233 in the Senate. This was one of the highest totals in recent sessions despite legislative leadership saying early on that “late bills” (those above the five each legislator is allowed without permission) would not be approved.

- 525 bills were passed (this includes many already signed)
- 105 bills were postponed indefinitely
- 75 bills died on the calendar or were otherwise defeated

Capitol Transitions

Election years such as 2024 always bring significant turnover in the legislature as members subject to term limits finish their service or move on to other opportunities.

Key Senate departures this year include Senate President Steve Fenberg of Boulder; JBC vice chair Sen. Rachel Zenzinger of Arvada; Sen. Rhonda Fields of Aurora, and Sen. Bob Gardner of Colorado Springs, an anchor of the Republican caucus for 16 years, the longest serving legislator, and a man known for his long speeches.

The House is losing Republican Rep. Marc Catlin, a respected voice for the Western Slope; Speaker Pro Temp Chris deGruy Kennedy; the Democratic chair of House Education, Barbara McLachlan; and House Judiciary chair Mike Weissman. Reps. Catlin and Weissman are running for Senate seats.

Approximately a quarter of the 100-member General Assembly is leaving.

Looking Ahead

Interim Committees

Interim committees authorized to meet during the 2024 interim include a few new ones and those that occur yearly. Note that these committees are separate from the year-round Committees, such as the Audit Committee or the Joint Budget Committee, all of which are authorized to meet during the 2024 interim.

A number of task forces were created this year. A relatively new tactic deployed to avoid fiscal impacts, legislator participation, and bill drafting authority, which come with interim committees. We are awaiting the Governor's signature on these bills as stakeholders are working for Vetos.

Committees Authorized During the 2024 Session

- Committee to Study Native American Affairs
- Committee to address Cell Phone Connectivity

Ongoing Interim Committees

- Colorado Jail Standards Commission
- Sales and Use Tax Simplification Task Force
- Colorado Youth Advisory Council Committee
- Statewide Health Care Review Committee
- Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Colorado Jail Standards
- Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Tax Policy & Task Force
- Transportation Legislation Review Committee
- Pension Review Commission
- Treatment of Persons with Behavioral Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems
- Pension Review Subcommittee
- Wildfire Matters Review Committee

Conclusion

The next seven months promise to be filled with significant events in the education sector, including ballot measures, legislative and presidential elections, and the activities of multiple interim committees and task forces. We will provide a comprehensive update in June on the election landscape. This update will feature targeted candidate races and the record number of ballot measures on a wide range of topics, including trophy hunting, education funding, and property taxes.

2024 D51 & MVEA Negotiations Update

5/21/24

2024 Negotiations Meetings

- D51 & MVEA met on May 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, & 17 for negotiations.
- Many meetings were held throughout the school year with representatives from D51 & MVEA in subcommittees to work out the details and possible options ahead of the meeting dates listed above.
- At the May 17 meeting, the D51 team and MVEA reached a consensus on an agreement on the items in the following slides.

Consensus Was Met on the Following Issues:

- A 7% cost of living increase and a 1-step movement for all eligible staff. This will result in a starting salary for the teacher salary schedule of $50,015;
- Following the applied negotiated increase of a 7% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to the salary schedule and any eligible step movement, Covered Employees who received a GMI stipend during the 2023-24 school year may continue to receive a GMI stipend of up to a maximum of $3,600 if their 2024-25 placement on the salary schedule (base pay) does not increase by at least $3,600 (based on a full-time FTE). The GMI stipend will end after the 2024-25 school year;
- MVEA will reimburse the District 100% of the President's salary and benefits, including the District's P.E.R.A contribution;

Consensus Was Met on the Following Issues:

- A letter of agreement to study the placement and schedule for school psychologists during the 2024/25 school year;
- A letter of agreement to examine the language regarding TOSAs (#22 under Exhibit B) during the 2024/25 school year;
- School Psychologist initial lane placement on Educational Lane 9 MA+75, EDS/DOC;
- Salary lane advancement for the 2024/25 school year for Teachers, Counselors, and School Psychologists and applications for educational lane advancement submitted to take effect beginning in the 2025-26 school year and thereafter, a Covered Employee may move a maximum of two (2) educational lanes per year;

Consensus Was Met on the Following Issues:

- School Counselor/School Psychologist National Board Certification Stipend Pay;
- Extra Curricular salary schedule changes;
- Increased the number of participants for D51 Content Area and Curriculum Design Teams to 150 total participants per school year;
- During District Orientation and JumpStart (new teacher orientation), MVEA may utilize one (1) lunch hour at each event to provide every new incoming employee information pertaining to the Negotiated Agreement;

Consensus Was Met on the Following Issues:

- At least three times each year, excluding September through the second week in November of school board elections, not more than two (2) members of the Board of Education will meet with district leaders and MVEA (i.e ERPC - Educational Research and Proactive Collaboration Team) for the purpose of providing background data and information with regard to the agenda items up for the negotiations that year as well as strengthening the operating covenants contained within the negotiated agreement; and,
- The District and the Association agree that a meeting will be held at each building site to review important parts of the negotiated agreement and Board Policy. The meeting will be established by the school principal and MVEA representative and will be held on an in-service day during the first quarter.

Shared Focus on Increasing Staff Salaries

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Teacher/Counselor/Psychologist Salary Schedule

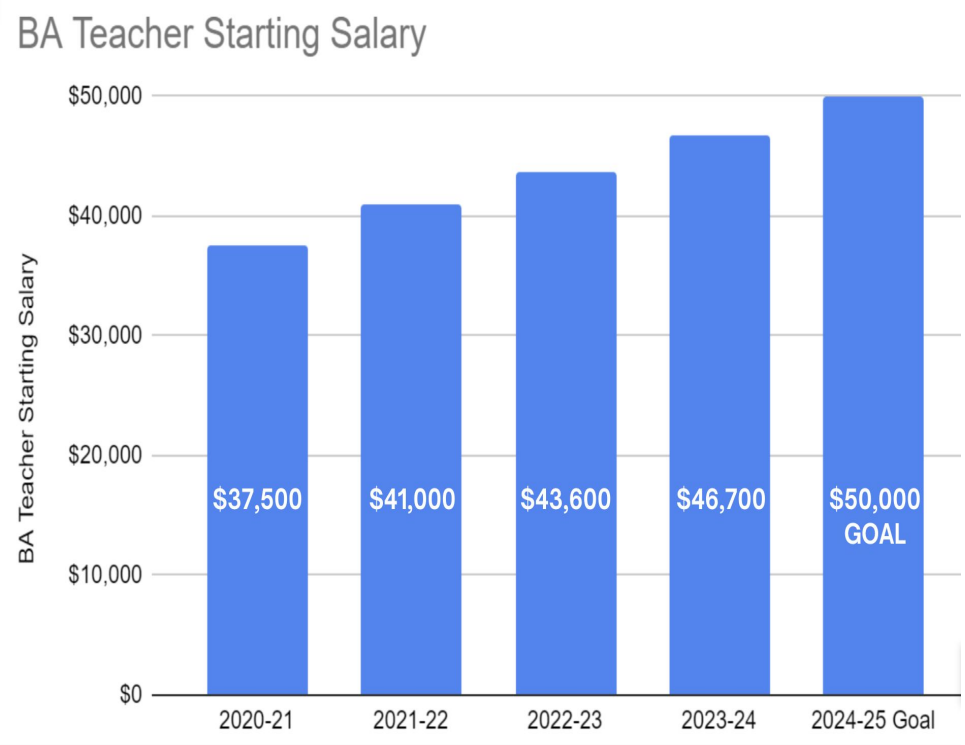
2024-25

Annual Salaries based on 188-day calendar

	Educational Lane								
Step	1 BA	2 BA+15	3 BA+30	4 BA+45 MA	5 MA+15	6 MA+30	7 MA+45	8 MA+60	9 MA+75 EDS/DOC
0	50,015	51,513	53,011	54,509	55,847	57,184	58,522	60,180	61,946
1	51,116	52,647	54,177	55,708	57,076	58,442	59,810	61,505	63,309
2	52,241	53,805	55,369	56,935	58,331	59,728	61,125	62,857	64,702
3	53,390	54,988	56,588	58,187	59,614	61,042	62,470	64,241	66,125
4	54,565	56,199	57,832	59,467	60,926	62,385	63,845	65,654	67,580
5	55,764	57,434	59,105	60,775	62,267	63,758	65,249	67,098	69,066
6	56,991	58,698	60,406	62,112	63,636	65,160	66,685	68,574	70,586
7	58,245	59,990	61,734	63,479	65,037	66,594	68,152	70,083	72,138
8	59,526	61,310	63,093	64,875	66,467	68,058	69,651	71,625	73,726
9	60,836	62,658	64,480	66,303	67,929	69,556	71,183	73,201	75,348
10	62,174	64,036	65,899	67,761	69,424	71,087	72,749	74,811	77,006
11	63,542	65,445	67,349	69,251	70,951	72,651	74,350	76,457	78,700
12	63,542	65,445	68,830	70,775	72,512	74,248	75,985	78,139	80,431
13	63,542	65,445	70,345	72,332	74,107	75,882	77,657	79,857	82,201
14	63,542	65,445	71,892	73,924	75,738	77,551	79,365	81,614	84,009
15	63,542	65,445	73,474	75,551	77,404	79,258	81,111	83,410	85,857
16				77,212	79,107	81,001	82,896	85,245	87,746
17				78,910	80,847	82,784	84,719	87,120	89,677
18				80,647	82,625	84,605	86,583	89,037	91,649
19				82,421	84,443	86,466	88,488	90,996	93,666
20				84,235	86,301	88,368	90,435	92,998	95,726
21				86,088	88,200	90,312	92,426	95,044	97,832
22					88,200	92,299	94,457	97,135	99,984
23					88,200	92,299	96,536	99,271	102,184
24					88,200	92,299	96,536	101,455	104,432

Shared Focus on Increasing Staff Salaries

- Through strategic use of available funds, coupled with spending reductions internally, we have increased starting teacher salaries by almost $10,000 over the last 3 years.
- We had a shared goal of improving our starting teacher salary this year to $50,000. This helps with retention & recruitment in a time when housing costs and cost of living have increased.
- We accomplished this without having to ask local citizens for a tax increase.



Next Steps

- The next step is for MVEA to ratify the agreement with their membership this week.
- Once that is completed, the Board of Education will meet next week to hear a budget presentation and approve the changes in the negotiated agreement.
- Thank you to everyone who participated in this year’s negotiations.
- Human Resources will be sending out additional information to each employee group after Board approval.

2024 D51 & MVEA Negotiations Update

5/21/24

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Licensed and Administrative Personnel Action

Board of Education Resolution 23/24: 94 Adopted: May 21, 2024

Name	Location	Assignment	Effective Date
Retirements			
NONE			
Resignations/Termination			
ARCHIE, BRITTNEY N	PEAR PARK	GRADE 3	5/24/2024
BIRDSEY, SUSAN B	GRAND MESA	PRINCIPAL	6/5/2024
CABARRON, MARY GRACE C	GRAND MESA	SP ED - MODERATE NEEDS	5/24/2024
CARMELOTES, WEDLRITZ R	GRAND MESA	MATHEMATICS	5/24/2024
DAVIS, KIMBERLIE	SHELLEDY/POMONA	ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	6/5/2024
DONATHAN, KRISTIE J	BTK	PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR	6/30/2024
HONNEN, CAMERON SHEA	FRUITA 8-9	INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC	5/24/2024
LARSEN, WILLIAM P	COMPASS	GT DIRECTOR	6/30/2024
MARCHANT, MEGAN A	FRUITA 8-9	ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	5/24/2024
MORGAN, MAKENNA B	ORCHARD AVE	GRADE 4	5/24/2024
REQUA, TERRIE L	BOOKCLIFF	PRINCIPAL	6/5/2024
THOMAS, SHELBY N	GATEWAY	SCIENCE	5/24/2024
WATTERS, CYRA L	GRAND MESA	SCIENCE	5/24/2024
WAY, KARI L	BTK	SP ED - PRESCHOOL	5/24/2024
Leave of Absence			
NONE			
New Assignments (Transfer/New Hires)			
BRUBACHER, JACOB RAY	MT GARFIELD	8TH GR SOCIAL STUDIES	8/1/2024
COFFELT, MELANIE L	RIM ROCK	KINDERGARTEN	8/1/2024
DAVIS, KELSEY R	DOS RIOS	GRADE 5	8/1/2024
ENGLEHART-HILZER, CATELYN	ORCHARD MESA	ART	8/1/2024
MCCOLLUM, CALA A	FRUITVALE	GRADE 1	8/1/2024
POWELSON, MADELIN HAILEY	POMONA/THUNDER	CLD - ELEMENTARY	8/1/2024
Return from Leave			
NONE			

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Board of Education on May 21, 2024.

_____

Amy Navarette, Assistant Secretary
Board of Education

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Contract Non-Renewal Personnel Action

Board of Education Resolution 23/24: 95 Adopted: May 21, 2024

Temporary, Part-Time and Full-Time Probationary Teacher/Counselor/Administrator Contract Non-Renewal

ACOSTA, DAVID LIAM
ADDINGTON, TIFFANY M
ANDREWS, SARA N
BRANDON, SYDNI D
COLBY, MYRANDA S
COMBS, KIMBERLY
GILMAN, RONALD A
GUTIERREZ, SIANA SOMMERSTED
HARVEY, MEGAN A
HICKS, JAMIE C
HOLTZ, SIERRA N
HOSKIN, SALLY
KELLEY, CIMARRONA F
KIEDINGER, ABBY K
LUNDBERG, DANIEL
MCELWEE, AMBER L
MICHEL, JOHN D
NEIL, ANTHONY JAMES
PARONI, ELIZABETH BUCKLEY
STATON, CARA DYANN

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Board of Education on May 21, 2024.

_____

Amy Navarette, Assistant Secretary
Board of Education

Board of Education Resolution: 23/24: 96 Adopted: May 21, 2024

Donor	Ryan Davis DDS
Gift	Cash
Value	$100
School/Department	Nisley Elementary Field Day t-shirts

Donor	Pacific Steel
Gift	Cash
Value	$400
School/Department	Nisley Elementary t-shirts for Special Olympics participants

Donor	Solstice Tattoo
Gift	Cash
Value	$200
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Donor	Grass Roots Cycles
Gift	Voucher for free bike tune-up
Value	$75
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Donor	Shemene Rosas/Short Kuts
Gift	Free Haircut
Value	$15
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Donor	Jerry’s Pest Control
Gift	(2) $150 gift certificates
Value	$300
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Donor	Walmart
Gift	Gift card
Value	$50
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Donor	Solve It Escape Rooms
Gift	Escape Room passes
Value	$54
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Donor	Bananas
Gift	Park passes
Value	$120
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Board of Education Resolution: 23/24: 96 Adopted: May 21, 2024

Donor	Glenwood Caverns
Gift	Park tickets
Value	$130
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Donor	Dick's Sporting Goods
Gift	Gift card
Value	$25
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Donor	The Massage Store
Gift	Gift vouchers
Value	$170
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Donor	Chipeta Golf Course
Gift	Golf Course voucher
Value	$150
School/Department	Donation to Nisley Elementary Family BBQ Night Auction

Donor	GJHS Booster Club
Gift	Cash
Value	$1200
School/Department	GJHS Upward Bound trip for Terrence Liu

Donor	GJHS Booster Club
Gift	Cash
Value	$1800
School/Department	GJHS FCCLA Travel

Donor	GJHS Booster Club
Gift	Cash
Value	$1500
School/Department	GJHS FBLA

Donor	Jerry W. & Cynthia F. Clark
Gift	Cash
Value	$50
School/Department	GJHS FBLA

Donor	Deborah Carol
Gift	Cash
Value	$50
School/Department	GJHS Track & Field

Board of Education Resolution: 23/24: 96 Adopted: May 21, 2024

Donor	Poppy J. Woody
Gift	Cash
Value	$25
School/Department	GJHS Girls Lacrosse team

Donor	Grand Junction Chapter SPEB SQSA Bookcliff Chorus
Gift	Cash
Value	$500
School/Department	GJHS Vocal Program

Donor	Innovative Rural Sales
Gift	Cash
Value	$250
School/Department	GJHS Girls Tennis Team

Donor	Carolee Hawkins Properties LLC
Gift	Cash
Value	$250
School/Department	GJHS Girls Soccer Team

Donor	Monument Body Works LLC
Gift	Cash
Value	$150
School/Department	GJHS Girls Soccer Team

Donor	Laura Spangler
Gift	Cash
Value	$100
School/Department	GJHS Girls Soccer Team

Donor	Laverne Mosher
Gift	Jars, Meals & Snacks
Value	$425
School/Department	Palisade High School FCCLA

Donor	Alpine Bank
Gift	Cash
Value	$500
School/Department	Palisade High School Girls Soccer Team

Donor	Timberline Bank
Gift	Cash
Value	$250
School/Department	Palisade High School Girls Soccer Team

Board of Education Resolution: 23/24: 96 Adopted: May 21, 2024

Donor	Palisade Lions Club
Gift	Cash
Value	$300
School/Department	Palisade High School Speech Team

Donor	The Palisade Paw Post
Gift	Cash
Value	$600
School/Department	Palisade High School Speech Team

Donor	Burton Orthodontics, Dr. Brian J. Burton
Gift	Cash
Value	$200
School/Department	Palisade High School FBLA

Donor	Little Brats Orchard LLC
Gift	Cash
Value	$500
School/Department	Palisade High School Baseball Team

Donor	NextGrad LLC
Gift	Cash
Value	$500
School/Department	Palisade High School Counseling Department

Donor	Peachtree True Value Hardware, Lumber & Rental
Gift	Lumber
Value	$5393.95
School/Department	Palisade High School Tech Ed Department

Donor	Joshua & Gretchen Rank
Gift	Cash
Value	$500
School/Department	Palisade High School Cross Country Team

Donor	Mary Leach
Gift	Boxes
Value	$10
School/Department	Appleton Elementary School Office

Board of Education Resolution: 23/24: 96 Adopted: May 21, 2024

Donor	Troy Behrens
Gift	Photo Booth
Value	$2000
School/Department	Appleton Elementary School for staff and events

Donor	Power Equipment Company
Gift	Cash
Value	$250
School/Department	Taylor Elementary School for Special Olympics apparel and food

Donor	Terry Ballantyne
Gift	Cash
Value	$200
School/Department	Taylor Elementary School for Special Olympics apparel and food

Donor	Ideal Completion Solutions
Gift	Cash
Value	$250
School/Department	Taylor Elementary School for Special Olympics apparel and food

Donor	Janice Penman
Gift	Cash
Value	$500
School/Department	Taylor Elementary School for any needs

Donor	Diane Blecha, The Gluten Free Place
Gift	Cash
Value	$100
School/Department	Thunder Mountain Elementary Music dept. for recorders

Donor	True Value
Gift	Flowers for planters
Value	$49.77
School/Department	Mesa View Elementary SPED students for Science class

Donor	First United Methodist Church
Gift	Cash
Value	$500
School/Department	R-5 High School donation for Sweet Success Banquet

Board of Education Resolution: 23/24: 96 Adopted: May 21, 2024

Donor	Starbucks
Gift	Coffee
Value	$70
School/Department	To provide coffee for Board of Education meeting with community

Donor	Judy Whittlesey
Gift	2 transport wheel chairs
Value	$220
School/Department	MCVSD Physical Therapy Department

Donor	Elevate Kids
Gift	Cash
Value	$750
School/Department	Playground donation for Wingate Elementary School

Donor	Sue Wheater
Gift	Violin 4/4
Value	$150
School/Department	Music Education

Donor	Donors Choose
Gift	Cash/Equipment
Value	$635
School/Department	Various schools and departments

TOTAL OF $22,517.72

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 May 21, 2024.

_____

Amy Navarette
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

Board of Education Resolution 23/24: 97 Adopted: May 21, 2024

Grant Title	Child Care Operations Stabilization and Workforce Grant Bonus
Source	Colorado Office of Early Childhood Department of Human Services
Fund Number	22-7575
Site	BTK
Description	For Preschool Child Care costs
Budget Amount	$140,460
Fiscal Year	06/30/2024
Authorized Representative	Dan Bunnell

Grant Title	Mallinckrodt Incentive Award
Source	Mallinckrodt, McKinsey, and Endo
Fund Number	22-606-0606
Site	BTK
Description	For Special Education purposes
Budget Amount	$2,500
Fiscal Year	06/30/2024
Authorized Representative	Dan Bunnell

Grant Title	Professional Learning Grant
Source	D51 Foundation
Fund Number	22-606-0099
Site	BTK
Description	For Special Education purposes
Budget Amount	$1,900
Fiscal Year	06/30/2024
Authorized Representative	Dan Bunnell

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Board of Education approved the above identified grant funds for expenditure purposes May 21, 2024.

Amy Navarette
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

LIBRARY MATERIALS SELECTION

Related: IJL-R
Adopted: November 3, 1987
Revised May 21, 2024

The Board of Education is by virtue of the Colorado constitution and statutes vested with authority and discretion over the selection of resource materials contained in the various libraries throughout the District.

The building principals and/or certified school librarians or designees of each school in which a library is located shall exercise delegated authority with respect to materials located in the library of that particular building, subject to review by a district-level library review panel (per KECA) in the case of a formal complaint.

Decisions made pursuant to the delegation of authority shall be final, and subject to review at the discretion of the Board of Education.

In selecting materials to be acquired for libraries, those persons exercising delegated authority shall be guided by the objectives and criteria enumerated in policies, IJL, IJL-R, and school library policies and procedures manual which describe the appropriate selection and operating processes for the District.

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to develop or designate development of appropriate and reasonable procedures for the implementation of this policy. Any such procedures developed for the implementation of this policy shall be subject to review by the Board of Education.

LEGAL REF:
C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1)(t)
C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1)(r)
C.R.S. 22-54-105 (1)

CROSS REF.:
IB, Academic Freedom
IIJ, Instructional Resource Selection and Adoption
KEC, Public Complaints About Instructional Materials
KECA, Public Complaints About Library-Media Materials

IIJ
INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES SELECTION AND ADOPTION

Adopted: October 10, 1972
Revised: May 21, 2024

As the governing body of the school district, the Board is legally responsible for the selection of all instructional materials. Since the Board is a policymaking body, it delegates to the District's professional personnel the authority for the selection of instructional and library materials in accordance with this policy.

Classroom and school library materials will be selected by the school librarians or appropriate personnel approved by the school administrator in consultation with District administrators, who shall develop and implement a process for the selection of new instructional materials. The final decision on purchase shall rest with the Superintendent or designee. All instructional resources and materials shall be aligned with the District's academic standards and support the District's educational objectives.

Gifts and donations to the classroom and school library are accepted or rejected with the understanding that the decision for use and disposition of the materials and/or funds will be determined using the same selection criteria as purchased materials. All materials should support the curriculum and needs of library users. Gifts and donations, like purchased resources, will be removed from the collection at the end of their useful life.

When initially selecting materials or accepting donations of materials the following criteria will be considered:

1. Contribute to the curriculum (as defined by the state standards) and support the interests of the students;
2. Be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, language levels, and for the social, emotional, and intellectual development of the students for whom the materials are selected;
3. Provide a global perspective and promote diversity by including materials by authors and illustrators of all cultures;
4. Be readily found in reviews and recommendations of standard selection sources, including professional journal reviews and award lists;
5. Demonstrate the validity, accuracy, and appropriateness of the material, particularly for nonfiction;
6. Contribute to the breadth of materials for students to study issues that have political, economic, or social significance and represent differing viewpoints on controversial issues and allow for critical analysis of the **issue;**
7. Exhibit a high degree of potential user appeal and interest, including recommendations from digital literacy partners, District personnel, students, and staff;
8. Meet high standards in literary, artistic, and aesthetic quality;
9. For the selection of materials only: Include a variety of resources in physical and virtual formats including print and non-print such as electronic and multimedia (including subscription databases and other online products, e-books, educational games, and other forms of emerging technologies);
10. Demonstrate physical format, appearance, and durability commensurate with cost and/or need;
11. Show timeliness or permanence of the content; and
12. Despite its inclusion of content or language that may be considered offensive-graphic depictions of violence or sex, for example-the relative literary value of the material as a whole outweighs its potential to offend.

All textbooks, library materials, and other instructional resources and materials shall be available for inspection by students' parents/guardians.

LEGAL REF.:
C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1)(t)
C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1)(r)
C.R.S. 22-54-108(1)

Cross References:
18, Academic Freedom
IGA, Curriculum Development
IJL, Library Materials Selection
KEC, Public Complaints About Instructional Materials

JICJ
STUDENT USE OF CELL PHONES
AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Adopted: March 23, 2010
Revised: May 21, 2024

The Board of Education believes that personal electronic devices may be useful tools for students in the educational environment and can play a vital communication role during emergency situations. However, possession and use of personal electronic devices in school situations must be regulated to ensure that the use or presence of such devices does not disrupt or interfere with the educational process or school operations, or impair the safety, welfare, and privacy of students and staff. Therefore, in order to create engaging spaces in the educational environment that fosters sustained attention and maximizes learning, students may only use personal electronic devices on District property, in a District vehicle, or at a District or school-sponsored activity or event in accordance with this policy.

For purposes of this policy, "personal electronic devices" include any privately-owned portable technology device including but not limited to cell phones, a smart or electronic watch, tablets, laptops, Chromebooks, virtual reality devices, wireless earbuds/earphones, cameras, audio and/or video recorders and players, and any other hand-held electronic communication and data storage devices.

Students shall not use personal electronic devices as follows:

1. Students in grades PreK – 8 are prohibited from using personal electronic devices on school premises during the designated school day. The school day includes but is not limited to instructional time, lunch periods, recess, school-sponsored programs, events or activities, or any other time during the designated school day. All personal electronic devices shall be kept in designated areas and turned off.

2. Students in grades 9 – 12 are prohibited from using personal electronic devices during instructional time. Instructional time includes the entire period of a scheduled class and other times when students are directed to report to and participate in any instructional activity. Students may wear smart or electronic watches but may not use any communication applications or features that are prohibited from use on other electronic devices and all notifications must be turned off. All personal electronic devices shall be kept in designed areas and turned off during instructional time. Personal electronic devices may be used during passing times and lunch periods; however, such use is discouraged.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that personal electronic devices are turned off and placed in designated areas during times when use is not authorized. Personal electronic devices (1) that produce any audible sound, a ring tone, or vibrating alert, whether through a speaker, earbuds/earphones, buzzer, or other means, or (2) that are displayed or in plain view at such times shall be deemed to be used in violation of this policy.

Regardless of the permitted uses or limitations placed on the use of personal electronic devices, the following conduct is prohibited:

1. To engage in, promote, or facilitate any conduct that otherwise violates the Code of Student Conduct or other Board policies or regulations, or state or federal law.

2. In any manner that causes or results in disruption of the educational environment or school-sponsored extracurricular activities or events, or impairs or interferes with school or District operations;

3. To photograph or record the activities of other students or school personnel on District property or at school or school-sponsored activities, or to disseminate to others such photographs or recordings, in

a manner intended to cause or result in, or in a manner the student using the device should reasonably have foreseen would cause or result in, emotional distress, embarrassment or humiliation of a person, or an invasion or violation of any person's reasonable expectation of privacy.

4. Use of personal electronic devices in locker rooms, bathrooms, or other locations where the presence of such devices poses an unreasonable risk to the safety, welfare, or privacy of other persons, as determined by the building principal.

5. When their use is otherwise prohibited by this policy or by school rules. The principal may, at his or her discretion, establish and enforce additional rules for the use of personal electronic devices appropriate to individual campus needs. School officials are encouraged to set guidelines for the use of such devices during school trips and extracurricular activities.

Exceptions. Students may possess and use personal electronic devices during instructional time or when otherwise prohibited, under the following circumstances:

1. When specifically authorized under a current individual education plan (IEP), a Section 504 accommodation plan, or a health care plan in force and effect regarding the student.

2. The use is necessary to respond to or report an emergency. For purposes of this policy, "emergency" shall mean an actual or imminent threat to the health or safety of students and/or school personnel, which may result in death, bodily injury, or property damage.

3. For instructional purposes in accordance with specific school procedures and under the direction of the school principal.

Violations

Students violating the policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and expulsion. Personal electronic devices that are reasonably suspected of being used or possessed in violation of this Policy shall be subject to temporary confiscation by school authorities. Students shall be required to turn personal electronic devices over to any teacher or other school official upon request. Students who refuse to surrender a personal electronic device upon request by a teacher or other school official shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Loss or Damage. The District shall not be responsible for the loss, theft, or destruction of personal electronic devices brought onto school, or District property, or while the student is attending District or school-sponsored activities or events.

LEGAL REF.:
C.R.S. 18-7-109 *(posting, possession, or exchange of a private image by a juvenile)*

CROSS REFS.:
JIC, Student Conduct
JK, Student Discipline
JS, Student Use of Technology Resources

The Board has approved principles governing the selection of all instructional materials including library books and has established the policies pertaining to the selection process. However, the Board wishes to amplify its principles on the selection of books and other materials which present controversial topics or which for other reasons might be challenged.

Material that is challenged usually belongs to one of the three basic categories: religion, ideology, or profanity/obscenity. Board policies regarding these areas shall be as follows:

1. Religion-Factual, unbiased material on all major religions has a place In school libraries;
2. Ideologies-Libraries should, with no thought toward swaying reader judgment, make available a balanced collection of primary and factual material on the level of their students on various ideologies or philosophies which exert of have exerted a strong force, either favorably or unfavorably, in government, current events, politics, education, and other phases of life; and
3. Profanity/obscenity materials shall be subjected to a test of literary merit by media specialists and teachers who will take into consideration the maturity of students and the standards of the community.

Process for Reevaluation of Instruction Materials

The Principal or their designee shall be responsible for monitoring Instructional materials in their schools. The Board shall not permit any other individual or group to exercise censorship over instructional materials and library collections but recognizes that at times, a reevaluation of certain materials may be desirable. In such instances, the following process and criteria will be applied:

The Board recognizes the right of an individual parent/guardian to request their child not read a given book. When such a request is presented, the Board encourages matters to be resolved informally between the parent/guardian and the teacher, librarian, and/or school administrator who should resolve the situation, perhaps by arranging for use of alternative materials for their child meeting essentially the same instructional purpose. Teachers, librarians, and/or school administrators should work directly with the parent/guardian who. raises concern to determine whether the parent/guardian's child should be prohibited from accessing certain instructional materials that may be available at school. This does not apply, however, to basic program texts and materials prescribed within the established curricula that the Board has adopted.

Complainants who bypass this informal review/reconsideration procedure and initially seek action from the Board shall be informed of this policy and its accompanying regulation, KEC-R, and instructed first to seek a solution to their concern with the teacher, librarian, or Principal Involved. The Board will not consider a complaint about instructional resources unless the procedures outlined in this policy and its accompanying regulations are followed.

The person who objects to the book or other material shall be asked lo sign a complaint on public complaint form KEC-E on which that person will document the criticism. A formal complaint shall be written, dated and signed, and submitted to the District as identified in KEC-E. Incomplete complaints will be rejected and the complainant will be required to resubmit their complaint. Any complaints not submitted in accordance with KEC-E will be rejected and the complainant will be required to resubmit their complaint. Only parents of a student enrolled in the District, students enrolled In the District, residents of the District, vendors conducting official business with the District, and/or employees of the District may file a formal complaint within the same school year that the incident or concern that is the subject of the complaint occurred. Any complaint filed outside of this timeline shall not be considered. All complaints shall address one book or other instructional material per complaint. Any complaints addressing more than one book or instructional material will be rejected and the complainant will be required to resubmit their complaint.

Following receipt of the formal complaint, the Superintendent shall provide for a reevaluation of the material in question. The Superintendent or designee will accomplish this by appointing a review committee based on the points offered above and in accordance with this policy's accompanying regulation. Additionally, the Board wishes to emphasize that:

1. A book shall not be excluded because of the writer's race or nationality, political or religious views, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation.
2. The value of any book or other material shall be judged as a whole, taking into account the purpose of the material rather than individual, isolated expressions or incidents in the work.

The Superintendent or designee shall review the review committee's recommendation and shall render a decision on the· matter. Should the solution to the complaint be unsatisfactory, the complainant may appeal the decision to the Board within ten (10) working days of the date of receipt of the Superintendent's decision. Such appeals must be in writing and submitted to the Secretary of the Board and include a copy of the original concern/complaint, the decision of the prior levels, and a statement of the reason(s) for the appeal. If no appeal is filed within the above deadline, the determination of the Superintendent shall be final.

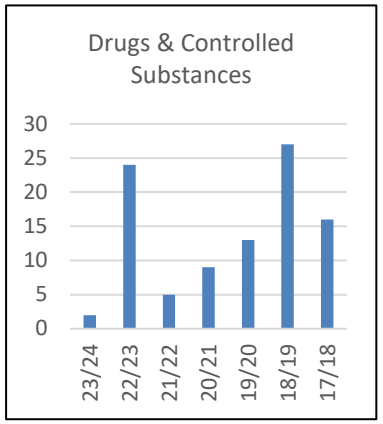
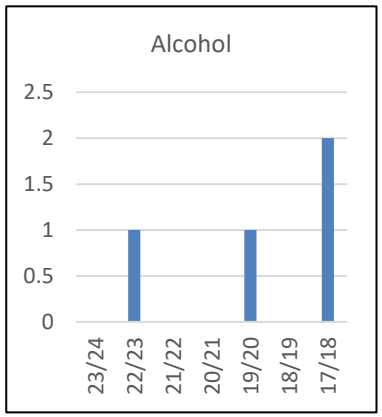
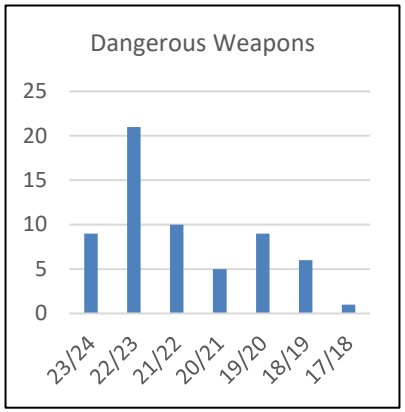
In summary, the Board assumes final responsibility for all books and instructional materials it makes available to students and will consider appeals in accordance with this policy's accompanying regulation. It holds its professional staff accountable for their proper selection. It recognizes the rights of individual parents/guardians with respect to controversial materials used by their own children. It will provide for the reevaluation of materials in library collections upon formal request.

CROSS REF.:
IIJ, Instructional Resource Selection & Adoption
1MB, Teaching About Controversial Issues

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Every student, every day, learning for life!

Expulsion Report
2023-2024 School Year
As of April 30, 2024
Presented: May 21, 2024

Category	High School				Middle School				Elementary School				Total		April 30				
	23/24		22/23		23/24		22/23		23/24		22/23		23/24	22/23	21/22	20/21	19/20	18/19	17/18
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F							
100	1		6	7	1		8	3					2	24	5	9	13	27	16
200			1											1			1		2
300																			
400	2		6	7	5	4	5	1					11	19	19	7	6	4	1
500	8	1	12	2			6	1					9	21	10	5	9	6	1
600																			
700	3				1								4						
800	3				2								5						
900					1								1						
VOO	2	1	11	7	3	1	7	7					7	32	10	11	13	17	9
Total	19	2	36	23	13	5	26	12					39	97	44	32	42	54	29

Category Description

100 - drug or controlled substance
200 - alcohol
300 - tobacco
400 - felony assault
500 - dangerous weapons
600 - robbery
700 - other felonies
800 - disobedient/defiant or repeated interference
900 - detrimental behavior
V00 - other violations