



Strasburg School District 31-J Agenda

Minutes of the Board of Education Regular Meeting
September 9th, 2024, 6:00 pm
2102 Wagner St
Strasburg, CO 80136

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice President Diana Elliot .

ATTENDANCE: (Roll Call)

Board members present were Diana Elliott, Daymon Johnson, May O'Malley and Julie Winter. Michael Marrero attended via Zoom at 6:30

Others participating were Kelle Bongard (Superintendent), Jen Hall (Board Secretary) & Nancy Taylor (CFO). Various community members were also in attendance.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

On a motion by Mary O'Malley and seconded by Diana Elliott, it is hereby resolved to approve the minutes as presented.

AYE: Elliott, Johnson, Winter, O'Malley

NAY: NONE – MOTION CARRIED 4-0

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

On a motion by Julie Winter and seconded by Daymon Johnson, it is hereby resolved to approve the agenda as presented.

AYE: Elliott, Johnson, Winter, O'Malley

NAY: NONE – MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Celebrations:

a. Library Grant

The district has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Colorado State Library. This grant will benefit all three school libraries by enhancing book collections, particularly with an increase in Spanish materials, promoting diverse literature access for students.

b. Elementary Houses

The Elementary House Party Celebration was a great success. The event, themed "Four Houses, One Tribe: Better Together," showcased the positive connections between older and younger students. The celebration fostered teamwork and community spirit, with students supporting and forming friendships across grades. Thanks were extended to all who contributed to the event's success.

c. CDE Cohorts

Six district staff members have joined the Colorado Department of Education Leadership learning cohorts. These groups meet monthly to discuss and address topics such as chronic absenteeism, family and community partnerships, rural leadership, ELL support, and school safety. This participation supports professional development and will benefit the district and its students.

d. Translation/Interpretation Devices

The district has purchased five instant translation devices, capable of supporting over 100 languages with 98% accuracy. One device will be placed in each building to improve communication and family involvement, aligning with Strategic Driver #3 of the Strasburg Story.

e. Updated Staff Benefit Feedback

The district has introduced an enhanced staff benefits program, including a 25% discount on preschool tuition and waiver of student athletic fees for all full and part-time regular employees. Initial feedback has been very positive, reflecting appreciation for these new benefits.

Board Reports:

Superintendent Report/Discussion:

a. School Performance Framework

The state has released the School Performance Frameworks (SPFs). The high school and elementary school have received a "Performance" rating, the highest rating. The middle school has improved to an "Improvement" rating from a previous "Priority Improvement" status. Prairie Creek's rating is pending due to its small student population, but an improvement is anticipated. The district's overall rating has shifted to "Improvement," which will be addressed through focused efforts to meet state expectations and enhance student outcomes.

b. 5 Essentials Survey Data

The district conducted the 5Essentials Survey in February, assessing key factors such as effective leadership, collaboration, family involvement, supportive environments, and ambitious instruction. A strong supportive environment was highlighted as a district strength. The survey will be administered annually to track growth and guide improvement efforts.

c. State Attendance Data

Statewide attendance rates are at 91.5%, with chronic absenteeism at 27.7%. The district's attendance rate matches the state average, and chronic absenteeism has decreased to 28.2%. The district is exploring participation in a nationwide Attendance Lab to further improve student attendance and outcomes. Hemphill Middle School's successful interventions will be extended district-wide.

d. Strasburg Story/UIP

Building principals are working on Unified Improvement Plans (UIP) for each school, to be presented at the October board meeting before state submission. These plans will focus on refining existing systems and fostering long-term growth and achievement, building upon last year's goals.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

On a motion by Daymon Johnson and seconded by Mary O'Malley it is hereby resolved to approve the consent agenda.

AYE: Elliott, Johnson, Marrero, O'Malley, Winter

NAY: NONE – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Future Dates & Times:

- Senator Oct 10th 9am- 2-pm coming to visit.
- Board Retreat
- Board Work session Sept 27th

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ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Julie Winter and seconded by Mary O'Malley it is hereby resolved to adjourn at 6:52 p.m.

AYE: Elliott, Johnson, Marrero, O'Malley, Winter

NAY: NONE – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Michael Marrero, President

Date

Mary O'Malley, Secretary

Date