

**MINUTES
ST. VRAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

OPENING OF MEETING

The Board of Education of the St. Vrain Valley School District met September 13, 2017 at the Educational Services Center Board Room, 395 South Pratt Parkway, Longmont, Colorado. The Regular Meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Robert J. Smith at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

John Ahrens, Member, Director District D
Debbie Lammers, Secretary, Director District B
Paula Peairs, Treasurer, Director District F
Joie Siegrist, Vice President, Director District A
Amory Siscoe, Assistant Secretary, Director District G
Robert J. Smith, President, Director District C

Board Members Absent (Excused):

Dr. Richard Martyr, Director District E

St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:

Melissa Clear, Altona Middle School Interventionist
Tim Criger, Altona Middle Math Teacher
Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools
Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent for Student Achievement
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Jeremy LaCrosse, Principal of Altona Middle School
Dr. Diane Lauer, Asst Supt of Priority Programs and Academic Achievement
Anna Mills, Altona Middle Science Teacher
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent
Tina Mills, Altona Middle Math Teacher
Travis O'Hair, Assistant Principal of Altona Middle School
Dina Perfetti-Deany, Area 3 Assistant Superintendent
Brandon Shaffer, Exec Dir Govt & Legal Affairs/Community Outreach/P-TECH
Andrea Smith, Niwot High Assistant Principal
Liz Wolford, Altona Middle Language Arts Teacher

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)

Agenda was accepted as presented.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)

None

VISITORS (4.0)

Brian Lamer introduced United Power's Senior Community Affairs Representative Bill Meier who attended the Board Meeting to present an energy savings check of \$21,416 to the District. Mr. Meier presented a video on the 50-acre solar farm at Mead High School that is in partnership with Silicon Ranch and United Power.

Greg Fieth introduced Ken Huson, the Water Resources Manager for the City of Longmont who gave a presentation on the upcoming ballot issue for the Windy Gap Firming Bond.

Dina Perfetti-Deany introduced Altona Middle School Principal Jeremy LaCrosse. Jeremy was proud to announce that Altona received the prestigious John Irwin Schools of Excellence Award for 2017. John Irwin Awards are given to schools that demonstrate exceptional academic achievement over time. These schools received an Exceeds Expectations rating on the Academic Achievement indicator of the School Performance Frameworks reflecting exceptional performance in Math, English Language Arts, and Science. Altona also received the Governors Distinguished Improvement Award. The Governor's Distinguished Improvement Awards are given to schools that demonstrate exceptional student growth. On the school performance framework that is used by the state to evaluate schools, these schools also rated Exceeds Expectations on the indicator related to longitudinal academic growth and an Exceeds Expectations rating on the indicator related to academic growth gaps. Altona Assistant Principal Travis O'Hair; Math Teachers Tina Mills and Tim Criger; Science Teacher Anna Mills; Language Arts Teacher Liz Wolford; and School Interventionist Melissa Clear were all in attendance.

Jim Berthold, Retired District Bus Dispatcher – did not address the Board.

Andrea Smith, Niwot High Assistant Principal – did not address the Board.

Steve Villarreal, President, St. Vrain Valley Education Association – did not address the Board.

BOARD RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD & BOARD COMMUNICATIONS/COMMENTS (5.0)

Board Reports

John Ahrens –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Proud that the District does an excellent job of communicating our successes to the outlying communities/state – thanked Brandon Shaffer for setting up the meeting with superintendents/legislators to share St. Vrain’s message that schools are a cornerstone to create a healthy workforce for the future.
- Appreciates the mentoring program for special needs students – really heartfelt to see students helping students feel like they belong.
- Enjoyed the invitation to all parents to spend a day in the classroom with his son’s class. Ten parents showed up and each really enjoyed the experience.
- Attended Erie High football game – the half-time show was phenomenal.
- Attended Erie High Dinner Theatre showing of “Nunsense” – very talented kids.

Debbie Lammers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Colorado School Safety Resource Center Advisory Board Meeting on behalf of CASB – Director of Safe2tell is a long-time member of that Board.
- Attended the CASB Region 4 meeting in Loveland-many key legislative issues will be presented at the CASB Fall Delegate Assembly in mid-October.
- Attended a City of Longmont Multicultural Action Committee (MAC) Meeting – they will be holding an “Inclusive Communities Celebration on Friday, September 22, 2017 at the Longmont Museum, 400 Quail Road, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Will let the Board members know when MAC will be dedicating a Peace Pole at Kanemoto Park.
- Attended the Community Meeting at Niwot High – good questions from parents.
- Enjoyed the retirement celebration for Trip Merklein.

Paula Peairs –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended two Community Meetings – thanked Don for the great job he does on updating the community about St Vrain, its bond projects, and local and national education trends.
- Attended an app challenge competition held at Altona Middle – Congressman Ken Buck was in attendance. Fascinating to watch as student groups were programming-great program/opportunity for middle school students.
- Attended a cross country meet for just St. Vrain schools – heartwarming to see kids from each of our schools cheering on kids from other schools in the District.
- Attended first Student Advisory Council Meeting – nice group of kids with great ideas on what they wanted to address this year. Encouraged Board members to attend.
- Looking forward to upcoming school visits.

Joie Siegrist –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Finance & Audit – received update from auditors and there were no findings, and auditors had much praise for the Finance staff.
- Thanked entire Learning Services staff and the teachers for their leadership – the St. Vrain Valley School District’s overall Performance Framework scores for 2017 from the Colorado Department of Education are the highest they have ever been.

- Appreciated and thanked everyone responsible for creating the Community Meetings.
- Attended the Lyons M/S Community BBQ and football game.
- Announced that Dr. Martyr was absent from the Board Meeting so that he could attend the LENA Research Foundation's Early Language Conference on behalf of the District.

Amory Siscoe –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Visited Coal Ridge Middle School and Frederick High School with people from the community. Appreciated Liza Nybo and Brian Young for the tours and for being so professional and informative.
- Rocky Mountain Christian Church members fed the Frederick High School staff on their late start day – appreciated the chance to observe Brian Young and his team.
- Proud of the exciting things that are happening within the St. Vrain Valley community.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Appreciated John Ahrens mentioning the mentoring program that helps both the mentors and the special education students, highlighting the best characteristics of all students.
- Thanked everyone that set up the Community Meetings, and Brandon Shaffer for the state leadership meeting.
- Thanked Steve Villarreal for taking on the President position at St. Vrain Education Association – look forward to many years of collaborative work with him.
- Thanked Congressman Ken Buck for attending the app challenge competition at Altona Middle School.
- Thanked Longmont Police/Fire Chief Mike Butler for coming together for a discussion on sex trafficking. Longmont Public Safety will put together some information for the District. Thanked Board member Amory Siscoe for bringing up this important issue.
- Announced that Debbie Lammers was honored with the CASB McGuffey Award for her many years of service as a dedicated Board member. Board members congratulated Debbie on her much-deserved award. Debbie shared that the McGuffey award was named after the author of the very first set of textbooks in 1850.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Held a meeting here with 50 people, i.e., school superintendents, executives, legislators to discuss funding of public education – next meeting is in Jeffco.
- Attended Mead Sugar Beet Day and announced that Frederick Miners Day and Erie Biscuit Day are both happening in the next weekend.
- Attended Homecoming football games for Frederick and Erie High Schools – District teams are starting off really well.
- Enjoyed the Lyons Community BBQ and football game – entire community came out for the school function and was reminded that schools really are the cornerstone of every community.

- Attended Student Advisory Council Meeting – thanked Jackie Kapushion, Mark Mills and Dina Perfetti-Deany for facilitating that group.
- Community Meetings continue – thanked the Board members for attending.
- Audit is in process – received the preliminary fund balance and will be sharing updates with Board members.
- Have been meeting with Brandon Shaffer and legislators individually to share initiatives – will have four bills to work on this year – accreditation, special education, Safe2tell program, and teacher prep program.
- Announced the launching of Altona Middle School's Virtual Reality Program that will be used as a template for other schools to follow.
- Announcement on the DACA program – sharing at the Community Meetings that the District will continue moving forward with the same amount of support to students with no disruptions.
- October count – start the window in a week and numbers have increased.

REPORTS (6.0)

None

CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)

Joie Siegrist moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1 through 7.10. Amory Siscoe seconded.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the August 9, 2017 and the August 23, 2017 Regular Meetings
4. Approval: First Reading, Repeal of Board Policy GBG – Liability of School Personnel/Staff Protection
5. Approval: First Reading, Adoption, Board Exhibit JFABB-E – Admission of Non-Immigrant Foreign Exchange Students
6. Approval: Approval of Construction Easement-Trail Ridge Middle
7. Approval: Approval of 1st Amendment to Public Improvement Agreement-Trail Ridge Middle School
8. Approval: Approval of Easement-Trail Ridge Middle School
9. Approval: Approval of Change Order 2 to Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) Contract for Flagstaff Academy Renovation Project
10. Approval: Approval of Contract Award-Purchase & Installation of Westview Middle School Irrigation Pump Station

Board members were concerned with the large number of foreign exchange programs there were to manage. Felt that the number of them should be kept low in order to properly keep track of them.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, absent; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

ACTION ITEMS (8.0)

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)

None

ADJOURNMENT (10.0)

Amory Siscoe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m., and John Ahrens seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous acclamation: [John Ahrens, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Dr. Richard Martyr, absent; Paula Peairs, yes; Joie Siegrist, yes; Amory Siscoe, yes; Bob Smith, yes].

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lammers, Secretary of the Board of Education

Barb Steege, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education

Read and approved or corrected and approved on October 11, 2017.