

**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 27, 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 7:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board Members Present:**

Debbie Lammers, Secretary, Director District B  
Dr. Richard Martyr, Member, Director District E  
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):**

John Ahrens, Member, Director District D

**St. Vrain Valley School District Staff Present:**

Greg Fieth, Chief Financial Officer  
Erick Finnestead, Principal of Silver Creek High School  
Jackie Kapushion, Deputy Superintendent for Student Achievement  
Brian Lamer, Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
Dr. Diane Lauer, Assistant Superintendent of Priority Programs and Academic Support  
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent  
Dina Perfetti-Deany, Area 3 Assistant Superintendent  
Tori Teague, Assistant Superintendent of Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)**

The Agenda was accepted as presented.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)**

None

## **VISITORS (4.0)**

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

## **REPORTS (5.0)**

### **Chinese Program Update (5.1)**

Mark Mills provided the Board of Education with an update on the history of the District Chinese Language Program, and introduced current Chinese Program Coordinator Yinyan. She thanked the Board, all the teachers, the District Professional Development Department, Dr. Haddad, and all the Assistant Superintendents for their support of this program. Former District Chinese Program Coordinator Jane Lim came forward to thank everyone for their past support. She is currently the Director of the Confucius Institute located on the Community College of Denver campus. She invited everyone to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Confucius Institute at the King Center on the Auraria Campus at 855 Lawrence Way, Denver, 80204, on Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. Each of the District Chinese exchange teachers came forward to tell the audience which school they worked at and about their families. In attendance were Chinese exchange teachers: Yixi Wang – Mead High; Yhan Li-Erie High; Chunjian Zhang – Longmont High and Westview Middle; Hong Luo-Skyline and Niwot High; Wen Chen – Red Hawk and Erie Elementary; Ji Liu-Silver – Creek High and Altona Middle; Xianfeng Tang – Erie Middle; Yingguang Zhang – Frederick High; and Yuxia Tan – Black Rock Elementary. Mark then introduced Silver Creek High School Principal Erick Finnestead who gave the audience background information on the three Chinese Language students Ashley Degen, David New, and Austin Leech. Austin told the audience of his plans to go to college in China. Ashley and David performed a slapstick comedy showcasing their expertise in the Chinese language. Erick invited everyone to attend the celebration of the Chinese New Year – Year of the Dog on February 24, 2018 at Silver Creek High School. Board members thanked the students for their performance and the teachers for their dedication and sacrifice of being away from their families to come to the United States to teach our students.

### **2017 Achievement Data (5.2)**

Tori Teague provided the Board of Education with the results of the 2017 CMAS: PARCC ELA and Math, Science and Social Studies, ELA and Math Growth Percentiles, SAT, and PSAT 10 Achievement Data in the St. Vrain Valley School District.

During the spring of 2017, students in grades three through nine took the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) assessments for English Language Arts (ELA) and Math for the third time. These assessments were developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC).

These scores measure student achievement and are aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards in English Language Arts and Math. The Colorado Academic Standards are more rigorous than previous standards and are designed to help all students graduate from high school, being college and/or career ready. This data cannot be compared to past scores on TCAP, as the assessments measure different concepts and skills such as problem-solving and critical thinking. Scores are improving and should continue to improve as instructional alignment with the new standards strengthens. Tori will be upgrading the scorecard to reflect new benchmark data.

PARCC scores are reported as five levels of achievement: Exceeded Expectations, Met Expectations, Approached Expectations, Partially Met Expectations, and Did Not Yet Meet Expectations. Summaries of the scores are generally reported as the percent of students who Met or Exceeded Expectations.

Students in the St. Vrain Valley School District completed 30,275 PARCC tests. Participation rates do impact the validity and usefulness of the scores, especially in the upper grades where higher numbers of students did not take the tests.

Tori presented a video on the Colorado Growth Model. Board members thanked her for her work, and acknowledged and appreciated the support of the teachers from all District departments in the assessment process.

Board members congratulated Dr. Shirley Jirik, her staff, and her students on Centennial's successful growth from last year.

### **CONSENT ITEMS (6.0)**

Paula Peairs moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 6.1 through 6.5. Joie Siegrist seconded.

1. Approval: Approval of Architect Selection for Alpine Elementary Addition & Renovation Project
2. Approval: Approval of Architect Selection for Fall River Elementary Addition & Renovation Project
3. Approval: Approval of Architect Selection for Legacy Elementary Renovation Project
4. Approval: Approval of Architect Selection for Prairie Ridge Elementary Renovation Project
5. Approval: Approval of Amendment to Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) Contract for Skyline High Training Room Remodel Project

Board members questioned the use of the same architect for projects in Consent Items 6.1 through 6.4. Brian Lamer explained that the projects were the exact same design and that it was a cost-savings, knowledge of the project, and quality assurances that led them to choose the same architect to complete those projects.

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

**ACTION ITEMS (7.0)**

None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS (8.0)**

**Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) Discussion (8.1)**

Board members discussed the fact that our Board member Dr. Richard Martyr will be running for current CASB Board of Director Debbie Lammers' Region 4 seat. Board members thanked Debbie for her years of service to the CASB Board of Directors on the District's behalf, and recognized how important it was to have her as the District liaison to CASB. Dr. Martyr felt that Debbie is leaving the CASB Board stronger than she found it and did an excellent job representing our District and CASB. He listed five topics that he would like to see state public education leaders address. Board members were very supportive of Dr. Martyr's CASB candidacy on behalf of the District and our Board of Education.

Debbie Lammers has served on the CASB Board of Directors for five years. She reflected on how vastly different school districts across the state operate, and the effect funding had on each different school district. She reported that there are about 1,000 school board members across the state, and there will be as many as 175 delegates (each representing a school district board) voting to elect a number of new CASB directors. She reminded her fellow Board members that CASB provides board members with professional development and to take advantage of what they have to offer. She appreciated the opportunity to meet and work with all the Board members from around the state, and respected how committed this group of people are. Board members thanked Debbie for her dedication and for representing her colleagues and our District.

**ADJOURNMENT (9.0)**

Amory Siscoe moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m. Dr. Richard Martyr seconded.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lammers, Secretary of the Board of Education

Barb Steege, Secretary to the Board of Education

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