

**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 February 8, 2012 at the Educational Services Center Board Room, 395 South Pratt Parkway, Longmont, Colorado. The meeting was called to order by Board of Education President John Creighton at 5:32 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board Members Present:**

John Creighton, President, Director District E  
Debbie Lammers, Secretary, Director District B  
Mike Schiers, Director District G  
Rod Schmidt, Director District F  
Bob Smith, Assistant Secretary, Director District C  
Dori Van Lone, Treasurer, Director District D

**Board Members Absent (Excused):**

None

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

David Burnison, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
Dr. Don Haddad, Superintendent of Schools  
Mark Mills, Area 2 Assistant Superintendent  
Rick Ring, Chief Operations Officer  
Terry Schueler, Chief Financial Officer  
Connie Syferd, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement  
Amy Weed, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (2.0)**

The agenda was accepted as presented.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3.0)**

None

**BOARD RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD & BOARD COMMUNICATIONS/COMMENTS (4.0)**

**Board Communications**

John Creighton –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended Central Elementary meeting that discussed consolidation of bilingual program with Northridge Elementary.
- Attended community meetings at Skyline High School regarding K-8 options.
- Attended Silver Creek Booster Club and Performing Arts parent meeting.
- Attended Northern Conference Swim Meet-Skyline Girls' were conference runner-up and some students qualified for state.
- Looking forward to Solo and Ensemble Festival on February 11, 2012 at Heritage Middle School from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Town Hall Meeting through City of Longmont "Focus on Longmont" on February 16-chance for community to participate online or at Council chambers. Partnering with the District to give input on education support. Bob Smith to attend.
- Presented at Leadership Longmont regarding District issues.
- Thanks to all people involved with Longmont High School TB testing. Feedback on communications all positive.
- As a parent, attended parent teacher conferences at three different schools. Thanks to all the teachers.

Debbie Lammers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended community meetings at Skyline High School regarding K-8 options.
- Attended Niwot High School Education Foundation meeting.
- Attended Sunset Academics and Art Extravaganza.
- Attended High School Student Advisory Council meetings-Thanks to Dennis Daly for hosting the students.
- Attended the Study Session/Joint Meeting with Dacono City Council.
- Attended the Education Taskforce meeting-discussed February 16, 2012 Town Hall Meeting through City of Longmont "Focus on Longmont"-Good opportunity to provide educational direction/priorities.

Mike Schiers –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended wrestling and basketball games at Frederick High School.
- Attended Frederick High Booster Club meeting.
- Attended Frederick town meetings.
- Attended Frederick/Firestone Fire Department Grand Opening of their new Resource Center.

- Visited Carbon Valley Recreational Center.

Rod Schmidt –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Thanked Board members who filled in for him in meetings while he was gone, especially Bob Smith and John Creighton for the meeting with Longmont United Hospital/healthcare providers.

Bob Smith –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended meeting with Mercer Healthcare Consultant and Kristi Malowick discussing long-range vision for health benefits moving toward self-funded plan.
- Attended healthcare employee advisory board meeting.
- Announced Career Fair is March 8, 2012, from 3:00-6:00 pm at the former JC Penney building in the Twin Peaks Mall. Thank you to Niki Brady, CTE Coordinator for the Career Development Center, for setting up the Career Fair.

Dori Van Lone –

Meetings Attended/Comments:

- Attended community meetings at Skyline High School regarding K-8 options.
- Attended Erie High School Education Foundation meeting.
- Attended an Erie wrestling tournament.
- Attended Study Session/Joint Meeting with Dacono City Council.
- Attended Erie Middle School PTO meeting and toured the renovation project.
- Announced Erie fundraisers-Spaghetti Dinner and September Golf Tournament Fundraiser at Colorado National Golf Course.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (5.0)**

- Announced the sponsoring of a corporate luncheon, "Tech Talks", in partnership with the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley, and Joe McBreen, SVVSD Chief Information Officer, on Thursday, February 16, 2012, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the ESC Board Room.
- Looking forward to upcoming meeting with Senator Mike Johnston regarding school reform.
- Thanks to Amy Weed for coordinating extensive meetings regarding K-8 options.
- Very proud of the staff at Longmont High School, Mark Mills and John Poynton that have been collaborating with Colorado Department of Health on the tuberculosis issue. Thanked Longmont Times-Call and media that are putting the information out to parents.
- Congratulations to everyone who helped put together the Sunset Middle School Academic and Art Extravaganza.
- Congratulations to Jill Fischaber, instructor for the Altona Middle School Pops Orchestra, and Heather Meier, instructor for Coal Ridge Middle School, who presented at the Colorado Music Educator's Association Conference.

- Senator Mark Udall sent a letter recognizing Niwot High School student Randall Johnson who was nominated to the US Military Academy and the US Merchant Marines Academy.
- Frederick High School signed a number of athletes to full-ride scholarships. Our students are being recruited by prestigious colleges and universities throughout the country.
- Thanks to Terry Schueler and her Finance team that worked to refinance our bonds-over \$3 million in savings to property taxpayers in the District.
- Congratulations to Skyline High School who was selected to attend a major national convention in June as they were awarded ASEE Best Practices Panel Winners and Reviewers for their K-12 Skyline TEAMS Program.
- Congratulations to 7<sup>th</sup> grade Sunset Middle School student, Eva Kitlen, who won the Regional Spelling Bee.
- 141 students have been nominated to be United States Presidential Scholars from across the country. Two of those nominees are St. Vrain students.
- Highlighted Silver Creek Leadership Academy and Kerry Adams in partnership with the City of Longmont-over 200 students in the National Honor Society.
- Next week Dr. Haddad will have a report on the number and names of National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists and finalists for our District.
- Colorado Department of Education report-SVVSD students attending schools outside of our district dropped by 159 students. Students coming into our District from other districts increased by 176 students.
- Tough conversations are happening with the community as the District looks at the consolidation of bilingual education and the very real possibility of consolidating some District schools/reduction of Adult Education. Dr. Haddad wants to be crystal clear about the core mission to provide the best education possible for all students-keeping cuts from pre- K-12 education.

## **REPORTS (6.0)**

### **Frederick High Feeder Report by High School Advisory Council (6.1)**

Amy Weed, Area 1 Assistant Superintendent, introduced High School Advisory students Becca Vincent, Brynn Burnham, and Ginny Creager. They presented a report on the Frederick High School feeder schools.

## **CONSENT ITEMS (7.0)**

Bob Smith moved to approve Consent agenda items 7.1 through 7.8 and 7.10. Rod Schmidt seconded. 7.9 was pulled by Dori Van Lone for questions.

1. Approval: Staff Terminations/Leaves
2. Approval: Staff Appointments
3. Approval: Approval of Minutes for the December 14, 2011 Regular Meeting and January 4, 2012 Regular Study Session

4. Approval: Second Reading, Adoption, Board Policies ADD – Violence Free Schools; ECAB – Access to District Facilities; EEAC – Bus Scheduling and Routing; EEAEA – Bus Driver Requirements, Training and Responsibilities; EEAEG – Use of Wireless Communication Devices by Bus Drivers; JICC – Student Conduct on School Buses; KDE – Emergency Management (new)
5. Approval: Second Reading, Adoption, Board Policies/Exhibit JRA/JRC – Student Records/Release of Information on Students; JRA/JRC-E – Student Records/Release of Information on Students (recoded); JRCA – Sharing of Student Records/Information Between School District and State Agencies (new); KI – Visitors to Schools
6. Approval: Approval of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant
7. Approval: Approval of Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) for Mead High School Press Box Relocation Project
8. Approval: Approval of Contract Award-Clover Basin Front Entrance Replacement Project
10. Approval: Approval of School Closure-February 3, 2012

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes].

7.9 Approval of Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) for Silver Creek High School Security Entrance Project was pulled to be discussed further.

Dori Van Lone moved that the Board of Education authorize the administration to enter into contract negotiations with FCI Constructors, Inc., for Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) services for the Silver Creek High School Security Entrance Project for a contract amount not-to-exceed \$126,000 which includes a 10% contingency. Further, that the Board authorize Rick Ring, Chief Operations Officer, to sign contract documents and initiate scope changes in accordance with Board of Education policy. Bob Smith seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes].

### **ACTION ITEMS (8.0)**

#### **Approval of SVVSD General Obligation Refunding Bonds Series 2012 (8.1)**

Dori Van Lone moved that the Board of Education authorize the issuance of St. Vrain Valley School District General Obligation Refunding Bonds Series 2012 in the amount of \$34,695,000. The closing for these bonds is scheduled for February 15, 2012. Debbie Lammers seconded.

Marc Dispense, Senior Vice President from George K. Baum gave a summary of the selling of the bonds saving the District's property taxpayers 8.747% or \$3,035,562.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

**Approval of Resolution Proclaiming National School Breakfast Week, March 5-9, 2012 (8.2)**

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education adopt the resolution proclaiming March 5-9, 2012, as National School Breakfast Week. Dori Van Lone seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

**Approval of Resolution Proclaiming "Read Across America" Day, March 2, 2012 (8.3)**

Rod Schmidt moved that the Board of Education adopt the resolution proclaiming March 2, 2012 as "Read Across America" Day within St. Vrain Valley School District in support of the National Education Association's campaign. Dori Van Lone seconded.

Holli Buchter, District Media Services Coordinator, introduced Longs Peak Middle School Media Tech, Becky Large-Swope, and Longs Peak 6<sup>th</sup> grade student, Jose Bencomo, who read a book to the Board.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

**Approval of 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 School Year Calendar Recommendations (8.4)**

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education adopt the proposed calendars for a two-year calendar period (2012-2013, 2013-2014). Mike Schiers seconded.

Connie Syferd, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement, introduced the Calendar Committee and was available for questions.

Trip Merklein, 2007 Red Cloud Road, Longmont, CO-President of St. Vrain Valley Education Association-Present to discuss how the new District calendars that were presented by the Calendar Committee affected the teachers.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

**Adoption of Resolution to Appropriate Funds for Superintendent's Contract (8.5)**

Bob Smith moved that the Board of Education approve the Resolution to appropriate funds for the Superintendent Contract. Rod Schmidt seconded.

This Resolution is needed for the Board to legally comply with Section 20 of Article X of the Colorado Constitution. It commits the source of funds to meet the financial obligations of the District in the event that the District terminates Dr. Haddad's contract pursuant to Section 6.4 of the Employment Agreement. Under TABOR, a multi-year financial obligation requires either voter approval or Board-approved committed funds to meet the future obligation.

Dr. Haddad's 2012 Employment Agreement allows the Board to buy out his remaining term of employment up to a maximum of two years' salary/benefits. The amount of the committed funds would remain in the District's reserves, but would be moved from the unassigned column to the committed reserves classification. Once adopted, under TABOR, the commitment remains non-revocable until the obligation is eliminated. If the contract is not bought out, the committed reserves then automatically shift back into the unassigned reserves.

Terry Schueler, Chief Financial Officer, was present to answer questions.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

#### **Election of Board Officer-Vice President (8.6)**

Rod Schmidt moved that Bob Smith be elected Vice President of the Board and Mr. Smith agreed to the position. Dori Van Lone seconded.

Former Vice President Rick Hammans, Director District A, resigned his position on the Board effective January 25, 2012. Bob Smith was elected to Vice President until the November 2013 Coordinated Election.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

#### **Appointment of Board Officers (8.7)**

Bob Smith moved that Mike Schiers be appointed Assistant Secretary of the Board and Mr. Schiers agreed to the position. Rod Schmidt seconded.

Bob Smith held the Board office of Assistant Secretary since the November 2011 Coordinated Election. Bob Smith was elected to the office of Vice President at tonight's meeting, and Mike Schiers was appointed Assistant Secretary in his place.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

**DISCUSSION ITEMS (9.0)**

**First Reading, Introduction, Board Regulation AE-R-1 – District Accountability/ Accreditation Committee (By-Laws) (9.1)**

These revisions are necessary due to the passing of the Education Accountability Act of 2009 and Colorado Department of Education's District Accountability Handbook which changed the composition and responsibilities of District Accountability Committees. These revisions have been reviewed and approved by the District Accountability/ Accreditation Committee and align with applicable statutes.

It was recommended by the Board that this policy be moved to Consent at the March 14, 2012 meeting.

**First Reading, Introduction, Board Policy DJE – Bidding Procedures (9.2)**

This policy contains verbiage changes necessary for improved clarity, and/or alignment with current practices, procedures or state statutes.

It was recommended by the Board that this policy be moved to Consent at the March 14, 2012 Board meeting.

**Discussion of Director District A Candidates (9.3)**

Joie Siegrist and Arnold Hanuman each provided an application for the vacant Director District A Board seat, and were both interviewed before tonight's meeting.

The Board will decide on a candidate at their February 15, 2012 Regular Study Session, so that the appointed candidate can be sworn in at the February 22, 2012 Regular Televised Study Session and join in on the meeting.

The Board discussed amongst themselves the attributes of both candidates.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Rod Schmidt moved to adjourn the meeting. Dori Van Lone seconded.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote: [John Creighton, yes; Debbie Lammers, yes; Mike Schiers, yes; Rod Schmidt, yes; Bob Smith, yes; Dori Van Lone, yes]

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

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 March 14, 2012.