

THE BOARD REPORT

May 20, 2009

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GOOD THINGS

District 11 Celebrates 2009 Rotary Club Diamond Award Winners

The Rotary Club of Colorado Springs sponsors the “Diamond Award – A Cut Above” to honor teaching excellence in D-11 high schools. Students nominate teachers who have inspired them, and members of the awards committee announce winners by arriving in a classroom to advise students that their teacher is a Diamond Award winner. Recipients are selected annually from each of the D-11 high schools. The awards are officially presented at Rotary luncheons, where the teachers have an opportunity to talk with local community and business leaders about the state of education and their passion for teaching.

This year’s Diamond Award winners are Caleb Muth, Coronado High School; C. Joseph Schott, Doherty High School; Eric McNeil, Mitchell High School; David Kennington, Palmer High School; Richard Garcia, Wasson High School; and Susan Schandoney, Tesla Educational Opportunity Center.

Mitchell JROTC Is Distinguished Unit

The Mitchell High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Program (JROTC) has been selected to receive the Air Force Junior ROTC Distinguished Unit Award for the 2008-09 academic year. This award recognizes Air Force Junior ROTC units that have distinguished themselves through outstanding service to their school and community while meeting the Air Force JROTC mission of producing better citizens for America. The Distinguished Unit Award is limited to the top 30 percent of the 879 JROTC units located across the United States, Europe and the Pacific.

This is the second year in a row that Mitchell High School JROTC cadets have earned the Distinguished Unit Award because of their excellence in academics, drill and ceremony, physical training and community service. The cadets performed over 5,600 hours of community and school service this past year. Keith Woodfork, Lt Col, USAF (ret), heads the JROTC program at Mitchell.

The JROTC program has 890 units across the nation with 1,930 JROTC instructors, and the Air Force recognizes only the top 20 percent as outstanding instructors. For academic year 2008-09, the Air Force selected Chief David Figueroa and Colonel Keith Woodfork from the Mitchell JROTC unit as outstanding instructors.

Recognition of Superintendent

Board of Education President Tami Hasling thanked Dr. Terry Bishop for all he has done for School District 11, and Dr. Bishop was soundly applauded by those present at the board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Contract Award – Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) With the City of Colorado Springs

The City of Colorado Springs and School District 11 share a joint responsibility for the School Zone Pedestrian Safety Program (Crossing Guards); therefore, an agreement between the city and the district has been established to provide funding for the health, safety and welfare of our students while they cross streets within D-11 school zones.

The Board of Education approved the intergovernmental agreement with the city of Colorado Springs by which the city will pay the district \$218,017 to partially cover the cost of the School Zone Pedestrian Safety Program for calendar year 2009.

Capital Reserve Fund Transfer and Appropriation – Administration Remodel

One of the Board of Education actions on February 25, 2009, was the relocation by July 31, 2009, of the AERO offices from a building currently leased by the district. It has been determined that Records will move to Pike Elementary; LRS and the Support Center will move into the area vacated by Records; Volunteer Services, Rentals and the ESP Council will move to the northeast corner of the south administration building; and AERO will move into the building vacated by Volunteer Services, Rentals and the ESP Council. The cost of these moves is estimated at \$250,000

as a one-time expense to cover permitting, design and minor renovations. The annual lease savings is approximately \$50,000 per year; therefore, the Capital Reserve Fund will be repaid in approximately five years.

The Board of Education approved the appropriation and transfer of \$250,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund to the AERO relocation project.

Resolution – Better Hearing and Speech Month

The Board of Education approved a resolution endorsing the month of May as Better Hearing and Speech Month.

Personnel Recommendations

The Board of Education approved personnel recommendations and an addendum as presented. Dennis Vigil was approved as principal of Doherty High School, and Pat Ring was approved as principal of Stratton Elementary School.

Approval of Tentative Agreement Between Board of Education and Educational Support Professionals (ESP)

The Board of Education approved the tentative agreements reached through the meet and confer process with Educational Support Professionals (ESP) as submitted by the administration.

Approval of Tentative Agreement Between Board of Education and Executive Professionals

The Board of Education approved the tentative agreement between the Board of Education and the Executive Professionals as submitted by the administration.

Approval of Tentative Agreement Between the Board of Education and Colorado Springs Education Association

The Board of Education approved the tentative agreement between the Board of Education and the Colorado Springs Education Association as submitted by the administration.

The Board of Education added an item that directs administration to negotiate a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between CSEA and the district to form a committee to examine advantages, disadvantages, logistics and a timeline for an expanded view of compensation parameters to include incentive and performance pay options. The MOU is to be delivered to the board by June 20, 2009. The committee will be charged by the board no later than September 30, 2009.

Consideration of the District's Hearing Impaired Program

On February 25, 2009, the Board of Education recommended that the Jefferson Deaf and Hard of Hearing program be relocated to Stratton Elementary School. On April 8, the Board of Education directed the administration to reconsider the relocation of the program and return to the Board of Education with a recommendation on May 6.

Of the three options presented to the board, the administration recommends continuing with the board-approved reutilization plan to move the program to Stratton.

The Board of Education approved relocating the Jefferson Deaf and Hard of Hearing program to Stratton Elementary.

Chipeta and Trailblazer Boundaries

Boundary recommendations for Chipeta and Trailblazer elementary schools were revisited by the D-11 Boundary Advisory Committee to determine if a more balanced approach to student enrollment could be achieved.

The Board of Education approved leaving the boundaries between Chipeta and Trailblazer as they are until a decision about a PK-8 program for Trailblazer has been made and then determining a true boundary balance between the two schools based on programs approved for each building. Students in the area west of Centennial would remain at Jackson, and students in the Kissing Camels area at Howbert would remain at Howbert.

Consolidated Grant

The Consolidated Grant is the funding made available under No Child Left Behind (a re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965). The grant is annually available in two components: an outline application narrative and an electronic budget submitted to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). The Office of Special Programs and Grants applies for this grant each year on behalf of School District 11. This grant is federally funded and available annually in May for application.

The Board of Education approved the Consolidated Grant application for federal funds, the proposed budget and the FTE supported by these grant funds.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

FY09-10 Budget Adoption and Modification Procedures

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the budget procedures submitted by the administration. The procedures were developed to support effective decision-making by the board and for the facilitation of accurate and timely data provided by staff.

FY09-10 Budget Reductions

Based on preliminary budget development assumptions presented in April, the final School Finance Act reconciliation, the preliminary fund balance forecast, and anticipated June budget modifications, the administration believes that approximately \$4 million in budget cuts will balance next year’s budget (\$1 million of these cuts mandated from administration).

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve a list of budget cuts that allows the administration to cut at least \$4 million in order to balance the FY09-10 budget.

Renaming the Emerson Facility (This item was postponed until a future meeting.)

After determining the need to rename Emerson Middle School, a renaming committee met and reviewed names submitted by the public in order to recommend names for Emerson. The process followed – according to policy and regulation – included:

- 1) a review of all names received and removal of inappropriate names
- 2) selection of the top three choices of each committee member and discussion of those names
- 3) selection of rank-ordered names to recommend to the Board for approval
- 4) selection of an alternative name for consideration if the top name is not approved

The committee proposes the following names for consideration: first choice, Jack Swigert Aerospace Academy; alternate choice, Samuel Avalos Middle School.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve Jack Swigert Aerospace Academy as the name of the former Emerson Middle School. It is recommended that Samuel Avalos Middle School be chosen if the board opts not to pick the committee’s recommended first choice.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

MLO Plan Amendment – Charter School Funding

Interfund Borrowing

State Cash Flow Loan Program

Magnet School Concepts

FUTURE MEETINGS/WORK SESSIONS

June 3, 2009 – work session (FY09-10 budget)

June 10, 2009 – regular meeting

June 24, 2009 – regular meeting

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 a.m.

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