

## **THE BOARD REPORT**

### **November 19, 2008**

The BOARD REPORT is not the official report of Board of Education meetings. Minutes of meetings are available in future Board of Education agendas and from Julie Stevens, secretary to the Board of Education, 520-2004. To access links to supporting documentation for any item in the Board Report, please see the corresponding agenda at <http://www.d11.org/novus/MeetingView.aspx?MeetingID=136&MinutesMeetingID=106>

### **GOOD THINGS**

#### **Doherty Senior Wins State Titles**

Doherty High School senior student Brittnee Martinez is the 2008 Class 5A all-around gymnast champion for the State of Colorado. Brittnee used an incredible high bar routine to secure the win and a championship score of 38.95 to defeat the returning three-time state champion from Loveland High School. Brittnee also won state titles on the uneven bars and the vault and led the Doherty Spartan girls' gymnastics team to a third-place finish in state competition Oct. 31. The Doherty gymnastics coach is Mark Cummings.

#### **Wasson Magnet Student Is Named to All-State Women's Jazz Choir**

Wasson High School junior Brianna Walker was named to the All-State Women's Jazz Choir. Brianna, who is a member of the Wasson Arts Magnet Jazz Choir, was chosen as one of 16 top singers in the state. Her group, which will participate in the Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, will perform in concert on Jan. 24 at 2 p.m. at the Broadmoor. Selection to the All-State Women's Jazz Choir is considered one of the most prestigious achievements possible for high school choral students. The Wasson vocal music teacher is Reneé Tabet.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Budget Transfer: School Utilization Project**

The Board of Education approved the contingency transfer of \$20,400 for the continuation and finalization of the school utilization project.

#### **Certification of Election Results for the 2008 General Election**

District 11 placed a mill levy override question on the November 4, 2008, general election ballot. Once the El Paso County Clerk/Recorder has finalized the count and the results of the election have been canvassed by the El Paso County Canvass Board, the election results will be certified to the District.

The Board of Education authorized the executive director of Procurement and Contracting, who is also the district's Designated Election Official, to certify the results of the 2008 election held on November 4, 2008, once the final election results have been received from the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder.

#### **Personnel Recommendations**

The Board of Education approved the November 19, 2008, personnel recommendations plus an addendum and amendment submitted by the administration.

### **NON-ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Mill Levy Certification**

State law requires the Board of Education to certify the school district mill levy no later than December 15, 2008, to the El Paso County Treasurer and Board of County Commissioners for 2008 property taxes to be collected in 2009.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve a resolution certifying the District 11 mill levy, and this item is slated for action at the board meeting on December 10, 2008.

#### **403 (b) Tax Sheltered Annuity Plan Document**

[http://www.d11.org/boe/Meetings/08-09/BoardReports/11\\_19\\_08/403b.pdf](http://www.d11.org/boe/Meetings/08-09/BoardReports/11_19_08/403b.pdf)

In late 2007, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issued new regulations requiring sweeping changes to section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS is promulgating new regulations to standardize 403(b) compliance across the education and health care industries. The new rules place the fiduciary responsibility of plan administration squarely on the district's shoulders by requiring the adoption of a plan document, election of plan provisions, and compliance with various IRS regulations, including Maximum Exclusion Allowance (MEA) calculations, loan and hardship withdrawal provisions, and timely remittance to vendors.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Adoption Agreement for the 403(b) Plan Document for Public Education Organizations and the 403(b) Plan document as submitted by the administration and Voluntary Retirement Plan Employee Committee. This item is slated for action at the board meeting on December 10, 2008.

**Acceptance of the Vision/Mission and Message Platform in Concept (rolled forward as non-action item on agenda for Board of Education meeting on November 19, 2008)**

At the board work session on August 22, 2008, the board discussed the vision/mission and message platform presented to them by consultant firm Boatz Knutsen. At that time, Boatz Knutsen proposed that the district:

- embrace and approve an evolved vision/mission, direction and message platform in concept
- integrate the vision/mission/message into all that is said and done within the district and to all external circles
- hold the district accountable for changing the way it communicates and for delivering the evolved vision/mission

At their regular board meeting on August 27, 2008, the board agreed to delay voting on the acceptance of the vision/mission and message platform until after the November 4 election.

It is recommended that the Board of Education accept the vision/mission and message platform in concept and direct the administration to develop policies and procedures to ensure brand consistency in all school/district communication vehicles. This item is slated for action at the board meeting on December 10, 2008.

## **REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**FY 07-08 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) Info Only**

State statutes require an annual audit by a certified public accounting firm of the district's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). This audit is required to be received by the Board of Education by November 30 each year. The district's financial statements are prepared in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principals (GAAP) for school districts. The district's auditors, McGladrey & Pullen, LLP, have given the district an unqualified opinion (the highest assurance) on the district's FY 07-08 CAFR. Mr. Struck and Ms. Bohnsack made a presentation to the board and answered questions.

[http://www.d11.org/boe/Meetings/08-09/BoardReports/11\\_19\\_08/CAFRSummary.pdf](http://www.d11.org/boe/Meetings/08-09/BoardReports/11_19_08/CAFRSummary.pdf)

[http://www.d11.org/boe/Meetings/08-09/BoardReports/11\\_19\\_08/CAFRpresentation.pdf](http://www.d11.org/boe/Meetings/08-09/BoardReports/11_19_08/CAFRpresentation.pdf)

**Update on Emerson-Edison Academy Charter School Community Meetings**

The Board of Education reviewed an update on community meetings held in conjunction with the restructuring of Emerson-Edison Academy Charter School. This Emerson-Edison restructuring will be the subject of a work session on December 3, 2008, and a public hearing on December 10. The restructuring will be non-action on December 10 and an action item on December 17, 2008.

[http://www.d11.org/boe/Meetings/08-09/BoardReports/11\\_19\\_08/Emerson.pdf](http://www.d11.org/boe/Meetings/08-09/BoardReports/11_19_08/Emerson.pdf)

**Superintendent/Administrative Reports**

Dr. Bishop announced that Pike Elementary School, whose principal is Manuel Ramsey, has been awarded the prestigious Title I Distinguished School Exceptional Student Performance Award. Pike has exceeded the 2011-2012 adequate yearly progress (AYP) goal with 98.62 percent of its students proficient in reading and 100 percent of its students proficient in math. Pike is the top Title I school in the state in overall achievement in reading and math and will receive \$10,000 to continue its work, a banner to hang in the school, a glass plaque and a trip for two to the National Title I conference in February 2009. Principal Manuel Ramsey has been nominated for the Title I Distinguished Principal Award.

**Other Discussion Items and Board Subcommittee Reports**

Director Null commended Jefferson Elementary School and Sabin Middle School for their recognition celebrations in honor of the military. He also attended *Little Shop of Horrors* at Mitchell High School and thought the production was excellent.

Director Mann commented on the Project Now working dinner on November 18 at Palmer High School, which was very well-attended. Directors Strand and Null also attended.

Director Hasling mentioned the Thanksgiving dinners at Midland Elementary School, The Bijou School and Wasson High School (ProStart students will host a traditional Thanksgiving meal in honor of the 2008-09 international exchange students at the school).

## FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

**Board Approval of School Improvement Plans:** This item is scheduled (non-action) for the board meeting on December 10, 2008.

**School Utilization:** The Board of Education will be provided with updates November through January. A possible work session on the draft plan is scheduled for February 4, 2009, followed by a public hearing, non-action on February 11, 2009, and action on February 25, 2009.

Phase I (November): draft plan to steering committee and administration develops recommendation

Phase II (December): draft plan/recommendation goes to staff

Phase III (January): draft plan/recommendation goes to community

Phase IV (February): draft plan/recommendation goes to the Board of Education (public hearing, non-action, action)

**Magnet School Concepts:** Magnet school concepts will be discussed at a future meeting.

**Choice Permit Policy Discussion:** The Board of Education will discuss the choice permit policy at a future meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

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