

THE BOARD REPORT **December 13, 2017**

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 Doris Hensley, 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.boarddocs.com/co/d11/Board.nsf/Public>, click on the meetings tab, click on the meeting date, and click "view agenda." Items within the agenda may be hyperlinked to additional information (for example, Personnel Recommendations); click on the hyperlink to access the documentation for that item.

GOOD THINGS

Palmer's Boys' and Girls' Cross Country Teams All-State Champions

Both the Palmer Boys' and Girls' Varsity Cross Country Teams were winners of the Les Schwab Academic All-State Championship Award. The boys won the highest overall GPA, with an average GPA of 4.61, and the girls' won the highest overall GPA, with an average GPA of 4.43. The teams were presented their awards at the banquet on November 7.

Members of the boys' team are: **Gus McIntyre, Max Robinson, Lance Mason, Hayes Witherow, Cisco Alvarez, Scott Prieve, and Wesley Wright.** Members of the girls' team are: **Leah Goodloe, Julia Solano, Kayla Schumacher, Rachel Hardesty, Tara Hardesty, Brooke Groninger, and Ellie Schueler.**

Doherty's Counseling Department Recognized by CDE and Colorado Department of Higher Education

The Doherty High School Counseling Department was recently recognized by the Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Department of Higher Education at the CDE Counselor Corps Grant Training. They received a banner for FAFSA submission excellence, which recognized Doherty as having the greatest increase in FAFSA submissions from 2015-16 to 2016-17.

Finance Department's Hard Work Pays Off

In 2006, the District issued General Obligation (GO) bonds as the result of the November 2005 successful bond election. Since General Obligation bonds are a tax-exempt security for the investor (buyer of the bonds), the interest rate yield on the bond construction proceeds (\$132M) is limited to the interest rate on the bonds. This is an IRS rule that is strictly enforced. After the completion of the 2006 bond construction plan, the District had to perform this arbitrage compliance calculation.

Approximately three years ago, the District contracted with an outside firm, Arbitrage Compliance Specialists, for a very small fee, to double check all the arbitrage calculations for old bond issues. During this review, our Director of Fiscal Services, Laura Hronik, had to pull significant amounts of old records indicating the exact day of every bond construction receipt (interest) and expenditure. This is literally thousands of transactions. Upon finalization of this work, Arbitrage Compliance Specialists, working in coordination with Laura, prepared an amended arbitrage tax return seeking a refund of arbitrage from the 2006 GO bonds. The time and effort on this project was significant, mostly by Laura Hronik and Kathy Box, over the three years of this process.

We are pleased to inform you that on October 26, 2017, we received notification that the IRS has accepted our amended return, and the District will receive an arbitrage refund of approximately \$1.3 million! This is exciting news! Congratulations to Laura Hronik and Kathy Box for the work they did on this complicated and lengthy project.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Board Member Reports

Board members reported on their various activities.

Superintendent's Report to the Board: Policies

Policy JLCD, Administering Medicines to Students, addresses the procedures and definitions surrounding administering medicines to students by staff. JLCD, along with JLCD-R, JLCD-E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4 and E-5, were reviewed by the Board's Policy Committee, with no significant content changes recommended at this time.

Policy JLCDA, Response to Students with Food Allergies, discusses the requirements surrounding responding to students with food allergies in District 11. The policy was reviewed by the Board's Policy Committee, with no significant content changes recommended at this time.

Policy ADC-GBED, Tobacco-Free District; Policy for Employees, Visitors and Other Adults, prohibits the use of tobacco on District premises. The policy was reviewed by the Board's Policy Committee, with no significant content changes recommended at this time.

Policy EBCA, Disaster Plans, requires staff to be familiar with procedures to be followed in cases of emergency. The policy was reviewed by the Board's Policy Committee, with no significant content changes recommended at this time.

CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

Certified copies of the Board of Education's official minutes may be obtained from the Records Management Center. Cost of copying will be borne by the requester, per Board Policy BEDG.

The Board of Education approved the minutes of the November 29, 2017, regular board meeting. All minutes are available on the District website, after approval by the Board of Education.

Personnel Recommendations

The Board of Education approved the December 13, 2017 Personnel Recommendations, as submitted by administration.

ACTION ITEMS

Budget Transfers, Appropriations, and FTE Approvals

Winfield Scott Stratton Elementary School was built in 1953. The building does not have central air conditioning and is the next school on the list to have air conditioning installed. This transfer will provide the funding necessary to complete this project, which will provide for a better learning and working environment for students, staff, and visitors.

This project is being funded with the proceeds from the IRS arbitrage rebate from previous bond issues.

The Board of Education approved the capital reserve capital projects fund contingency transfer.

Resolution 2018-18: Mill Levy Rates Component Certification

By statute, the District's mill levy rates must be certified by December 15 of each year. The certification resolution is attached and references the District mill levy rates. The mill rates presented are based on assessed valuations as provided by the El Paso County tax assessor. The Budget Office determines the final mill rates and reserve projections after receiving the certification of assessed valuation from the El Paso County tax assessor.

The mill levy is the instrument used by local governments to levy property taxes to be collected by the county and remitted to the school district. District 11 has five different components of its mill levy:

1. General Fund Levy - set by the Colorado Department of Education
2. Bond Levy - voter approved increase in debt, November 1996 and 2005
3. Education Plan Levy - voter approved mill levy override, November 2000
4. Education Plan Levy - voter approved mill levy override, November 2017
5. Abatement Levy - set by El Paso County

The mill levy rates are based on information from El Paso County, the Colorado Department of Education, the District's estimates of uncollectible taxes, and interest earnings. The calculated mill levy rates provided to the Board of Education are in compliance with state statutes and the ballot questions that were approved by the voters.

The Board of Education certified the District's 2017-18 mill levy.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

Policy JLCC: Communicable/Infectious Diseases

Policy JLCC, Communicable/Infectious Diseases, discusses the exclusion and readmission of students suffering from communicable or infectious diseases.

JLCC is recommended for revisions to align with state law. If a student is required to be excluded from school beyond ten days, the Superintendent or designee, rather than the school principal, shall be required to make that decision. The regulation, JLCC-R, was also reviewed and no revisions are recommended at this time.

The Board's Policy Committee recommends that the Board adopt the revised version of JLCC, Communicable/Infectious Diseases.

This item will move to Consent for the January 10, 2018 meeting.

Policy LBD: Relations with Charter Schools

Policy LBD, Relations with Charter Schools, establishes the Board's policy surrounding efforts by interested persons wishing to submit proposals for the establishment of charter schools within the District. This policy provides information regarding the application process as well as applicable state laws.

LBD is recommended for revisions that include adding language regarding the August 1st date being the earliest date to submit an application for a new charter school, and added language regarding the process to request the release of exclusive chartering authority (also with added dates and timelines for submitting requests). This added information provides further guidance to possible charter applicants. Regulation LBD-R, Exhibit LBD-E-1 and Exhibit LBD-E-2 are also revised to align with policy revisions (and attached for reference).

The Board's Policy Committee recommends that the Board adopt the revised Policy LBD, Relations with Charter Schools.

This item will move to Consent for the January 10, 2018 meeting.

Policy HA: Negotiation Goals/Priority Objectives

Policy HA, Negotiations Goals/Priority Objectives, establishes the goals of the negotiation process with the Colorado Springs Education Association (CSEA). Policy HB, Negotiations Legal Status, recognizes the CSEA as the organization representing the teaching staff. Because these two policies are so brief, and are so similarly situated, the recommendation is to merge the two into one policy, HA, Negotiation Goals/Priority Objectives/Legal Status.

The Board's Policy Committee recommends that the Board adopt the revised Policy HA, Negotiation Goals/Priority Objectives/Legal Status.

This item will move to Consent for the January 10, 2018 meeting.

Policy HB: Negotiations Legal Status

Policy HB, Negotiations Legal Status, recognizes the CSEA as the organization representing the teaching staff. Because this policy is so brief, and so similarly situated to Policy HA, Negotiations Goals/Priority Objectives, the recommendation is to repeal HB and merge it into Policy HA.

The Board's Policy Committee recommends that the Board vote to repeal Policy HB, Negotiations Legal Status.

This item will move to Consent for the January 10, 2018 meeting.

District 11 Naming Committee Recommendations for the Early College High School

Per Board Policy, FF, Naming of District Facilities, Properties and Assets, the District naming committee was convened on November 15, 2017 to consider bringing forward a recommendation to the Board of Education for the purpose of reassigning a school name to the Early College High School. The D11 naming committee, made up of staff, parents, and community members, reviewed the name submitted by Aurora Umana-Arko, Principal, and Sean Norman, Dean of Students, Early College High School.

The School District 11 Early College High School opened in August 2013 as the "Early College High School." As written in the justification for the naming submission, submitters feel this name is a designation, similar to "elementary," "middle," or "high school." Submitters feel a need to have a name that makes the school stand out from others, and prevent confusion with another school by a similar name in the city. As part of the process to determine a possible name submission, staff at the Early College High School solicited name ideas from students, parents/guardians, community members and alumni. Everyone was invited to vote on the name ideas, and the one with the most votes, Odyssey Early College and Career Options (Odyssey ECCO) was submitted to the naming committee. The naming committee respectfully requests that the Board of Education discuss the naming committee's work and the name recommendation submitted. Other names that were submitted for the Early College community to vote on, but did not receive as many votes as Odyssey ECCO were:

- Ascend High School
- Pikes Peak High School
- Dorothy Johnson Vaughan High School
- Beyond Early College
- Accolade High School
- Blossom High School
- ECCO (Early College & Career Options) of Phoenix
- Unity High School
- Mountain Climbers High School
- Expedite High School

Naming Committee from November 15, 2017: Sean Rogers, ESP; Daniella Ewen, Personnel Support Services; Jan Rennie, DAC; Anthiya Adams, ICSS; Elisa Villarruel, ESP; Pauline Stinchcomb, IT; Kevin Vick, teacher; Katherine Ritchie-Rapp, Records; Zach Alarcon, teacher; Lottie Fairbanks, student; Luna Victorino, student; Lorie Fairbanks, student; Aurora Umana-Arko, principal; Sean Norman, executive professional; Joseph Mezzotante, DAC; Gretchen Bitner, teacher; Devra Ashby, superintendent designee/chair

This item will move to Consent for the January 10, 2018 meeting.

Priority Improvement and Turnaround School Improvement Plans

2017 Priority Improvement Schools:

- Adams Elementary
- Galileo School of Math and Science
- Madison Elementary
- Mann Middle School
- Mitchell High School
- Monroe Elementary
- Rogers Elementary
- Swigert Aerospace Academy

2017 Turn Around Schools:

- North Middle School
- Sabin Middle School
- West Elementary

The Priority Improvement Plan and Turn Around School Improvement Plan is required by state statute. The schools have met required elements of statute and have engaged in a comprehensive planning process to develop each School Improvement Plan. Schools participated in a district led data analysis on September 9, 2017, identifying key areas of concern and performance as indicated by School Performance Frameworks (received 8/25/2017) and assessment results. Root causes were derived from this work and the comprehensive improvement plans were then collaboratively developed with input from staff and school SAC members. The plans were reviewed by district leadership for alignment with the District Business Plan, district goals and for quality plan components. Public input meetings were held at each school in September and October as per statute. The Board of Education held the required public hearing during the regular board meeting on October 25, 2017.

Plans were presented to the District Accreditation Subcommittee on October 9, 2017 for review and input. A summary of the plans were made available for review by the District Accountability Committee (DAC). Upon approval by the Board of Education, plans will be submitted to CDE as required by January 15, 2017.

FUTURE MEETINGS/WORK SESSIONS

A Board of Education retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, January 3, at 4 p.m., at the administration building, 1115 N. El Paso St., in the Board Room.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m.