

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING (07-13) OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1,  
IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER AND STATE OF COLORADO  
HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM, 900 GRANT STREET  
5:00 P.M., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2007

**I. Call to Order – 5:00 p.m.**

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

President Theresa Peña called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. The following Board of Education members were present: Rev. Lucia Guzman, Mr. Bruce Hoyt, Mrs. Jeannie Kaplan, Mrs. Michelle Moss, Mr. Kevin Patterson, and Ms. Theresa Peña. Jill Conrad arrived at 5:19 p.m.

**II. Board Member Reports**

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Single Audit Report

Velma Rose, Chief Financial Officer, presented the required Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Single Audit Report. She introduced Mark Elmshouser from the firm of Clifton Gunderson LLP, to give an overview of the reports.

District School Improvement and Accountability Council (DSIAC) Recommendations on School Reform and Discipline

Mrs. Moss introduced John MacPherson and Jeannie Price, members of DSIAC. Mr. MacPherson, Chairman of the DSIAC subcommittee on the proposed DPS Reform Plan, presented the committee's recommendations. Ms. Price presented DSIAC's recommendations on the proposed discipline policy. She noted that Board action on the proposed discipline policy has been tabled for a month. Copies of these recommendations are appended to the minutes of this meeting.

**III. Superintendent's Report**

Staff Update on Reform Transition Plan

Superintendent Michael Bennet introduced Brad Jupp, Senior Policy Advisor; and Happy Haynes, Assistant to the Superintendent for Community Partnerships, to present the update on the plan and respond to frequently asked questions regarding the plan. A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

#### **IV. Consent Agenda**

Assistant Secretary Jacquie Lucero read the Agenda items. In accordance with Consent Agenda procedures, the following item was removed from the Consent Agenda and held for discussion:

Resolution regarding Benefit Coverage and the Family Medical Leave Act for Domestic Partners

Mr. Patterson moved that all matters on the Consent Agenda not held be approved. Ms. Kaplan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the following items were approved:

#### **Board of Education**

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of October 18, 2007 – A copy is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Gift Report – A copy is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Appointment to Denver Public Schools Retirement System Board of Trustees – A copy of this motion, to appoint Robin Grey to fill the remaining term of the position vacated by Velma Rose on the Denver Public Schools Retirement System (DPSRS) Board of Trustees, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve Superintendent Evaluation for School Year 2007-2008 – A copy of this motion, approval of the performance evaluation of the Superintendent for school year 2007-2008, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

#### **Finance and Audit Committee**

Motion to Approve the Contract Amendment between Colorado Department of Human Services and Denver Public Schools (DPS) – A copy of this motion, approval of the Contract Amendment #1 between the Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Refugee Services Program and DPS extending the original contract to provide English as a Second Language services to Refugees and Asylees until September 30, 2008, and increasing to a total of \$754,001.44, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve the Contract between Colorado Carpenters Statewide and Denver Public Schools – A copy of this motion, approval of the contract with Colorado Carpenters Statewide for instructional supplies, facility site rental, and professional services for the carpentry apprenticeship program at Emily Griffith Opportunity School, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve the Contract between Rocky Mountain Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) and Denver Public Schools – A copy of this motion, approval of the contract with Rocky Mountain IEC for instructional supplies, facility site rental, and professional services for the electrical contractors apprenticeship program at Emily Griffith Opportunity School, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve the Contract between Construction Industry Training Council and Denver Public Schools – A copy of this motion, approval of the contract with Construction Industry Training Council for instructional supplies, facility site rental, and professional services for the construction apprenticeship program at Emily Griffith Opportunity School, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve the Contract between TruGreen, LP and Denver Public Schools  
A copy of this motion, approval of the contract with TruGreen, LP to provide weed control and fertilization until July 1, 2009, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve the Grant Recipient Agreement - A copy of this motion, approval of the Grant Recipient Agreement for disbursement of funds to Denver for costs and Career and Technical Education instructors, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

### **Chief Operating Officer**

#### Budget and Finance

Motion to Approve the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2007 – A copy of this motion, approval of this report to comply with a November 30, 2007, statutory deadline, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve the Single Audit Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2007 – A copy of this motion, approval of this report as required by federal law, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

#### Human Resources

Motion to Approve the Revised Personnel Transaction Report – A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve Teacher Rollover Contracts – A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve the Revised 2007-2008 School Year Calendar – A copy of this motion, approval of the Revised 2007-2008 School Year Calendar due to a Memorandum of Understanding adding a teacher non-student contact day between the

Denver Classroom Teacher Association and Denver Public Schools, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve Pay Ranges for Principals – A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to Approve Pay Ranges for Administrators – A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Chief Academic Officer**

##### Student Services

Expelled Students Report - A copy of these reports are appended to the minutes of this meeting.

### **DISCUSSION OF HELD CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

Resolution 3052 regarding Benefit Coverage and the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for Domestic Partners – A copy of this motion, approval of a resolution to have benefit coverage and inclusion in the FMLA for domestic partners, is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Rev. Guzman stated the purpose of the resolution is to ensure that all employees and their families are fully covered under the district's medical plan.

Rev. Guzman moved approval of the resolution. Mr. Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Ms. Peña recessed the Regular Meeting at 6:32 p.m.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION – 6:34 P.M.**

#### Hallett Elementary School

Judith McDade, grandparent; Paula Powell, parent; and Myya Bonner, parent, spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of Hallett Elementary School.

### Smith Elementary School

Darren Shortscott spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of Smith Elementary School.

### Stedman Elementary School

Nel Lenhart, parent, extended a welcome from Stedman Elementary School's staff and families to all Hallett Elementary School students and parents.

### Remington Elementary School

Sharon Wilson, teacher and parent at Remington; Yolanda Castaneda, grandparent and teacher; and Rose Kundert, parent, spoke in support of the Reform Plan and encouraged Board members to support the Superintendent's proposal to consolidate Remington and Smedley Elementary Schools and Horace Mann Middle School.

### Smedley Elementary School

Tom Smedley, great-grandson of William Smedley and community member, spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of Smedley Elementary School. A copy of his remarks is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Jennifer Sanchez, parent and representative of the United Family organization, spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of Smedley Elementary School.

Maria Reyes and David Gonzalez, parents and members of the Smedley Family Parent Group, spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of Smedley Elementary School. A copy of their presentation is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

Richard Lloyd, representing Smedley Elementary School Collaborative School Committee (CSC), spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of Smedley Elementary School. A copy of his remarks is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

### Proposed School Closures/New ECE-8 Schools

Jennifer Gonzales and Nola Miguel, members of the Metropolitan Organization for People Education Committee (MOP), spoke regarding the proposed closures of near northeast schools and presented three alternative proposals concerning the new ECE – 8 schools. A copy of their comments is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

### School Closures

Bryce Rodgers, parent and member of Concerned Citizens about School Closures (CCSC), spoke in opposition to the reform plan and closure of schools.

Devon Yearling, Hallett Elementary School parent, spoke in opposition to the proposed closure Hallett.

Dr. Adrienne Bryant, member of Black Colorado Women for Political Action and concerned citizen, spoke in opposition to displacement of children of color by school closures and the proposed closure of Hallett Elementary School.

Dr. Curtis Dotson, representing the Black Education Advisory Council (BEAC) and a member of the A+ Denver Student Achievement Subcommittee, stated that BEAC recommends that the Board reject the proposal for school closure and assume a proactive school improvement oriented strategy

Diane Hopkins, parent, Hallett Elementary School, spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of Hallett and in opposition of sending her son to Smith Elementary School.

#### School Reform Efforts

Leo Smith, member of the District School Improvement and Accountability Council (DSIAC) and community member, stated that the Reform Plan has positive aspects but it does not address the basic issue of over capacity of the district. He feels that the budgeting plan has the potential to be very divisive

#### District Reform

Paula Gomez Farrell, Co-Chair; Liz Aybar, member; and Dave DeForest-Stalls, member, of the Alternative Education Task Force, spoke in favor the Reform Plan and creating new, high quality educational opportunities for all students.

#### Need for more Preschool Options

Sean Gerdes and Lucy Cook, members of Sunnyside United Neighbors, Inc., community organization, spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of Smedley Elementary School.

#### Ace Community School Challenge School

Eloy Chavez, principal; Rosa Bravo, student; Daniel Sparks, teacher assistant; Julie San Nicolas, parent; Sherri Rogers, parent; Dan Ruybal, community resident, spoke in support of the renewal of Ace Community Challenge Charter School for five years..

Ms. Peña reconvened the regular meeting at 9:04 p.m.

**III. Superintendent's Report** (Continued)

Staff Update on Reform Transition Plan (Continued)

Mr. Jupp; Ms. Haynes; Dr. Jaime Aquino, Chief Academic Officer; and Tom Boasberg, Chief Operating Officer, responded to questions from Board members regarding the Reform Transition Plan.

Ms. Peña adjourned the meeting at 10:18 p.m.

Jeanne S. Kaplan, Secretary  
Board of Education