

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING (05-17) 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
4:00 P.M., THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2005

I. Call to Order – 4:00 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

President Lester R. Woodward called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. The following Board of Education members were present: Ms. Elaine Gantz Berman, Rev. Lucia Guzman, Mr. Bruce Hoyt, Mr. Kevin Patterson, Ms. Theresa Peña, and Mr. Lester Woodward. Mrs. Michelle Moss was absent and excused.

C. Recognition of Montbello Girls Track Team State Championship

Ms. Peña and Mr. Patterson said it was their honor to recognize an outstanding group of young people from various district schools. The following individuals represented the district in the Colorado State 5A Boys' and Girls' Track and Field Championship on May 20-21, 2005: Jeremy Dodson, George Washington High School, State Champion in the 100M, 200M, and 400M Dash; Mohamud Ige, South High School, State Champion in the 1600M Run; Yusuf Aden Ahmed, South High School, State Champion in the 3200M Run; Victor James, Sedgrick Myles, Aaron Stubblefield, and Aaron Javon Whitaker, Montbello High School, State Champions in the 800M Relay; Fredrick Thompson, East High School, State Champion in the Long Jump; Chealsea Taylor, Montbello High School, State Champion in the 100M, 200M, High Jump, and Long Jump.

Montbello Girl's Track and Field Team won the Colorado State 5A Girls' Track and Field Championship. Members of that team include: Leslie Maxwell, Ashley Walker, Heather Matthews, Sierra Jones, Ashley McGee, Chardea Hancock, Brittany Stevens, Brittany Ferguson, Keena Pleasant, Keatra Nesbitt, Danielle Brown, Jessica Brown, and Chelsea Taylor.

II. Board Member Reports

Rev. Guzman thanked Dr. Jerry Wartgow for his four years as Superintendent, and wished him Godspeed.

III. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Wartgow advised the Board that he had submitted a recommendation for dismissal of a teacher, as part of the record.

IV. Consent Agenda

Assistant Secretary Jacquie Lucero read the agenda items by number and sequence. In accordance with Consent Agenda procedures, the following items were removed from the Consent Agenda and held for discussion:

IV-A-3 Resolution in Support of State Referendum C and State Referendum D

IV-C-1 Resolution to Authorize the Issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds Series 2005A

Ms. Gantz Berman moved that all matters on the Consent Agenda not held be approved. Rev. Guzman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the following items were approved:

A. Board of Education

1. Minutes of April 21, 2005 – A copy is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-17, IV-A-1.
2. Minutes of May 5, 2005 – A copy is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-17, IV-A-2.
4. Finance and Audit Committee
 - a. Motion to Approve Award of Bid #BD 1072, for Office Paper, to Unisource Worldwide, Northern Colorado Paper, Office Depot, National Business Products, Office Max, and Lewis Paper Place - A copy of this motion, the solicitation by the Warehouse in order to establish one-year requirement contracts to keep their shelves stocked, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-17, IV-A-4a.
 - b. Motion to Approve Award Bid #BD 1074, for Frozen and Refrigerated Products, to Andrews Foodservice, Donsons Distributing, Front Range Distributing, H. Schrier, Poppy Street Foods, U.S. Foodservice, Stillman Wholesale, and Atlas Distributing - A copy of this motion, the solicitation by Food Services in order to establish one-year requirements contracts to keep their warehouse stocked, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-17, IV-A-4b.

B. Administrative Services

1. Human Resources

- a. Motion to Approve the Personnel Transaction Report – A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-17, IV-B-1a.
- b. Motion to Ratify Memorandum of Understanding Between Denver Schools Food Service Association and Denver Public Schools – A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-17, IV-B-1b.

D. Educational Services

1. Motion to Approve Student Fees - A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-17, IV-D-1.

V. Old Business

There was none.

VI. New Business

There was none.

DISCUSSION OF HELD AGENDA ITEMS

IV-A-3 Resolution 2941 in Support of State Referendum C and State Referendum D

Mr. Patterson said he had seen a recent policy paper that portrays the dire straits this state will be in without the implementation and voter approval of these two very important items that will be on the November ballot. He wants to make sure that Denver voters understand that the Board of Education supports these two items on the November ballot.

Mr. Hoyt said he is a strong believer that without Referendum C the district will be under continued pressure to cut the budget for years and years to come. As people know, \$65 million has been cut out of the district's budget over the last three years. Referendum C is critical and must pass this coming November in order to help our children in the future.

Mr. Woodward said these referendums have bipartisan support. It is very important to recognize that this state needs this revenue to maintain education. He expressed the hope everyone votes to support these two referendums.

Dr. Wartgow said he joins with the Board members in urging people to be sure to vote "Yes" on this issue. It is extremely important for the future of the school district, the city, and the state.

Mr. Patterson moved approval of the motion. Ms. Gantz Berman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-17, IV-A-3.

IV-C-1 Resolution 2942 to Authorize the Issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds Series 2005A

Velma Rose, Chief Financial Officer, said that the district has an opportunity to refund approximately \$142 million of bonds that were sold in January 1999. The market has been rallying in the district's favor. We refunded approximately \$84 million of these bonds last October and reaped a sizable amount of savings for the taxpayers.

Mr. Woodward moved approval of the motion. Ms. Gantz Berman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of this resolution is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-17, IV-C-1.

III. Superintendent's Report (Continued)

Dr. Wartgow expressed his thanks to the Board for permitting him to take this incredible journey. It has been an emotional rollercoaster from day-to-day for members of the Board, the staff, and certainly for the Superintendent. He said he would do it all again because it has been so worthwhile. He is leaving with very good feelings about his experiences here, about Denver Public Schools, and about the City of Denver. He has tremendous optimism and hope for the future and the direction in which the district is going.

Mr. Hoyt said he wanted to publicly thank Dr. Wartgow for his many accomplishments: Leaving this district in a stronger financial position by eliminating reliance on one-time money; building community capacity; bringing ProComp forward; and his lasting accomplishment—making this district a reform-minded district. Through his leadership, every Board member, every administrator, every employee knows that “business as usual” is no longer acceptable in Denver Public Schools.

Mr. Patterson said it has been great to work alongside Dr. Wartgow, to see the compassion he brings, the dedication he has to every student, and to understand how much he really cares about what happens in Denver.

Ms. Gantz Berman said that Dr. Wartgow was the right person at the right time to be Superintendent of the Denver Public Schools. They could not have found a better person to lead the district. His integrity, passion, cheerleading style, and his true commitment to the kids were unsurpassed. It has been an incredible four years.

Mr. Woodward said that Dr. Wartgow has always demonstrated quality thinking, dedication to task, and commitment to education. He thanked him for his leadership on behalf of the citizens and students of Denver.

Rev. Guzman said that Dr. Wartgow is a passionate person who has paid the price. We are very thankful he was here and happy that he will now have time to spend with his family.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Woodward adjourned the Regular Meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Michelle Moss, Secretary
Board of Education