I. **Call to Order – 5:00 p.m.**

A. **Pledge of Allegiance**

B. **Roll Call**

President Lester R. Woodward called the meeting to order at 5:14 p.m. The following Board of Education members were present: Ms. Elaine Gantz Berman, Rev. Lucia Guzman, Mr. Bruce Hoyt, Mrs. Michelle Moss, Mr. Kevin Patterson, Ms. Theresa Peña, and Mr. Lester Woodward.

II. **Board Members Reports**

C. **Kennedy Center National School Board Association Arts Excellence Award**

Mrs. Moss said she recently attended the National School Boards Association’s national conference in San Diego, CA. At that conference, she was presented with the district’s 2005 Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network and National School Boards Association Award for Outstanding Support and Commitment for Arts in Education.

Mrs. Moss introduced and thanked the following people for being instrumental in bringing this award to the Denver Public Schools: Rosanne Fulton, Executive Director, Curriculum/Instructional Services; Janet Montgomery, Arts Coordinator; and Clark Strickland, Chairman of the Arts Resource Council. She expressed her appreciation to the Colorado Association of School Boards and the Colorado Alliance for Arts Education for nominating the district for this award.

A. **CASASTART Report to the Board of Education**

Mr. Patterson introduced Adam Brickner, Director of the Office of Drug Safety for the City and County of Denver; Judy Martinez, from the National Center for School Engagement; and Jorge-Ayn Riley, Principal of Smith Renaissance School of the Arts to present the report. A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, II-A.

Mr. Patterson commented that there is a need for collaboration, especially in a climate of dwindling resources and growing needs in our student population.
B. **ProComp Quarterly Report**

Dr. John Leslie and Connie White, Co-Chairs of the ProComp Transition Team presented the report. A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, II-B.

In response to Ms. Peña’s question regarding the process used to define hard-to-serve schools, Brad Jupp, ProComp Project Coordinator, replied that along with the three core poverty indicators, they have expanded indicators to include the percentage of students that are English-language learners and in Special Education classes.

Mr. Patterson expressed his appreciation for the discussion on the whole issue of hard-to-serve schools; it helps address some of the issues that need to be dealt with in the district.

Rev. Guzman commented that she felt the term hard-to-serve schools had a negative connotation, and hoped there could be a way to come up with another term that affirmed the challenge in the process. She expressed the hope that someday the district will put a greater emphasis on the needs and the learning climate of special-needs children.

Mr. Woodward expressed his appreciation for the regular updates on the progress of ProComp.

Mr. Woodward introduced Andre Pettigrew, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services, to report on negotiations.

Mr. Pettigrew announced that the bargaining teams for the Denver Classroom Teachers Association (DCTA) and the district reached a Tentative Agreement for a three-year contract which includes next year’s total compensation for teachers. He thanked the following members of the negotiating team: Becky Wissink, President of DCTA; Kim Ursetta, teacher at Newlon Elementary School and President-Elect of DCTA; Bruce Dickenson, UniServ Director for DCTA; Richard Allen, Assistant Superintendent of Budget and Finance; Wayne Eckerling, Assistant Superintendent of Research, Planning, & Special Programs; John Leslie, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services; Laurie Grosselfinger, Principal of Goldrick Elementary School; Ann Bailey, Principal of Thomas Jefferson High School; Joe Sandoval, Southwest Area Superintendent; and Sandra Just, Northwest Assistant Area Superintendent.

Mr. Pettigrew introduced Bart Muller, Southwest Area Director, to give some details regarding the Tentative Agreement. Mr. Muller highlighted the three main areas: Teacher input into district decision-making around student achievement, instruction, and educational reform; new language regarding professional discretion over teacher time; and the Market Compensation Task Force.
recommendation to restore the frozen step that occurred in the 2002-2003 Agreement.

Ms. Gantz Berman expressed her appreciation to the negotiating team for their energy, focus, and willingness to reach an agreement. She said they were very pleased to be able to adhere to the recommendations of the joint Market Compensation Task Force, with one modification that was agreed to by the DCTA. Teachers are the heart and soul of the district. She expressed the hope that, with the end of mediation, everyone joins together to become one district, one family, for the purpose of teaching our students and increasing student achievement.

III. Superintendent’s Reports

There was none.

IV. Consent Agenda

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

IV-C-4 Motion to Approve the Implementation of the PACE Model in the Redesign of Mitchell Elementary School

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:

III. Superintendent’s Reports

A. Gift Report – A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, III-A.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Board of Education

1. Minutes of March 2, 2005 – A copy is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-A-1.

2. Finance and Audit Committee

   a. Motion to Approve the Construction Contract for the Barrett Elementary School, Hamilton Middle School, and Abraham Lincoln and South High Schools Renovation Project – A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-A-2a.
b. **Motion to Approve the Construction Contract for the Kaiser and Knapp Elementary Schools, Grant and Henry Middle Schools, and West High School Renovation Project** - A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-A-2b.

c. **Motion to Approve the Construction Contract for the Brown and Cheltenham Elementary Schools Learning Landscape Project** - A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-A-2c.

d. **Motion to Approve the Construction Contract for the Park Hill and Phillips Elementary Schools Renovation Project** - A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-A-2d.

e. **Motion to Approve the Use of Additional Contingency Funds for the Hilltop Transportation Building Renovation Project** - A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-A-2e.

f. **Motion to Approve the Land Purchase for a Water Line at the New Montbello K-8 School** - A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-A-2f.

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g. **Motion to Approve Award of Invitation to Bid #BD 1056 to Avant Datacom Solutions and National Network Services** - A copy of this motion, which was done to solicit responses from pre-qualified vendors to establish contracts to provide and install structured cable at four sites, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-A-2g.

h. **Motion to Approve Purchase of Custom Biology Kits from Kendall/Hunt** - A copy of this motion, to provide consumable and non-consumable materials to support each unit of the newly-adopted biology program, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-A-2h.
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B. **Administrative Services**

1. **Human Resources**

   a. **Motion to Approve Personnel Transaction Report** – A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-B-1a.

C. **Educational Services**

1. **Motion to Approve Lease of Cole Middle School Building to Community College of Denver** – A copy of this motion, to approve the lease of the first floor of the Cole Middle School building to the Community College of Denver, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-C-1.
2. Resolution 2926 to Approve the DPA Charter School Contract – A copy of this Resolution, the charter school contract for the Denver Peak Academy application, which was approved on December 2, 2004, to serve homeless students, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-C-2.

3. Motion to Approve a Second Amendment to the Ridge View Academy Contract – A copy of this motion, which will allow it to operate the program for adjudicated girls at the Betty Marler Facility in Jefferson County, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-C-3.

DISCUSSION OF HELD AGENDA ITEM

IV-C-4  Motion to Approve the Implementation of the PACE Model in the Redesign of Mitchell Elementary School

Mr. Patterson introduced Carla Santorno, Northeast Area Superintendent. Ms. Santorno introduced the new principal of Mitchell Elementary School, Jennifer Barton.

Mr. Patterson moved approval of the motion. Ms. Gantz Berman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, IV-C-4.

V. Old Business

There was none.

VI. New Business

The following matters were presented for information:

A. Educational Services

1. Motion to Approve the Timeline for Charter School Applications – A copy of this motion is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, VI-A-1.

2. Revitalization Plan for Ford Elementary School – A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, VI-A-2.

3. Revitalization Plan for Stedman Elementary School – A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, VI-A-3.

4. Independent Center for International Studies (CIS) – A copy of this proposal is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, VI-A-4.
B. Budget and Finance – Financial Services

1. Statement of Revenue Allocations, Appropriations, Commitments, and Expenditures for the period July 1, 2004, to March 31, 2005 – A copy of this status report of year-to-date revenues, expenditures, and inter-fund transfers for each fund as compared to the current-year budget and as compared to the year-to-date totals for the prior year, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-07, VI-B-1.

C. Policy Review

1. Revision of Policy

a. Policy IKF, Graduation Requirements – A copy of this policy, revision of graduation requirements to provide additional options for students, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, VI-C-1a.

D. Student Services

1. Expelled Students Report - A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, VI-D-1.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

Independent Center for International Studies (CIS)*

John Youngquist, Northwest Area Superintendent, introduced Dan Lutz, Director of the Center for International Studies at West High School; Sococrates Sclavenitis, President of CIS Foundation; CIS students Raphael Dare and Carmen Martinez; and CIS teacher, Jared Hansen; to present the report. A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, VI-A-4.

Mr. Patterson stated that this proposed move would have a significant impact on test scores at West High School. He said he wanted his colleagues to understand that they need to be mindful of that impact and what must be done to support West.

In response to Mr. Patterson’s question regarding location, Mr. Youngquist replied that their preference is Baker Middle School, in order to stay close to downtown Denver.

Rev. Guzman said she has followed this program for many years and has always hoped to see the program expand. She concurred with Mr. Patterson that as they move forward with CIS’s transition, they also have to work with West High School. She said that this proposal is in line with many of the recommendations of the Secondary School Reform Commission.

*Agenda item taken out of sequence
In response to Ms. Peña’s question regarding enrichment activities, Mr. Lutz replied that they envision a venue for international activities with organizations actually in the school working with students in service learning, both during the school day and afterwards, and to continue activities students are already involved with, such as the United Nations Club and the World History program. Also, they look forward to partnerships with organizations like the Institute of International Education.

In response to Mr. Hoyt’s questions regarding accommodating more students if demand for the program exceeded their current plan, Mr. Lutz replied that they really want to make sure they are creating a community, not just adding numbers. Community is essential to understanding the world system as people.

In response to Ms. Gantz Berman’s question regarding transportation, Mr. Lutz replied that they would like to continue magnet transportation for the high school students and request district transportation for middle school students.

Revitalization Plan for Ford Elementary School

Carla Santorno, Northeast Area Superintendent; Helen Trujillo-Wulfers, Principal of Ford Elementary School; Tracy Colburn, fourth grade teacher; Tera Downey, first and second grade ELA teacher; Jennifer Monson, first grade ELA teacher; Mariellen Hoffman, Administrative Assistant; Clinton Williams, gym teacher; and Barbara Collins, second grade teacher, presented the report. A copy of this report is attached to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, VI-A-2.

In response to Mr. Hoyt’s questions regarding early-education outreach and staff and community support, Ms. Trujillo-Wulfers replied that they have already filled two early-education classes for next year. Part of their marketing plan is to go into the community and reach everybody in the neighborhood. Staff has been involved in all aspects of the revitalization. They have had several meetings with parents and the community. They have strong support from the community and staff.

Revitalization Plan for Stedman Elementary School

Nicole Veltze, Northeast Area Assistant Superintendent; Rachel Starks, Principal of Stedman Elementary School; and members of Stedman’s Revitalization team: Nicole Benak, teacher; Jessica Tole, community member; and Theresa Cole, community member, presented the report. A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, VI-A-3.

Policy IKE, Graduation Requirements

Dr. Wayne Eckerling, Assistant Superintendent for Research, Planning, and Special Programs, and Scott Mendelsberg, Principal of Abraham Lincoln High School, presented the report. A copy of this policy is attached to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 05-10, VI-C-1a.
In response to Ms. Peña’s question regarding the APEX program, Mr. Mendelsberg said the APEX program has existed but has never been utilized at any high school. Last year, approximately 40 Abraham Lincoln students went on to college from a graduating class of approximately 230; this year, 150 students in the APEX program have indicated an interest in going on to college.

Mrs. Moss said that Lincoln is a totally different school since Mr. Mendelsberg became principal. It looks different. It is a clean, welcoming place. She is excited about this program. Kids in that neighborhood need hope. It is a flexible program that can meet the needs of students, which is one of the recommendations of the Secondary Reform Commission.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Woodward adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Michelle Moss, Secretary
Board of Education