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 5:30 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**

Mr. Patterson reported that this week he had attended a community meeting at Montbello High School where they unveiled the new bond project improvements made over the summer. He said it was great to see the excitement and enthusiasm in schools and neighborhoods generated by the bond projects. He thanked Mike Langley, Executive Director of Facility Management, and his staff for the wonderful job they have done on the schools.

Mr. Patterson congratulated Guy Champlin, Executive Director of Transportation and Support Services, and his staff for informing parents regarding the new transportation policy. He said that the new transportation policy has changed some high school hours and he encouraged parents to meet with their child’s counselor early in the year if they want to adjust their children’s schedules.

Rev. Guzman announced that North High School’s play, *“The Zoot Suit Riots,”* will be performed at the Buell Theater this Saturday and tickets are still available.

III. **Superintendent’s Reports**

Dr. Wartgow expressed his appreciation to Mike Langley’s entire crew, not only for the great job they did in opening the schools, but also for the remarkable job they did of cleaning up the graffiti after three of our high schools were hit by one of the worst tagging incidents the night before schools opened.

Dr. Wartgow said that it has been an exciting week. The opening of school was great, charged with a real sense of excitement and enthusiasm. He said he had visited nine schools throughout the district in the first two days. Kevin Patterson and the Mayor
accompanied him at a couple of the schools, including Cole Middle School. On Wednesday, he attended Cole’s faculty meeting, where there was a feeling of tremendous resilience. The faculty is determined to give these kids the very best education they can, they are redoubling all of their efforts. At North High School, he talked to students in many classes and asked them about their perceptions of North and how things were going. Every student he talked to had a 100 percent positive outlook for the school.

He congratulated everyone for the smooth opening of the school year and thanked the principals for their leadership. He said that a list of back-to-school nights is now available on the web and encouraged parents and members of the community to attend. Parental involvement makes a huge difference for all students.

As has been reported in the press, schools in northeast Denver are full; there appears to be quite significant growth in the northeast area. He said that if the current trend holds, our enrollment numbers will exceed our projections.

He said that it was disappointing that we had to cancel the back-to-school party at the Denver Zoo. It has not been decided if we are going to reschedule.

Dr. Wartgow said that the district’s negotiating team is continuing mediation meetings with the Denver Classroom Teachers Association, trying to get a settlement in light of the tough budget situation.

IV. Consent Agenda

Assistant Secretary Jacquie Lucero read the agenda items by number and sequence in accordance with Consent Agenda procedures. Members of the Board of Education did not request that any items be held for discussion. Ms. Gantz Berman moved adoption of the Consent Agenda. Mr. Hoyt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the following items were approved:

A. Board of Education

1. Minutes of August 5, 2004 – A copy is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-A-1.

2. Finance and Audit Committee

   a. Motion to Approve Award of Price Agreement #040197 to Bookies – A copy of this report, to provide a local source from which schools and departments can purchase teaching aids and books, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-A-2a.

   b. Motion to Approve Award of Request for Proposal #BD992 to Lakeshore Learning Materials and Kaplan School Supply – A copy of this report, to solicit
competitively-priced offers from qualified vendors for teaching aids, especially for those used in early childhood education, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-A-2b.

c. **Motion to Approve Design-Build Selection for the Hilltop Remediation Project**
   A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-A-2c.

d. **Motion to Approve Lease Renewal for 935 West 45th Warehouse** – A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-A-2d.

3. **Gift Report** – A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-A-3.

**B. Administrative Services**

1. **Human Resources**
   
   a. **Personnel Transaction Report** – A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-B-1a.

   b. **Motion to Approve Resolution of Critical Shortage** – A copy of this Resolution, declaring a critical shortage in certain classified positions, which will enable the district to fill the vacancies with retired personnel without affecting their retirement benefits, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-B-1b.

2. **Facility Management**
   
   a. **Motion to Approve Utility Easement at Valverde Elementary/Rishel Middle Schools** - A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-B-2a.

   b. **Motion to Approve Denver Water Easement at George Washington High School**
      A copy of this report is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-B-2b.

**C. Educational Services**

1. **Motion to Amend Denver School of Science and Technology Contract with Denver Public Schools** – A copy of this report, to allow the school to contract with a management company for human resources services, is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-C-1.
2. Motion to Accept Funding Awarded for the Department of Community Education
   A copy of this report, which outlines funding awarded by the Colorado Department
   of Education for the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant to the
   Department of Community Education, in the amount of $449,606 for the first year
   (totaling $1,798,423 for a five-year period) and which provides funding for
   comprehensive after-school programs at three high-need middle schools, is
   appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-C-2.

3. Motion to Accept Funding Awarded for the Department of Psychological Services
   A copy of this report, which outlines funding awarded by the U.S. Department of
   Education for the Elementary Counseling Grant to the Department of
   Psychological Services, in the amount of $386,586 for the first year (totaling
   $1,169,502 for a three-year period) and which provides funding for targeted
   counseling services at five high-need elementary schools, is appended to the
   minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-C-3.

D. Policy Review

1. New Policy: ACD, Commitment to Religious Neutrality - A copy of this policy is
   appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-D-1.

2. Repeal of Policy: IHAL, Teaching about Religion - A copy of this policy is
   appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, IV-D-2.

V. Old Business

   There was none.

VI. New Business (Information)

A. Budget and Finance

1. Financial Services

   a. Statement of Revenue Allocations, Appropriations, Commitments and
      Expenditures for the Period July 1, 2003, to June 30, 2004 - A copy of this
      report, a 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 04-20, VI-A-1a.

   b. Statement of Revenue Allocations, Appropriations, Commitments and
      Expenditures for the Period July 1, 2004, to July 31, 2004 - A copy of this
      report, a 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 04-20, VI-A-1b.

B. Policy Review

1. Revision of Policy

a. Policy GDBC – Support Staff Supplementary Pay/Overtime - A copy of this policy is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, VI-B-1a.

b. Policy BEDH – Public Participation at Board Meetings - A copy of this policy is appended to the minutes of this meeting as Appendix 04-20, VI-B-1b.

Dr. Wartgow asked Mary Ellen McEldowney, General Counsel, to clarify Policy BEDH – Public Participation at Board Meetings, which is up for first reading. Ms. McEldowney said that staff recommendations include: to continue the Board public comment sessions; to change the scope of public comments to current and future agenda items of the Board; to require that participants contact the Board Office twenty-four hours in advance to sign-up to speak at the public comment session; to limit the public comment session to one hour, and within that hour limit each speaker to two minutes and multiple speakers to ten minutes per topic; and to have the public comment session immediately follow the first regular monthly meeting of the Board.

The overall rationale for the policy change is to provide more efficient use of the Board’s time and more effective input by the public on agenda items that the Board is considering. The process followed for policy revisions begins with a first reading of the proposed revisions; the second reading provides opportunity for public comment on the proposed revisions at a public comment session. The Board invites and urges public comment on these revisions at the next regular Public Hearing, Thursday, September 2, 2004. The policy will also be posted on the district’s web page. The Board will not act on any revision until their second meeting in September.

Ms. McEldowney said that another rationale for the change is that the universal use of e-mail is actually a more effective way to get comments to the Board. Communications sent to the Board, either in writing or electronically by e-mail, are routinely copied and distributed to all Board members.

Ms. Gantz Berman said that the Board’s second meeting in September will not be held on the third Thursday of the month. It will be held on the fourth Thursday, September 23, 2004. The date was changed when the Board accepted the Board meeting calendar because a Jewish holiday falls on the third Thursday of the month.

Mr. Woodward emphasized that the purpose of the policy revisions are to ensure that public comment is, in fact, both relevant and helpful to the Board.
Ms. McEldowney said that the second policy revision on the agenda for first reading is a change to the district’s overtime policy. The purpose of the revisions are to clarify and make it consistent with the new federal regulations under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Mr. Woodward adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Michelle Moss, Secretary
Board of Education