

ELIZABETH SCHOOL DISTRICT - RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Elizabeth School District C-1



ELIZABETH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD ROOM, DISTRICT OFFICE MINUTES OF MEETING October 24, 2016 (Work Session Meeting)

A Work Session Board Meeting of the Elizabeth School District was held on Monday, October 24, 2016 in the Board Room, District Office.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Deb Spenceley called the Work Session BOE Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

The following BOE Directors were present:

Director Carol Hinds

Director Chris Richardson

Director Richard Smith

Director Deb Spenceley

Director Dee Lindsey was not present.

Also present: Superintendent Douglas Bissonette
Communications Director Melissa Hoelting

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Deb Spenceley led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 EDUCATION SHOWCASE

No Education Showcase

5.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/BLANKET MOTION

A motion was made to approve the agenda.

Motion moved by Director Hinds

Motion seconded by Director Richardson

ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds - aye

Director Chris Richardson - aye

Director Richard Smith - aye

Director Deb Spenceley - aye

The motion carried 4-0

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6.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6.1 A motion was made to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2016 Elizabeth Schools Board of Education meeting.

Motion Moved by Director Smith

Motion Seconded by Director Richardson

ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds - aye

Director Chris Richardson - aye

Director Richard Smith - aye

Director Deb Spenceley - aye

The motion carried 4-0

7.0 COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 Class Size Report

Superintendent Bissonette shared the Class Size Report with the Board of Education.

In the spring and fall the district provides a class size report that breaks down the average and individual class sizes. There are no significant changes with the fall 2016 report. The district has strong student-teacher ratios and has been able to keep class sizes small throughout the recession. This is favorable to our parents and students who are concerned about class size. It's also favorable for our teachers who have expressed their desire to keep instruction personalized.

Despite its size, Frontier High School has been able to offer diverse class offerings, such as architecture, and online classes have helped to extend class offerings further. There is open class space at Running Creek Elementary and Singing Hills Elementary. Elizabeth Middle School currently has 450 students, and has had up to 600 students in the past. Elizabeth High School has capacity to add another 50 students.

7.2 Performance Frameworks

Superintendent Bissonette provided an update on the state Performance Frameworks to the Board of Education.

The state legislature requires an accountability system that rates schools. The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) calls the rating system Performance Frameworks. The CDE recently released draft frameworks for schools and districts. Districts review the ratings and either agree or disagree with the data. Elizabeth Schools is in the process of requesting a ratings change for the district, Elizabeth High School and Running Creek Elementary.

Elizabeth High School's rating decreased due to miscoding of assessment data related to parents excusing students from participating in state assessments. Overall participation in the tests at the high school ranged between 14 and 19.2%. The CDE marks down schools and district ratings when unexcused assessment participation is less than 95%. While the CDE said districts/schools would not be marked down due to lack of participation if parents excused students from taking tests, the way the CDE coded assessment opt outs has been an issue. In fact, this was an issue for so many schools/districts that the CDE created a specific form to request consideration to appeal assigned ratings lowered because of parent excusals. All of Elizabeth High School's assessment opt outs were excused, so the district is confident that the rating will be revised upwards.

Running Creek Elementary was assigned a Priority Improvement rating and is .8% away from the next higher rating level, Improvement Plan. The CDE shared guidance on what data the district needs to provide to receive a more accurate rating.

The Elizabeth School District is .9% below a Performance Plan rating. A revised rating for Running Creek Elementary alone is likely to bump up the district rating. The district also could exclude Frontier High School data from the district

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rating, which may be the more simple option. Excluding alternative education campus data from ratings is not uncommon among other districts, as long as the alternative schools meet certain performance criteria.

The CDE releases ratings for alternative schools on a different schedule, so Frontier High School's preliminary rating will be available in the coming weeks.

Staff from Elizabeth Schools is meeting with a top academic official from a large suburban district to understand that district's plans for using an assessment suite by ACT/Aspire as their 3rd-11th progression for assessments. That district also has plans to produce its own community report card. Similar to Elizabeth Schools, that district has aligned curriculum for success on the ACT. The ACT matters for students and for college entrance, and success on the ACT opens doors for kids. If Elizabeth Schools followed a similar path it wouldn't be missing large sets of data due to assessment opt outs, since the community already understands and appreciates the ACT. Additionally, the district wouldn't need to retool existing curriculum that has been working for students and staff. More districts across the state, especially those with high assessment opt outs, are advocating that the state should accept a range of assessments and allow flexibility. Flexibility would also support local control.

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda 8.1-8.5.

Motion Moved by Director Smith

Motion Seconded by Director Richardson

ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds - aye

Director Chris Richardson - aye

Director Richard Smith - aye

Director Deb Spenceley - aye

The motion carried 4-0

8.1 Substitutes

Amanda Kerchner, Substitute Paraprofessional

Nicole MacHale, Substitute Paraprofessional

Rachel Sorensen, Substitute Paraprofessional

Diana Graves, Substitute Paraprofessional

Amie Santos, Substitute Paraprofessional

8.2 New Hires

Victoria Rambo, Lead Cook, RCE

8.3 Transfers/Changes

Kristin Lorimer, Teacher, SHE

8.4 Extra Duty Assignments

Frank Messenger, Asst. Basketball Coach, EMS

Traci Monroe, Boys Basketball Coach, EMS

Allison Wagstaff, Musical Honor Society, EHS

Doug Severinson, Head Baseball Coach, EHS

8.5 Elizabeth High School Roof Consultant Contract

9.0 Action Items

No Action Items

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ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds - aye
Director Chris Richardson - aye
Director Richard Smith - aye
Director Deb Spenceley - aye
The motion carried 4-0

10.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

No Discussion Items

11.0 BOARD PLANNING

The next regular board meeting will be November 14, 2016.

12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The board meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Deb Spenceley, President

Carol Hinds, Vice President



Chris Richardson, Secretary

Dee Lindsey, Treasurer



Richard Smith, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded by: Melissa Hoelting