

ELIZABETH SCHOOL DISTRICT C-1 - RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



ELIZABETH SCHOOL DISTRICT C-1

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BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD ROOM, DISTRICT OFFICE MINUTES OF MEETING FINAL September 8, 2014 (Business Session Meeting)

A Business Session Board Meeting of the Elizabeth School District was held on Monday, September 8, 2014, in the Board Room, District Office.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Deb Spenceley called the BOE Meeting to order at 7:02pm.

ROLL CALL

The following BOE Directors were present:

Director Carol Hinds
Director Dee Lindsey
Director Chris Richardson
Director Deb Spenceley
Director Chip Swan

Also present:

Executive Administrative Assistant/Communication Director, Michele McCarron
Chief Finance Director, Ron Patera
Technology Director, Marty Silva
HR Director, Kin Shuman

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

4.0 EDUCATION SHOWCASE

FCCLA was recognized for their achievements at State and the National competition. Sierra Stein and Taylor Bunch, seniors at EHS, received 1st place GOLD at state, and SILVER at nationals for Life Event Planning. Megan Reyher, junior at EHS, received 1st place GOLD at state, and SILVER at nationals for Teach and Train. Natasha Breakall and Anthony McConnell took 1st place GOLD at state, and GOLD at nationals for the No Kid Hungry Digital project that included a website where people can learn about childhood hunger in America. Mrs. Melanie Darter, the FCCLA Chapter adviser, received an award for demonstrating excellence in modeling FCCLA character in helping students achieve success.

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 Swan

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ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds – aye
Director Dee Lindsey - aye
Director Chris Richardson - aye
Director Deb Spenceley - aye
Director Chip Swan - aye
The motion carried 5-0

6.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6.1 Motion to approve the minutes from 8/25/14 as written.

Motion Moved by Director Hinds
Motion Seconded by Director Richardson

ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds – aye
Director Dee Lindsey - aye
Director Chris Richardson - aye
Director Deb Spenceley - aye
Director Chip Swan - aye
The motion carried 5-0

6.2 Motion to approve the minutes from 9/4/14 as written.

Motion Moved by Director Swan
Motion Seconded by Director Richardson

ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds – aye
Director Dee Lindsey - aye
Director Chris Richardson - aye
Director Deb Spenceley - aye
Director Chip Swan - aye
The motion carried 5-0

7.0 COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 Chief Financial Report

Director of Finance, Ron Patera, reported on the financial statements for activity through the end of July; one month into the new fiscal year. General fund revenues after charter allocations are at 5.20% and expenditures are at 7.17%. Overall spending is down compared to last year due to the continuing need to reduce expenses.

7.2 Human Resources Update

Kin Shuman, Director of Human Resources indicated that HR has recently received approximately 30 applicants for the re-posted Elizabeth High School Principal position. Kin Shuman, along with Superintendent Douglas Bissonette, and Acting Principal Rod Blunck are screening the applications and will identify the top candidates to go through the interview process.

The school district was invited by The Regional Education Laboratory REL to participate in a survey of our teachers about how valuable is the feedback they receive from their principals. Teacher participation is voluntary and consists of a 10-15 minute online survey to obtain their opinion on the feedback they are receiving through the new Teacher Evaluation System. The multi-state survey will assess their perception of the quality of the feedback they are receiving and how they apply that feedback in the classroom. The intent of the survey is to see how well the new Colorado Teacher Evaluation System is working.

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7.3 Technology Update

Marty Silva, Director of Technology, indicated he will be launching a survey targeted to teachers in the school district to better assess their needs relating to technology for instruction and for student collaboration. This survey should also give the technology team a good understanding of the technology conditions of the equipment in the classroom.

7.4 Superintendent Report

Superintendent Douglas Bissonette was a guest speaker at a recent Elbert County Conservative Breakfast. Douglas presented on the numerous state and federal mandates and the impact on school districts. There is a tremendous amount of data that school districts are required to collect and report to the Colorado Department of Education. In addition, over the last 6 years the state has passed numerous "reforms", all of which add a bureaucratic burden to the school district. Most of the so-called reforms were not funded, with the new evaluation system for teachers being the most impactful in terms of resources. The Board of Education has vigorously defended local decision-making and local control. It is a fundamental tenet of education in Colorado and is a critical factor in establishing and operating quality educational programs in our community.

7.5 Board of Education

The board discussed the 3A mill levy question and the 3B bond question that will be on the November 2014 ballot. The board members discussed the ballot language and the specific needs of the district that the bond and mill levy override will address should these questions pass.

Mill Levy Override

- Provide funding to attract and retain talented teachers
- Provide increased instructional and classroom technology
- Provide increased safety and security measures for students and staff

Bond

- Acquisition of emergency communication systems and updating of school facilities with emergency alarm systems to enhance safety and emergency response.
- Repair of leaking roofs at SHE and EHS
- Acquisition of new school buses to replace aging and obsolete fleet

Elbert County Commissioner Robert Rowland, Elizabeth School Board Members Chris Richardson and Carol Hinds, and Member of the House Education Committee Chris Holbert, joined the host of Grass Roots Radio, Ken Clark, to discuss the funding issues and challenges of rural school districts in Colorado. Amendment 23, the Negative Factor, and other legislative issues were discussed and the impacts the reduced funding is having on Elizabeth Schools and other rural school districts. The recording is posted to the school website on Key Corner - Legislature 2014-2015.

Our board members are active in our community, supporting the Citizen Impact Committee, and visiting classrooms at our schools. The board acknowledged Alec Saville and Emmi Lindsey, EHS students, who recently participated in the Town Hall Meeting and the Elizabeth Art and Music Festival. They were very engaged with our community and did a great job representing our school district.

7.6 Public Participation

No Public Participation

8.1 CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda 8.1 through 8.5 as presented

Motion Moved by Director Richardson

Motion Seconded by Director Lindsey

ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds – aye

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Director Dee Lindsey - aye
Director Chris Richardson - aye
Director Deb Spenceley - aye
Director Chip Swan - aye
The motion carried 5-0

8.1 Transfers/Changes

Michael Woods, Sped Para

8.2 Terminations/Resignations/Non-Renewals

Steven Wick, Network Technician, Tech
Janet Kelly Health Aide, EMS
Kenneth Schenck, Coordinator, Maintenance

8.3 New Hires

Lori Horton, Teacher, EMS
Tiffany Letostak, Teacher, SHE
Patricia Rightmire, Child Care Floater, RCE/PS
Lisa Bailey, Playground Para, EMS
Kristi Fowler, Assistant Teacher, SHE/PS
Tracey Olson, Sped Para Attend, EMS
Victoria Vossler, Child Care Floater, SHE/PS
Victoria Vossler, Sped Para, RCE/PS
Michelle Elliott, Sped Para, EMS

8.4 Substitutes

8.5 Compensation for specialized district positions

9.0 Action Items

No Action Items

10.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

10.1 Legislative Priorities

Elizabeth Schools Board of Education will continue their efforts related to legislative issues affecting our schools. Board members will be attending the upcoming Colorado Association of School Board (CASB) Fall Conference and Delegate Assembly where representatives will engage in spirited debate, take action on new resolutions and amend existing ones to help ensure that CASB reflects the interests of boards of education across the state. The board discussed their legislative priorities for the Elizabeth School District which include continued work on the issue of school funding and the negative factor, the issues of overload in assessment and reporting, and the need for school boards to have the local control over the education of the students in their district.

10.2 DAC Focus Areas

The Board discussed the DAC survey process and will work with DAC to communicate to parents what the district will do with the results of the survey. The Board is also considering asking DAC to look at the Colorado Academic Standards and to dive in a little deeper on the DUIP.

10.3 Citizen Oversight Committee

The board understands the public wants to know and wants to be reassured that the money is going towards the most critical and pressing issues of the district as outlined in the ballot questions. The board is working toward further defining a committee to monitor the accountability process and to report back to our community should the voters approve these two ballot questions.

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11.0 BOARD PLANNING

The next board meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2014.

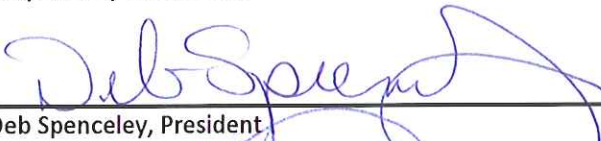
12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session


13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The board meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.


Respectfully Submitted,



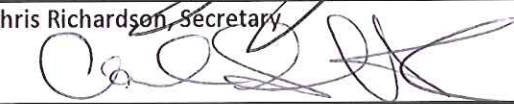
Deb Spenceley, President



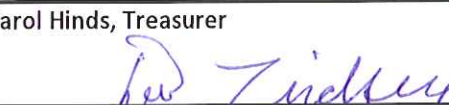
Chip Swan, Vice President



Chris Richardson, Secretary



Carol Hinds, Treasurer



Dee Lindsey, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded by: Michele McCarron