

# ELIZABETH SCHOOL DISTRICT C-1 - RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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ELIZABETH SCHOOL DISTRICT C-1  
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## BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD ROOM, DISTRICT OFFICE MINUTES OF MEETING FINAL May 18, 2015 (Working Session Meeting)

A Working Session Board Meeting of the Elizabeth School District was held on Monday, May 18, 2015, in the Board Room, District Office.

### 1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Deb Spenceley called the Business Session BOE Meeting to order at 7:04pm.

#### ROLL CALL:

The following BOE Directors were present:

Director Carol Hinds

Director Dee Lindsey

Director Chris Richardson

Director Deb Spenceley

Also present: Superintendent, Douglas Bissonette  
Executive Administrative Assistant/Communication Director, Michele McCarron  
Chief Finance Director, Ron Patera

Director Chip Swan was not present

### 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 Richardson

Motion seconded by Director Hinds

#### ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds – aye

Director Dee Lindsey - aye

Director Chris Richardson - 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 5/4/15 as written.

Motion Moved by Director Richardson

Motion Seconded by Director Hinds

### ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds – aye

Director Dee Lindsey - abstain

Director Chris Richardson - aye

Director Deb Spenceley - aye

The motion carried 3-0

## 7.0 COMMUNICATIONS

### 7.1 Preliminary Budget

Chief Financial Officer Ron Patera presented to the board the Preliminary Budget for the fiscal year 2015-2016. Elizabeth Schools and many districts are still working with inadequate funding from the state. Budgetary challenges still remain as the state slowly starts to restore funding that was dramatically reduced by the negative factor. Since the state's implementation of the negative factor the Elizabeth School District continues to make significant financial changes including reduction in staffing levels, elimination of the child care program, increases in current fees, the implementation of new fees, and deferment of capital infrastructure and maintenance. The state also implemented several mandates such as Educator Evaluation System, PARCC Assessments, Common Core Standards, READ Act, Readiness Act, all of which were mandated without resources. The district estimated that enrollment is expected to decline by approximately 95 students. This also impacts the district's funding. The board values a financially responsible plan, educational excellence, and putting students at the heart of everything we do. Decisions made in developing the preliminary budget were consistently aligned with these board values. The board also asked the district to improve staff compensation and to address some of the most urgent and critical infrastructure needs. In order to address these issues the board expressed their comfort level for the district's ending fund balance to be between \$1.4M-1.5M at the end of the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

### 7.2 Superintendent Report

Superintendent Douglas Bissonette gave an update to the Board on the "Student-Centered Accountability Project". Mr. Bissonette is working with several other rural districts on this project and the proposal to the State Board of Education (SBE). The project seeks to provide a framework for selected rural districts to create an accountability system that is more tailored to the needs and values of our students and rural communities. The focus and accountability by the state is not working for the rural and smaller size districts. Mr. Bissonette indicated the presentation to SBE went very well. SBE was positive and receptive to the proposal. More work still needs to be done on defining the project and how it will be implemented.

The district has received additional resignations by teachers since the last board meeting, bringing teacher turnover slightly above the state average to 16%. The administration expects more resignations as other districts attract teachers from our schools. The main reason for the departures continues to be compensation. Mr. Bissonette spoke about the negative effects of teacher turnover. It is an ongoing and serious issue for the district.

## 8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda 8.1 through 8.3 as presented

Motion Moved by Director Lindsey

Motion Seconded by Director Richardson

### ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds – aye

Director Dee Lindsey - aye

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Director Chris Richardson - aye  
Director Deb Spenceley - aye  
The motion carried 4-0

### 8.1 Terminations/resignations/non-renewals

Carolyn Burgener, Head Custodian, EMS  
Katharine Rothe, Teacher, EHS  
Colby Elliott, Teacher, EHS  
Shawna Postma, Teacher, SHE  
Kent McKee, Teacher, EMS  
Stephanie Bearish, Teacher, EHS  
Paul Guillan, Teacher, EHS  
Christine Collings, Counselor, EHS  
Alicia Laughlin, Counselor, EMS  
Mary Hart, Counselor, EMS  
Patricia Rightmire, Child Care Floater  
Rena Ramos, Bus Driver  
Tressa Saum, Bus Driver

### 8.2 Transfers/Changes

Pam Eschief, EMS Principal

### 8.3 Extra Duty Assignments

### **9.0 Action Items**

No Action Items

### **10.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **10.1 Policy BEAA Electronic Participation in School Board Meetings**

The Board discussed policy BEAA having board members participate in board meetings electronically via phone. There have been challenges with board members calling in and the cell phone coverage dropping. Some members felt this was disruptive to meetings. The board will continue to allow electronic participation, but will look into other technology, such as skype.

### **11.0 BOARD PLANNING**

The next board meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2015

### **12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

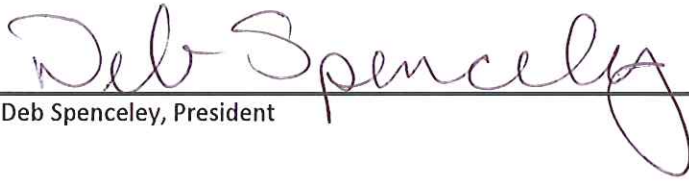
### **13.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The board meeting adjourned at 8:46pm.

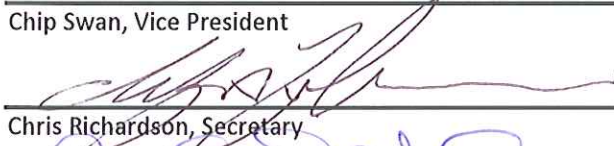
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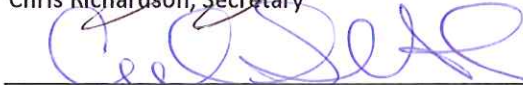
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Respectfully Submitted,

  
Deb Spenceley, President

Chip Swan, Vice President

  
Chris Richardson, Secretary

  
Carol Hinds, Treasurer

*VIDEO CONF - RECORDED "YES" VOTE*

Dee Lindsey, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded by: Michele McCarron