

BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD ROOM, DISTRICT OFFICE MINUTES OF MEETING March 28, 2025 – Special Meeting

A Special Session Board Meeting of the Elizabeth School District was held on March 28, 2025, at the Elizabeth School District Board Room.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER - AUDIO 00:00:32

Director Rhonda Olsen called the BOE Special Meeting to order at 8:02 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL: - AUDIO 00:00:38

The following BOE Directors were present:

Director Michael Calahan - aye

Director David Fletcher – able to join meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Director Rhonda Olsen - aye

Director Mary Powell - aye

Director Jonathan Waller – aye

Also present: Superintendent Dan Snowberger Legal Counsel Julian Ellis, Legal Counsel Laura Ellis, Legal Counsel Chris Murray, Legal Counsel Brad Miller, and Executive Assistant Jaimee Glazebrook

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - AUDIO 00:02:05

Director Rhonda Olsen led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/BLANKET MOTION – AUDIO 00:02:36

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion moved by Director Olsen

Motion seconded by Director Powell

ROLL CALL:

Director Michael Calahan - aye

Director Rhonda Olsen - aye

Director Mary Powell - aye

Director Jonathan Waller - aye

The motion carries 4-0

5.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION - AUDIO 00:03:24

5.1 A motion was made for the Board to move into Executive Session under C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(b) conferences with an attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions regarding the legal case Crookshanks et.al vs. the Elizabeth School District.



Motion seconded by Director Calahan

ROLL CALL:

Director Michael Calahan - aye Director David Fletcher - joined at 8:10 p.m. Director Rhonda Olsen - aye Director Mary Powell - aye Director Jonathan Waller - aye

The motion carries 5-0

Time into Executive Session: 8:10 p.m.

Present in Executive Session are:

Director Michael Calahan

Director David Fletcher

Director Rhonda Olsen

Director Mary Powell

Superintendent Dan Snowberger

Board Clerk Jaimee Glazebrook

Legal Counsel Brad Miller

Legal Counsel Julian Ellis

Legal Counsel Laura Ellis

Legal Counsel Chris Murray

A motion was made for the Board to move out of Executive Session. Motion moved by Director Olsen

Motion seconded by Director Waller

ROLL CALL:

Director Michael Calahan - aye

Director David Fletcher -aye

Director Rhonda Olsen - aye

Director Mary Powell - aye

Director Jonathan Waller - aye

The motion carries 5-0

Time Out of Executive Session: 9:03 p.m.

6.0 ACTION ITEMS- AUDIO 00:09:58

6.1 A motion was made for the board to deny the acceptance of The Bluest Eye, The Kite Runner, The Perks of Being a Wallflower, Nineteen Minutes and Identical all book donated and intended for the high school library. In addition to these books not supporting our adopted curriculum, these books



contain profanity and derogatory terms; sexual activities including sexual assault and battery as well as sexual molestation; inflammatory racial and religious commentary and references, prostitution involving minors and adults; sexual nudity; violence; alcohol and drug use; controversial and political commentary; hate; abortion; and suicide commentary; and suicidal ideations. All of these books are rated as a Four (4) on the Book Looks rating system which indicates Adult Content – not to be read by children under 18.

Motion moved by Director Olsen Motion seconded by Director Calahan

ROLL CALL:

Director Michael Calahan - aye Director David Fletcher -aye Director Rhonda Olsen - aye Director Mary Powell - aye Director Jonathan Waller - aye

The motion carries 5-0

6.2 A motion was made for the board to deny the acceptance of The Hate You Give, Thirteen Reasons Why, Beloved, Looking for Alaska, Speak, Fallout, Glass, Burned, Crank, and Smoke intended for the High School Library. The Hate You Give and Thirteen Reasons Why also intended for the Middle School Library. In addition to these books not being relevant to our curriculum and these books not being age-appropriate material, these books contain inflammatory racial commentary; excessive/frequent profanity; explicit sexual activities; suicidal ideations; profanity and sexual nudity and sexual activies. All of these books are rated as a Three (3) on the Book Looks rating system, which indicates they should be restricted to minors with parental guidance. Motion moved by Director Olsen Motion seconded by Director Waller

ROLL CALL:

Director Michael Calahan - aye Director David Fletcher -aye Director Rhonda Olsen - aye Director Mary Powell - aye Director Jonathan Waller - aye

The motion carries 5-0

6.3 A motion was made for the board to deny the acceptance of George intended for Running Creek Elementary Library. This book not supporting any education content within our elementary curriculum and it is not age appropriate. This book is rated a Two(2) on the Book Looks rating system which indicates that the book has some content may not be appropriate for children under age 13. Motion moved by Director Olsen Motion seconded by Director Waller



ROLL CALL:

Director Michael Calahan - aye Director David Fletcher –aye Director Rhonda Olsen – aye Director Mary Powell – aye Director Jonathan Waller - aye

The motion carries 5-0

6.4 A motion was made for the board to deny the acceptance of Its Your World - If You Don't Like It Change It and You Should See Me In A Crown. Both intended for the middle school library. These books do not support any educational content within our adopted curriculum, additionally, based on the content both of these are meant for students at a higher-grade level. For example if you look at the cover of You Should See Me In a Crown, the book states it is for high school and students going to college. So I question the age appropriateness and the academic value.

Motion moved by Director Olsen

Motion seconded by Director Calahan

ROLL CALL:

Director Michael Calahan - aye Director David Fletcher –aye Director Rhonda Olsen – aye Director Mary Powell – aye Director Jonathan Waller - aye

The motion carries 5-0

6.5 A motion was made for the board to accept #PRIDE: Championing LGBTQ Rights intended for the middle school, with the condition the book not be placed back on the library shelf as its content is not consistent with our curriculum objectives or the educational mission of the district. I propose this book be retained by the Superintendent at this time.

Motion moved by Director Olsen Motion seconded by Director Calahan

ROLL CALL:

Director Michael Calahan - aye Director David Fletcher –aye Director Rhonda Olsen – aye Director Mary Powell – aye Director Jonathan Waller - aye

The motion carries 5-0



6.6 A motion was made for the board to direct council to draft for our review written findings on the rejection and acceptance on the donated books and provide to the board within 48 hours. Motion moved by Director Olsen

Motion seconded by Director Powell

ROLL CALL:

Director Michael Calahan - aye Director David Fletcher –aye Director Rhonda Olsen – aye Director Mary Powell – aye Director Jonathan Waller - aye

The motion carries 5-0

7.0 BOE PLANNING/NEW BUSINESS - AUDIO 00:32:45

7.1 The next Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2025 in the Board Room district offices.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT – AUDIO 00:33:00

The special board meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda Olsen, President

David Fletcher, Vice President

Mary Powell, Secretary

Michael Calahan, Treasurer

Jonathan Waller, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded by: Jaimee Glazebrook