

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 March 10, 2014 (Business Session Meeting)

A Business Session Board Meeting of the Elizabeth School District was held on Monday, March 10, 2014, in the Board Room, District Office.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

The following BOE Directors were present:

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

Also present: Superintendent, Douglas Bissonette
Executive Administrative Assistant/Communication Specialist, Michele McCarron
Human Resources Director, Kin Shuman
Chief Financial Officer, Ron Patera

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

4.0 EDUCATION SHOWCASE

Dr. Wieman presented his concerns on the new Colorado State Graduation Guidelines to our Board of Education. "The Elizabeth's High School Graduation rate today is 93-94%. With these new guidelines some students are going to struggle," stated Dr. Wieman. There are some students that do not demonstrate their competency well through test scores. The new guidelines are looking to include minimum expectations on performance of external tests such as TCAP, PARCC, other State Tests, ACT, and SAT. There will also be minimum expectations on advanced placement and concurrent enrollment college courses. In addition to the attainment of the minimum academic competencies, the local school districts high school graduation requirements must include student demonstrations of 21st Century Skills such as critical thinking and reasoning, information literacy, collaboration, and self-direction to name a few. Dr. Wieman also expressed his concern on the systems and measures for the school's accountability and curriculum for the so-called 21st Century Skills.

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

6.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6.1 Motion to approve the minutes from February 24, 2014 as written.

Motion Moved by Director Richardson
Motion Seconded by Director Swan

ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds- aye
Director Chris Richardson - aye
Director Deb Spenceley - aye
Director Chip Swan - aye
The motion carried 4-0

6.2 Motion to approve the minutes from Special BOE Meeting on February 28, 2014 as written.

Motion Moved by Director Swan
Motion Seconded by Director Hinds

ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds- aye
Director Chris Richardson - aye
Director Deb Spenceley - aye
Director Chip Swan - aye
The motion carried 4-0

7.0 COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 DAC Feedback on DUIP

The District Accountability Committee (DAC) presented feedback to the Board of Education on the District's Unified Improvement Plan. The top three improvement areas were Teacher Turnover, Lack of Funding, and Writing Skills of the students. DAC didn't see that writing for our students was improving. They attributed this to the high rate of teacher turnover indicating that writing is hard to improve when there is consistently new and different teachers teaching writing skills. DAC also attributed the high rate of Teacher Turnover to the lack of funding. The top reason why teachers are leaving Elizabeth is to work for a higher paying school district.

7.2 1338 Council Update

Ms. Regina Montera, Principal at Singing Hills Elementary, provided an update to the Board on the 1338 Council. The purpose of the 1338 Council is to consult with the Board as to the fairness, effectiveness, credibility, and the processes of the Educator Evaluation System (SB191). The evaluation system is to provide feedback, to support professional development, and to provide the opportunity to improve and grow in the education profession. The professional practices rubric is excruciatingly detailed. Each teacher is to be evaluated on over 200 different measures, multiple times during the year. There is also concern on the time constraints of the administrators. Ms. Montera indicated that some administrators have been visiting other school districts, observing classrooms, and discussing their best practices and implementation of the evaluation system. The 1338 Council shall conduct a continuous monitoring of the evaluation system.

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7.3 Draft Job Description for SPED Director

In July of 2014 the Elizabeth School District will start its own Administrative Unit for Special Education. The job description for the Director of SPED position was revised and a draft was presented to the Board. The job description was revised based on the new responsibilities as our own Administrative Unit and also based on the needs of our special students. Some of the addition responsibilities include supervising direct service providers, administer special service programs, formulate SPED policies and procedures, and to maintain a special services plan.

7.4 Human Resources Update

Director of Human Resources, Kin Shuman, updated the board on the Elizabeth Middle School Principal position. The school interview committee recently conducted one round of interviews and will be conducting more in the near future. Mr. Shuman also indicated that he and other administrators will be attending job fairs this March and April to prepare for the hiring season for next school year.

7.5 Chief Financial Officer

Chief Financial Officer, Ron Patera provided the finance report to the board reflecting activity through the end of January or 58.33% of the fiscal year. General fund revenues after allocations are 46.85%, while expenditures and transfers stand at 55.74% expended. Mr. Patera also communicated that in the 2010-2011 school year, a new factor was introduced by the state in the finance formula called the Negative Factor, resulting in a cumulative funding reduction of \$10,563,317 for the Elizabeth School District since that time.

7.6 Superintendent Report

Superintendent Douglas Bissonette's update to the board was focused on the concern of the amount of data collection by the State of Colorado. He expressed his concern on the amount of time and the district resources involved in providing the data required by the state, the sensitive nature of some of the data and the lack of understanding of what is being done with the data. Our schools, as well as others, are overwhelmed with the reporting to CDE; the manpower it takes to file the required reports, the time it takes away from instruction, and the monetary responsibility to the school district.

7.7 Board of Education

The Board of Education continues to express their concerns with state mandates and lack of state funding. Several Board Members went to the Capital and talked to Senators regarding PARCC. Board Members continue to push to delay PARCC until a task force completes its study. Director Chris Richardson submitted an article to the local media regarding the work by the board to push back on state mandates, such as PARCC assessments, and reiterated the need for school boards and administration to control our local educational outcomes. Director Chip Swan testified on behalf of the Elizabeth School District at the House Education Committee on HB 14-1294 which involves data collection on the families and the students that attend Alternative Education Campuses.

8.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Tom Peterson, member of the community, thanked the Board of Education for their position on issues such as Common Core, PARCC, and local control. He asked for the Board's support for the Youth for Christ Program which is an outreach program for high school kids to grow in their faith.

Norm Happel, member of the community, expressed his concern with the degrading facilities specifically calling out the roofs at Singing Hills Elementary and Elizabeth High School, both of which were part of the 3B bond initiative. Mr. Happel stated that these and other challenges "can only be overcome if the community as a whole understands the importance of the issues."

9.0 CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda 9.1 through 9.3 as presented

Motion Moved by Director Swan

Motion Seconded by Director Richardson

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ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds- aye
Director Chris Richardson - aye
Director Deb Spenceley - aye
Director Chip Swan - aye
The motion carried 4-0

9.1 Transfers/Changes

Randa Kelton, Teacher, EHS,
Drenda Herrick, Teacher, EMS

9.2 Terminations/Resignations/Non-Renewals

Harold McIntyre, Custodian, EMS
Dan Hite, System Support, Tech
Megan Johnson, Pre School Teacher, SHE
Cory Zehring, Teacher, EHS

9.3 Substitutes

10.0 ACTION ITEMS

10.1 2nd Reading Class Size Policy

A motion was made to approve 10.1 2nd Reading and Final Approval as presented
Motion Moved by Director Swan
Motion Seconded by Director Richardson

ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds- aye
Director Chris Richardson - aye
Director Deb Spenceley - aye
Director Chip Swan - aye
The motion carried 4-0

A motion was made to amend the agenda to add 11.2 State of the District as a discussion topic
Motion Moved by Director Swan
Motion Seconded by Director Richardson

ROLL CALL:

Director Carol Hinds- aye
Director Chris Richardson - aye
Director Deb Spenceley - aye
Director Chip Swan - aye
The motion carried 4-0

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11.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

11.1 BOE Blog

No Recent Posts

11.2 State of the District

The State of the District document will be used for Community Engagement discussion topics.

12.0 BOARD PLANNING

Next BOE Meeting will be April 14.

Next BOE Meet and Greet will be April 14

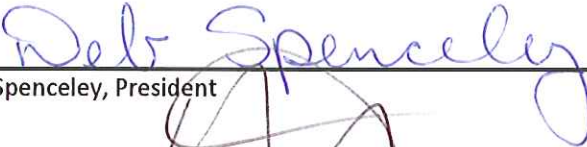
13.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

The board meeting adjourned at 9:07 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