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Mission Statement

Together we are committed to graduating and preparing all children for success in college and careers.

MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
March 12, 2009
Central Administration – Board Room

- 1.00** President Bartha called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
Roll call was taken with the following members present: President Anna Bartha, Director Kent Clawson, Director Dave Martin, and Director Dave Stark present via audio from Germany.
Director Mark Shook was absent with prior notice

2.00 Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

President Bartha welcomed those in attendance and invited them to join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Scout Master Dennis Thuis brought Cub Scouts from Springs Ranch Elementary Pack 225 to lead the pledge.

Kris Levi and Karen Schoewe, teachers from Springs Ranch Elementary had put together a power point presentation that was shown to the Board focusing on educational excellence, putting kids first, building character and being respectful and responsible. Being respectful and responsible at SRES means helping others, following the rules, handing work in on time, asking for help when you need it, follow directions, not bothering others, acknowledging when you have done something wrong and doing your best at all times. SRES is a safe place to learn and play. Music teacher Nancy Ehrhardt and some of SRES choir members sang the Springs Ranch Elementary song for the Board.

3.00 Approval of Agenda

President Bartha requested a motion to approve the agenda.

Director Clawson moved to approve the agenda. Director Martin seconded the motion.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

4.00 Consent Agenda

- 4.01 Approval of February Monthly Financial Update
- 4.02 Approval of Matters Relating to Licensed Personnel
- 4.03 Approval of Matters Relating to Educational Support Personnel
- 4.04 Approval of Matters Relating to Schedule B Personnel
- 4.05 Approval of Minutes for Regular Board of Education Meeting February 12, 2009
- 4.06 Approval of Minutes for Special Board of Education Meeting February 19, 2009
- 4.07 Approval of Minutes for Special Board of Education meeting February 25, 2009
- 4.08 Approval of Minutes for Board of Education Work Session February 25, 2009
- 4.09 Approval of Minutes for Special Board of Education Meeting March 4, 2009

President Bartha requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Director Martin moved to approve the consent agenda. Director Clawson seconded the motion.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

5.00 Board/Superintendent Update

Eric Paugh, Acting Superintendent, read a letter thanking the Board for allowing students to go on the field trip to Washington DC during fall break.

Tom Seitz, District Athletic Director recognized District 49 seniors that have signed Letters of Intent: Falcon High School students: Kevin Johnson – Cross Country/track will attend Cornell, Wes Rickman – Cross Country/track will attend Florida State University, Brianna Dickinson – Softball will attend Doane College in Nebraska and Samantha Walker – Softball will attend Peru State University. Sand Creek High School students: Brittany Doole – Volleyball will attend Colorado State University Pueblo, Jen Bremser – Cross Country will attend the United States Air Force Academy, she is the first District 49 athlete from SCHS to attend, Jeff Cantwell – Football will attend Dana College in Nebraska and Kyleen Babauta – Soccer will attend Winthrop University in South Carolina. Congratulations to all of these students; they can be very proud of their accomplishments.

Evans Elementary School began their journey to becoming the first International Baccalaureate School in the district in February, 2006. Evans is the most diverse school in Falcon School District; serving students from a variety of backgrounds. The staff and administration at Evans researched school reform programs and found that the IB program fit with the school's philosophy, would enhance the current programs already in place, and improve student achievement. The Evans staff, students and parents have been very involved and supportive of the efforts throughout the past three years. Evans recently received formal notification that they are authorized to deliver the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program. Evans is honored to officially be a part of the IB World Community. Evans has a sense of pride for the students who will be receiving a world-class education.

Karen Hobson, District PTA representative reported on the Reflections Program. Our District has three state winners, two gold and one silver; the two Gold winners are now being judged at national level, she will report on how they did in May.

President Bartha talked about the economic times that school districts across the state are going through; this is having a significant impact on education. She thanked the staff and community for their commitment to this district. This district has not cut any teachers positions.

Director Clawson commended the teaching staff in the district for the work that they are doing. He commended Evans Elementary for becoming an International Baccalaureate School.

Director Martin stated that he had visited District 11's Galileo School with their choice program this last week. Our district is always looking at newer and better ways to do things.

6.00 Open Forum

There were no speakers for this open forum.

7.00 Action Items

7.01 Revision of Board of Education Policy IKE – Retention of Students

Erica Mason; Elementary Specialist and Debbie Holt; Secondary Specialist presenting:

The new policy reflects a stronger stance on ensuring students are meeting the Colorado Standards for their grade level and focuses on intervention and placement into the RtI (Response to Intervention) process rather than retention. Retention remains an option on a limited basis.

President Bartha requested a motion to approve agenda item 7.01.

Director Clawson moved to approve the revision to Board of Education Policy IKE – Retention of Students as recommended by the administration. Director Martin seconded the motion.

President Bartha asked if there was any discussion; hearing none she called for a vote.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

7.02 Revision to Board of Education Policy DJB (Purchasing Procedure, Board of Education Policy Regulation DJB-R (Purchasing Procedure Regulation), and Repeal of Board of Education Policy DJC (Petty Cash)

Brett Ridgway, Director of Finance presenting:

Introduction of the Purchasing Card program requires minor modifications to current policies and regulations to address the new program. The modifications include moving the petty cash policy (DJC) into the Purchasing Regulation (DJB-R).

President Bartha requested a motion to approve agenda item 7.02

Director Martin moved to approve the revision to Board of Education Policy DJB (Purchasing Procedure, Board of Education Policy Regulation DJB-R (Purchasing Procedure Regulation), and Repeal of Board of Education Policy DJC (Petty Cash) as recommended by the administration. Director Clawson seconded the motion.

Director Stark asked about the repeal of the petty cash policy and was informed that it is now incorporated into policy DJB.

President Bartha asked if there was any further discussion; hearing none she called for a vote.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

7.03 Revision to Board of Education Policy GBGA Staff Health (and Physical Examination Requirements) and Revision to Board of Education Policy Regulation GBGA-R, Staff Health (Staff Members with HIV/AIDS/Communicable Diseases)

Mark A. McPherson, Executive Director of Human Resources presenting:

Policy GBGA allows the Board to require physical examinations as a condition of employment at District expense and requires all employees with a commercial driver's license to maintain current medical examination at district expense. This formalizes in policy the requirement that is already in place. The regulation adds a requirement for the district to consider the most recent medical information available and the dangers of transmission of a disease to others.

President Bartha requested a motion to approve agenda item 7.03

Director Clawson moved to approve the revision of Falcon School District 49 Board of Education policy GBGA, Staff Health (and Physical Examination Requirements) and Revision to Board of Education Policy Regulation GBGA-R, Staff Health (Staff Members with HIV/AIDS/Communicable Diseases) as amended. Director Martin seconded the motion.

President Bartha asked if there was any discussion; hearing none she called for a vote.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

7.04 Revision to Board of Education Policy GBGB, Staff personal Security and Safety

Mark A. McPherson, Executive Director of Human Resources presenting:
Policy GBGB delineates the scope of responsibilities that are required when there is a potential student/staff safety issue and adds a requirement for the district to consider the most recent medical information available and the dangers of transmission to others.

President Bartha requested a motion to approve agenda item 7.04
Director Martin moved to approve the revision of Falcon School District 49 Board of Education policy GBGB, Staff Personal Security and Safety as amended. Director Clawson seconded the motion.

President Bartha asked if there was any discussion; hearing none she called for a vote.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

7.05 Athletic/Activity Eligibility Procedures

Tom Seitz, Director of Athletics presenting:

The athletic/activity procedures change the eligibility requirement from CHSAA's current standard of no more than one "F" to a D-49 policy of no "F" to remain eligible for all athletics/activities at both the middle and high school level.

President Bartha requested a motion to approve agenda item 7.05
Director Martin moved to approve the eligibility standard for Falcon School District 49 athletics and activities. Director Clawson seconded the motion.

President Bartha asked if there was any discussion; hearing none she called for a vote.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

7.06 District Textbook Adoptions

Dr. John M. Weishaar, Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment presenting:

The following curricular areas are in the process of reviewing textbooks for Board of Education adoption; Social Studies, Foreign Language, Business and Fine Arts to include Music, Drama and Art. Textbook committees have met throughout the school year to evaluate sample materials using the district created textbook evaluation tool. Teachers, administrators and Board of Education members have also reviewed the textbook samples. Cost proposals have been received from the vendors and are currently being evaluated and compared. Textbook selections and cost proposals are attached for Board review.

President Bartha requested a motion to approve agenda item 7.06

Director Martin moved to approve the recommend adoption of the textbooks listed in the attached documents.

President Bartha stated that she has spend many hours reviewing these textbooks and commended the committee staff for the work that they have done in putting this information. She thanked Jodi Fletcher and John Weishaar for heading up this committee. She does have concern with a couple of the textbooks presenting political agenda instead of facts. She would like to see the ninth grade geography textbook, there are some holes in this textbook. She would like to see the textbooks for this grade looked into in more in depth. She will approve Glencove if better textbooks can't be found. It is important for students to read the facts not opinions.

Director Martin withdrew his motion.

Director Martin moved to approve the recommend adoption of the textbooks except the ninth grade geography textbooks listed in the attached documents. Director Clawson seconded the motion.

Dr. Weishaar and Jodi Fletcher gave the Board information regarding these textbooks and let the Board know that discarded textbooks are sold.

The direction from the Board is to bring the information regarding the ninth grade geography textbooks back to the Board for approval.

President Bartha asked if there was any further discussion; hearing none she called for a vote.
Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

7.07 Change in course name from Medical Ethics in Literature to Ethical and Legal Issues in Health Care.

Dr. John Weishaar, Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment presenting:

Two years ago a class was started at Falcon High School called Medical Ethics in Literature. This class was originally in the English Department. The recommendation is to condense this class from a year long class into a semester class, to place under the umbrella of the Academy of Health Sciences and to change the name to Ethical and Legal Issues in Health Care.

President Bartha requested a motion to approve agenda item 7.07

Director Clawson moved to approve the recommend change of the name of the course from Medical Ethics in Literature to Ethical and Legal Issues in Health Care, condense the course to a semester course, and place the course into the Academy of Health Sciences program. Director Martin seconded the motion.

President Bartha asked if there was any discussion; hearing none she called for a vote.
Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

8.00 Informational Items

- 8.01 Finance Department Monthly Update
- 8.02 Human Resources Department Monthly Update
- 8.03 Information Services Department Monthly Update
- 8.04 Learning Services Department Monthly Update
- 8.05 Operations Department Monthly Update
- 8.06 Falcon School District 49 Field Trips
- 8.07 Expulsion/ Suspension Information

9.00 Discussion Items

9.01 Differentiated Graduation Program (Requirements)

Dr. John M. Weishaar, Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment presenting:

The District Curriculum Planning Council has been reviewing various examples of differentiated graduation programs. Additionally, the committee has been reviewing existing graduation requirements currently in place within the district. The differentiated graduation program provides recognition for students who have experienced extended studies in their high school programs.

The principals, District Accountability Advisory Committee and the Curriculum Council reviewed these requirements and gave their comments. One of the biggest questions that came back was issuance of high school credit for middle school students that take high school classes. In checking with the Colorado Department of Education the district has the right to do this. The Higher Education Requirement Board is being contacted at this time to see their recommendation. The IB program and the Career Academies would have their own requirements. All three of the high schools will have an 8 period year starting next year. The rigger will be of the highest quality at each level using state and national standards. Dr. Weishaar is researching the ramification of giving high school credit for classes taken at the middle school level and will bring that information back to the Board.

The direction of the Board is to bring this item back to the Board with the added information. They would also like to see community meetings held before action is taken.

9.02 Evans Elementary IB Name Change

Amber Whetstine, Principal of Evans Elementary presenting:
Evans received formal notice of its International Baccalaureate Authorization in February 2009. In celebration of this achievement and in an effort to highlight Evans as a District 49 Focus School of Choice, Evans is proposing a name change. In accordance with the IBO guidelines the Evans staff, students and School Accountability Committee is proposing to change the school's name to Evans International Elementary School. The Evans PTO has agreed to assist in the funding of a new school name sign which would be hung at the front of the school building near the IB logo. A name change ceremony would include all Evans students, parents, staff, and community members.

Their formal name would be Evans International Elementary School; they will be called Evans International.

The direction from the Board is to proceed with the name change.

Eric Paugh, Acting Superintendent, commended Amber Whetstine and Dustin Horras for their efforts in directing this project.

9.03 Proposal for Elementary Student Fees

Becky Carter, Executive Director of Elementary Education presenting:
Currently, schools charge various fees to cover the cost of items that may be used in the classroom that are not part of the curriculum, for example, planners, projects, and enrichments. Each school lists this fee on the supply sheet each year to be collected at the start of each school year. The proposed fee for elementary schools in the district would be \$20 per student. Each school has prepared an itemized list describing the actual cost of each item(s) so that parents are apprised of what the fees will be used for. This fee does not include the field trip fees.

The Board would like to know the cost of the district providing these items and would like information about the fee for all of the school supplies and materials needed for the class. They would also like the Finance Department to look into vendors bringing in items to the schools to sell packets of school supplies. Bring this back to the Board.

10:00 Open Forum

Carmen Murrow, parent of students at Sand Creek High School, is concerned about the STEM Program. She has reviewed the academic requirement for the high schools and the Boards purpose. The Board mentioned that they want the best for all of our students. The engineering

course at Sand Creek High School is going to be moved to Vista Ridge High School and she is concerned with the direction that the district is going with this move. She is concerned that the course work for engineering at Sand Creek High School is going to be lacking if the program is moved. Sand Creek High School has had the program since 1999 and has about seventeen years of experience with the teachers there. She wants to see the STEM program in all three high schools. At the present time students must give up their home school or their pursuit of this program, they cannot have both.

Stephanie Gillotte, School Liaison Officer for Military Students, she is new in her position and will be working with students in Falcon School District along with other districts in the area. Right now on Ft Carson, 27,000 family members; that number will grow over the next few years. There will be more military students in this district by fall.

Paul McAllister, Banning Lewis Ranch Academy School Board member, would like to thank the Board for the opportunity to discuss their Special Education Program with the administrative staff of Falcon School District. He would like to see this as an action item at the April 9th BOE meeting.

Danielle Undorf did not speak.

Alexandra Eichelberger, parent of students in Falcon School District, is concerned that the district is not including music and art in their focus. She believes that in order to be a well rounded adult the students need to have this included in their curriculum. There needs to be more support for the fine arts programs also; it is a big part of life.

Mary Lougee, teacher and FTEA co-chairperson, thanked the Board and administration for shielding the classroom from budget cuts. Sand Creek High School is losing their Engineering program. One of the things that they used for applying for the IB program was the Project Leads the Way. Ninth, tenth, eleventh, grade students will not have the opportunity to take these engineering programs. Both VRHS and SCHS need to have this program. She is very disappointed in the losing Dr. John Weishaar. She is part of a committee rewriting the Colorado Standards and would like to get on the agenda of a work session to inform the board of these standards.

Elaine Olsen, teacher and FTEA co-chairperson, is concerned about Project Leads the Way leaving Sand Creek High School. The teachers at SCHS want the best performance from their students and would like to see the Board leave the program there. Project Leads the Way was created by teachers at SCHS. She believes that Information Technology is also leaving Falcon High School; they are very disappointed that this program is also going to VRHS. She would like to see these programs stay in their buildings also. There are only so many spaces open for school of choice and if that school is full of designated home school students other students will not be able to choice into the program. She does not like the new internet access; it is very hard to get into and negotiate.

By consensus the Board took a break at 8:20 p.m. coming back into regular session at 8:50 p.m.

11:00 Other Business

- 11.01 Executive Session:** Discussion of individual students where public disclosure would adversely affect the person or persons involved as authorized by section 24-6-402 (4)(h) of the Colorado Revised Statutes - Student Issue

President Bartha requested a motion to go into executive session 11.01.

Director Martin moved to go into executive session for the purpose of discussion of individual students where public disclosure would adversely affect the person or persons involved as authorized by section 24-6-402 (4)(h) of the Colorado Revised Statutes - Student Issue
Director Clawson seconded the motion.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

The Board went into executive session at 8:51 p.m. with the following people present:
President Bartha, Director Clawson, Director Martin, Director Stark, Eric Paugh, Acting Superintendent, Brad Miller BOE legal Counsel, Dr. John Weishaar, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Phil Compton, Director of secondary education, Debbie Holt, Secondary Specialist of Curriculum and Instruction and Loretta Branham recording secretary.

Debbie Holt left the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

The parent and student were invited into the executive session at 8:57 p.m. They left the meeting at 9:15 p.m. and were called back into the meeting at 9:30 p.m. and left the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

President Bartha requested a motion to return to regular session.

Director Clawson moved to return to regular session. Director Martin seconded the motion.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:42 p.m.

- 11.02 Executive Session:** Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators as authorized by section 24-6-402-(4) (e) of the Colorado Revised Statutes and to receive legal advice from our attorney, as authorized by section 24-6-402 (b) of the Colorado Revised Statutes. – Facilities Audit Contract

This item was laid on the table.

- 11.03 Executive Session:** Personnel matters – discussion of matters specific to particular employees, not general personnel policies. Does not include discussion of board members or appointment to the Board as authorized by section 24-6-402 (4)(f) of the Colorado Revised Statutes and to receive legal advice from our attorney, as authorized by section 24-6-402 (4)(b) of the Colorado Revised Statutes. – Principal and Assistant Principal Contracts.

President Bartha requested a motion to go into executive session 11.03.

Director Clawson moved to go into executive session for the purpose discussion of matters specific to particular employees, not general personnel policies. Does not include discussion of board members or appointment to the Board as authorized by section 24-6-402 (4)(f) of the Colorado Revised Statutes and to receive legal advice from our attorney, as authorized by section 24-6-402 (4)(b) of the Colorado Revised Statutes. – Principal and Assistant Principal Contracts
Director Martin seconded the motion.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

The Board went into executive session at 9:43 p.m. with the following people present:
President Bartha, Director Clawson, Director Martin, Director Stark, Eric Paugh, Acting Superintendent, BOE Legal Counsel Brad Miller and Loretta Branham recording secretary.
Becky Carter Director of Elementary Education was invited into the executive session at 9:46

p.m. she left the meeting at 10:13 p.m. Phil Compton was invited into the executive session at 10:16 p.m.

President Bartha requested a motion to return to regular session.

Director Martin moved to return to regular session. Director Clawson seconded the motion.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

The Board returned to regular session at 11:07 p.m.

11.04 Executive Session: regarding the superintendent and acting superintendent for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, as authorized by Section 24-6-402(f)(1) of the Colorado Revised Statutes, determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; develop strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators, as authorized by section 24-6-402(e) and to receive legal advice from our attorney, as authorized by section 24-6-402 (b) of the Colorado Revised Statutes.

President Bartha requested a motion to go into executive session 11.04.

Director Clawson moved that we go into executive session regarding the superintendent and acting superintendent for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, as authorized by Section 24-6-402(f)(1) of the Colorado Revised Statutes, determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; develop strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators, as authorized by section 24-6-402(e) and to receive legal advice from our attorney, as authorized by section 24-6-402 (b) of the Colorado Revised Statutes.

Director Martin seconded the motion.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

The Board went into executive session at 11:09 p.m. with the following people present: President Bartha, Director Clawson, Director Martin, Director Stark, BOE Legal Counsel Brad Miller, and Loretta Branham recording secretary.

Eric Paugh was called into the executive session at 11:48 p.m.

President Bartha requested a motion to return to regular session.

Director Clawson moved to return to regular session. Director Martin seconded the motion.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

The Board returned to regular session at 12:20 a.m.

President Bartha asked if there was any other business.

12.00 Adjournment

President Bartha requested a motion to adjourn.

Director Clawson moved to return to adjourn. Director Martin seconded the motion.

Vote: Bartha, aye; Clawson, aye; Martin, aye; Stark aye. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:22 a.m.

Anna Bartha, Board President

Kent Clawson, Board Secretary