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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  
 February 14, 2013  
 Central Administration Office – Board Room**

- 1.00** President Harold called the Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.  
 Roll Call was taken with the following members present: Mr. Henry Allen Jr., Mrs. Tammy Harold, Mr. Chuck Irons, Mrs. Marie LaVere-Wright, and Mr. Chris Wright.
  
- 2.00** **Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance**  
 President Harold welcomed those in attendance and invited them to join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
  
- 3.00** **Approval of Agenda**  
 President Harold requested a motion to approve the agenda.  
 Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve the agenda. Director Irons seconded the motion.  
  
 President Harold asked if there was any discussion, hearing none she called for a vote.  
 Vote: Mr. Allen, aye; Mrs. Harold, aye; Mr. Irons, aye; Mrs. LaVere-Wright, aye, Mr. Wright aye. Motion carried.
  
- 4.00** **Consent Agenda**

  - 4.01 Approval of January 2013 Monthly Financial Update
  - 4.02 Approval of Matters Relating to Continuing Building Administrative Personnel

**BUILDING ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION  
 2013-2014**

Dustin Horras	Principal	Evans International Elementary School
Michelle Slyter	Assistant Principal	Evans International Elementary School
Marlinde Keck	Principal	Falcon Elementary School
Edward Kulback	Assistant Principal	Falcon Elementary School
Susan Thomas	Principal	Falcon High School
Drew Cleveland	Assistant Principal	Falcon High School
Tony Hinson	Assistant Principal/AD	Falcon High School
Steven Oberg	Assistant Principal	Falcon High School
Erica Mason	CIA Professional Development Administrator	Falcon Zone
Brian Smith	Principal	Falcon Middle School
Greg Pottorff	Assistant Principal	Falcon Middle School (previously approved for a 110/110 for 2013/14)
Amanda Maranville	Assistant Principal	Falcon Middle School
David Knoche	Principal	Falcon Virtual Academy

Jodi Fletcher	Assistant Principal	Falcon Virtual Academy
Greg Moles	Principal	Horizon Middle School
Mary Gohl	Assistant Principal	Horizon Middle School
Jennifer Hagood	Assistant Principal	Horizon Middle School
James Bonavita	iConnect Solutions Manager	iConnect Zone
Jay Hahn	Assistant Director/Manager Of Risk & Expelled Students	iConnect Zone
Aimee' Crespin	Assistant Principal	Meridian Ranch International Elementary School
Pamela Weyer	Principal	Odyssey Elementary School
Rebecca Thompson	Assistant Principal	Odyssey Elementary School
Thomas Wilke	Principal	Patriot Learning Center
Nicole Paxton	Assistant Principal	Patriot Learning Center
Dianne Kingsland	21 <sup>st</sup> Century STEM Coordinator	POWER Zone
Michael Pickering	CIA Professional Development Administrator	POWER Zone
Mark Brown	Principal	Remington Elementary School
Susan Ancell	Assistant Principal	Remington Elementary School
Theresa Ritz	Principal	Ridgeview Elementary School
Marjorie McKeal	Assistant Principal	Ridgeview Elementary School
Ronald Hamilton	Assistant Principal	Sand Creek High School
Autumn Sereno	Assistant Principal	Sand Creek High School
Catherine Tinucci	Principal	Skyview Middle School
Lisa Fillo	Assistant Principal	Skyview Middle School
Deborah Jones	Principal	Springs Ranch Elementary School
Kimberly Mariotti	Assistant Principal	Springs Ranch Elementary School
Kelly Farmer	Assistant Principal	Stetson Elementary School
Bruce Grose	Principal	Vista Ridge High School
Dwight Barnes	Assistant Principal	Vista Ridge High School
Kelly Warren	Principal	Woodmen Hills Elementary School

4.03 Approval of Matters Relating to Continuing Central Office Administrative Personnel

**CENTRAL OFFICE  
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION  
2013-2014**

Paul Andersen	Personnel Director
Donald Begier	Executive Officer for Educational Services
Monica Deines-Henderson	Director of Nutrition Services
Richard Gene Hammond	Director of Transportation
Kathlynn Jackson	Assistant Director of Special Services
Nikki Lester	CTE Director
Sheri Lynn-McGrew	Coordinator of District Assessment
Judith Lynn Mather	CIA Coordinator
Sally McDermott	Human Resources Manager
Martina Meadows	ELD Coordinator
Amber Whetstine	School Improvement Coordinator
Stephanie Wurtz	Public Information Officer

4.04 Approval of Matters Relating to Licensed Personnel

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Wernsman, Joyce Hired as an hourly paid, Title funded Reading Interventionist at Patriot Learning Center effective January 29, 2013. This position will auto-terminate on May 30, 2013 as it is contingent on Title funding.

**RESIGNATIONS:**

McKenna, Jennifer Written resignation from her position as Early Childhood Special Education Teacher at Woodmen Hills Elementary Preschool effective February 14, 2013.

Ringer, Adrienne Written resignation from her position as 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher at Stetson Elementary School effective February 2, 2013.

Tarry, Kathryn Written resignation from her position as hourly paid Title funded Reading Interventionist at Patriot Learning Center effective January 28, 2013.

4.05 Approval of Matters Relating to Educational Support Personnel

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Miller, George New Position that was approved by the Zone Leader, the Chief Business Officer, and Chief Educational Officer. Inner District Courier in Nutrition Services, part time, school year, step 9, 6 hours per day, start date January 29, 2013.

Moukaddam, Karim Existing Position, Administrative Dietitian in Nutrition Services replacing Catherine Juskuv, full time, extended school year, step 1, 8 hours per day, start date February 4, 2013.

Peasley, Karen Existing Position, Nutrition Services Assistant at Banning Lewis Ranch Academy replacing John Bass, part time, school year, step 1, 5 hours per day, start date February 4, 2013.

Yslas, Christopher Existing Position, Bus Driver in Transportation, full time, school year, step 1, 6 hours per day, start date January 28, 2013.

**SUBSTITUTE:**

Ayala, Megan

Bird, Melissa

Carter, Cortney

Christensen, Kayla

Crowe, Brayden

Dressler, Malisia

Substitute, wage range \$7.94 - \$15.30 per hour depending on substitute placement.

**TRANSFERS:**

Abrahamsson, John Transfer from his position as full time Bus Driver at Transportation to an existing position as part time Bus Driver at Transportation, part time, school year, step, 2.5 hours per day, start date January 17, 2013.

White, Belinda Transfer from her position as Nutrition Services Manager at Evan Elementary School to an existing position as Nutrition Services Assistant at Falcon Middle School replacing Debbie West, full time, school year, step 4, 8 hours per day, start date January 30, 2013.

**RESIGNATIONS:**

Carter, Cortney Resignation from her position as Special Education Teacher Assistant at Woodmen Hills Elementary School, effective January 25, 2013.

Finley, Juergen Resignation from his position as Building Custodial Technician at Central Office, effective January 28, 2013.

Rounds, Cherylee Resignation from her position as Special Education Teacher Assistant at Falcon Middle School, effective February 1, 2013.

Stamps, Rose Resignation from her position as Support Substitute effective January 23, 2013.

Swanson, Samuel Resignation from his position as Special Education Teacher Assistant at Sand Creek High School, effective January 25, 2013.

West, Debbie Resignation from her position as Nutrition Services Manager at Falcon Middle School, effective February 1, 2013.

**TERMINATIONS:**

Pollard, Patrick Abandonment from his position as Bus Driver at Transportation effective February 7, 2013.

Sanders, Scott Termination from his position as Rover Building Custodial Technician at Falcon Zone effective January 28, 2013.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Adam, Judith Leave of absence from her position as Health Assistant at Falcon Middle School effective January 28, 2013 through May 3, 2013.

4.06 Approval of Matters Relating to Schedule B Personnel

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Falcon High School (2012-2013)**

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Sport/Activity</u>	<u>Step</u>
Sean Smalley	Assistant Wrestling	1
Mary Ann Wilson	Head Track	15
Josh Hall	Winter Weight Trainer	

**Sand Creek High School (2012-2013)**

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Sport/Activity</u>	<u>Step</u>
Clinton Whitaker	Assistant Track	8

**Vista Ridge High School (2012-2013)**

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Sport/Activity</u>	<u>Step</u>
Melissa Burns	Assistant Track	1
Diane Crunk	Color Guard	
Michelle Seeley	Choreographer	
Gina Green	Music Director	
Matt Amundson	Orchestra Director	
Cindy Halsey	Costume	
Christina Hartje	Music Director	

**RESIGNATIONS:**

Tim Hageman Verbal resignation effective 01/17/2013

4.07 Approval of January 10, 2013 Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes

4.08 Approval of January 23, 2013 Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes

President Harold requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve the consent agenda. Director Irons seconded the motion.

President Harold asked if there was any discussion, hearing none she called for a vote.

Vote: Mr. Allen, aye; Mrs. Harold, aye; Mr. Irons, aye; Mrs. LaVere-Wright, aye, Mr. Wright aye. Motion carried.

Director Wright made a motion amend the agenda to strike items 7.01 and 7.04 from the agenda.

Director Wright stated that item 7.01 had not been reviewed by the Board attorney yet and he would like 7.04 to be held off as an action item until the new CEO is hired so that they can have a voice in that process.

Director Allen seconded the motion.

President Harold asked if there was any discussion.

President Harold stated that she thought item 7.01 was ready to go that it was ready from a legal standpoint and that this plan had been reviewed similar to those of other innovation plans.

Brad Miller stated that he had sent an email on Wednesday that he hadn't reviewed it in case there were any questions. He has now looked it over to the extent that it is in the packet and has a couple of questions, but they are not necessarily legal in nature, one being how the vote was done that had came up in the past.

Director LaVere-Wright received the count from Sean Dorsey, it was forwarded to Brad Miller. She had also had a question about the vote but received the information from Sean; he is in attendance to answer any questions. The vote was staff 35 yes, 24 no and administration 6 yes 0. At this time Brad's view point should be purely legal. This plan has been reviewed by both the Chief Financial Officer and the Acting Chief Education Officer.

The acting CEO and CBO stated that they had no concerns regarding these innovation plans.

Director Wright had no further concerns about the Sand Creek High School Innovation Plan and withdrew his motion.

Director Wright moved to have item 7.04 removed from the agenda and tabled in preparation of the new CEO. Director Allen seconded the motion.

President Harold asked if there was any discussion.

Director LaVere-Wright - when originally talked about the CEO position in August we had talked about wanting the strategic plan done first so we could be clear about what direction the district was headed because that had been an issue in the past with hiring superintendents. Her understanding when this process began was to have a strategic plan in place to make sure that there was an alignment in place to insure a successful hire. She wants to make sure we hire a CEO that has the same vision.

Director Allen - concerned that there are going to be three people running the district and everyone should have a voice in that. The CEO should be allowed to come on board and have a voice along with the COO and CBO. He does not see an issue of waiting until the CEO comes on Board.

Director LaVere-Wright - her concern is that there has not been a clear vision or direction in the past and because there wasn't what the Board wanted and what the superintendent wanted was never in alignment we had multiple hires and fires, there was problems and mismatches of what the Board and admin team wanted. It has cost us in the past by not having everyone on the same page from the beginning. There hasn't been a consistent evaluation process. We need to have a consistent and clear path. We need to have a vision and there is nothing to say that it can't be changed as a person comes on. We need to make it clear what we expect when a new person comes on board. It isn't like they won't have input as they come on board and can't come back with a revision as they tweak the plan. It is hugely important that we have a clear vision of what we want and the strategic plan is the best way to do that. It needs to be brought forth and discussed openly, it is not even something that we can use in the interview process at this time. We want to make sure that the person we hire fits in the district and the vision and strategic plan are a huge part of that.

Director Allen - thought we, as a Board, were going to let the CEO CBO and COO run the district and that the Board was only going to be there for guidance. The Chief Education Officer along with the CBO and COO should be the people doing that; we have already said that the board has too much interference in the running of the district that we have gone past our arena of governance. If the CEO CBO and COO are all on board they should be able to set up the plan, let all three be on board.

Director Wright - thinks we, as a Board, all know where we want to go as a board and in the hiring process we get that opportunity to fine tune all of the questions that we ask so that we can find the right hire that matches our district and then when they come in they look at the strategic plan and work out how that should look and how it should be administered. He does not think there will be a disconnect especially since the Board will be doing the hiring. Thinks that the adaptability of the plan is a given for every single plan. This Board has put in place things so that buyouts will never happen again. We have not had a consistent CEO on board; they have all been an interim. Believes it is a wise idea to hold back instead of having them come into a plan that is already set; that they have to keep and reach it; bring them in and give them the autonomy and take advantage of the expertise they may have to the table of modifying it and changing it.

Director LaVere-Wright – believes that at a minimum the board needs to have a discussion, she does not believe that the entire board has ever had a full discussion about any of these things and disagrees that there is clear direction from the board. This should at least be a discussion item so there is open public discussion so that it becomes very clear to anyone applying where the board stands; we do not have that now. The strategic plan over all was a pretty darn good strategic plan and had twenty-five or thirty peoples career expertise involved in it not one, two or three.

Director Wright – suggested that it be tabled and be put on as a discussion item for next month.

Director LaVere-Wright – how about the work session, not waiting all the way to next month?

President Harold – would like to see it on the work session; she is disappointed that it has gotten to this point. These has been twenty-five or thirty people that have worked very hard to get this done. The board had approved for them to do it and we knew at that time that we were going to be looking for a CEO. At this point she would like to send her apology out to all the people that set in that room for three days and worked on it, that it hasn't moved forward as voted on by the board when we voted to have the training session and to move that forward.

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

Vote: Mr. Allen, aye; Mrs. Harold, aye; Mr. Irons, aye; Mrs. LaVere-Wright, no; Mr. Wright aye. Motion carried.

Direction of the board is to move this to the February work session as a discussion item.

## **5.00 Board Update**

Director Wright will talk about the legislative item later.

Don Begier - Congratulations to the Falcon Middle School girls basketball team. This group of girls has been playing together since sixth grade and they wrapped up their regular season this year undefeated – in all three years they've been together. What an accomplishment for this group of student athletes. Falcon Virtual Academy student Whitney Hatfield has written and published a novel and presented at the recent Galaxy Fest in Colorado Springs. If you're interested, you can check out the book on Amazon.com. Sand Creek senior Kayleen Furrer is a finalist for the

Boettcher Scholarship, a prestigious, merit-based academic scholarship awarded to graduating students in Colorado. She is one of 72 finalists selected from across the state – her application is now under review – as one of the top seniors in Colorado. Stetson Elementary recently joined on as a participant in the Watch DOGS program – which gets dads, brothers, uncles and other male role models involved as volunteers in our building. The turnout and enthusiasm FAR exceeded expectations, with more than 150 interested WatchDOGS – another great example of how important community members are to student success. While watching the big game a few weeks ago, you may have caught our own Superbowl ad, showing off District 49 programs and Choice Enrollment. We lucked out – we have randomized spots running on that station as part of our marketing campaign and one of them happened to fit into that local ad spot during the Superbowl. No – we did not have to pay extra for that air time – but the placement was certainly an added bonus!

President Harold congratulated the Sand Creek High School boys basketball team on their success.

## **6.00 Open Forum**

Peg Mahoney and Bryn Abrahamson, FTEA president and secretary, wished the board members a Happy Valentine's Day and presented them with a gift. Bryn stated that she had read the SCHS Innovation plan and was very impressed with it.

Scott Stanley, parent of students in the district, asked for the attention of all the board members as he read the following statement: Like many in this town, I read the front page article in the latest edition of the New Falcon Herald about members of this board and it made me angry and there are things that need to be said.

First we, the parents and taxpayers of this district, expect board members to be at these meetings. In seven out of the twelve monthly board meetings held last year, Mr. Wright either didn't show up, came late or left early. Important business couldn't get done. In the article, Mr. Wright blamed Ms. Harold for the decision making delays, falsely claiming she has "blocked" decisions and delayed or prevented votes from occurring, but, he knows she can't block an agenda item, yet he deliberately said otherwise in a press interview.

Second, the article makes it clear that Mr. Wright and Mr. Irons have a personal animosity for the president of this board. They have repeatedly tried to get her removed for cause, yet offer no facts to justify her removal. According to the article, they are prepared to spend \$50,000 of our money to pay lawyers to have her removed. Mr. Wright has already spent \$10,000 of our money on getting a significant number of documents retrieved that targeted Ms. Harold. After the money was spent, he never bothered to look at a single page. Mr. Wright, Mr. Irons and Mr. Allen, if our board president has done something so egregious and so offensive that you are demanding her removal, we, her constituents, deserve to know what that is. We're not going to simply just take your word for it that, as you Mr. Wright said in the article, she does a bad job. These public accusations of yours are petty and without substance and you need to specifically explain to us why you want her removed. In the article, a taxpayer in our community rightly said this board is dysfunctional. Mr. Wright, Mr. Irons and Mr. Allen repeatedly put the blame on the two female members of this Board, but any dysfunction is not the fault of either Ms. Harold or Mrs. LaVere-Wright. There's dysfunction with how you three waste our money. I've already spoken about the wasted \$10,000 document dump Mr. Wright requested for nothing and that you three are prepared to waste an additional \$50,000 on litigation to remove our president. But there's more, CORA responses show that last year, Mr. Wright repeatedly signed up for seminars and conferences, making non-refundable hotel reservations and then, just like many of these meetings, he didn't even bother to show up at them. Yet we get stuck with his bills. Understand this, it's not your money, it's our money. Innovation concepts have increased the cost of the

overhead necessary to run a growing and bloated bureaucracy. When are we going to start seeing some metrics on the success of your innovation concepts in District 49? I propose that from tonight forward, during every one of these regular meetings, Mr. Wright, as innovation author, present an innovation-specific accomplishments report since the last meeting. We deserve to hear from you directly how our money is being spent and what the results are.

Third, in the article, Mr. Wright you dismissed the idea that there's a climate of fear among the teachers and staff in this district. In the article, Mr. Wright, you said that any such an idea was merely "a political tactic". How dare you. Those whom you're accusing of making political attacks against you are good and decent people. These teachers, staff and employees are the doers in our community, they keep things running, they teach our kids, they drive them to and from school each day. You may have made the personal decision that our schools shouldn't teach your kids Mr. Wright, but they teach ours. No, the fear and intimidation felt by this district's employees is a reality. Several district employees have told me personally that, if they oppose Mr. Wright's, you agenda, they're afraid you'll have them fired. They shouldn't have to work under those conditions, and we, the parents of this school district will not tolerate that kind of intimidation from one of our board members.

My last point is this, at the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> of January meeting, Henry Allen took it upon himself to personally reprimand those who were left in this room. You chastised them, telling them that you'd had it with certain agitators in the community. You actually accused parents in this district of being on a power trip of some kind. Let me tell you something, I've been a conservative Republican all of my adult life. I believe that government should be limited, and those who are elected to run it, even on a school board, should act like leaders and take their job seriously. It means not intentionally missing important meetings to advance a personal agenda. That means not wasting our money. It means not acting through bullying and intimidation and using the press to levy baseless allegations against a colleague. I spend 28 years in the military as a commissioned officer. During my career, most military leaders I worked with, members of Congress that I testified in front of on the Hill, Ambassadors and foreign leaders that I've briefed, basically, most who were in authority welcomed constructive criticism from me when I gave it. It helped them as decision makers. Real leaders do that, but we seem to have the opposite philosophy with you three. Mr. Allen, if you really do believe that the people who remained in this room last month, past midnight, people who voluntarily chose to sacrifice six hours of their evening to be here when they could have been at home, if you really believe that they were here because of a power trip, you're clueless. Your reprimand to them was insulting and you need to apologize, right now. We were here a month ago, we're here tonight, and we'll continue to show up at these meetings and voice our disapproval and disagreement on some issues not because we feel powerful, but because we feel powerless. If it bothers you that we occasionally dissent, well, that's your problem. In the wake of too many meetings like this, we the parents, employees and taxpayers in this district often leave this room feeling like you three don't have our children's best interests at heart. Instead we feel like you think that it's all about you. Well, I remind you that we hired you. You're responsible to us, not the other way around. We expect to be listened to and we certainly deserve better from you.

Ellen Duckers, grandparent of students in the district, said that she agreed with Mr. Stanley. She has been hearing things, a comment was made that the public is causing the board not to function. She has seen board members not showing up and walking out. She believes that this board is dysfunctional. Our leaders, no matter who they are, should be making the decisions. Let the CEO CBO and COO along with administrators do their job.

Karen Hobson, community member, is disappointed that the board took the strategic plan off the agenda tonight. We spend a lot of money to have the Flippin group come and work with the district on this. For the PTA she reported on the fifteen entries that went to the state completion.



Anthony Guerra received gold for music composition; he is from Falcon Middle School. Alexandra Sinchak received gold in photography; she is from Vista Ridge High School. These two gold winners will continue to be judged at the National PTA level.

Ann Fletcher, parent of students in the district, is also very disappointed in the fact that the strategic plan was removed from the agenda. The board policy that the board is going to vote on; it seems that having five people come together is a lot. It is hard to get all five people together at the same time; consider how that is going to affect policy changes in the future. It is frustrating when people are reading stuff and not listening to you when you speak, it is not polite. It is frustrating to have items taken off the agenda just because a person is not present. The plan from Sand Creek High School is a great one, Sean is a great leader and she is looking forward to seeing what Sean is going to do with this plan. We want to see our kids put first.

Emily McMorran, parent of students in the district, is disappointed that the strategic plan was removed from the agenda. Please approve the innovation plan being presented by Sand Creek High School a lot of people have worked on it for a long time. The Academic Knowledge Bowl, we have all three of our high schools taking part in this. It is a lot of fun for our students and they have a great time visiting with students from other districts. The Knowledge Bowl, February 23 hosted by Vista Ridge High School, it starts at 9:00 a.m.

President Harold stated that the board is looking at the best practices for getting back to speakers. There are legal restraints that are being looked at also.

Director Wright - on the CORA request very simply he had our lawyer go through every single page of that so when he communicated with him and asked him for specific items that may or may not be in there he does not have to go and read it all. When he first came on the board he said he was going to break the backbone of the good old boy system, the slaphappy thing that you could get any kind of job you want just because you know somebody and that is exactly what he has done in the last three and one half years. He is not going to apologize for that. The other piece of the pie is this whole system has been developed by the board over the last three years to insure teachers, principals and parents have the loudest voice inside this process and that means structuring the power and authority of this board into its proper place. Part of that means that all of the leadership of the board including the vice president should be subjected to the confidence of its members. If the president and vice president have the confidence of its members the entire movement moves forward. He certainly will take ownership of having walked out of a couple of meetings because of his complete absolute frustration with the leadership of the board; he is not going to apologize for it. We could have easily had a vocational school and programming in place by now if we had a little more guts and initiative. We could easily been at the phase right now where we could have moved forward on looking at curriculum as parents, teachers and principals and designing that curriculum after their feelings and desires, the desires of the community, not the desires of Washington DC or even of our state capital, so he is not going to apologize for that either, but that is absolutely vital. Sand Creek, as part of their innovation plan actually addresses that and good for them. One other thing, he too is just a lay member of society, of the community here, so he is not a polished politician. When he wants to get things done he does everything he can within his power to get those things done and that means the thoughts and ideas that are behind those. He can honestly say, whether anyone believes it or not, he has never played politics on the board, he has played everything on ideas, if there is a legitimate argument that someone thinks will move something forward then every one of the board members, everyone in this administration, bring it forward, lets hash it out to bring the most efficient and affective ideas forward to change this broken system. It has been failing for sixty years. He has had enough experience inside this education system over the last twenty years

that he has had kids to know that we are not teaching our kids to know how to live free. He is not going to apologize for doing everything he can to change this system; this is what he came on the school board for. Finally after eleven million dollars cut back in administration to push down into the zones and through collaborative meetings with teachers and parents we finally have a system now where you can have committees of parents, teachers and principals where you can actually have what they want their school district to look like not what three or four politicians come up here every three or four years and decide what they want the system to look like. He welcomes the criticism and thoughts even though he totally disagrees with the majority of what Mr. Stanley said. If you go down to D11 and D20 they can get exactly the same work done in fifteen to twenty board meetings, but District 49 has to have forty-seven of them. He is not going to apologize for saying that as a board we could function a whole lot better.

President Harold - the people that sat in the meetings and did the strategic plan were the administrators; she is also disappointed that it did not move forward because we are pushing for things to come forward from any place but the board and that was one topic that did and it is unfortunate that we as a board cannot respect that.

## **7.00 Action Items**

### **7.01 Sand Creek High School Innovation Plan Approval**

Sean Dorsey, Sand Creek Innovation Zone presenting.

The Sand Creek Innovation Zone was charged with creating innovation plans/applications last winter. Through input from all school stakeholders, each building has developed a innovation plan which meets the needs of students, parents, community, and staff.

We believe through implementing innovation plans with fidelity, our students will achieve at higher levels; we will engage the community thoroughly; and we will operate as efficient, effective school teams.

The Sand Creek Innovation Zone requests that the Falcon School District Board of Education approve the innovation application for Sand Creek High School. By approving the innovation application, it is understood that Sand Creek High School will immediately waive out of Board Policy specified in their innovation plan. The Sand Creek High School application will be sent to the Colorado State Board of Education for consideration to become a “School of Innovation” as outlined in the Innovation Act of 2008.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 7.01

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve to adopt Sand Creek High School’s Innovation Plan effective upon approval by the State Board of Education. Director Irons seconded the motion.

This has been a long process, it is a good plan that our staff support. The weavers are very steam lined they are around the calendar and the curriculum.

Mr. Hamilton went over some of the specific curricular items in the plan. The freshman academy, honors programs, IB program, global studies programs, looking at media and math pathway, ninth and tenth grade pathway, and opportunities for dual credits. The weavers focus on authority.

Sean Dorsey thanked the board and the administration for giving them the opportunity to develop this plan.

Director LaVere-Wright - SCHS did a great job with the information in this plan.

Director Wright – agrees that the monetary part should be at the zone level. Dual credit is important and is glad to see it. We are adapting the needs of the children to the market. The fact that the community has a voice in the curriculum is essential.

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

Vote: Mr. Allen, aye; Mrs. Harold, aye; Mr. Irons, aye; Mrs. LaVere-Wright, aye; Mr. Wright aye. Motion carried.

## 7.02 GOAL Transfer Contract Approval

Kim McClelland, iConnect Innovation Leader presenting.

On Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> the district received an Intent to Submit a Transfer Application from GOAL Academy, a 9-12 online charter school currently authorized by the Colorado Charter School Institute. A complete transfer application was submitted on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>.

District staff, including Brett Ridgway, Amber Whetstine, Dave Knoche, Steve Axford, (ELL) and Don Beiger, reviewed sections of the transfer application. Kim McClelland and Denise Mund/Charter School Solutions (“CSS”) reviewed the entire transfer application. All evaluators used the transfer application rubric included in the model transfer application.

On Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>, a team of district staff and CSS staff, led by Kim McClelland, conducted an interview of the applicants. A number of questions and clarifications were discussed. Additionally, at the conclusion of the interview, the applicants were given a list of questions to respond to in writing.

On Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, the DAAC was provided information about the proposed transfer and their feedback was solicited.

On Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> the BOE was presented with a discussion item and an executive summary to consider the approval of the transfer application from GOAL.

The predominant issue in considering the GOAL application to transfer is a history of challenges in demonstrating student academic achievement. However, the school is financially stable, has future plans for expansion and growth, is using student achievement data to influence its curricula and instructional practices, and is addressing the needs of a traditionally underserved student population.

Due to the district’s expertise in online and blended learning and its firm commitment to innovation and public school choice, the district is uniquely capable of establishing a relationship with GOAL Academy leaders in which the school can thrive and be successful.

On November 8, the Board of Education unanimously approved the following motion: “I move to direct our legal counsel and CBO to negotiate with GOAL Academy to develop a charter contract that will be approved by GOAL’s governing Board and then returned to the District’s Board for final approval of both a transfer and a related charter contract to begin July 1, 2013.” In compliance with this motion a contract has been negotiated with GOAL Academy and its Board has approved the contract. Thus, the matter is ready for additional action by the Board of Education.

The District intentionally has adopted NACSA Principles and Standards along with making a series of choices such as the retention of CSS, adoption of a new “model” charter contract and enhancements of all procedures and policies related to charter school authorization. This effort, in part, was to enable the District to broaden its portfolio of choice options. GOAL Academy represents a unique educational and operational approach to serving the needs of disadvantaged students. A choice to approve the authorization of this school is not without some risks, but is consistent with the District’s express interest in serving the needs of all types of learners.

GOAL Academy Snapshot

- School performance rating of “Improvement” for 2010 and 2011. The 2012 rating has not yet been released.
- 13.22% of students qualify for McKinney-Vento (Title X Homeless) funds.
- 57% of students were female and 43% were male
- 71.2% qualify for Free/Reduced Lunch.
- GOAL enrolls secondary students in more than 20 Colorado counties

The actual costs related to authorization of this school would generally be absorbed by the school itself as part of the contractual agreement.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 7.02.

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve the Charter Contract between the District and GOAL Academy. Director Irons seconded the motion.

Director Wright is very excited about the GOAL Academy.

Kim McClelland introduced Kris Enright and Ken Crowell from the GOAL Academy.

President Harold asked about the missing attachments.

Brad Miller replied that they would be finished soon and that the board could either vote on the contract at this time or wait.

President Harold asked if there was any other discussion, hearing none she called for a vote.

Vote: Mr. Allen, aye; Mrs. Harold, aye; Mr. Irons, aye; Mrs. LaVere-Wright, aye; Mr. Wright, aye. Motion carried.

### 7.03 District Accountability Advisory Committee Appointment

Don Begier, Acting Chief Education Officer presenting:

The Falcon School District 49 District Accountability Advisory Committee (DAAC) Bylaws state that the membership of the DAAC will be appointed by or elected through a process created by the Board of Education.

The purpose of the DAAC is to institute an accountability and parental and community Involvement program to define and measure academic and safety quality in the district.

The DAAC must consist of at least three parents of students enrolled in the District’s schools that are not employees or related to employees of the district, one teacher, one school administrator, and one person from the community who is involved in business. Members of the DAAC are appointed to serve for a two year period.

The enclosed membership application includes the name of **one (1)** DAAC member for the 2012-2013 school year for your approval. At a minimum they are required to review the School Improvement Plans, charter school applications, recommend the prioritization of expenditures of school district funds, review district assessments and report on the educational and safety performance of the district.

Recommended DAAC member: Stephanie Wilcox-Meridian Ranch International Elementary School.

DAAC members have already committed to the responsibilities of their charge through state statute and will report out their accomplishments in June, 2013.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 7.03.

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve the appointment of the members of the District Accountability Advisory Committee listed as recommended by the administration. Director Irons seconded the motion.

President Harold thanked the DAAC members for their involvement in the district.

President Harold asked if there was any discussion, hearing none she called for a vote.

Vote: Mr. Allen, aye; Mrs. Harold, aye; Mr. Irons, aye; Mrs. LaVere-Wright, aye; Mr. Wright, aye. Motion carried.

7.04 Strategic Plan Approval – was removed from the agenda.

7.05 E-Rate 2013-2014 Voice Over IP

Kjersti McKee, Procurement and Purchasing Manager presenting.

- Current Trillion contract for Voice Over IP (VoIP) expires June 30, 2013. A new contract is required for VoIP.
- Request for Proposal 2012-800-38 E-Rate 2013-2014 Voice Over IP was posted December 7, 2012. One (1) bid was received January 8, 2013.
- Richard Van Sickle, E-Rate Consultant with ETECHCO, posted a Form 470 in accordance with E-Rate requirements.
- The RFP evaluation committee independently reviewed and scored both volumes of the proposal response. A detailed matrix was completed in accordance with USAC requirements. The evaluation took place January 9, 2013 through January 11, 2013. The committee had a conference call with the successful vendor on January 14, 2013 to confirm services, pricing and contract terms and conditions.
- The FY 2013-2014 USAC deadline for E-Rate is March 14, 2013. An executed contract between Falcon School District and the successful provider is required prior to this deadline.

A committee consisting of Blake Schwank, Colorado Computer Support; Fran Christensen, D49 Finance; Kjersti McKee, D49 Purchasing; and Wayne John, D49 Instructional Technology opened and reviewed the bid. The scores from each evaluator were entered on the E-Rate Bid Assessment Worksheet and averaged to determine the score for the only provider. A copy of the matrix is included in the Board packet.

The provider was reviewed and scored on their responses to the following:

Volume I – Qualifications: 50 point maximum, 35 points minimum to proceed to evaluation of Volume II

- References and Past Performance (15 points)
- Locality and Service Level Agreement (20 points)
- Service and Technical Support (15 points)

Volume II – Proposed Cost and Installation Plan: 50 point maximum

- Proposed Cost (40 points). Per E-Rate this has to be the most heavily weighted factor.
- Installation Plan (10 points)

After reviewing the proposal in depth and based upon the above criteria it is our recommendation to approve Trillion as the provider for the E-Rate 2013-2014 Voice Over IP.

Trillion achieved a score of 90.

Legal counsel has reviewed and agrees with the terms and conditions of this contract.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 7.05.

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve and execute a contract with Trillion in the amount of \$300,492 for the E-Rate 2013-2014 Voice Over IP. Director Irons seconded the motion.

President Harold asked if there was any discussion, hearing none she called for a vote.

Vote: Mr. Allen, aye; Mrs. Harold, aye; Mr. Irons, aye; Mrs. LaVere-Wright, aye; Mr. Wright, aye. Motion carried.

#### 7.06 Organizational Chart Revision

At the January 8, 2013 Board of Education Retreat the Board discussed the Organization Chart, the majority of the Board asked that the revisions be brought to the Board as an action item at the January 23, 2013 BOE meeting. At the January 23, 2013 special BOE meeting action on the organization was tabled.

The potential revisions recommended could better align the chain of command.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 7.06.

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve the Falcon District 49 Organizational Chart as revised. Director Irons seconded the motion.

Brett Ridgway, Chief Business Officer stated that the three chiefs talked about the organizational chart and the version in front of the board is the one that they are comfortable with and they will be working together.

Jack Bay, Chief Operations Officer stated that he had contacted other districts in the area and that safety and security was the responsibility of the educational administrators in their district, and this is the recommendation of the three chiefs.

President Harold asked if there was any discussion, hearing none she called for a vote.

Vote: Mr. Allen, aye; Mrs. Harold, aye; Mr. Irons, aye; Mrs. LaVere-Wright, aye; Mr. Wright, aye. Motion carried.

#### 7.07 Board of Education Policy BDB Revision

Chuck Irons, BOE Secretary presenting.

Three directors of the Board of Education requested a Special Meeting with one purpose being the review of certain Board policies. This group of the Board directed legal counsel to prepare draft revisions of these policies in accordance with certain specific guidelines.

The Board of Education desires to conduct its affairs in a transparent, ethical and responsible manner. The proposed revisions to File BDB as requested by these directors, are oriented around an effort to spread the powers and duties of Board governance to the entire Board. These revisions would require some changes in communication processes and in agenda-setting duties.

If adopted, the revisions to this policy will require that additional lines of communication are created to ensure that these new duties are observed. There may be an impact on the role and responsibilities of the Chief Education Officer/Chief Operations Officer/Chief Business Officer in order to ensure compliance.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 7.07.

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve revisions to Board of Education Policy BDB. Director Irons seconded the motion.

Director LaVere-Wright still has the same objections and concerns about this policy that she had before.

President Harold a concern that she had not thought of before is moving forward some of the officer positions on the board might not be able to attend a meeting during the day if they are full time workers, but it would be hard to have them in the evenings all the time. When you make a policy it is also looking forward and it might be beneficial not to stipulate which people.

Director Irons would concur with Tammy agree that it should be two people involved, can we change it now?

President Harold we can change it, we need to finalize this policy so we don't have to bring it back again.

Director Wright can sign off on that too as long as one of the two was either the president or vice president, so that that way you have consistency in the leadership. At the same time you know that what is happening in those agenda settings you have two people in there so you have transparency and open communication.

President Harold- it could say consult with all board members on planning the agenda.

Director Wright- it should say something to the effect that the president or vice president should be the one attending that meeting, if either of them cannot attend that would open it up for any other board member to attend. That way you will have consistence at the top of the board and it keeps transparency. It allows the leadership that has been chosen by the board to actually lead.

President Harold- part of the issue is as we get closer to an election and you have new officers that you are going to elect, trying to get all those members that are going to be continuing experience in those issues. That is part of the reason why we have had somebody else attend by rotating everybody.

Director Wright -would agree with that too, part of the vice presidents role should be to be generally to begin to understand and schooled on the parliamentary procedures, basic concept and strategies and policies of the entire board that way we can really go into how do we train our board members which is what you are leaning towards. If we are truly going to have a board that is just geared toward policy, our decision as a board should be does it hit policy, yes or no. If it doesn't do we want to change policy what should that policy be and that should be the scope of the board.

Director Irons - say consult with a second board member ok?

Director LaVere-Wright- under number two substitute for vice president it would say consult with a second board member, as Chuck suggested.

Director Wright- does not agree with that because the president and vice president roles, they never have to lead, they are not accountable to the board. They can completely drive their own agenda without the members of the board. He believes that the leadership needs to be together, the president and vice president need to attend those meetings and if either of them can't then a member of the board should be allowed to attend, anyone that is available. He thinks the connection of leadership assures that the president or vice president cannot autonomously on their own run their own agenda, that is the purpose of having that. You don't want to break the

continuity of leadership of the board. If we do something like this he can see exactly what will happen. You are going to get a strong mayor type of personality that is in that presidents role and what they are going to be able to do is hand pick the board members they want at agenda setting with them so that they can do exactly as they want. That is the challenges we have had in the past.

Director Allen- Mr. Vice President we have got to come to the conclusion that we trust each other.

Director Wright- agrees but does not feel we have been able to develop that.

Director Allen- lets work on that, he is asking that the board work on that, let it go forward as director Irons suggested and lets work on that.

Director Wright- if the consensus of the board is to do that he will definitely vote with it.

Director Allen -appreciates that.

Director Wright - but I am telling you that the president's role on this board is too powerful, it has got to be a check and balance. He is concerned that this may not do that.

The direction of the board is to go with consult with a second board member, the Chief Education officer, the Chief Business Officer and the Chief Operations Officer.

President Harold asked if there were any other changes to this.

Director LaVere-Wright withdrew her motion.

Director LaVere-Wright motion approved the amended board policy BDB as discussed. Director Irons seconded the motion.

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

Vote: Mr. Allen, aye; Mrs. Harold, aye; Mr. Irons, aye; Mrs. LaVere-Wright, aye; Mr. Wright aye. Motion carried.

## **8.00 Informational Items**

### **8.01 Information Technology Services Provider**

Beginning with a restructuring of the District in January 2011, in which the Chief Information Officer Position (CIO) was eliminated, the Information Technology support services have morphed from an internally provided service to a completely externally provided service, to a limited re-introduction of internal support operating in concert with the external provider. Our external provider, during this entire time, is Colorado Computer Support (CCS). During this period of change in the provision of services, the District has also had a major change in technology strategy, the choice of platforms on the educational side, and major changes in the connectivity to the internet.

Given the continued change in the Information Technology platform and services, District Administration is recommending to re-contract with CCS, rather than have a complete Request for Proposal (RFP) process to solicit other potential service providers. This recommendation comes from a couple of different reasons: (1) with the IT platform and service design continuing to evolve at a rapid pace, it is virtually impossible to create a valid scope of service outline upon which to base an effective RFP process on; (2) With CCS being the



district's support provider for the past eighteen months, there is significant institutional knowledge that they possess that is vital to the continued evolution of our IT platform and service design; (3) CCS continues to receive rave reviews for the work they do across the District, from all levels of customers within the District, effectively removing any impetus to seek a change in service providers at this time; and (4) CCS has been more than fair to the District, possibly to the point of being unfair to their own organization, by not enacting contractual provisions that would allow them to increase fees due to the massive changes the District has implemented in the last twelve months – specifically the roll-out of the Apple platform, the roll-out of nearly 1,000 MacBook devices, and significant changes to the network infrastructure connected with that change.

All levels of District Administration support this approach to re-contract with CCS rather than pursuing a full RFP at this time. IT support services, as a service-oriented relationship, rather than a physical item relationship (i.e. supplies, equipment, etc.) are not required to be put out for bid according to state statute, mainly for the institutional knowledge component that comes with providing a service rather than a product. Typically, a service-oriented relationship will be put out to bid when either a change in service provider is desired and/or there are concerns about the cost/benefit aspects of a current service provider relationship. With no concerns in either area, District Administration is recommending re-contracting with CCS. It is proposed to re-contract, rather than simply extend the current contract, in order to ensure the composition of the new contract more accurately reflect the current IT platform and likely direction(s) the continued evolution of the IT platform could take in the near future. District Administration intends to have a discussion item on this topic at the February Board of Education work session, followed by a formal contract proposal at the March Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.

Don Begier - this is an information item for the board, it will be a discussion item at a later meeting.

Director LaVere-Wright - our computer support has been very flexible and very fair.

Direction of the board is that this contract be brought forward as an action item at the March BOE meeting.

## 8.02 Student Study Trip Requests

### **Information Item for Falcon School District 49 Board of Education**

#### **Travel Study Trip request: Sand Creek High School**

Colorado All State Choice trip to Denver, Departing 2/7/13 and Returning 2/9/13

1 student will attend this trip. Trip costs include lodging, meals and transportation

The objective of this trip is to perform with the Colorado All –State Choir.

Fundraising will be part of this program.

## 8.03 Suspension/ Expulsion Information

## **9.00 Discussion Items**

### 9.01 Adoption of Board of Education Policy ECAG Unauthorized/Surreptitious Recordings

Paul Andersen, Personnel Director presenting.

Goal is to gain Board of Education approval surrounding a new board policy covering unauthorized and/or surreptitious recordings. Policy to be implemented immediately after the Board has approved as an Action item.

Unauthorized and/or surreptitious recordings of conversations and/or communications detracts and undermines the open communication atmosphere that District 49 strives to attain.

All students, parents, employees or others should feel free to express themselves without fear of

reprisal or retribution brought forth through unauthorized or surreptitious recording or reproduction of their interactions.

By addressing these action items, the Board of Education is approving the necessary actions that allow the District to continue its' function of hiring and other associated personnel activities that impact student achievement.

Requesting that Board of Education Policy ECAG/ECAG-R Unauthorized/Surreptitious Recordings Adoption be moved to an action item at the next Board meeting.

This is protection from both parents, staff and students.

Director Allen - would like this reviewed by the District Attorney's office.

President Harold - this would need to be put in the student hand book if approved.

Director Allen - contact the District Attorney and have him review the policy.

The direction of the Board is to bring this back to the board only after it has been reviewed and approved by the District Attorney.

#### 9.02 Contractual Change for Special Services providers

Paul Andersen, Personnel Director presenting.

The goal is to gain Board of Education approval surrounding a change in the way that special services providers are contracted with Falcon School District 49

Special service providers do not fall into the "Teacher" category by definition. By contracting them as special service providers they are exempted from SB191 Teacher Educator Effectiveness requirements. Special service provider contracts will be reviewed and renewed yearly and presented to the Board of Education for approval.

By addressing these action items, the Board of Education is approving the necessary actions that allow the District to continue its' function of hiring and other associated personnel activities that impact student achievement.

Requesting that the changes to the contractual hiring and renewal of special service providers be moved to an action item at the next Board meeting.

There are a group of special services providers, about 60 employees in the district. We have been using a teacher contract with these providers, teachers have rights that other people in the district do not have. We have been working through SB191 and one of the things that has come to light is the special service providers contracts. This is the recommendation from the hr legal counsel. Special service provider contracts would have an annual contract renewal instead of an automatic renewal contract. We need to move to a different evaluation process for special services providers, the one that is being used at this time is not appropriate for this group of people. It does not affect the pay scale, or the calendar for these people. This is something that districts in the area are working on at this time.

Director LaVere-Wright asked if we giving these people notification of rehire?

Paul Andersen, Personnel Director - we are working on the process and timeline for this to take place at this time. It will be in effect for the 2013-14 school year.

Director LaVere-Wright - is this going to be a zone decision as to the evaluation tool, or is this going to be a district standard?

Paul Andersen - his recommendation will be that the evaluation tool be consistent across the district. The core functions and evaluation process would be standard. The special services department should have say over what the evaluation tool would look like. It is important for consistency. He wants to hear what the questions and concerns are and will address them as they come forward.

The direction of the Board is to bring this forward as an action item at the next BOE meeting.

### 9.03 Discussion of Legislative and Policy Matters

Chuck Irons, BOE Secretary presenting.

The District's historical rapid growth and its recent innovative initiatives have dictated that the District more intentionally track and interact with the State's legislative process. Changes to law and policy related to school finance, school choice, innovation and local control are increasingly dictated by interests from the more densely populated urban school districts. In order for the District to protect the needs of its staff, students and community, it must find resources and avenues to ensure its interests are appropriately represented.

The District should explore various options and means for making sure that it uses the best possible solutions for influencing legislation, communicating the District's needs, and anticipating future changes in the law.

The Board will identify ways to expand its influence using the most fiscally optimal means.

Amount Budgeted: Unknown at this time

Director Irons - for the last two weeks he has been involved in discussions with legislators and school districts in Denver concerning some supposed legislation regarding school finance. We now have a legislature that is, shall we say, on the blue side, and they have introduced in the last two and a half weeks thirty-nine pieces of legislation that are targeted at education. The one that concerns him most is the one Senator Johnston, his revision to the entire mechanism for funding k-12 education in Colorado. The actual bill is not available, he has shared with board members what he has, a position paper. Without Chris Wright's efforts, pulling legislators into the discussion with us we wouldn't be in the position we are at now. As part of the discussion group we have been involved with the last two weeks Mr. Ridgway participated and in fact he was one of the key speakers as far as school finance is concerned. He is recognized as an expert in the state. He asked Brett to comment on what he knows and what he thinks so far.

Brett Ridgway, CFO – speaking to Senator Johnston's legislation, it does bring some concerns to our district. As he has made presentations over the last couple of years he has tried to highlight some of the unique aspects that we have in our district, it continues to be reflected in that we have the second lowest per pupil revenue in the state, and we are getting no assistance for capital needs and things like that. So the perfect storm that we have in terms of how at risk funding applies or doesn't apply to us, how special education needs are a concern of ours, how our assessed evaluation in our district is a problem for us in terms of generating additional funds, all these things are unique in our district. He does think that we do need to try and get that situation better understood at the capital. The proposals from Senator Johnston would only exasperate some of those things. While we might receive some additional funding there are others that will receive much much more additional funding so it would increase what he would call a disparity there. What we can actually affect is unknown, but being silent is probably a bigger risk to us, we need to have some voice and have a way to affect our concerns and also have a way to promote what we have done here in the last few years having the second lowest PPR in the state yet making these positive changes in how the schools are funded and how we are operating in our budgets

and distributing that influence out from central administration perspective now. There is a lot of good opportunity in that as well.

President Harold – the first time when she heard about it and read it, it sounded good but when you look at it, it really is scud, which is what they wanted to do. That web site is the Colorado School Finance Project at [www.cosfp.org](http://www.cosfp.org). There is a lot of good information on there, people can read it and see what it is. If it benefits our district great, if we don't like it because it benefits other districts more than us, she does not know how we fight that. She would like to have a good analysis of it financially. If our opinion is we don't like it because it benefits other people more than us then that is something we can talk about but if it is going to decrease our per pupil funding then that definitely is a different matter, or if it increases our mil because the state tells us we have to. We are local controlled they don't like that they already say that everytime we go out for a tax increase.

Brett Ridgway – that is one of the more ominous pieces in there, the legislature would kind of take over setting mills for all the districts, effectively removing all the local control.

Director Wright – worse than that, let him explain how fun this piece of legislation is. They nominalise the cost for every single child across the board, so they basically will say if you are a child in Colorado this is what you need. Then they compare you with ESL, reduced lunches and all that kind of stuff and say this is the extra money that you are going to need. If your district doesn't meet the mil levy that they think you are suppose to be at they will with hold those funds from you and then if you pass that mil and you have more funds available than they are nominalised across the board they are going to take that and put it in a state run fund and disperse it across the state. So your local taxes for your house and for this district could be in Pueblo or Grand Junction or where ever across the state. It is a complete redistribution of funds, it is absolutely non-free market.

Director LaVere-Wright – when we talk about will it benefit us the whole premise of Lavado was that you were ending up with a disparity because of the way the state was distributing funds and now you are going to basically punish districts like ours yet again because we don't fall into your special category and you are not looking at things like oh the state of Colorado doesn't require, and she realizes that our developers have done some great thing voluntarily for our district, but we are absorbing almost all of the growth in Colorado Springs and we don't have the commercial property to support our schools in terms of a mil levy, so our home owners are getting hit up with a pretty high mil levy. That is why it is so much harder in part to pass a bond here than it is in District 20, they have a large amount of commercial property in D 11 and D 20 that there is a balance there and they can pass a modest mil levy and have a significant impact on their student funding. We can't pass a modest mil levy and have a significant impact because of the way our property taxes are calculated because we are mostly residential. So they are essentially just redefining it in a way that it still leaves disparities and quite frankly they identify at risk in a very narrow category, and she has not completely read this but when you call at risk as free and reduced lunch, sorry that is a very easy thing to say oh these kids are at risk because they are in a lower socioeconomic group, there are other factors that we as educators know affect success that aren't reflected in that funding formula. Rather than you find a way to fund special education how about fully funding the mandate and pay less. These are the thing that as an education community we need to point out to the politicians, if you make a mandate fund that mandate rather than you telling us to figure out how to fund it because that is what creates a have vs. a have not environment causing conflict between various constitute groups in schools. What we need to be doing first in another meeting is to have Brett present to us and our community this is what they are proposing and this is specifically what it means to us.

President Harold asked if it passed today and was informed that this bill has not dropped at this time, it suppose to drop at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow morning. That is not a vote it is just an introduction.

Director Wright –does not know if everyone realizes just how much of a power house D49 has become in the last two years. They actually called us and said I would like to come and talk to you about what is going on at the state level on some of these bills. Owen Hill actually came and said get the best and brightest minds across the state that you can find and get them in here so that we can actually create rebuttals for him. Owen Hill is the minority leader for the Republican Party. We are on a specific committee that is taking that legislation, deciding what needs to be cut out, what needs to be modified and what needs to be set as amendments and that's the influence that D49 has and the influence of these board members at that level. We are actually the chairmen of that committee, but in order for us to keep and sustain that process, that flow of information, what we want to see because we have made such great improvements in the educational arena already and the financial arena, we need to make sure we have somebody there consistently reporting back to us. The interesting thing about this is they are going to tag us with a billion dollar tax and on top of that they are going to come down and tell you you have to have a specific mil levy. When you look at this the district would do very well under the policy if we are concerned about if we are going to get our fair share of it we will, it is possible under the most perfect scenario we could get a thousand dollars per student more. The likely hood that is going to pan out between \$400 and \$600 per student more, so for us is it will work out fantastic. The concept behind that legislation though is now the state can reach down into us. Some of us on the board are frustrated about having to take standardized tests and the inconsistency of that evaluation, the information is so back dated that you can't get it in a timely manner to actually do anything with it and by the way state standardized tests have been proved that they don't do anything for students, in fact the more you test them the worse they get. So that same argument, that same Uncle Sam coming down and telling you what to do is exactly what this legislation is going to do in multiple facets of education. If we are about adapting, if we are about changing, if we are about local control we better have somebody up there, as we do right at the moment, to make this stop, to get our voice, on a consistent basis, to get local control conservative principals are where we want to head and how we want to run our district and the effectiveness of our process across the state.

President Harold – it sounds like there is a twofold issue, the political side of it, the long range political side of it is one and that is something that our community is going to have to tell us if their, and that is a huge part, but the other part is the financial that we need to know the pros and cons for our district as it stands now what we could possibly hope to change to better our standing. Part of the political and financial thing is if they are going to dictate to us we lose local control. She believes that our community does not want to be told what our mil levy is going to be and what their taxes are going to be, they prefer to have a vote in that.

Director LaVere-Wright – we need to have Brett come back and give a more complete analysis because if we are going to get \$500 more per pupil and other districts are getting \$2000 more per pupil we are not any better off the disparity just got bigger, it is not the dollar amount, ' the way we are calculating the state funding formula, that already is not fair and they are going to make it even less fair because they are either unable or unwilling to identify all of the factors that are involved in the complexity of it because the people that are involved in it are not the ones that work with finances every day. We need to have Brett come back and brief the board at the next work session, that would give the board a more complete picture .

President Harold – believes that we need to keep our local control and not have it taken away from us

Brett Ridgway - his endeavor is to be able to advocate for the district and not be focused on the political side of this. We have spent the last two years doing a lot of hard work in organizing our organization in a completely different way, now is the time to reach out and say this is what worked for us.

Director LaVere-Wright - our goal should be to do what is best for our kids; this is what this should be about.

President Harold - we need to be non partisan in dealing with this.

The direction of the Board is to bring an update to the board at the February work session and subsequent board meetings as needed.

**10:00 Other Business**

**11.00 Adjournment**

President Harold requested a motion to adjourn.

Director LaVere-Wright moved to adjourn. Director Irons seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Allen, aye; Mrs. Harold, aye; Mr. Irons, aye; Mrs. LaVere-Wright, aye; Mr. Wright aye. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

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Tammy Harold, Board President

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Chuck Irons, Board Secretary