



10850 East Woodmen Road • Falcon, CO 80831
Tele: 719-495-1100 • Fax: 719-495-8900 • E-mail: d49@d49.org

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

MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
January 26, 2012
Central Administration Office – Board Room

1.00 President Harold called the Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
Roll Call was taken with the following members present: Mrs. Tammy Harold, Mr. Chuck Irons, Mrs. Joan Johnson, and Mrs. Marie LaVere-Wright. Mr. Chris Wright was absent with prior notice.

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

4.00 Open Forum
Peyton Wooden, parent of student in the district, emailed board in September with one reply. She later emailed other administrators; she was able to meet with the Sped Director, and later with the CEO and the zone leader, who were of great help. She understands the district is going to be fined because the district did not spend money on sped that they should have. What are we getting fined for and what is the district going to do to meet the needs of our special needs students.

Michael Riggs, patron of the district, formally employed in the IT department. Saw the IT contract on the agenda tonight. The district still has responsibility of security of both staff and students information and to insure software piracy is not taking place. These responsibilities cannot be given to anyone else. What is the leadership responsibility that the board is still going to have?

Mark Carara, Innovation Leader for the Falcon Zone, introduced Gary Butcher who defended his dissertation last month and is now Dr. Gary Butcher.

The Board thanked Dr. Butcher and thanked him for the work that he does at Falcon High School. He has great respect of the students and staff at Falcon High School.

Dr. Butcher explained to the Board and community the work on his dissertation.

Ellen Ducker, grandparent of students in the district, commended the Board on the work that they are doing. She commented on resignation and withdrawal of resignation of Chris Wright.

Becky Carter, Chief Education Officer, commented on the special education question. There will be a Special Education Advisory Committee meeting February 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. an email has been sent out to parents inviting them to attend. The committee will also include an executive board to work with administrators. At the February 2 meeting a schedule will be set for future meetings. The goal is to have more collaborative things happening with this committee.

Brett Ridgway, Chief Business Officer stated that at this time we do not know if there will be maintenance of effort fine. At this time we are just preparing for this if it would happen. We are planning on the worst case scenario. Maintenance of effort is in a dollar view we are spending the same amount of money in this area as in the past. We have spent money allocated from the state on special education.

Brad Miller, legal counsel of the Board. Commented on the resignation and then the rescinding of resignation by Chris Wright.

First, our main source of authority is the statute that serves effectively as a "bylaw" for the District. Thus, C.R.S. 22-31-129 may be the only source we need to consider. It states: A school director office shall be deemed to be vacant upon the occurrence of any one of the following events prior to the expiration of the term of office ... (c) if the person who was duly elected or appointed submits a written resignation to the board of education *and such resignation has been duly accepted by the board of education.*

The board did not have the opportunity to act on the resignation before it was rescinded. Mr. Chris Wright is still a member of the Board.

5.00 Action Items

5.01 Approval of Professional Service Agreement for IT Support

In January 2011, the Board of Education initiated a major restructuring of the District with several moves that included the elimination of the District's Chief Information Officer position. In the weeks and months following that action, the IT department experienced several resignations that began to erode the experience and institutional knowledge that had existed prior to that time. Compounding that with some hesitation from the Board of Education on their preferred direction for the department created more uncertainty that led to more resignations.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) process was executed late in the spring of 2011, seeking potential outside alternatives for IT services. However, the RFP itself was somewhat vague and led to proposals that were significantly more expensive than what the district had traditionally spent for IT services. In addition, the proposals were inconsistent in terms of the service structure that was being presented. The situation was stabilized by narrowing the focus of the need down to support services and identifying the vendor that had provided the best proposal for that area of need. District representatives entered into negotiations with the vendor, Colorado Computer Support (CCS) with the goal of bringing a proposal to the Board of Education that was cost-neutral and provided a consistent, if not improved, level of support services to the district user group. The proposal was completed and delivered to the Board of Education, which approved the proposal on June 23, 2011 for services beginning July 1, 2011.

The District's satisfaction with CCS has been very high through the first six months of their contract and they have consistently met performance requirements set out in the contract

agreement. As the year has progressed, the stability of the portion of IT services that was retained 'in-house' (Operations) has slowly eroded with additional resignations. During the week of January 3, 2012, the district received resignations from the two senior members of the Operations group. Losing these persons now completely depletes the experience and institutional knowledge of the district's IT environment and brings the District to a key decision point on how to proceed.

The District has three potential options: (1) Re-build the IT Operations Department in-house; (2) seek to expand the relationship with CCS beyond the current IT Support Service provider to include Operations Service; or (3) seek out a new external vendor to provide Operations Services separate from CCS's provision of support services.

Of all the position types within the District, IT positions have a skillset that is in demand in the larger workplace (i.e. private sector), because the IT skillset for education is not dissimilar to other industries. Combining that with the perceived instability of the District's IT department has led to a weak negotiating position when seeking new staff to replace those who have resigned. In order to re-build the department internally, it would require a much larger investment than the District has been able to support in the past. Given current difficulties in funding and the expectation that it will not abate in the near future, expanding the investment in IT services would require the District to reduce spending in another area to compensate. With those factors in mind, rebuilding presents a significant amount of risk to the District.

CCS has, from all accounts and measures performed the support service role they were contracted for very well since the contract inception on July 1, 2011. CCS staff includes several former Falcon School District employees and their experience of the last six months has given them a good amount of familiarity with the District's IT environment. CCS has expertise that can handle operational needs as well. CCS has presented a proposal for assuming the responsibility for IT Operations that will fit within the District's budget limitations and will allow for current internal Operations staff to have an opportunity to join CCS as they increase staff to handle the increased workload that onboarding the Falcon School District operational process will bring.

Introducing another vendor to the situation would bring risk in an unknown quantity that is greater than the potential benefit of competition between outside vendors. In addition, the RFP experience from last spring indicates that the District needs to re-document the IT environment in a way that can be used as a clear basis for future RFP processes. One key component of that documentation is a complete physical inventory of all technology hardware in use in the District. The CCS proposal includes a physical inventory process scheduled for spring break in March 2012. Completing the inventory and documenting the environment will take a substantial amount of time. The timing of the physical inventory, and the documentation process of the IT environment; combined with the timing of the start of a new fiscal year and the need to have IT services secured for an entire fiscal/school year; indicate that it will be best to have an eighteen month agreement with CCS with the intent to go out for a full RFP process in January 2013 for services beginning July 1, 2013.

It is expected that IT Operational Services will be adequately provided by CCS and that current operations staff will have appropriate opportunity to join CCS to effectively continue their individual roles in operations support. It is further expected that the services will be cost-neutral to the current IT environment and that any deviation in cost will be the result of requested changes to the current environment by District Administration as they look for strategic changes to the educational platform in the vein of improving Instructional Technology, and that it will be the responsibility of District Administration to accommodate changes to the cost structure.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 5.01.

Director LaVere-Wright moved I move to approve expanding the scope of services provided by Colorado Computer Support to include IT Operations, as documented in a certain contract to that fact, for a period of eleven months until December 31, 2012; subject to appropriation in the 2012-13 fiscal year budget at a standard monthly rate of \$40,438.33. Director Irons seconded the motion.

The Board had a lengthy discussion regarding the IT operations, a concern is that at this time the district does not know the specific needs in this area and needs time to evaluate the situation.

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

President Harold stated that this has brought to light questions about how we do procurement in the district. The Board direction is for the administration to address issue. Director Joan Johnson is to be involved in this.

The Direction of the board is that Don Begier is to be responsible for monitoring the CCS contract.

- 5.02 Approval to Offer an Early Retirement Incentive (ERI) Program for the 2010-11 Fiscal Year. It is very common for school districts and many Colorado public entities to allow staff who have reached retirement eligibility to retire and pursue a transition year contract that allows them to effectively work one additional school year after retiring. This is an opportunity for the employee to begin receiving retirement benefits at the same time as receiving a 'normal' paycheck from the District. Similarly, many entities offer Early Retirement Incentive Programs to employees to accomplish a portion of the same result, but without having to work an additional year. .

Both programs are also viewed as a reward for persons who have often put many years into their profession and often have put many years into the organization they are retiring from. In addition, this provides the organization an opportunity to plan staff changes better and know ahead of time what the cost impact of those changes will be. If both programs are put in place, an employee could only pursue one or the other – not both. With that, it will be an effective tool for the District and a good benefit to the employees who would like to pursue them.

After hearing this topic as a discussion item at the December 8, 2011 regular board meeting, the board directed the Business Office to poll district personnel to gauge interest in a potential program. The results of that poll returned a pool of 18 interested persons. Projecting out the potential impact of a program for those 18 persons indicates an initial cost of \$362,712 to gain annual savings of \$250,471 – creating a breakeven point at 17.38 months. All figures fall right in line with normal range of an ERI program offering. By absorbing the entire cost in the 2010-11 budget, the annual savings would be recognized right away, in full, in the 2012-13 budget.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 5.02

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve offering an Early Retirement Incentive Program, to PERA-eligible retirees, prior to the end of the 2011-12 fiscal year where the ERI rate would be 40% of an eligible employee's annual base salary – excluding stipends and other payments beyond their basic role with the District, to be paid out of the 2011-12 fiscal year budget. Director Irons seconded the motion.

President Harold stated that employees accepting the Early Retirement Incentive Program will still receive all of their regular benefits i.e. sick leave days, vacation days etc. as if they were just going to retire.

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

5.03 Approval of 2011-12 Fiscal Year Amended Budget

Colorado Revised Statute 22-44-110(5) indicates that “After the adoption of the budget, the board may review and change the budget, with respect to both revenues and expenditures at any time prior to January 31 of the fiscal year for which the budget was adopted.”. This action item is presented to satisfy that legal requirement.

The normal annual cycle of determining State Funding allotments fits with this statute by using the official ‘October Count’ student counts from every school district in the state and using that information to provide a final determination as to what each district’s Total Program Funding will be. For District 49, Total Program Funding is now targeted at . \$87,333,184.14, on a total District pupil count of 14,283.7 SFTE (Student Full Time Equivalents).

While the final funding number is ostensibly the driver for the amended budget process, there is always much that has been learned about the District’s expense structure during the first half of the fiscal year that is also prudent to incorporate into the amended budget.

Amended budget changes have been distilled down into a dozen individual situations. These situations include a revenue adjustment noted previously, small adjustments to other revenue components, and ten changes to expense assumptions and revenue allocations. A significant portion of the expense changes are related to issues recognized in the prior fiscal year (2010-11) that had to be accounted for over the course of two fiscal years.

It is expected that this budget provides an accurate quantification of an operating plan for each component of The District to use as a guide for managing the business for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011. It is also expected that the strategies used to develop this budget will be appropriate to react to any change in assumptions that come as the fiscal year unfolds. This budget projects that fund balance will decrease by \$3.0mm. Much of the decrease is related to carryover issues from 2010-11, (\$1.6mm), other one-time expense increases (\$0.7mm), an investment in the Communications function (\$0.5mm), and net adjustments to district staffing projections (\$0.2mm). The expense projection is intended to be conservative in that while the budget indicates a reduction in fund balance of \$3.0mm, the expectation would be for the fund balance reduction to be less than that. However, even if fund balance was reduced by the full \$3.0mm, the District General Fund would still have a fund balance to revenue ratio (as measured by board policy DAC) of 12.0%, which is higher than the policy prescribed minimum of 10%.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 5.03

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve the Amended District Budget for fiscal year 2011-12 as presented by the Administration. Director Irons seconded the motion.

Director Johnson requested information on procurement and supply purchases are handles in the zones.

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

5.04 Approval of Charter School Amended Budgets

The contracts with the District's Charter Schools require the District Board of Education to take action to approve the charter schools' budgets.

All budgets reflect conservative approaches to revenue generation and expense planning as a result of the expected reductions in funding from the State of Colorado. Since Falcon School District 49, as a whole, relies on State Equalization Funding for approximately 72% of general fund revenue, and since the State has announced a reduction in K-12 funding of \$250mm, Falcon School District, and its Component Units (Charter Schools) have no choice but to recognize a reduction in funding as assigned by the state, and by extension, an equivalent reduction in spending, for the 2011-12 fiscal year.

It is expected that each Charter School budget provides an accurate quantification of an operating plan for each component of The District to use as a guide for managing their businesses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011. It is also expected that the strategies used to develop this budget will be appropriate to react to any change in assumptions that come as the fiscal year unfolds. Finally, we expect to offer a third and final iteration of the budget to the Board and the Constituency in January 2012 that recognizes actual results of key assumptions made in this budget draft relating to student count and other revenue components and establishes new and/or modified strategies for recognizing new revenue assumptions in the projected spending for staffing and implementation costs.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 5.04

Director LaVere-Wright moved approve the 2011-2012 amended budgets of the four District Charter Schools as presented. Director Irons seconded the motion.

Brett Ridgway stated that the amended budget for the charter schools has been presented to each of the charter school boards for approval.

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

5.05 Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for completion of the Falcon Community Builders for Classrooms (FCBC) field at Vista Ridge High School.

Item 5.05 was tabled.

5.06 Revision of Board of Education Policies DAC Continuing Financial Stability, GCQEA-R Guidelines for Employment of Retired Persons, GDQCA-R Educational support Staff Transitional Retirement Plan

DAC – previous presentations and discussion indicated a need to revise this policy to focus on total, or gross, revenue rather than net revenue. Also needs clarification to current organizational structure.

GCQEA-R & CDQCA-R – regulation that established timeline an employee to apply for 110 day transition year employment needs to have a deadline reasonable for both the employee and administration.

Policy changes are recommended to either improve the balance between efficiency and effectiveness, to correct issues that may have unintended consequences depending on interpretations, or to declare a change in operational procedures.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 5.06

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve policy changes policies listed as presented by the Administration. Director Irons seconded the motion.

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

5.07 Sand Creek Innovation Zone Kindergarten Enrollment Age

Currently, policy IHBIB Primary/Preprimary Education states students must be five years of age by September 15 to be eligible for enrollment in any kindergarten program, unless the child is otherwise enrolled in the program pursuant to applicable law. The Sand Creek Innovation Zone is requesting to modify the policy to state, "In the Sand Creek Innovation Zone elementary schools, for the 2012-2013 school year and each year thereafter, a child must be five years of age by August 15 to be eligible for enrollment in any kindergarten program, unless the child is otherwise enrolled in the program pursuant to applicable law."

The leadership of the Sand Creek Innovation Zone believes, with the revision of the above policy, students will possess an increased readiness and maturity when enrolling in kindergarten.

President Harold requested a motion to approve action item 5.07.

Director LaVere-Wright moved to approve the age eligibility for kindergarten in the Sand Creek Innovation Zone be August 15 and direct policy IHBIB be brought back as an action item at the February BOE meeting. Director Irons seconded the motion.

Sean Dorsey gave the rationale; there is a lot of information out there that deals with the maturity of students. Looking at moving kindergarten start date from September 15 to August 15th. This is out of a desire of the Evans International Staff; it is how they feel they can meet the best needs of students.

Dustan Horras stated that when tasked by the Board to do innovation plans, this is an item that was discussed by the staff and research was done in the school regarding the students in their school and the process that is being made. 60% of the students with the later birth date are either behind or have already been retained. They believe that this one month of age really does make a difference for the students.

There are provisions for testing students if parents believe their students are ready for kindergarten; it is called early access to kindergarten. The final decision after looking at the data is that of the principal. It would be a standard process that would be implemented and would have written procedures clearly defined.

The law states that if a child is not eligible for kindergarten they would be eligible for preschool.

They are looking at what is good for kids. They have full day kindergarten for all students this year and it has been great. The goal is to include kids not exclude them.

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

6.00 Information Items

6.01 2010-11 Fiscal Year Audit results

CRS 29-1-603 requires "The governing body of each local government in the state shall cause to be made an annual audit of the financial statements of the local government for each fiscal year.". The District engaged Hoelting & Co., Inc. to perform an annual audit beginning with the 2009-10 fiscal year, on a three year agreement.

Having a consistent auditor establishes a relationship between the District and the auditor where their institutional knowledge of the district's operation can result in a more complete review beyond what is required by Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS).

The audit procedures resulted in an Unqualified Opinion from Hoelting as indicated in the opinion pages of the Consolidated Annual Financial Report presented to the Board of Education in draft form on November 28, 2011, and in final form on January 7, 2012. Brett Ridgway, CBO reviewed information regarding the audit.

Tom Sistare reviewed the audit procedure and findings of Hoelting & Company, Inc. regarding the 2010 – 2011 budget.

The Board thanked Brett and Mr. Sistare for their report.

6.02 Power Zone Unified Improvement Plans

As part of the School Accreditation Process, School Unified Improvement Plans have been developed by school leadership teams with input from the School Accountability Advisory Committees at each school. The plans specifically describe action steps that the schools will take to work toward continuous improvement in Academic Achievement, Academic Growth, Growth Gaps, Post-Secondary Work Force Readiness and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

A Unified Improvement Plan allows schools to focus improvement efforts (time, resources, etc.) to impact student achievement in the areas where the most improvement is needed. The development of the School Unified Improvement Plan is a requirement by the Colorado Department of Education as part of the Accreditation Process.

Elementary Schools

Ridgeview Elementary School –Performance Plan

Stetson Elementary School - Performance Plan

Middle Schools

Skyview Middle School- Performance Plan

High Schools

Vista Ridge High School - Performance Plan

The direction of the Board is that these plans come back to the Board at the February BOE meeting for approval.

A power point was given on the progress of students in the Vista Ridge Power Zone mid year.

The Board would like to see information by segregated groups.

By consensus the Board took a break at 8:36 p.m.

The Board came back in session at 8:58 p.m.

7.00 Discussion Items

- 7.01 Revision of Board of Education Policies GCBA Instructional Staff
Contracts/Compensation/Salary Schedules, GCBA-R Instructional Staff
Contracts/Compensation/Salary Schedules, GBGGA Catastrophic Leave Bank
GCBA & GCBA-R – current practice of awarding experience to new hires did not contemplate situations where salaries had been ‘frozen’ for one or more years. This led to a scenario where it

was better for someone to leave and then come back in new at a later date rather than staying on. This was and is inequitable for continuing staff.

GBGGA – This policy was revised in September, but unfortunately one key word was omitted from the revision that needs to be corrected indicating that sick bank is only for 5 or more full days of *consecutive* absences – not just 5 or more days of absences.

Policy changes are recommended to either improve the balance between efficiency and effectiveness, to correct issues that may have unintended consequences depending on interpretations, or to declare a change in operational procedures.

Brett Ridgway requested that these policies be brought back as a discussion item at the February BOE meeting; there are additional revisions that he would like to suggest.

7.02 Review of Charter Authorization Principles, Policies, and Practices

The district has contracted with the Colorado League of Charter Schools to collaboratively develop the attached Charter Authorization Principles, Policies, and Practices for two primary reasons:

1. The district’s goal is to become a model charter school authorizer in the state and nation. This will position the district to potentially authorize additional charter schools in the future and ensure that the existing charter schools are high-quality schools that serve students well and meet the needs of the district as well as surrounding community. Development of Principles, Policies and Practices around authorizing charter schools is the first step towards becoming a model authorizer.
2. Based on the recommendation from the “1412 Committee” (Charter School and Charter School Authorizer Standards Review Committee), the State Board of Education has adopted into rule the National Association of Charter School Authorizers’ Principles and Standards for Quality Charter School Authorizing. This will give guidance for every Colorado charter school authorizer to work with the NACSA Principles and Standards. By adopting the attached Charter Authorization Principles, Policies, and Practices, the Falcon 49 Board of Education will be taking pro-active step towards compliance with the State Board rules for authorizer standards.

The document has been reviewed and edited by a variety of stakeholders, both internal and external. The document was initially drafted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools, and then reviewed and edited by Kim McClelland with input from Becky Carter. The draft was then circulated among the “Colorado Authorizer Working Group” for input and revision. This group includes representatives from the Colorado Association of School Boards, the Colorado Department of Education, the Charter School Institute, and four other school district authorizers (Denver Public Schools, Colorado Springs District 11, Brighton School District 27J, and Douglas County School District).

After review and input (and any needed modifications), we recommend that the Falcon 49 Board of Education approve the attached Charter Authorization Principles, Policies, and Practices at the February 9th Board Meeting. The document includes the following sections:

- I. **Purpose of Charter Schools** – this includes the statutory rationale for charter schools.
- II. **Mission of the Innovation Zone** -- developed internally to reflect the purpose of the Falcon 49 Innovation Zone.
- III. **Mission for Charter School Authorizing** – developed internally to reflect the purpose of our charter authorizing and provide guidance for our work in this area.

- IV. ***Core Principles of Charter School Authorizing*** – these are the three guiding principles of our work, taken directly from the NACSA Principles and Standards for Quality Charter School Authorizing.
- V. ***Policies*** LBD, LBD-R and LBD-E – these are taken directly from the NACSA Principles and Standards and simply converted into policy language.
- VI. ***Practices*** – these are the specific steps the district will take to fully implement and comply with the policies, which are based on the NACSA standards for quality authorizing. They provide detail including who is responsible for which implementation practices and associated timelines.

The second attachment is simply each of the primary tasks plugged into a calendar that delineates who is responsible for what tasks and when they should happen during the year. The content is identical; the calendar simply provides the “year-at-a-glance” perspective once all of the practices are being implemented.

While we know this document will provide a great deal of structure and guidance for our work in the coming year, we also know it will need some revision when we are actually implementing the practices. We anticipate a full review in December 2012 in an effort to continually improve and refine our practice.

The expected outcome for implementing these Principles, Policies, and Practices is that Falcon 49 will be a leader in the state and country in terms of pro-active quality authorizing. Some of the concrete outcomes that can be expected this year include:

- A well-publicized RFP (request for proposals) and application process designed to attract new high-quality schools to the district.
- A high-quality, thorough, fair application review process.
- A thoughtful performance-based renewal process for any charter schools up for renewal in 2012-13.
- An annual public evaluation report identifying the strengths and challenges of the district’s operating charter schools.
- A strong working relationship with the district’s existing schools due to pro-active communication around expectations and needs.

Kim McClelland is asking the board to approve the revisions to policy LBD, LBD-R and LBD-E at the February BOE meeting.

This is a request asking the board to adopt quality standards for charter school operations and principals and practices for authorizers of charter schools.

There could be a cost associated with adopting this, and Kim is reviewing this with Brett Ridgway.

All new charter schools will have to follow these rules as will the existing charter schools as they renew their contracts.

The direction of the Board is to bring the resolution back to the board along with the policies for approval at the February board meeting.

7.03 Military Charter School Project Update

To support district 49’s diverse and growing student population, the district has been exploring the idea of creating a college preparatory Military Charter School (not a reform school). The District’s intent is to provide a unique and challenging educational opportunity by establishing a

coeducational military charter school. This school would be differentiated from other schools in the district based on its military structured environment mission, academic rigor, and leader and character development embedded in the school's daily activities. Research indicates that these are all attributes typically associated with successful military schools.

The district has been working with consultants to provide expert advice, guidance, and support concerning all aspects of leading and operating a military school to include; vision, mission, organization and operations (academic, military, athletic), establishing and maintaining a military structured environment and honor code, cadet supervision and accountability, code of conduct and discipline, resource management and budgeting, staffing and personnel, cadet life issues and support, cadet leader development and training, extracurricular and curriculum related issues, cadet recruitment and retention, program assessment, and applicable policies and operating procedures. We are ready to transition to the planning phase with community involvement.

The district may be able to accommodate a portion of its students, as well as students from the surrounding community, by operating a Military Charter School. Offering another choice for high school, by providing another quality district high school, has the potential to recapture lost students and draw new students to the district. A military school's curriculum content and daily activities, in and outside the classroom, are rooted in the "whole person" concept – development of the mind, body, and soul or character. Development of the "whole person" is the guiding principle in creating a first class military school. A school operating daily under a disciplined military structured environment may appeal to a portion of our student population, facilitating yet another avenue for student achievement and post secondary readiness.

Over the past nine months, the idea of creating a Military Charter School in District 49 has been explored. This briefing will review previous board guidance and intent, all previous actions during the exploration phase, review the draft vision, discuss key actions to transitioning the project to the planning phase, and present anticipated timelines and milestones. We are seeking an agreement from the board to move forward with the military charter school project by commencing work with our military charter school working committee. Committee members from the district and surrounding community have volunteered to support the effort and are waiting to help provide feedback on the project.

Kim McClelland gave a power point on the review of creation of a Military Charter High School. At this time it would be a day school. They have finished the research regarding military charter high school schools. They have a working draft vision. This would be a college preparatory Military Charter High School. It would have a military structured environment. This would open no earlier than the 2014 school year beginning with grades 9 and 10, adding 11 and 12 in successive years.

Proposed timelines are:

Need to move into the planning stage establish working committee charter (objectives, expectations, scope of work) in January 2012.

Committee research and planning from February – to November 2012

Prepare Request for Proposal – from November 2012 to February 2013.

Board issue a directive to release a Request for Proposal in March of 2013

Review received applications May 2013

The direction of the Board is to move forward working with the Military Charter School Committee and the timeline and report back to the Board periodically.

Vista Ridge High School requests the approval of the following new courses for the school year 2012-13: AP Physics C – Mechanics, AP Physics B, Linear Physics, The Art of Textile/Fiber, The Art of Paper, Basic Athletic Training PE2010 (renamed from Athletic Training PE20120), Athletic Training II, Security +, Technical Writing.

The New Physics Courses: The Science department wanted to increase the opportunities for more rigorous classes. Though research conducted by Sherri Lynn and the PMI/PSI initiative Linear Physics is best placed at the freshman level. By placing it at the freshman level, the majority of the students are simultaneously taking algebra. Dianne Kingsland, Mike Pickering, and Dwight Barnes were also included in the process of developing these courses.

The New Art Courses: The Art department determined there was a need for the addition of the above two courses. Student interest was a driving force behind this recommendation.

The New Athletic Training Courses: The Physical Education department wanted to put a comprehensive plan into place for the athletic training program. Many students have expressed interest in this type of program.

Security+ is a new course that ties directly into our CTE department. This course was developed by Bill Hunt and his department.

The New Technical Writing Course: This course was developed to assist with writing deficiencies observed by the English department.

The direction of the Board is to bring these courses back as an action item at the February board meeting.

7.05 New Course Proposals for Falcon High School

1. Course Proposal-Information Technology Ethics Class for FHS Students
2. Course Proposal-Health Information Technology I Class for FHS Students
3. Course Proposal-Health Information Technology II Class for FHS Students

IT ETHICS Course:

A one-hour class devoted to information technology ethics cannot cover the full scope of ethical issues related to IT. The study of information technology ethics will fill the need to address policies that govern the emerging technologies not only in the classroom but also through all aspects of society as technology becomes even more ubiquitous into the future. All students are exposed (bombarded) daily with information technologies but they lack a forum where they can engage thoughtfully and critically about the safe and ethical use of the technology they are exposed to. For most schools, this is not a top priority. But it's important to address the issues of responsible and ethical use of technology as early as possible. A poll of 47,235 elementary and middle school students conducted by Scholastic Inc. revealed that 48% of students did not consider hacking a crime. An Annenberg Public Policy survey revealed that only 51 percent of parents feel that the internet is a safe place for their children to spend their time. Parents are not trained or prepared to guide their children safely through the unfiltered maze of technology that their children use and are exposed to. Teaching ethical decision making skills at the start of their high school career will help to mitigate the effects of the fast growth of technology crimes. If we wait until the students reach the work place, it will be too late. It is logical for the ethical training to start here, at Falcon High School if we want technology to work for us so we can provide a better environment in the future.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY I Course:

Students will acquire a strong understanding of technology and computer software associated with saving and protecting patient records. Federal and state laws regarding patent records and personal information. Course content will include specific terminology, restrictions, network development, and computer security. The major emphasis of HIT I will be on terminology and both federal and state laws affecting creation, sharing, and storage of EMR (electronic medical records).

Employment of medical records and health information technicians is expected to increase by 20 percent, much faster than the average for all occupations through 2018. Employment growth will result from the increase in the number of medical tests, treatments, and procedures that will be performed. As the population continues to age, the occurrence of health-related problems will increase.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY II Course:

Students will acquire a strong understanding of technology and computer software associated with saving and protecting patient records. Federal and state laws regarding patent records and personal information. Course content will include specific terminology, restrictions, network development, and computer security. The major emphasis of HIT II will be on network security programs and measures affecting creation, sharing, and storage of EMR (electronic medical records).

Employment of medical records and health information technicians is expected to increase by 20 percent, much faster than the average for all occupations through 2018. Employment growth will result from the increase in the number of medical tests, treatments, and procedures that will be performed. As the population continues to age, the occurrence of health-related problems will increase.

*Reduction in the number of students making bad choices on the internet with various forms of social communication that are ever-changing. Also, to help more of our students become more familiar and successful in the area of health care as they start their career in this field.

The direction of the Board is to bring these proposals back to the board as an action item at the February board meeting.

7.06 Board/District Committees Review - By consensus this item is being tabled.

8.00 Other Business

8.01 Executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b & h) for discussion of individual students where public discussion would adversely affect the student involved and to receive legal advice from an attorney. Confidential student matters.

President Harold requested a motion to go into executive session.

Director LaVere-Wright moved that we go into executive session for the purpose Executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b & h) for discussion of individual students where public discussion would adversely affect the student involved and to receive legal advice from an attorney. Confidential student matters. Director Irons seconded the motion.

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

The Board went into executive session at 10:22 p.m. with the following people present: President Harold, Director Irons, President Johnson, Director LaVere-Wright, Director Wright, Becky Carter, Chief Education Officer, Steve Axford, Coordinator of Special Services, Kathlynn Jackson, SPED Specialist, Monty Lammers, CIA Professional Development Administrator for the Falcon Zone, Brad Miller Board Legal Council, and Loretta Branham recording secretary.

President Harold requested a motion to return to regular session.

Director LaVere-Wright moved to return to regular session. Director Irons seconded the motion.

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

The Board returned to regular session at 11:16 p.m.

The Board tabled executive session 8.02 due to the hour.

- 8.02 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. CEO job performance and evaluation.

Director Johnson stated that she would be willing to give input regarding the procurement process for the district. She believes that this should be a district function not a zone function.

Director Johnson would like the board to start looking at the organizational chart.

Director LaVere-Wright stated that there is a need to know what the organizational chart really is and what the functions are, also need to know the flow chart.

President Harold stated that Becky Carter is working on the flow chart information.

9:00 Adjournment

President Harold requested a motion to adjourn.

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 p.m.

Tammy Harold, Board President

Chuck Irons, Board Secretary