

Superintendent's Board Meeting Summary: September 15, 2020

Chair Christina Gwozdz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Action coming out of executive session.

Motion that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent, upon successful negotiations, to execute Construction Manager Risk contracts with JE Dunn for Robert Smalls International Academy and M.B. Kahn for the Battery Creek High School projects as described in RFP #21-002. Board discussion. Amended motion that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent, to enter into negotiations with JE Dunn for Robert Smalls International Academy and M.B. Kahn for the Battery Creek High School projects as described in RFP #21-002 and return to the Board for approvals. Board discussion. Motion approved.

Motion that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to issue an Intent to Award and negotiate the Custodial Service contract with HES Facilities as described in RFP #21-005. Final approval is contingent upon legal review and Board approval. Board discussion. Motion approved.

Motion that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation to terminate the contract with Fuel Education. Board discussion. Motion to postpone this action until tomorrow night until all questions are answered. Board discussion. Motion approved.

Motion to approve the agenda (approved).

Pledge of Allegiance. Moment of silence in honor of the Columbia area teachers and school staff who recently passed from COVID. Statement of media notification.

Points of Celebration

Motion to approve the donation in the amount of \$30,000 from Parker's Fueling the Community (approved). Dr. Rodriguez recognized Parker's for their contribution to the school district and introduced Parker's representative Kate Smith. Ms. Smith virtually presented a check and explained how the Fueling the Community program works.

Public Comment

Community member spoke about how the beginning of the school year has been similar to the eLearning that took place last spring and implored the Board to allow students to return to school. Community member spoke about the Wi-Fi hotspot availability for the African-American community. Community member gave kudos to the district for providing face-to-face learning for special education students and spoke about the K12 Learning Solutions contract. Community member spoke about her two students' different technology issues with eLearning during the first two weeks of school.

Superintendent's Report

CLOC Report – Dr. Rodriguez introduced members of the CLOC committee. CLOC Chair Ted Barber presented the third quarter CLOC report on referendum projects and addressed the Board's questions.

Chair's Report

Board Chair Christina Gwozdz gave an update on the forensic audit stating that a letter of engagement has been executed with Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, who is negotiating the contract. It's anticipated that negotiations should take about 30 days.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the September 1, 2020 Board meeting minutes (approved).

Motion to approve the September 2, 2020 Special Called Executive Session meeting minutes (approved).

Motion to approve the September 3, 2020 Special Called Board meeting minutes (approved).

Committee Reports

Academic Committee Report – Committee Chair Tricia Fidrych presented the revised Academic Committee Scope and addressed each P.E. (P.E.s 1 and 6) under their scope. Ms. Fidrych addressed the Board's questions. Motion that the Academic Committee's current scope of work be revised to the scope of work that focuses on Performance Expectations: PE1, PE6, and other topics as assigned by the Chair or Board. Motion approved.

Finance Committee Report – Committee Chair JoAnn Orischak shared that the Committee met last Thursday. The committee has two meetings left – one in October and November with December open for loose ends. Motion to accept PE 4.5 – Minority and Women Business Enterprise report through June 30, 2020. Board discussion. Chief Financial Services Officer Tonya Crosby addressed the Board's questions. Motion approved.

Motion to accept P.E. 4.7 4th Quarter Financial Report FY 2020 ending June 30, 2020. Board discussion. Ms. Crosby addressed the Board's questions. Motion approved.

Motion to accept the finance committee's recommendation to accept the following proposed Operational Expectations: OE-5 Financial Planning, OE-6 Financial Administration; OE-7 Assets Protection; OE-8 Administration Technology; OE-9 Food and Nutrition Services. Board discussion. Motion to postpone the finance O.E.s until the first reading of the policy manual (approved).

Public Comment

Community member shared concerns with her child's AEA during the pandemic.

Operations Committee Report – Committee Chair David Striebinger presented PE 10.0 – Safety. Motion to accept P.E. 10.0 Safety. Board discussion. Dr. Rodriguez, District Attorney Wendy

Cartledge, and Director of Protective Services Dave Grissom addressed the Board's questions. Motion approved.

Motion to adjourn until the meeting reconvenes tomorrow at 6 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m. (approved).

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