

BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD ROOM, DISTRICT OFFICE MINUTES OF MEETING August 23, 2021 (Working Session)

A Work Session Board Meeting of the Elizabeth School District was held on Monday, August 23, 2021, in the Board Room, District Office. Director Karcher joing the meeting remotely via Zoom.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Carol Hinds called the Work Session BOE Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL:

The following BOE Directors were present: Director Paul Benkendorf Director Kim Frumveller Director Carol Hinds Director Cary Karcher

Also present: Superintendent Douglas Bissonette, Chief Finance Director Ron Patera, Executive Assistant Kristen Harris, SHE Principal Regina Montera, SHE Teacher Tiffany Khoury, RCE Principal Robin Hunt, RCE Teacher Amy McWhorter, RCE Teacher Stephanie Thomas, EMS Principal Brett Michel, EMS Teacher Kim Hicks, Internship Coordinator Leanne Cook, EHS Counselor Casey Waters, EHS Teacher John Loutzenheiser, EHS Teacher Ashley Pollard, EHS Principal Bret McClendon, Community Member David Eddy.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Carol Hinds led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/BLANKET MOTION

A motion was made to approve the agenda. Motion Moved by Director Frumveller Motion Seconded by Director Benkendorf

ROLL CALL:

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye Director Kim Frumveller - aye Director Carol Hinds - aye Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 4-0

5.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 A motion was made to approve the minutes from the August 9, 2021, Elizabeth Schools Board of Education meeting.

Motion Moved by Director Benkendorf Motion Seconded by Director Karcher

ROLL CALL:

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye



Director Kim Frumveller - aye Director Carol Hinds - aye Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 4-0

6.0 EDUCATION SHOWCASE

No Education Showcase

7.0 COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 Superintendent Update

Superintendent Bissonette shared an update on covid safety, acknowledging the district does not require masks in the schools or at schools events, such as this board meeting. What the district has been focused on to ensure safety is air quality of the schools and events. For the board meeting the room has multiple HEPA air purifiers, the air system has Merve 13 filters and the windows were opened to ensure outside air flow. In addition CO2 levels are being monitor via a phone app that will allow us to determine if CO2 levels are getting too high. HEPA air purifiers do not reduce CO2 levels, however, they are important to the circulation of outside air in the room.

Back to school has begun for students, all things are moving along quit well. There has been an acceptance toward the district protocals, students seem to be happier and more engaged. The school buildings look fantastic both inside and outside, the staff have taken expectional pride in their rooms. Typical challenges are being managed accordingly, there is a high anticipation for a good school year.

Chief Financial Officer Ron Patera shared an update on the Food Services MOU with Legacy Academy, the MOU has been signed and is presented on the agenda for approval this evening. Secondly, the contract for the Modular Unit at EHS is on the agenda for approval. The district will be using a third party consultant who is familiar with implementating modular units on school campuses and is familiar with the permts required. This unit will be used for the C.N.A. program at the high school. Lastly, the districts buses (roughly a third of the fleet) are over 20 years old, over inspection it was determined the buses wear and tear is beyond repair. The district began to look into options to replace these vehicles, such as renting buses from districts who may not be utilizing their full fleet. Another option is looking at purchasing used buses, however, when used vehicles are purchased you inherit the previous owners problems. Purchasing new buses has a turnaround of 3-5 months, each bus being roughly \$100,000 / bus. The budget approved in June, we anticipated having roughly \$3.7 million in reserves. Ron was requesting permission from the board to explore the option of purchasing new buses and modifying the budget. This request would not push any capital projects aside, those will all continue to move forward.

7.2 Homegrown Talent Initiative - Team Update

Superintendent Bissonette provided an introduction to the HTI team update. The board has been continusly updated on the status of HTI and some of the larger projects completed. This is an opportunity for staff and those in the schools implementing these efforts to showcase their work and allow the board to ask questions. This will be an informal update for the board, no powerpoints, some handouts, but really an opportunity to engage with the staff and see their accomplishments.

Singing Hills Elementary (SHE)

Principal Regina Montera and Teacher Tiffany Khoury shared an update on SHE's integration of the graduate profile within their classrooms. Principal Montera compiled a committee of staff to come together to look at the graduate profile competencies and identify how they could be incorporated into the existing programs, teachings and activites at SHE. Ms. Khoury took the notes and discussion topics from that meeting and compiled an agenda for the 21-22 school year, correlating each competency to a month of the school year. Using the 7 Habbits of Happy Kids



and PAWS programs they identified which graduate profiles would associate to each program, in addition to identifying classroom ideas, school wide activites and weekly morning meeting suggestions.

Running Creek Elementary (RCE)

Principal Robin Hunt, Teacher Stephanie Thomas and Teacher Amy McWhorter shared an update on RCE's integration of the graduate profile within their classrooms. RCE is using their Leader In Me (LIM) program and its habits to align the graduate profile and its competencies. In chart format (making it easier to read) Ms. Thomas and Ms. McWhorter outlined the LIM Habit, LIM Habit snapshot, Profile of a Graduate and LIM Descriptor to align the competencies. When the teachers in the school begin talking about LIM, they will associate the graduate profile competencies and start to use the verbiage so students can begin to understand the terms. They will supplement the teaching with a specific list of books that will associate to each of the competencies.

Elizabeth Middle School (EMS)

Principal Brett Michel and Teacher Kim Hicks said the middle school approach is to use the graduate-profile competencies to help students explore their passions. As students move to middle school, they gain many more options for elective courses, clubs and athletics. The middle school's HTl team plans to test a wide array of tools and resources, gather data from the classes where they used them and, for those that perform well, make them available to the full staff. As they continue to develop lessons and resources, student feedback will be crucial, especially as their work translates to high school connections. Michel said he is excited to connect with local professionals and bring in high school interns to speak with eighth graders to help with that progression.

Elizabeth High School (EHS)

The competencies of the graduate profile become fully realized as high school students participate in internships and other career learning opportunities. At EHS, there are currently 66 students taking literature courses for college credit via concurrent enrollment taught by Elizabeth teachers. Ten students are taking a business class at EHS, and 14 students are taking community college classes online or on the Arapahoe Community College campus in art, literature, psychology and math. Several students are receiving workforce opportunities as well, 25 of them – the biggest group – in welding and automotive. Meanwhile other students are taking classes in which they can receive official certification for Adobe software usage, cybersecurity and certified nursing assistant training.

Students gain skills that could land them employment right out of high school. Students who take concurrent enrollment classes in composition and literature at EHS could start college with as many as 12 credits – a full semester's worth – thanks to partnerships with ACC. Likewise, certain business classes offered here are tailored to have the same curriculum, quizzes and tests as what first-year students at Metro State University receive on campus. All of that work feeds into the idea of giving EHS students the opportunities to choose specific career pathways to prepare them for life after high school. Pathways provide defined lists and groupings of classes that can best set students up for success whether they choose pathways that offer direct employment after graduation or pathways that require further training in college. EHS principal Bret McClendon told the board that the school's new Certifed Nursing Assistant training program will launch at the beginning of the second semester. Interviews for a program director are set to begin soon, and a standalone modular building will be placed on the grounds of EHS later this fall.

The final report to the board regarding HTI came from Kristen Harris, project coordinator for HTI. She asked them – and the community – to mark their calendar for 5-7 p.m., Sept. 30, when the HTI Open House will take place at the high school.

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made to approve Consent Agenda items 8.1-8.3. Motion Moved by Director Benkendorf Motion Seconded by Director Frumveller

ROLL CALL:



Director Paul Benkendorf - aye Director Kim Frumveller - aye Director Carol Hinds - aye Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 4-0

8.1 New Hires

Dani Budroe, School Counselor, EMS Rachel Reyes, Sped Para, RCE Craig Kemper, Teacher, EMS Erin Rhoades, Sped Para, RCE

8.2 Employment Separations

Lois Noe, Bus Driver, Transporation Heather Hickman, Bus Paraprofessional, Transportation

8.3 Extra Duty Assignments

Kindal Wolfe, Assistant Volleyball Coach, EHS Tracy Wait, Head Volleyball Coach, EHS Kevin Lacy, Assistant Volleyball Coach, EHS Thomas Sullivan, Assistant Golf Coach, EHS

9.0 ACTION ITEMS

9.1 A motion was made to approve the Food Services MOU with Legacy Academy. Motion Moved by Director Frumveller Motion Seconded by Director Benkendorf

ROLL CALL:

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye Director Kim Frumveller - aye Director Carol Hinds - aye Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 4-0

9.2 A motion was made to approve the Agreement for Modular Consultant Services. Motion Moved by Director Frumveller Motion Seconded by Director Karcher

ROLL CALL:

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye Director Kim Frumveller - aye Director Carol Hinds - aye Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 4-0

9.3 A motion was made to approve the Resolution to Declare Board Vacancy. Motion Moved by Director Benkendorf



Motion Seconded by Director Frumveller

ROLL CALL:

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye Director Kim Frumveller - aye Director Carol Hinds - aye Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 4-0

10.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

No Discussion Items

11.0 BOE PLANNING

11.1 Special Meeting for Ballot Order scheduled for Monday, August 30, 2021 at 6 p.m.

11.2 Notice of Board Vacancy and Plan for Appointment to Board. Notice of Board Vacancy will run in the local newspapers and be posted on the district website. In addition, an email blast will be sent to all parents. All candidates interested in filling the vacancy must submit their intent by September 24th at 4PM. A special board meeting will be held on October 4th at 6 p.m. to interview the candidates. A vote for candiates will be held at the next scheduled BOE meeting on October 11th at 6 p.m.

11.3 The next regular Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 13, 2021 at 6 p.m.

12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The regular board meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Hinds, President

Paul Benkendorf, Secretary

Kim Frumveller, Treasurer

Recorded by: Kristen Harris

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