



**MINUTES
CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL BOARD #401
BOARD ROOM #217 – CASTLE ROCK MIDDLE SCHOOL
JANUARY 13, 2009 – 5:30 P.M.**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Castle Rock School District was held on Tuesday, January 13, 2009, in room 217 at the middle school. Board chair Gayle Baker declared the Board in session at 5:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Gayle Baker, Vilas Sundberg, Glen Paget, Bill Schumacher

Absent: None

APPROVAL and/or REVISION OF AGENDA

Susan Barker advised the Board that she would bring a few issues under the Superintendent's report. Jenny Risner will bring two requests to the action agenda on behalf of Henry Karnofski, who could not be present at the meeting.

William Schumacher moved to approve the agenda as revised; the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC INTERVIEW OF SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

Two candidates were present, Donald Iddings of Vader, and Harold Erdelbrock of Castle Rock. Both live within the boundaries of Director District 2.

The candidates reviewed their background and experience, and answered questions about issues and conflicts common to school boards. Each was asked to explain why he desired to serve on the Board, his view of Board responsibilities, and what qualities and characteristics he would bring that render him best able to serve and enhance the work of the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

After the public interview period,

Vilas Sundberg moved to adjourn to executive session for 10 minutes to deliberate, and to return to general session to appoint the new Board member. Bill Schumacher seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board retired to executive session at 6:10 pm.

Vilas Sundberg moved to end the executive session at 6:20 pm; Glen Paget seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The general meeting resumed at 6:20 pm.

ACTION ITEMS

- Appointment of Board position #2: Board Chair Gayle Baker acknowledged the qualifications of both candidates.

Glen Paget nominated Harold Erdelbrock to represent director district area #2. A roll call vote was held on the appointment. Members voted:

Vilas Sundberg: yes
William Sundberg: yes
Glen Paget: yes
Gayle Baker: yes

The vote being unanimous, Harold Erdelbrock was appointed to board seat #2 to complete the term vacated prior to the dissolution and absorption of Vader School District that resulted in the restructure of Castle Rock School District.

Susan Barker administered the oath of office to Mr. Erdelbrock, who was then seated for the remainder of the meeting. Gayle Baker thanked Mr. Iddings for his interest in serving on the Board, and invited him to continue to attend meetings and remain involved in helping to shape the direction of Castle Rock School District.

Susan then recognized the advisory capacity of Kari Rigsbee and Al Gulliford, and thanked them for their service to the district. Each Board member thanked Kari and Al individually as they retired from the Board.

- Approval of high school boys' basketball alumni game fundraiser: Jenny explained the fundraiser is requested as a makeup for games canceled due to inclement weather, and requires approval by the Board as it is supplemental to the original program budget. The game would be held February 7; estimated profit \$500.00.

Vilas Sundberg moved, and Bill Schumacher seconded his motion to approve the high school boys' basketball fundraiser game on February 7, 2009. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of overnight trip to Spokane February 12-16 for one high school all-state choir participant and chaperone Clarence Knutson, choir director;

And an overnight trip for the high school wrestling team to Dream Duals invitational in Spokane, leaving January 23. Twenty students would miss one day of school; end of term testing would need to be done before the trip. Same management and supervisory plan can be followed as prepared for the canceled Seaside Invitational trip.

Vilas Sundberg moved that providing Principal Risner is satisfied with the supervisory plan prepared by the wrestling coach, all student wrestlers who have completed school work before the wrestling trip may attend Dream Duals in Spokane January 23; and that one all-state choir qualifying student and chaperone Clarence Knutson may attend the all-state choir event February 12-16. William Schumacher seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the December 23, 2008 meeting of the Board.

Vilas Sundberg moved to approve minutes of the December 23, 2008 meeting of the Board as written. Glen Paget seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

None.

REPORTS

- Building Reports:
 - Elementary School – Julie Davidson
 - Teachers, para-educators, kitchen crew, bus drivers– all staff stepped up to the meet the needs of students during urgent conditions related to weather in the past month.
 - During flooding alert, every student in the district was to a home-designated safe place by 2 pm. Kudos to staff.
 - Active effort continues to study other district models in Response to Intervention, looking for ways to improve; close to setting a date for visitation.
 - Elementary semester will end January 30.
 - Middle School – Tiffaney Golden
 - 46 boys turned out for basketball, cut to 34. Three teams.
 - Knowledge Bowl starting; meets begin in February.
 - Two ASB officers addressed the Board to request a spring dress-up dance for 7th and 8th grade students.
 - To earn the dance, students will prepare a rubric to keep building areas clean; and lower the student ISS rate.
 - Date requested in March. Board suggested it may consider if date pushed back to April after spring break; now is time to begin collecting ISS data.
 - Board called for a copy of the letter that will be sent to parents informing parents of the planned dance, dress code, plans for securing the event, and a tentative date; and the rubric to be used for tracking student behavior to earn the dance. These are to be presented to the Board January 27, coinciding with beginning of the new semester.
 - High School – Jenny Risner
 - Parking lot flooded; student drivers' cars first moved, then students sent home. All parents were called.
 - End of semester this week. Staff voted to leave semester end as scheduled in spite of weather-related closure, in order to lessen student anxieties and logistics problems.
 - Current challenge is developing an alternative plan for seniors to ensure completion and graduation on schedule. Jenny will discuss with senior students to come up with a plan.
 - If Governor declares a state of emergency, attendance on flood day(s) may be waived. Snow days must be made up.
 - Susan Barker clarified cancelation of additional day of school; decision made not to endanger students on advice of county emergency management, impassible state of several roads, and knowledge waiver could be obtained for student attendance.
 - Waiver would be for students only; staff will be required to work contracted days; may need to attend beyond June 17.

- Summer reading program proposal – Sue Strickland
 - Next summer program will be for incoming 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th grades.
 - Administration’s recommendation is to again place a paraeducator in the library one evening each week during summer; cost covered by Title V funding.
 - Board is in agreement to the proposed plan.
- Superintendent’s Report – Susan Barker
 - Post-flood briefing:
 - No damage to any of our buildings or facilities.
 - Parking lot at district office plowed on one heavy snow day.
 - Henry Karnofski and Larry Norman did outstanding work to make sure all operations were taken care of, as well as contingency planning.
 - School year calendar has been revised to make up lost school days.
 - Calendar for school year 2009-2010:
 - Hope to have calendar ready before spring break.
 - Moving start date back into August would be problematic to year-end reporting and fiscal issues.
 - Emergency expulsion hearings:
 - Susan reported decision to hold hearings with families of emergency expelled middle school students recently to avoid students continuing out of school until they could come to the Board.
 - Each student had a hearing; re-entry and behavior improvement plan developed for each.
 - Reorganization of district office:
 - Adjustments being made to staff workspace before new Superintendent arrives to accommodate needed changes and prepare space for him or her.
 - Enrollment:
 - Better than anticipated for January; number is still over budgeted FTE.
 - However, number of Special Education students is rising rapidly; now at 216, the highest count ever. Funding only covers 12.7% of total enrollment.
 - Budget:
 - State deficit continues to grow, another billion projected; cuts will be deeper than previously anticipated.
 - District budget cuts next year could be in \$300-700,000 range; there will be major hiring impact. Other hard decisions will need to be made.
 - Budget issues remain at the forefront; all expenditures being reviewed
 - Students and Wednesday Senior Center luncheons:
 - Susan will bring information to next Board meeting about costs of students attending lunches at Senior Center.
 - Commendation:
 - Susan read a letter she had written recognizing and commending Erin Thompson for acting quickly in an emergency to save the life of a co-worker.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Al Gulliford thanked the Board for opportunity to serve and learn during the past year.

CONSENT AGENDA

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Gayle Baker adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Gayle Baker, Board Chair

Susan Barker, Interim Superintendent
Secretary