

Minutes – August 26, 2014

STUDY SESSION MEETING of the Adams County School District 14 Board of Education was called to order Tuesday, August 26, 2014 pursuant to notice by Mr. Vashaw, President, at 5:37 p.m.

Data Basics—Teresa Hernandez, Director of Assessment and Technology gave a presentation on District Performance Frameworks, School Performance Frameworks, and TCAP. Ms. Hernandez began with a brief review of how the state of Colorado performed. The state decreased across the board in 2014. There were very few increases and where there were increases, they were very small. A chart was shown where all content areas the state decreased in the percent of students at or above proficient on TCAP. While it is true that Adams 14 had hoped for more growth in the District, the facts are that our students outperformed the majority of students in the state across areas of TCAP. Although our increase may be small in some cases and quite large in others, it is critical that we recognize the significance of our increases in a year when the state as a whole saw decreases. Four of the eleven schools in Adams 14 experienced increases in Reading between 2013 and 2014. Rose Hill and Monaco made substantial growth at 26 and 24.5 points, respectively. The largest decreases occurred at Alsup at 10.5. Five of the eleven schools experienced increases in Math between 2013 and 2014. Monaco and Rose Hill made substantial growth at 28.5 and 19.5, respectively. The largest decreases occurred at Adams City Middle and Central at 14 points each. Five of the eleven schools experienced increases in Writing between 2013 and 2014. Monaco and Rose Hill made substantial growth at 32.5 and 12.5 points, respectively. The largest decreases occurred at Lester Arnold at 26 points. It should be noted, however, that Lester Arnold experienced a substantial increase in 2013.

The Board of Education adjourned the study session at 6:25 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING SESSION of the Adams County School District 14 Board of Education was called to order Tuesday, August 26, 2014 pursuant to notice by Mr. Vashaw, President, at 6:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Mrs. Morton, Mrs. Quintana, Mr. Quintana, Mr. Rolla, Mr. Vashaw

Also Present: Patrick Sánchez, Walter Kramarz

MOTION was made by Mrs. Morton, seconded by Mr. Rolla to approve the minutes of August 12, 2014

Mrs. Morton, aye; Mrs. Quintana, aye; Mr. Quintana, aye; Mr. Rolla, aye; Mr. Vashaw, aye

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION was made by Mr. Rolla, seconded by Mrs. Morton to amend the agenda to include amendments to personnel actions.

Mrs. Morton, aye; Mrs. Quintana, aye; Mr. Quintana, aye; Mr. Rolla, aye; Mr. Vashaw, aye

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION was made by Mr. Rolla, seconded by Mrs. Morton to approve the agenda as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

Recognitions & Celebrations

Adams County Public Defender’s Office Supply Drive—Superintendent Sánchez was proud to announce that last spring, several families from Monaco Elementary took the incredible initiative to help clean up and beautify the grounds surrounding their children’s school. The parents put in countless hours to help enhance their children’s learning environment. These parents cleaned up trash, pulled weeds, and helped to beautify the grounds! Adams 14 wants to thank these parents for their incredible generosity and partnership in creating world-class learning environments for all children in the District. On behalf of the entire District and Board of Education several parents and many students were recognized and thanked for the service to our community.

Audience Comments

Lisa Garcia, 2030 Alpine Drive, Erie, CO 80516

Issue: Relinquish Minutes—Relinquished minutes to Gionni Thompson.

Gionni Thompson, 6500 E. 72nd Avenue, Commerce City, CO 80022

Issue: LAHS Celebrations—I wanted to show the Board some of the celebrations we have had at Lester Arnold High School. We have a small clip from last year; we have a small clip from this year and then a challenge to some of our schools in the District. The sales from the concessions will go to ALS which should be at \$150 to \$200 dollars.

Reba Drotar, 5291 E. 60th Avenue, Commerce City, CO 80022

Issue: Senior Citizen Homecoming and Senior Eagle Pass—I am just here to remind you that the amazing Adams City High School students are giving the seniors of this community a senior citizen homecoming this coming Saturday at Adams City High School at 11:00 a.m. It is a free luncheon, dance, DJ, and great prizes for everyone 55 years and over. Invitations went out to the whole community and we would love it if all of you came and anyone in the audience that would like to come. We would love to see you there. It is going to be the best time ever. Thank you, have a great evening.

Maria Zubia, 6295 E. 66th Avenue, Commerce City, CO 80022

Issue: We Believe!—I wanted to publicly thank the Adams 14 employees as well as the Board for your support for the We Believe committee. We have been hard at work creating awareness. The support that we have gotten from this District is unbelievable. I just wanted to let everybody know publicly that we are so appreciative of everybody who has donated, given their time, given advice, and have done all kinds of wonderful things for us. We have collected a substantial amount already and we are on our way to meeting our goal. Thank you everybody, especially the Board.

Jennifer Skrobela, 1555 Macarthur Drive, Boulder, CO 80303

Issue: Professional Development Invitation—I would like to personally invite each of you to our first vertical articulation professional development day which is this Friday. We have two phenomenal events taking place this Friday. The first is for our elementary school teachers and our middle school science teachers, Mr. Kenneth Wesson will be joining elementary and middle school science teachers. He focuses on brain research and is supporting the FOSS Science kit implementation district wide. A number of us got to work with Mr. Wesson this summer and he is phenomenal and I highly recommend stopping by Adams City High School to check out his presentation from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. I will send you a formal invitation over email. Our secondary teachers will be working together grades six through twelve and we will be working with Dr. Daniel Wallace who is a presenter from the National Career Academy Coalition. Myself, Mr. Smith, Mr. Thompson and Ms. Heronema have been working collectively to redefine what secondary education is going to look like in our District and we are going to work backwards from the high school academy model working down to the sixth grade level so that

we have a great path for our kids to be successful in the future. That training will also be at Adams City High School this Friday. In addition to the professional development opportunities we would like to extend an invitation to our pre first game of the season tailgate party and barbeque. We are welcoming all staff to the barbeque pre-football game at 6:00 p.m. outside the Adams City High School and we hope to see all of you at the first game of the season where Adams City High School takes on Thornton High School and brings home a victory. We will forward you an official invitation tomorrow and hope you could join us on Friday.

Responses to Prior Audience Comments

There is a response to prior audience comments from August 12, 2014 this evening. We cannot in this public forum respond to complaints regarding any particular individual. However, we need to emphatically emphasize that this school district administration and these Board of Education Members take all complaints of discrimination seriously. Long before the federal Office for Civil Rights resolution agreement was entered into in February 2014, this administration made a solemn commitment to investigate and address discrimination, and to create an unprecedented and robust system of accountability, groundbreaking equity work, and anti-discrimination training. Everyone who files a complaint of discrimination will be receiving a response, and notification, in writing, as to the disposition of the complaint. According to Board Policy AC, anyone, including any employee or any member of the public, who believes that he or she has been a victim of discrimination or a witness to discrimination, shall file a complaint with a district supervisor, any administrator, my office, or going forward, our new District discrimination Grievance Officer, Dr. Robyn Duran, or the Office of the Superintendent. To be clear, there is no “chain of command” requirement for any employee reporting discrimination. Particularly if the employee believes that their supervisor is engaged in discrimination, the employee may file their complaint at any higher level. Our Board of Education Members are equally committed to anti-discrimination. According to Board Policy KE, any Board Member may receive complaints on the behavior of any district employee. Board Members welcome those complaints when they are properly acknowledged with the name and address of the complainant. That includes complaints regarding acts of discrimination by any district employee. Board Members who receive such complaints per Board Policy KE deliver those directly to the Superintendent for further handling and investigation. And we assure you, just as this Board and administration assured the OCR, those complaints will be investigated and documented. Taking accountability to the next level, watch for an announcement in September for our rollout of a fraud, waste and ethics hotline reporting system. As far as we can tell, such a system is unprecedented at Adams 14. Adams 14 treasures every one of its employees. We need every employee’s help to make the Adams 14 workplace a model of equity and as stated in Board Policy AC, a safe environment where all are treated with dignity and respect. We invite and welcome our employees to bring any complaints forward. We can’t fix what we don't know.

Superintendent’s Report

2014-2015 School Year Opening—Dr. Robyn Duran, Chief of Equity and Communication gave the Board of Education an overview of the 2014-2015 Adams 14 opening and shared highlights of the Adams 14 all staff and community rallies, shared ways our principals are setting the vision for their schools this year, revisited the commitment to the 3 Strategic Imperatives, and introduced a framework for creating equitable educational experiences for all students.

Operations-Vision for Moving Forward—Sandy Rotella, Chief Finance Operations Officer gave the Board of Education an update on operations of Adams 14. Ms. Rotella shared the new structure of the business support services division. After having little time in the District they have observed a number of issues and shared photographs of existing facilities. Moving forward in a positive way and understanding the necessity for change will include the importance that customer service is number one, establish new procedures and expectations, professional development training for all staff, accountability, improve moral, and improving overall quality.

CDE Turnaround—Peter Sherman, Executive Director of District & School Performance Unit at the

Colorado Department of Education provided information on turnaround to the Board of Education. Mr. Sherman thanked the Board of Education and Superintendent for their service, leadership and support for the community on behalf of the Colorado Department of Education. Mr. Sherman also thanked the Board for their support to the Superintendent and all of his work, challenges, gains and notable change implementations. A couple of things shared with the Board were to think about effort, quality and impact. Effort; what are you doing, there are folks in the District that are doing many things so the efforts are tremendous. Quality: what is the quality of that work and the quality does matter, the buildings are functioning but there are clearly issues with your buildings and there are things functioning but ratchet up the quality. Impact; are you putting your effort in the right place, your student achievement is critical.

TCAP—Teresa Hernandez, Director of Assessment and Technology presented 2013-2014 TCAP highlights and results to the Board of Education. Ms. Hernandez began with a brief review of how the state of Colorado performed. The state decreased across the board in 2014. There were very few increases and where there were increases, they were very small. As a state, Colorado performance on the TCAP declined across the board. The areas where Adams 14 showed improvement are to be even more so celebrated. The percentage of Adams 14 students scoring proficient or above in math increased for the second consecutive year. Adams 14 Elementary Schools outperformed the state in all but 4 of the tested grade level/contents. Adams 14 elementary schools saw gains in more than half of the tested grade level/content areas. Within these gains, half of them were double digit gains in the percent of students scoring proficient or above. Hanson, Rose Hill, Central, and Monaco experienced significant gains in proficiency in 2014. Math proficiency increased at grade 3 in all schools. The percentage of Adams 14 students scoring proficient or above in reading and writing remained stable in 2014. The percentage of students scoring proficient or above in math increased by 5 percentage points. This represents the largest single year increase, and brings the proficiency rate to the highest it has been since 2009. Writing proficiency at grade 4 increased at all schools but one school in Adams 14, while the state decreased. After seeing significant growth in 2013, MGPs declined slightly in 2014, but remain at the second highest level since 2009. Elementary Math Median Growth Percentiles increased across all content areas for 2013-2014. 2014 was the second consecutive year for math increase, where an MGP of 46 marks the largest increase to date. Monaco Elementary increased by 24.5 points in Reading Growth. Rose Hill Elementary increased by 26 points in Reading Growth. Monaco Elementary increased by 32.5 points in Writing Growth. Rose Hill Elementary increased by 12.5 points in Writing Growth. Hanson Elementary increased by 13 points in Math Growth. Monaco Elementary increased by 28.5 points in Math Growth. Rose Hill Elementary increased by 19.5 points in Math Growth. Adams 14 students with IEPs increased consistently again in Writing Growth to reach the highest MGP since 2010. Students with IEPs increased consistently again in Math Growth to reach a 49MGP, the highest MGP to date for students with an IEP. For the third consecutive year in a row, students with IEPs increased another 3% in proficiency in Reading. In Reading, Adams 14 FEP & NEP students made gains in proficiency in 2014 at 4% and 2% respectively. Overall, Adams 14 ELL student remained stable, while the State decreased in Reading. In Math, all language proficiency groups increased in proficiency. NEP students posted significant growth for the second consecutive Year in Math. In conclusion I'd like to speak briefly about the 2014 accreditation rating and school type plans. As you can see we've had movement with and across bands. But most notably, Adams 14 does not have ANY schools in turnaround status any longer.

Consent Items

MOTION was made by Mr. Rolla, seconded by Mrs. Morton to approve the consent items as amended.

1.0 Personnel

- 1.1 Superintendent's Recommendation
Personnel Actions

2.0 Other

- 2.1 Superintendent's Recommendation
Approval for Purchase of Braniacs Learning Lab Instruction at Dupont and Kemp for Reading Acceleration Using Storybuilder Programming
- 2.2 Superintendent's Recommendation
Approval to Accept 2013-2014 E-Rate Reimbursement from Sprint Nextel
- 2.3 Superintendent's Recommendation
Approval to Accept 2013-2014 E-Rate Reimbursement from Eagle-Net Alliance

Mrs. Morton, aye; Mrs. Quintana, aye; Mr. Quintana, aye; Mr. Rolla, aye; Mr. Vashaw, aye

MOTION CARRIED

Business Items

1.0 Resolution

MOTION was made by Mr. Rolla, seconded by Mrs. Morton to approve resolution item 1.1.

- 1.1 Superintendent's Recommendation
Resolution Number 14-010
Approval for Adams 14 to Participate in the 2014 November Election with Two Ballot Issues

Mrs. Morton, aye; Mrs. Quintana, aye; Mr. Quintana, aye; Mr. Rolla, aye; Mr. Vashaw, aye

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION was made by Mr. Rolla, seconded by Mrs. Morton to approve resolution item 1.2.

- 1.2 Superintendent's Recommendation
Resolution Number 14-011
Approval of Proclamation of September as Attendance Awareness Month

Mrs. Morton, aye; Mrs. Quintana, aye; Mr. Quintana, aye; Mr. Rolla, aye; Mr. Vashaw, aye

MOTION CARRIED

Communications

Each Board member shared a highlight of their last two weeks.

President Vashaw reminded everyone to look at the screens for upcoming events and also to view the Adams 14 website for all upcoming school events.

At the last meeting the Board of Education reviewed all committees and failed to discuss Board representation for the Adams 14 Education Foundation. Mrs. Morton decided to give this opportunity to another member. Mr. Quintana offered to be the representative for the Adams 14 Education Foundation.

MOTION was made by Mr. Rolla, seconded by Mrs. Morton to adjourn.

Minutes – August 26, 2014

Mrs. Morton, aye; Mrs. Quintana, aye; Mr. Quintana, aye; Mr. Rolla, aye; Mr. Vashaw, aye

MOTION CARRIED

The Board adjourned the special meeting at 8:37 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be Tuesday, September 9, 2014. The Board will convene in the Board of Education room located at 5291 East 60th Avenue.

Monica Avina
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Education

Approved and Entered into Proceedings
September 9, 2014

Mary Morton
Secretary, Board of Education

Robert Vashaw
President, Board of Education