

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE RE-1 VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

## BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

Board Members in Person

February 21, 2022

Present: Heather Harris, Ronda Monheiser, Michelle Sharp, Steven Shinn, Ron Marostica, Dennis Klein, David Eastin, Robert Hall, Shannon Holloway, Brenda Kloberdanz, Nichole Eastin, and Diane Stallard.

Guests present: Abby Adolf, Imagine Torres, Jeremia Potyonday, Trista Hernandez, Haylee Marick, Camden Sandberg, Jared Sonnenberg, Andrew Smith, Noah Johnson, Nelson Schroder, Ashley Marostica, Shane Keil, Janelle Nicholas, Callie Jones, Sarah Mathews, and Kristy Willis.

Guests Remote: Shila Adolf, Ashley McFadden, Meri, Legal Alliance, LLC (sadolf), David, Lakesha Hershfeldt, Crystal Jo Burns, Shila's iPhone, Jacqueline Schneider, Daniel and Chad, Joni Callaway Kinney, Darin, Brande's iPhone, mg, Rick, Melissa Brown, Cindy, Dennis, Jessica's iPhone, Sara O'Rourke, Joleen Locke, Lori Smith, Cindy Reyes, Peg Hershfeldt, Mommy's phone, iPhone user, iPad user, Donelle's iPhone, TC iPhone, Isabel, Sandy's iPhone, Kevin's iPhone, iPad user, Risa's iPhone, Emily Dekard, Laura, Eastin, Victoria's iPhone, Elizabeth Gardiner, Aleah Ramey, CB, Daniel Gonzales, 19705769598, iPhone user, Mb iPhone, and Mitch.

At 6:00 p.m. President Shinn called the meeting to order and introduced Kristy Willis who has offered her services to act as the Board of Education Secretary tonight.

### 2. Approval of Regular Action Item

The greater agenda was approved with no objections to unanimous approval.

### 3. School/Program Highlights:

- Caliche music director and eight students showcased some of their work including photography, pottery work, and a video made by the new digital sound program. Students walked by the board and showed artwork and then played the "I make Sparks" digital video.

### 4. Public Participation:

- MaryBeth Skerjanic, SMS teacher of 15 years, member of numerous committees, and co-president of the South Platte Education Association spoke in regard to having addressed the former school board, the current school board, and former Superintendent Adolf who greatly dismissed concerns by stating how several teachers did not share concerns and were not in agreement with statements. She stated she was here to tell the board several more are in agreement with the school board and the recent actions in the termination of Adolf's contract. The board was elected by the people of RE-1 to make positive change. She notes she did not endorse anyone as a preferred candidate but wanted someone elected to think independently, listen to constituents, and be the group the superintendent reports to. She noted that the current board has fulfilled that pledge and thanked them. She thanked the board again from several members of SPEA, SMS, RE-1, and District 2. She stated, "Now, let's go forward and rebuild to truly be great again."

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- Janelle Nicholas, music teacher at Campbell and co-president of the South Platte Education Association spoke comparing the most important thing in her job, listening, to that of the board. She commended the Re-1 Board of Education for listening to the staff, teachers, administrators, and community members. She stated that many appreciate the board listening and making a tough decision and now the district can go forward. Nicholas notes we are a strong and capable district that can regain the flagship status for this region.
- Jared Sonnenberg spoke on behalf of the DAC committee who wanted to ask what they should be working on. The meeting scheduled for Wednesday was postponed due to the transition in the district. However, the first meeting had a great turnout as many people want to be part of the conversation. Sonnenberg says that DAC will take its guidance from the board on what they should be working on, but wanted to encourage these meetings going forward. This group has forward momentum and would like to help. He also noted that he is happy to continue in the roll as chair if the board sees fit but didn't know if that was ever formalized in the minutes of the board.

### 5. Communication:

#### 5.01 - Staff Reports

- Nichole Eastin spoke to being caught up on accounts payable by the end of the month. W2 and 1099 forms were out on time. They are still working on the 1095s and bank statements as both are time-consuming. She noted is nice to have a full-time accounts payable person. Director Sharp asked if payroll was caught up on PTO and Nichole stated she wasn't positive, but she believes they are close. Without any insurance information entered in, it is making ACAs and 1095s difficult. There was a box that was not checked in Infinite Visions when it was set up that needed to be since we are considered self-insured and the last two years need to be corrected. There is information missing. However, she noted that leave was next on the list to be completed.

#### 5.02 – Principal Reports

- Campbell – Brenda Kloberdanz spoke about the highlights happening at Campbell Elementary. The beginning of February brought the 5<sup>th</sup> grade concert which was able to be livestreamed. They also just had parent-teacher conferences which were student-led and went well.
- Caliche – Davide Eastin spoke about the highlights happening at Caliche. He started with the highlight that they have zero covid positives. Mr. Eastin also highlighted Mr. Rosete's great work, the strong SAC committee at Caliche, PTO Casino night on February 26<sup>th</sup>, and the 2-22-22 day where everyone will wear tube socks, ties, and tutus. Capturing Kids Hearts is still in place with a Kindness theme for February where Caliche is working with "Spark the Heart" as the theme. The junior high girl's basketball team just finished up

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and high school basketball teams start districts this week. Parent teacher conferences are March 3<sup>rd</sup>. In addition, a congrats to Mrs. Lambrecht and the 22 state qualifiers in FBLA was given. Mock interviews for the Personal and Career Readiness class taught by Mrs. Schneider were just held. Also, congrats to the two wrestlers. Sam Lange had a great season and Aden Young placed 6<sup>th</sup> at state.

- Ayres – Mid-year testing is done and CoGat testing starts next for the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class. Staff is digging deeper into Capturing Kids Hearts and embedding the process. Parent-teacher conferences were well attended with a family event the same night around an Olympics theme. For professional development, staff are completing the LTRS training and admin is working to collect the staff PD needs for next year. The 1<sup>st</sup> graders just had their program. The SAC meeting is coming up and tomorrow is school bus driver day.
- SMS – Robert Hall spoke about the highlights happening at Sterling Middle School including the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade band/choir concert, Sources of Strength with Centennial Mental Health and wrestling and basketball just finishing up. They are looking forward to the CTE introduction at the high school and he appreciates that his teachers are doing great covering for each other. PT conferences are tomorrow night. The livestream has been great, but bad lighting in the auditorium makes it hard to see.
- SHS – Cyndi Lystad is absent due to a family illness but included her report in the board packet.

### 5.03 – Superintendent Report

- Ron Marostica reminded the board that Cyndi Lystad had a family illness. He reported that Dennis Klein helped him postpone the DAC due to district basketball and will help him get DAC going. Jared will continue as chair. There is a principal meeting tomorrow where principals will formalize a list of staff development needed and confirm what will take place over the summer. For example, HMH (Language Arts) training will take place for new staff or anyone who hasn't been able to take this training. Staff will continue to receive NJC credit for these trainings. With Glenn, Nichole, and Diane's help, they have cleared up the hiring process. There is a form to hold each building accountable for FTE. The principals will finalize this form tomorrow. As of tomorrow, Nicole Eastin will be appointed interim business manager. Director Harris asked who posts jobs on the district website. Diane answered that Lakesha was doing it. Diane stated that she will approve the job requisitions to be posted, after she approves, the job will go to the website. After being asked if the list that was emailed out was correct, Mr. Marostica mentioned that the district struggles to fill positions. The district listed all our jobs so that if a position should open there are applicants already out there. Director Harris asked if jobs would be available for those who were let go or staff that has resigned so they could come back. Mr. Marostica said it would be the same interview process that would determine whether they get the position. He wants a level playing field.

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### 5.04 – Board of Director Reports

- Director Harris said thank you to everyone for all their hard work.
- Director Sharp wanted to say thank you to everyone for stepping up even though it is not going to be easy, but the transition will be worth it. She notes there is a different energy in the room which is a good sign moving forward.
- Director Monheiser gave a shout out to all the bus drivers and thanked them for their dedication. National Bus Drivers' Day is tomorrow and without them we wouldn't be in the same place. We appreciate all your time, every day.
- President Shinn noted that the board, CDE, and Mr. Marostica decided to postpone the EASI training as there are three vacancies on the board that need to be filled to maximize the benefit from this training effort. He thanked the principals for participating tonight, having great attitudes, and working with the board and Mr. Marostica. Shinn noted that we are making a good transition and reminded everyone that there are openings on the board in districts three, four, and seven and encouraged anyone interested to apply. The requirements include being a resident of the district in RE-1 with a vacancy, a registered voter, 18 years or older, and a US citizen. Interested persons should send a letter of intent and three letters of recommendations to [shinns@re1valleyschools.org](mailto:shinns@re1valleyschools.org). He thanked everyone for their great work on SAC and DAC and wants to make sure that they don't lose momentum. These are committees with duties assigned by state statute. He thanked Mr. Sonnenberg and all other members for the time they have served on these committees. Dennis Klein emailed DAC members to postpone the last meeting due to district basketball. Although there is a pause on accountability for these committees, Mr. Shinn would like this committee to continue so we get input from many different facets in the district so we can design programs that meet the needs of our constituents. Mr. Shinn also told the board they have an opening for a representative on the Centennial BOCES. Director Sharp volunteered to attend these meetings and Mr. Marostica will get her the meeting schedule.

### 6. Discussion Items

#### 6.01 Calendar Proposals for 2022 – 23

- Mr. Hall led the conversation on the calendar drafts. There are two drafts. Draft A is the same as this year, just using next year's dates. Students would be in school for state volleyball and basketball, the last day before break is December 16th, and teachers return on January 2nd. There was a 12-day difference in days between the semesters. Draft B has three weeks with five days in September, October, and November. December 22nd is the last day before break and staff come back on January 4th. There was only a four-day difference in semester days on this calendar. Both calendars have a five-day Thanksgiving break and May 25th is the last day of school. Principals took these two

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calendars to their buildings and feedback indicated that Draft B was better in every building with many commenting they prefer having no five-day weeks. To get rid of the five-day weeks, there were three options presented. Option one has 5 days at Thanksgiving, ended on May 25th and has 5.5 snow days. Option two has 3 days at Thanksgiving, ended on May 23, and has 5.5 snow days. Option three has 5 days at Thanksgiving, ended on May 24, and has 4.5 snow days. Director Monheiser suggested that we look at NJC's calendar and compare the spring break so our concurrent enrollment students can have a break. Mr. Klein did this during the meeting and reported that both spring breaks were at the same time. The calendar will be approved at the March meeting and Mr. Marostica said that would be soon enough. Brenda Kloberdanz commented that she had talked with her staff about the calendar but not changing it with the three options presented. However, she got input on the five-day weeks and thus thinks that her staff would agree to get rid of them. She was concerned about how this would change contracts and days teachers work and if staff would be paid the same for less days. Would teachers work those days? She believes all of these things need ironed out so teachers aren't surprised. She was also concerned that no other stakeholders have been involved especially parents. It was consensus that principals and Mr. Marostica will discuss tomorrow and make a plan to involve all stakeholders in this process including parents.

### 6.02 Board of Education – Meeting Schedule

- Discussion took place on what day is best for the meetings and it was consensus to stay with Mondays through June. Tuesdays would give an additional day to finalize the agenda, but there are often athletics on Tuesdays and Mondays work better for Director Harris. The board wanted to make sure it was okay that principals and student presentations took place on a day without school. Discussion also took place on adding a meeting to the agenda as the board will not meet until March 21. It was noted that the board does not usually meet in July as the budget would be approved on June 20th. Mr. Marostica and Mr. Shinn will discuss a special meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> because of the current circumstances in the district and changing the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting to the 26<sup>th</sup>. It was also noted that April 25<sup>th</sup> would be the Board of Education interviews.

President Shinn released everyone for a five-minute break at 7:25 p.m. and asked to resume at 7:30 p.m.

At 7:33 p.m. the meeting was resumed.

## 7. Action Items:

### 7.01 Consent Agenda

- The consent agenda was approved with no objections to a unanimous adoption.

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7.02 Executive Session

- Motion was made by Director Monheiser and seconded by Director Harris to move into executive session pursuant to Section 24-6-402(4)(e), C.R.S. for purposes of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators regarding an agreement concerning a job description.

Roll call vote: Heather Harris – aye, Ronda Monheiser – aye, Michelle Sharp – aye, Steve Shinn – aye. Motion carried.

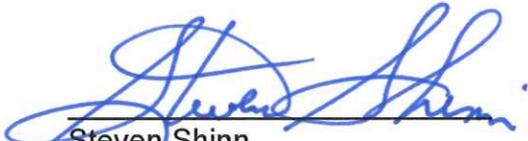
7.03 Possible action on the executive session

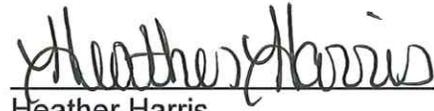
- Executive session was entered at 7:38 p.m. and concluded at 8:06 p.m.
- General session was resumed at 8:11 p.m.
- A motion was made by Director Monheiser and seconded by Director Harris to approve the resignation of Lakesha Hershfeldt according to the two parts of the terms of her letter dated February 18, 2022, to the Board of Education. 1) Accept her immediate resignation as the Board of Education Admin Assistant position effective the date of her letter. 2) Accept the terms of her letter specifying that she will remain to serve as the Admin Assistant to the Superintendent until March 4, 2022, at which time her resignation is accepted for that position as well.
- Director Monheiser thanked Lakesha for all the time she spent serving the district and her willingness to always learn new things.

8. Adjournment

Motion made by Director Monheiser and seconded by Director Harris to adjourn.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

  
Steven Shinn  
President

  
Heather Harris  
Secretary/Treasurer