

I. PRELIMINARY

Cook called the June 3, 2008, meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

The following members were present:

Matt Cook, president
Jeanette Carmany, vice president
Jane Barber, secretary
Peter Cukale, treasurer
Judith Edberg, director
Mary W. Lewis, director
Amy Prince, director

Also meeting with the Board of Education were:

John L. Barry, superintendent of schools
Anthony Van Gytenbeek, deputy superintendent
Lisa Escárcega, chief accountability and research officer
Rod Weeks, chief financial officer
Kari Allen, chief personnel officer
William Stuart, chief academic officer
Anthony Sturges, chief operating officer
Tonia Norman, assistant to Board of Education

Pledge of Allegiance

Cook led the Board and audience in the pledge to the flag. He then welcomed visitors to the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

The June 3, 2008, agenda was approved as written.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education held May 20, 2008, were approved as written.

Opportunity for Audience

Renee Shapard, 24710 E. Gunnison Dr., 80018, 303-568-9087, has twin girls who attend Aurora Quest Academy. Shapard shared that Aurora Quest Academy was chosen due to the unique learning opportunities it offered. On the last day of school, Shapard discovered that Aurora Quest Academy was cutting Spanish at the elementary grade level. Shapard shared that foreign language instruction that starts before the age of 10 makes learning significantly easier. She stressed how fortunate it was to have found a school that would prepare her kids for the global workforce and make them better citizens by learning about a culture that so many of their friends and neighbors shared.

Last fall, Shapard attended a presentation with the consultant who helped design the curriculum for gifted and talented student learners. The consultant stressed that the curriculum needed to be fast paced, complex, and challenging, and

foreign language instruction and independent learning opportunities were critical to keep students excited about learning.

Shapard met with Aurora Quest Academy Principal Nancy Williams, who informed her that the cut was necessary due to a districtwide budget shortfall. Principal Williams had to choose whether to cut elementary Spanish, music, tech lab or increase class sizes. The decision to cut elementary Spanish was difficult, and one that she should not have had to make.

Student enrollment has declined in APS and funding has decreased. Next year, we are starting the school year in a brand new building and doubling our student body, which has contributed to our budget shortfall due to insufficient funding for additional classrooms. It is unfair to ask existing parents to accept cuts to any of the programs that Principal Williams had to consider to increase enrollment. Diluting our curriculum is not the answer. Parents in APS have more choices in regard to where to enroll their children, which is evident by declining enrollments due partly to the success of charter schools. By forcing cuts like this, APS is contributing to parents leaving and taking funding with them. Parents have signed a petition in favor of the Spanish program at Aurora Quest Academy.

Shapard shared that many parents were concerned about possible changes to the curriculum to accommodate a larger student body prior to the cut of the foreign language program. When more parents learn of the curriculum change, they will want to address the Board. Please help Aurora Quest Academy find funding to keep this important program at our school.

Cook requested that Shapard leave the petition with Tonia Norman, assistant to the Board.

Duane Marshall, 19242 E. Baker Pl., Aurora, 303-755-7298, has two children enrolled at Aurora Quest Academy. Both were enrolled in the Spanish course and were excited about continuing it.

Marshall is a business owner in Aurora and expressed regret for not having the opportunity to learn Spanish at a younger age. He shared that his business would be a lot greater if he had Spanish-speaking abilities. He often has to turn away customers due to the communication barrier.

Marshall does not want the foreign language program cut because it sends a signal to young students that foreign language instruction is not important. The students at Aurora Quest Academy are gifted and talented and are able to grasp the instruction in a very proficient manner. Please consider funding to keep this program.

Susan Patton, 1040 Ursula St., Aurora, discussed the importance of keeping and expanding the foreign language program at Aurora Quest Academy. Patton shared key research points from another parent who was unable to attend. Children who learn a foreign language at an early age make greater progress in the acquisition of English language skills, specifically in reading and writing. Studies show that students have higher ACT/SAT verbal scores as a result of learning a foreign language at an early age. We are placing our children in a very poor position in the global marketplace and are becoming the third world in business by not providing foreign language opportunities such as Spanish. We are putting our kids' future and dreams at risk for jobs in the competitive global economy. Patton shared that her company has made a significant effort for

employees to learn languages and other cultures to increase communication with clients and other agents.

Patton saw a commitment to excellence and creative abilities to meet the needs of gifted and talented students when she served on the curriculum committee. She worries about the demise of the program and wonders what could be next. She asked the Board to consider funding to reinstate the Spanish program.

Cook thanked everyone for addressing the Board. He shared that the decision to cut an instructional program is school-based and encouraged parents to forward concerns to Aurora Quest Academy Principal Nancy Williams.

II. INFORMATION ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Reports from the Board of Education

Barber had the opportunity and pleasure to watch Governor Bill Ritter sign several educational bills into law at Gateway High School. It was exciting to watch the celebration of public schools. Lewis added that Governor Ritter is a proud graduate of Gateway High School.

Cook shared that the fifth block is currently underway. Please take a moment to pat APS students taking advantage of fifth block on the back and congratulate them for going the extra mile.

Items of Current Interest

Barry shared that a Classified Job Fair will be held on Wednesday, June 11, from 8:00 to noon and Thursday, June 12, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Educational Services Center 4, 1085 Peoria Street. Anyone interested in working for APS as a classified (non-teaching) employee is welcome to attend and learn more.

Congratulations to South Middle School student Joe Boyd who won the "Colorado Do the Write Thing" writing contest sponsored by the National Campaign to Stop Violence. The program gives middle school students the opportunity to share their views on what should be done to reduce student violence. Boyd's poem "When Forever 'Gon Come" addresses issues of violence in our world and its impact on youth. This is the second year in a row that a South Middle School student has earned this honor.

Boyd, along with his mother and teacher Sandra Abu-Bakr, will visit Washington D.C. this month for a recognition dinner. Other semi-finalists were South Middle School students Lupe Avalos for his poem "Don't Fade Away" and Antonia Harris for her essay "Youth Violence." A special thanks to teachers Sherry Keck and Sandra Abu-Bakr for their continued support of these talented students.

We would like to recognize the APS Print Services Department for their hard work and dedication. They continue to complete jobs on time despite the many "need it yesterday" requests. Thanks for the fine work you do. Barry presented the print services staff with a Superintendent recognition coin.

Aurora Central and Rangeview high school students recently participated in the Project Citizen Showcase at the state capitol. Project Citizen is a civic education project in which students choose a current public policy issue, analyze alternative

solutions, propose a policy and develop an action plan for getting their policy implemented. Aurora Central High School students earned "Best Oral Presentation" honors for their work on the portfolio topic: "What education services should be offered to undocumented youth?" Congratulations!

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESEARCH

No Items

DIVISION OF FINANCE

2008-09 Budget Adoption

Rod Weeks and Martha Baldwin presented an overview of the 2008-09 adopted budget. The balanced budget was provided to the Board under separate cover. The budget will be presented for adoption on June 17.

Weeks noted that the total district budget increased from \$364 million to \$365 million due to adjustments in six different funds including:

- Global Village Charter School had a negative beginning fund balance and has not been able to balance their budget despite best efforts. They are aware this is an unacceptable condition and are in breach of their contract with school and state law. They have a corrective action plan in place, which is the required step of this condition.
- Lotus Charter School secured loan financing to purchase their building in order to establish a reserve and to cover their current budget shortfall. They have been working with the district finance and legal counsel offices as well as the lending institution. The lending institute is solid and helps charter schools throughout the nation with financing.
- The athletic fund showed a slight decrease as a result of further adjustments to bring the budget to actual operation costs.
- The grants fund increased slightly as a result of the Piton grant award and several small reductions of other grants.
- The internal service fund, which houses both print and copier services, showed a slight increase.
- The special programs fund showed a net decrease mainly due to the addition of a school donations program at Pickens College and closing of their scholarship program.

Weeks shared that declining student enrollments have resulted in decreased funding for the district. Expenditures were decreased by \$10 million to offset reduced revenues. In order to maintain current staffing and programs, the reserved fund balance was used to balance the budget reducing it by \$3.7 million. This practice cannot continue and plans are in place to increase revenues or further reduce expenditures for the 2009-10 school year.

A mill override needs to be given serious consideration. More specific information will be provided to the Board in the near future.

As part of School Finance, APS will receive a 3.53 percent increase in per pupil funding, which equates to \$6,863 per student. Funds received will be distributed to the general fund. The budget will be presented for adoption on June 17. The budget will be presented for re adoption in January 2009.

Escárcega reviewed the following budget recommendations from the District Advisory Accountability Committee.

- DAAC recommends that the Board of Education include the words “fine arts” in the pupil activities fund, which is subsidized Fund 23 money. Fund 23 was originally set up as an account for high school drama clubs, yearbook activities, vocals/instrumental music, theater, and musicals. DAAC feels it would be beneficial for both performing arts and fine art to be subsidized with Fund 23 money.
- DAAC recommends to the Board of Education that the ratio of campus monitors to students be reviewed. The committee recommends that a consistent campus monitor to student formula ratio be implemented at the high school level.
- DAAC recommends to the Board that increased per pupil funding be allocated for the purpose of increasing parent involvement in APS.

Ginny Burgess, 14696 E. Hawaii Pl., Aurora, 303-368-4005, reviewed budget recommendations from DAAC. Per pupil ratios to campus monitors at Aurora Central, Rangeview and Hinkley averages to approximately one-to-317 students. Gateway allocated 4.88 T.E. for campus monitors. Their student to campus monitor ratio is one-to-361 students. DAAC supports closed campus and feels it is important to have a sustained number of campus monitors at each high school.

Burgess believed that the initial wording for the fine arts allocation was incorrect. The initial intent of the fund in 2006-07 was for the performing arts department at the high school level. Last year a recommendation was made to make funds available for K-12. As a parent, I believe that funds need to address costs at the high school level for transportation, new sheet music for ensemble groups, equipment and uniforms for marching bands, choir apparel, production sets, and sound equipment. If funding is further expanded to include fine arts, the original intent of the funds will deteriorate its ability to make a difference. It would especially hurt at the high school level where transportation and sheet music costs absorb most of the funding. As a parent, it would make more sense to create a separate fund for fine arts. However, DAAC as a group determined that both fine arts and performing arts should receive equal funding.

Cook asked Weeks if the Board allocated \$265,000 for performing arts in 2006-07. Weeks replied that the Board allocated \$235,000 in 2006-07 and it remains unchanged. Cook also clarified if the recommendation was to make funds available for K-12 last year and if there were any stipulations. Weeks confirmed that the Board requested that funds be made available for K-12 last year. What evolved during the school year was that the performing arts program at the elementary level was extremely limited. The fine arts program is common at the elementary level.

Laurie Foster, 19127 E. Progress, Centennial, 303-690-8880, is an elementary art teacher and addressed the Board in regard to Fund 23 money. Foster attended a DACC meeting to determine why Fund 23 was only slated for the performing arts program at the high school level. She discussed concerns with Susan Olezene, who also has an art background, and determined that there was a significant distinction between performing arts and visual arts. Performing arts is related to choir, drama and band. DAAC requested that Foster complete a needs assessment. She met with teachers at all grade levels and discovered that some art teachers were utilizing and receiving funds from principals.

Foster explained that the range in elementary art funding throughout the district is 94 cents to \$1.80 per student. She understands funding concerns at the high school level but feels funds equating to more than \$6.00 per student could assist all grade levels. Every student participates in visual art activities at the elementary level. Every student does not participate in visual or performing arts programs at the middle and high school levels.

Foster had art budgets from the general fund and some needs assessments for the Board to review. Cook requested that Foster forward information to Tonia Norman, assistant to the Board. Recommendations from DAAC have not been included in the adopted budget. Information will be included in the adopted budget on June 17.

State of Colorado Interest-Free Loan Program

Weeks shared that the Board was provided with a resolution regarding the interest-free loan program through the state of Colorado. APS will be requesting a \$40 million interest-free loan through the state treasurer's office. It is fairly standard for school districts to experience cash flow problems during certain times of the year including in December to cover payroll, prior to receiving state equalization funds and three months before receiving property tax revenues. We were able to cover expenses over the past five years and did not have to participate in the program. We will be borrowing funds through the state program until we can increase student enrollments and revenues. The Board will be asked to approve the \$40 million interest-free loan on June 17.

2007-08 Supplemental Budget Appropriations

Weeks shared that one of the statutory requirements as a district is that we cannot overspend any budget that the Board has adopted by June 30 of the current budget year. This year, two charter funds, the building fund and the copier services fund have a need for the Board to readopt a supplemental budget by resolution for proposed amounts.

- The Aurora Academy Charter School uses an internal building fund that needs to be included in their adopted budget.
- Global Village Academy needs to spend some of their non-appropriated funds before the end of the year.
- Building fund project expenditures are expected to exceed initial appropriations.
- The copier services fund has seen an increase in usage and needs to increase supply expenditures to keep up with usage. Specific appropriation amounts will be included in resolution form. The Board will be asked to approve the supplemental budget appropriations on June 17.

Cook asked Weeks for clarification in regard to Global Village having to spend some non-appropriated funds when they have not presented a balanced budget. Weeks replied that expenditures were based on staffing in place due to enrollments that came in under projections. As a result, funding was reduced. When we readopted the budget in October, they had a reserved non-appropriated amount in it. They are required to use it even though it will put them in a negative fund balance condition. A negative fund balance condition means they can cover Tabor requirements on the balance sheet but will have a negative fund balance going into next year.

NCLB Consolidated Grant Application

Weeks invited Paul Coleman, director of grants management, and Miles Pimentel, assistant director of grants management, to the staff table to present information on the NCLB consolidated grant application. Coleman shared that each year APS is required to bring the NCLB consolidated grant application for federal program funds to the Board for program approval. The grant application must be submitted to CDE by June 30.

Coleman shared that this year we received funding for six Title I programs under NCLB. In the 2008-09 school year, we will receive funding for five Title I programs under NCLB.

- Title IA: improving the academic achievement of the disadvantaged student
- The purpose of Title IA funds is to ensure all students have a fair, equal and significant opportunity to receive a high quality education. Funds are directed to schools that have a high population of free and reduced lunch students.
- Twenty schools are served under Title IA.
- Title IIA: preparing, training and recruiting high quality teachers and principals
- The purpose of Title IIA is to increase academic achievement through improving teacher and principal quality.
- Title IID: enhancing education through technology
- The purpose of Title IID is to support student achievement through the use of technology. The statutory goals are to ensure every student is technologically literate by the end of eighth grade, provide effective integration of technology in curriculum and instruction, and provide professional development training to classroom teachers in order to integrate technology into teaching.
- Title III: language instruction for limited-English proficient and immigrant students
- The purpose of Title III is to focus on existing programs to increase academic achievement in English instruction to limited-English proficient students. States are held accountable to ensure limited-English proficient students obtain English, which is measured through CELA testing.
- Title IV: Safe and Drug Free Schools
- Safe and Drug Free Schools support programs that prevent violence and the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs in and around schools. The program involves parents and communities, and is coordinated with other related federal, state, school and community efforts.
- The United States Congress and President Bush zeroed out Title V funding effective July 1, 2008. Lewis asked what the amount was this year. Coleman replied about \$82,000.

The preliminary allocation for Title IA is \$9.1 million to pay salaries of more than 100 teachers and paraprofessionals at 18 elementary schools and two middle schools. Title IA funds provide supplies and materials at the 20 schools it serves. Funds are also used for professional development opportunities for Title I funded schools, salaries for 20 family liaisons and parent involvement activities. Funds are used at the district level to pay for five district literacy and math coaches. Title IA funds are also used to assist students struggling instructionally at St. Pius and St. Therese private schools, provide instructional needs to homeless students, fund family literacy centers at five elementary schools and support the Even Start Family Literacy Program by providing preschool teachers, paraprofessionals and family liaisons.

Coleman shared that we are required to set aside funds to pay for transportation costs for students through school choice. Parents can elect to transfer their student to another school if it is on year one corrective action or beyond in school improvement. Private tutoring is available for students at schools on year two

corrective action or beyond in school improvement. Funds are also required for extended learning opportunities for homeless children through the Colfax Community Network and instructional support for identified neglected children at Serenity Daycare and Learning Center.

The preliminary allocation for Title IIA is \$1.5 million to pay salaries of district literacy, math and science coaches; professional development learning opportunities for instructional staff and principals; and help paraprofessional and teachers become highly qualified.

The preliminary allocation for Title IID is \$86,404 to pay the salary of the instructional technology coach and provide supplemental supplies and materials for the integration of technology and information literacy.

The preliminary allocation for Title III is \$1,069,849 to pay salaries of 13.5 ELA teachers and teacher leaders; provide professional development opportunities for teachers of English language learners; instructional materials for English language learners; and funds to pay translators and interpreters at family involvement activities.

Barber asked if CELA was a state test. Coleman replied yes and shared it is used as the accountability for Title III. It is given through APS but the state pays for it. Escárcega added that the state pays for printing, shipping, scoring and CELA reports.

The preliminary allocation for Title IV is \$151,015 to pay salaries of 2.5 PBS coordinators, a PBS project coordinator and the safe and drug free coordinator. Funds are provided for prevention programs at district schools, charters and private schools. Aurora Mental Health receives funds for at-risk students attending summer school.

Lewis asked if CDE informed districts as to the amount of grant allocations and if districts inform CDE as to how allocations would be distributed. Coleman replied yes. Lewis asked about the process used to distribute allocations. Coleman explained that each Title has a formula used to allocate funds. As an example, Title I funds are based on the number of students in the district's attendance area between the ages of five to 21 considered at or below poverty level. In APS, we have about 6,300 students who are considered at or below poverty level by US standards. It is all formula driven.

Acceptance of Migrant Education Program Funds and Assurances

Coleman explained that in June of each year, the district submits a migrant education program application for its Title I, Part C, migrant education grant. CDE requires a signed acceptance and an appointment of an authorized representative. The Board must accept the administration and accountability of the migrant education funds before the migrant program application is submitted by the required June 30 deadline. Migrant education serves students in the districts whose parents either moved to Colorado or are looking for jobs in agriculture, fishing or forestry.

Lewis asked how many students were in the program. Coleman estimated about 180 students. We have a family liaison who works with migrant students and we provide after-school tutoring. This year, we offered a summer school program specifically designed for migrant students at Paris Elementary. The Board will be

asked to accept the administration and accountability of the migrant education funds on June 17.

Youth Football Field/Stadium Grant

Coleman introduced Miles Pimentel, assistant director of grants, to present information on the Youth Football Field grant. Pimentel shared that in March we began working on a \$50,000 Broncos NFL grant application that was given to us by Tony Antolini, district athletic director. Antolini and Tammye Pirie had been working on the grant to secure funding to refurbish the field at Rangeview High School. The Broncos organization reviewed our application and was impressed with it. They encouraged us to apply for the NFL Youth Football grant for \$250,000. On May 31, we were notified that we had been awarded the NFL Youth Football grant.

Cook asked what the funds would cover. Pimentel replied that funds would be used to refurbish the football field at Rangeview High School from grass to turf. There are also plans to replace the drainage system around the football field as well as goal posts.

Cukale asked when the project would be completed. Antolini shared that the turf project is scheduled to be completed by July 1.

Use of a Portion of the Beginning Fund Balance as Authorized by Colorado Statutes

Weeks explained that one of the statutory requirements by state law and as part of the budget adoption is that any fund requiring use of a portion or all of their beginning fund balance must be approved through resolution by the Board of Education. The specific purpose for usage must be stated as well as the district's plan to ensure that the use of the beginning fund balance will not lead to an ongoing deficit. The following fund budgets have used a portion of their beginning fund balances: athletics, building, capital reserve, Colorado preschool and kindergarten program, grants, copier services, print services, nutrition services, pupil activity, risk-related activity, and special programs. The Board will be asked to approve the resolution on June 17.

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

No Items

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

2008-09 New America School Calendar

Stuart explained that based on state law, schools that request a four-day work week calendar must seek approval from the Board. The New America Charter School has requested a four-day work schedule to accommodate their student population. Stuart invited Scott Mader, principal of New America Charter School, to the staff table to answer questions from the Board.

Mader shared that this is the third year that the New America Charter School has requested a four-day work week calendar. Many students that attend the New America Charter School are older and work while attending school. It also helps some students who have young children with childcare expenses. We make certain that the four-day work week calendar meets all of the instructional contact

requirements of CDE. The Board will be asked to approve the four-day work week calendar on June 17.

DIVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES

Presentation of Design of New P-8 Prototype School

Sturges invited Jim Bittle, director of construction management and support, to the staff table to present information on the preliminary design of the new P-8 school. Funding for the preliminary design will come from the 2002 bond program; funding for construction of the new P-8 will come from a future bond project.

Bittle introduced Amy Spatz, construction manager; George Braling, principal with RB+B Architects; and Adele Wilson, principal with SlaterPaul architects. Both firms are working on the project as a joint venture.

Bittle highlighted differences between the new P-8 project and the Murphy Creek prototype. The new school will be one-third larger than Murphy Creek and have 100 students per grade level. Space will be provided for full-day kindergarten and 96 preschool children in the Early Childhood Education Program. The building will be two storied with an emphasis on sustainability. LEED concepts will be used in the project. The architects have been requested to design the building with flexibility to operate as one large school or as two smaller schools.

Wilson reviewed the overall site plan. The new P-8 school would be built on the south end of the proposed 100-acre site. The bus drop off point would be in the front of the building. Two good size parking lots have been designed away from play areas in case APS elects to have two schools within the building. Seventeen acres has been dedicated to the P-8 school site.

Braling worked with the design advisory group comprised of twelve to fifteen staff and administrators to help craft the philosophy of the two-story building. The general consensus from the advisory group was to design two independent schools. The floor plan consists of two classroom groupings of eight classrooms created in clusters of small group learning areas centered throughout teacher planning areas. The special education program and early childhood education program with a contained outside play area would be accessible from the west side. Separate parking and accessibility is available on the site. The second floor plan would house the media center, an art area and some science rooms. Four stairwells are included in the design. Alternate floor plans have also been developed.

In meetings with high school architects, the sense was to develop a prairie architectural model in a contemporary sense with building elevations, various colors and glass, and options for glazing within each classroom for more natural daylight. Due to the soil condition on the site, Braling shared that the P-8 school would have a structural floor with a crawl space for additional storage and usage.

Cukale asked if solar panels would be used. Braling shared that glazing for natural daylight would be introduced. Cukale asked how green the building would be. Braling shared that the building would be very green especially in terms of air quality and use of energy efficient materials. Bittle interjected that the door is still open to pursue a LEED certification but overall costs would have to be reviewed to determine effectiveness.

Lewis asked if there would be anything mechanical on the roof. Wilson replied that exhaust pipes and fans would be on the roof but mechanical units would be in the crawl space.

Cook commented that when we looked at K-8 schools in the past, the idea was to have a footprint of the building designed to use for future buildings. Bittle shared that we are approaching this with the objective that it would be a prototype that could be used at other locations where we have acreage to put a larger school.

Barry commented that the P-8 school was designed with instructional elements first. Cook asked what the building capacity was. Bittle replied 1,600 students.

Cook thanked the presenters for the presentation.

Attendance Area Realignment between North and West Middle Schools

Sturges invited Josh Hensley, planning coordinator, to the staff table to provide information on a recent study from school services in regard to a small attendance area realignment between North and West Middle Schools.

Hensley shared that middle school attendance boundaries were not aligned when attendance boundaries were drawn at Fletcher Elementary in 2001. We recently noticed that there was a one block gap in which Crawford's attendance area is within the feeder area of North Middle School. The remaining area is within the feeder area of West Middle School. We would like to realign the attendance area so the two affected fifth grade students have the opportunity to attend West Middle School if desired. We would also give them the option to attend North Middle School if desired. Both schools are in walking distance and would not affect transportation. Information was shared with affected middle school principals and both requested that families receive ample communication of options.

Cukale moved and Lewis seconded to move information item II-F-2 to action.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg Lewis, Prince #7998

Approved on a 7-0 vote

III. CONSENT AGENDA - ACTION ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

No Items

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESEARCH

Application for DAAC Committee Appointment

DIVISION OF FINANCE

No Items

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Classified Personnel

Licensed Personnel

Non-Licensed Administrative and Professional/Technical Personnel

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

No Items

DIVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES

No Items

Cukale moved and Carmany seconded to adopt the consent agenda as presented.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #7999

Approved on a vote of 7-0

IV. ACTION ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

No Items

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESEARCH

Expenditures Summary and Financial Report as of April 30, 2008

Weeks shared that the Board received the Expenditure Summary and Financial Report as of April 30, 2008, encompassing details of all funds and spending. The recommendation is that the Board approve the Expenditures Summary and Financial Report dated April 30, 2008, as presented.

Edberg moved and Lewis seconded to approve the Expenditures Summary and Financial Report dated April 30, 2008, as presented.

Weeks shared that the spending rate as shown on the comment page of the general fund is 93.1 percent compared to 91 percent last year. This is a reflection of a reduced budget compared to last year at this time and increased cost pressures in many areas of the general fund. This rate will be critical during the October/November time frame as a result of the decrease in the operation budget this spring.

Weeks drew the Board's attention to comments and opinions from auditors last spring in regard to the financial status of the Lotus Charter School. He urged the Board to consider having representatives from Lotus present information on their financial status prior to their contract renewal next spring.

Weeks shared that a charter liaison position was created and has been filled. The liaison will oversee and develop a monitoring program for district charter schools. Quarterly updates will be provided to the Board.

Cuklale asked when the Board would receive the first report. Ecárcega shared that Efren Ortiz has been hired as a full-time charter liaison and is scheduled to

start July 1. Ortiz will meet with the Board before the June 17 Board meeting.

Cook asked if the Lotus budget had been secure with personal loans as it was last year. Weeks replied that it was a similar situation. Lotus has provided a five year budget and it does look reasonable.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #8000

Approved on vote of 7-0

DIVISION OF FINANCE

No Items

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

No Items

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Rebound Program

Stuart shared that the Board was presented with the Rebound program contract under separate cover at the May 20 meeting. The recommendation is that the Board approve the one-year contract to transition the Alternative Center to a center that serves expelled and at-risk students as presented.

Prince moved and Cook seconded to approve the one-year contract to transition the Alternative Center to a center that serves expelled and at-risk students as presented.

Barry commented that this is a great opportunity for kids. It focuses on both expelled students and students on the verge of dropping out of school.

Lewis asked how many students the building would hold. Stuart replied that we are contracted for about 75 slots. Most of the classes are online and schedules would be split. There is good potential to grow the program.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #8001

Approved on a vote of 6-0

Barber abstained from voting

Instructional Materials Adoption

Stuart shared that the Board was presented with a list of proposed instructional materials for adoption on May 20.

The recommendation is that the Board adopt the basic and supplemental textbooks and instructional materials as presented.

Lewis moved and Cukale seconded to adopt the basic and supplemental textbooks and instructional materials as presented.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #8002

Approved on a vote of 7-0

DIVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES

Athletic Participation Fee Increase

Sturges shared that the Board was presented with information in regard to a proposed athletic participation fee increase on May 20.

The recommendation is that the Board approve the athletic participation fee increase as presented.

Lewis moved and Barber seconded to approve the proposed athletic participation fee increase as presented.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #8003

Approved on a vote of 7-0

2008-09 Insurance Renewal

Sturges shared that the Board heard information in regard to the 2008-09 insurance renewal proposal on May 20.

The recommendation is that the Board approve the 2008-09 total insurance renewal proposal.

Cook commented that Hoppe does a great job negotiating insurance rates for the district.

Hoppe provided a correction from the May 20 Board meeting in regard to a question asked by Carmany about insurance costs for each district vehicle. Hoppe shared that it costs \$500 to insure each district vehicle. She also noted that negotiations are ongoing in regard to property insurance and final figures may decrease further.

Prince moved and Cukale seconded to approve the 2008-09 total insurance renewal proposal as presented.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #8004

Approved on a vote of 7-0

Attendance Area Realignment between North and West Middle Schools

Sturges recommended that the Board approve the small attendance realignment between North Middle School and West Middle School as presented.

Cukale moved and Edberg seconded to approve the small attendance area realignment between North Middle School and West Middle School as presented.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #8005

Approved on a vote of 7-0

IV. CONCLUDING ITEMS

Opportunity for Audience

Patricia Maynard, 18769 E. Linvale Cirle, Aurora, 303-627-9551, introduced her daughter, Janei Maynard.

Janei Maynard is a former student at Aurora Quest Academy and Summit Academy. She shared that the French and Spanish curriculum was of great benefit to her when she traveled to England and France as a student ambassador. Her working knowledge of French assisted her when ordering food, buying souvenirs and in general communications with French natives. She had a wonderful experience and made a lasting connection with a French pen pal.

Maynard shared that for students who are not exposed to other cultures; foreign language is an opportunity to connect to new cultures. In learning second languages, students are able to explore other cultures and broaden their views of the world. My six years of Spanish helped me connect to my Mom's language and culture from the Philippines. The Philippine language was easier to learn because Spanish derives from Latin.

The second language teachers at Aurora Quest Academy and Summit Academy teach all elements of the culture including customs, music and food. Removing the Spanish curriculum from Aurora Quest Academy is depriving students of the culture and opportunities that come from learning second languages.

Patricia Maynard learned that the Spanish program was being cut at the end of the year. She shared that both of her kids attend Aurora Quest Academy. They are lucky to have a multicultural family to expose them to different cultures and languages. School is the learning opportunity for kids who are not exposed to different languages and cultures. It would be disheartening for students to eliminate the foreign language program. Aurora Quest Academy is a gifted and talented school. Removing the foreign language program would be a set back. It feels like we are going back to being a normal public school.

Correspondence

Next meeting date

The next business meeting of the Board of Education will be held June 17, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. in the Dr. Edward and Patricia Lord Boardroom.

Adjournment

The regular meeting of the Board of Education adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

President

ATTEST _____

Secretary