

I. PRELIMINARY

Cook called the August 19, 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 August 19, 2008, agenda was approved as written.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education held August 5, 2008, were approved as written.

Student Performance

The Gateway Athenians, under the direction of John Richard, performed two musical selections at the August 19 Board meeting. Barry presented Richard with a Superintendent recognition coin for his leadership and directing of the talented musical ensemble.

Opportunity for Audience

II. INFORMATION ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Reports from the Board of Education

Prince attended back-to-school nights at Jewell and North. She had a wonderful experience helping parents and interacting with middle school students.

Barber attended back-to-school nights at Wheeling and Virginia Court. She also attended an ice cream social at General's Park hosted by community neighbors partnering to support Paris and Montview. Many families attended the ice cream social and it was a wonderful way to start the year.

Lewis spoke to parents about the bond and mill levy override at back-to-school night at Aurora Frontier. She will be attending many school events in the upcoming weeks to talk to parents about the bond and mill levy override.

Carmany attended the grand opening ceremony at Aurora Quest K-8 and back-to-school night at Side Creek. She commented that nothing matches the excitement seen and felt during the first few weeks of school. She thanked district staff for all their work and efforts in preparing schools to open.

Cukale attended back-to-school nights at Paris, Wheeling, Montview, Arkansas and Mrachek. He was impressed with schools visited and saw lots of enthusiasm from kids. Teachers were excited about new classroom technology, and school buildings were absolutely spotless. Cukale thanked Anthony Sturges, Bob Ropkin and the district custodial staff for all their hard work and efforts to ensure buildings are clean and well maintained.

Cook shared that former APS Board Member Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Tauriello passed away on Monday, August 11. Tauriello was instrumental in creating the APS finance department and securing funding for improvements at Aurora Central. He did so much for the district and will be missed.

Items of Current Interest

Barry shared that the APS Board of Education and the Risk Management Department applauds every APS site for promoting a safe workplace with overall decreased employee injuries. Total reported claims were down last year as well as initial funds reserved for those claims. We commend staff at Crawford, Elkhart, Park Lane, Aurora Hills, East, ESC 4 and the Warehouse for having an extremely safe year with no employee injuries. We also praise Maintenance and Operations, Transportation, Custodial Operations and Nutrition Services for decreasing their claims or leveling off from last year.

Barry presented sites with certificates of recognition. Cook commended all of the safe work sites. This is truly a remarkable accomplishment for a large organization and will allow us to put savings from decreased claims back into the classroom. Well done!

Thanks to bond dollars, APS will open the new Jamaica Child Development Center dedicated solely to preschool-aged at-risk students. Please join the APS Board of Education and district leadership at a grand opening celebration on Thursday, August 21, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Anschutz Medical Campus Partnership

Van Gytenbeek invited Carol McBride, development director for the APS Health Sciences Collaborative; Ryann Patrick-Stuart, district science instructional coordinator; and Marilyn Achten, district science coach to the staff table to present an overview of efforts that will significantly impact the instruction in APS

by forging and leveraging a partnership with the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

McBride reviewed a list of University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus partners and community partners including CCA, Metropolitan Community Provider Network, Denver Museum of Nature and Science and APS. The list of partners is referred to as the Aurora Public Schools Health Science Collaborative, and every member shares the APS vision and mission.

The United States Department of Labor is predicting a 28 percent increase in the health profession field by 2012, which would add 3.5 million jobs to the economy. The Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education predicts a 30 percent increase in the demand for physicians, a 58 percent increase in the demand for pharmacists, a 12 percent increase in the demand for dentists and a 43 percent increase in the demand for physical therapists. The Area Health Education Center predicts that to keep up with population growth, Colorado will require more than 10,000 healthcare professionals by 2012. APS students have great potential to meet the needs of the demand, and we have envisioned and started to create the Aurora LIGHTS Career Pipeline (Leading the Way in Health Sciences). The vision of Aurora LIGHTS is to create a pool of APS students to graduate and enter allied health profession programs. The Aurora LIGHTS mission is to develop and maintain a P-20 pipeline to support and guide APS students to health science professions through rigorous academic programs, associated field experiences and exposure to career opportunities.

McBride reviewed the APS health sciences collaborative logo that represents the partnerships and the pipeline. The logo will appear on all APS Health Sciences Collaborative documents and all documents pertaining to the pipeline on the Anschutz campus.

Patrick-Stuart shared that three elementary schools, one middle school and four high schools have been identified for the partnership and we are working to create pathways for APS students to enter health science careers. Each of the partner schools has five main components including standards-based content and pacing guides for science that are enriched with health science connections, career exposure and opportunities, field experience and presentations of learning. At the elementary level, we have started to form a design team to help create the curriculum. Professional development will be provided for teachers on content topics and we will partner with other health institutions in the community to prepare our students. We will begin to integrate professionals from the Anschutz Medical Center into the classroom and provide field experience for elementary students to visit the campus.

North Middle School has launched the Academy of Health Sciences and Technology into their curriculum. Ninety-six students have been identified and are currently experiencing enriched curriculum and will be participating in field experiences at the medical center throughout the year. A video of students interested in the program was presented to the Board and audience.

Patrick-Stuart shared that the goal is to identify students at the high school level by November 2008 and start the ninth and tenth grade portion of the pipeline by January 2009. High schools students will have opportunities to participate in Saturday and summer academies as well as mini medical school. Seniors and juniors will have opportunities for internships with medical professionals and opportunities to participate in research labs.

McBride concluded that we are creating state-of-the-art schools, working with a state-of-the-art medical campus, forming state-of-the-art partnerships and building a state-of-the-art pipeline for our students. We are transforming lives and creating partnerships that will make us strong.

McBride thanked the partners, APS Board, district leadership team and the Division of Instruction. She also thanked APS principals for their wisdom and energy, APS teachers for their amazing commitment to student success, and Tony Van Gytenbeek and Superintendent Barry for their amazing vision.

Barber commented that when she saw the North Middle School Academy of Health Sciences and Technology on August 2, it brought tears to her eyes. She complimented presenters on how far they have come in such a short time.

Lewis was also amazed on how far the program has progressed. She asked how many students were currently enrolled in the program. McBride replied that the North Middle School Academy of Health Sciences and Technology has admitted 96 students, 32 students per grade level. The high school identification process is currently underway. We hope to identify 30 students per grade level at each of the four high schools. The entire student body will be immersed in health science at the elementary level.

Prince asked how high school students would be identified. Achten replied that the identification process will be similar to the process used at North. We looked at math CSAP scores, attendance, motivation and overall GPA. During the student interview process at North, teachers lowered the GPA admissions requirement to 2.5. A similar process will be used at the high school level but we will incorporate more test scores in the identification process.

Edberg commended staff and district leaders for having the foresight and dream to make this a reality. This is an incredible opportunity for our students to have the medical center in our district.

McBride shared that the first group of students from North will visit the medical center on September 4. Seventh grade students studying cells will interact with medical professionals about what they have learned and will be able to experience real-world applications.

McBride thanked Susan Olezene, director of student achievement, curriculum and professional learning. She also thanked Brenda Lane for her amazing energy in helping to get the health science center up and running.

Van Gytenbeek commented that we have an incredible group of people who are inspired to make this happen for our students, parents and district. He thanked district leadership for all their help and support. This program will be institutionalized and will be a part of the APS district and community for a long time. It is an amazing opportunity for APS students.

Vanguard Special Education Agreement/Amendment to Charter School Contract

Kathleen Hostetler, district legal counsel, and Ralph Albertson, director of exceptional student services, provided an update on the Vanguard special education agreement/amendment to the charter school contract.

Hostetler shared that last year the district entered into an agreement with

Vanguard Charter School in which they were given primary responsibility for special education services for their learning disabled students. The district is primarily responsible for special education services for learning disabled students at all other charter schools. Two changes are being proposed to the updated amendment as follows: continue terms of amendment for one year, August 19, 2008 through May 22, 2009, and revise the funding rate received by Vanguard for assuming special education services for their learning disabled students.

When we provide special education services to charter schools, APS retains funding. This year, we retained \$650 for each learning disabled student, which is \$60 more than last year. We agreed to portion the \$60 increase with the charter; Vanguard will retain \$45 and APS will retain \$15. Vanguard will retain a total of \$485 for providing special education services to their learning disabled students and APS will retain \$165. APS will continue to provide a few specified services as stated in the contract including:

- orientation and mobility services
- assisted technology
- services to expelled students
- nursing services

Cukale asked how improvements to services and instruction would be provided and evaluated. Albertson replied that last year was introductory and growing, this year is evaluating. Student progress and achievement will be the primary focus of our evaluation. We will also evaluate how services are rendered as well as time and cost to implement within the agreement. We will no longer have to look at teaching services because Vanguard will provide it. Our oversight will review how IEPs are written and how services are provided to ensure we remain in compliance with state mandates. We will evaluate in January to determine if it is working and financially feasible to continue.

Rob Miller, director of operations at Vanguard, commented that we are looking forward to working with the district.

Cukale moved and Carmany seconded to amend the agenda to move information item II-A-4 to action.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #8018

Approved on a vote of 7-0

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESEARCH

No Items

DIVISION OF FINANCE

No Items

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

No Items

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

No Items

DIVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES

No Items

III. CONSENT AGENDA - ACTION ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

No Items

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESEARCH

No Items

DIVISION OF FINANCE

No Items

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Classified Personnel

Licensed Personnel

Non-Licensed Administrative and Professional/Technical Personnel

Negotiated Agreement

Allen invited Brenda Isaacs, AEA president, to the staff table to review the negotiated settlement of the master agreement.

Isaacs shared that we successfully reached an agreement after one of the most difficult bargaining sessions. It is a credit to the hard work of the negotiators on both the AEA and district bargaining teams that we have made this agreement possible.

Isaacs acknowledged regret for not providing cost of living increases for employees that will keep up with inflation. It is a credit to the employees of APS that they are willing to sacrifice to help resolve a difficult budget situation. This is especially true for our classified colleagues who may suffer more than teachers or administrators. AEA is moving forward and will support the passage of 3A and 3B in November. We recognize the short-term budget needs for this election and the need to provide long-term stability for APS students in order to remain competitive with services provided in Colorado school districts. If we are to meet the goals of VISTA 2010 and offer a world class education for our students, we cannot do it without the appropriate resources.

Isaacs thanked the Board of Education for their tireless commitment in working for APS students. She also thanked the district and AEA bargaining teams for going above the call of duty to ensure we had a negotiated agreement to present to teachers and the Board this school year.

We concluded our vote this afternoon during the AR meeting. We had roughly 50 percent of our membership vote, and 80 percent of those voting approved the

negotiated agreement. From the AEA membership perspective, we have ratified the tentative agreement.

Allen thanked the AEA and district bargaining teams. She also thanked the Board of Education for their consultation, advice and support during negotiations. It was a long negotiation session but it was carried out with a high degree of professionalism and with the goal of providing the best education possible for our students.

Allen noted that the communication plan was reviewed with the Board and Isaacs earlier today to ensure changes to the negotiated agreement that have been ratified are thoroughly communicated.

Cukale thanked Isaacs for helping him understand the negotiation process and for her overall professionalism.

Classified Nonsupervisory Salary

Administrator and Professional/Technical Salary Adjustment

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

No Items

DIVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES

No Items

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

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #8019

Approved on a vote of 7-0

IV. ACTION ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Vanguard Special Education Agreement/Amendment to Charter School Contract

Cukale moved and Carmany seconded to approve the Vanguard special education agreement/amendment as presented.

Barber asked if the charter agreement would expire in January 2009. Hostetler clarified that the agreement was for the entire year but we will begin negotiating the contract for next year in January. Cukale added that we will look at the effectiveness of the agreement in January.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #8020

Approved on a vote of 7-0

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESEARCH

No Items

DIVISION OF FINANCE

Expenditure Summary and Financial Report as of June 30, 2008

Weeks noted that the Board received the June 30 Interim Financial Report under separate cover and the expenditure summary report showing an expenditure of \$352 million for the year ended, June 30, 2008.

The recommendation is that the Board approve the Expenditures Summary and Financial Report dated June 30, 2008, as presented.

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

Weeks commented that due to increases in utilities and fuel, opening of new buildings and the reduction of funding, we were not able to hit our targeted spending rate of 92 percent. This will impact our balance and will be noted in the audit that the Board will receive in a couple of months.

Interfund borrowing in the amount of \$1.6 million has occurred in three funds: nutrition services, copier services and the grant fund. The scheduled payment for outstanding bonds was made on June 1. Our current outstanding debt is \$212 million with the capacity of \$370 million.

Roll Call: Barber, Carmany, Cook, Cukale, Edberg, Lewis, Prince #8021

Approved on a vote of 7-0 vote

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

No Items

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

No Items

DIVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES

No Items

IV. CONCLUDING ITEMS

Opportunity for Audience

Correspondence

Next meeting date

The next business meeting of the Board of Education will be held September 2, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. in the Dr. Edward and Mrs. Patricia Lord Boardroom.

Adjournment

The regular meeting of the Board of Education adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

August 19, 2008

President

ATTEST

Secretary