



Board of Education
Minutes
Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Available seating is contingent on room capacity restrictions and provided on a first-come basis or lottery system, if necessary. Community members can also view this meeting via livestream via YouTube.

Call to Order and Roll Call

1. Call to Order

RECOMMENDATION: That the presiding Board Director calls the meeting to order.

The meeting of the Board of Education of Douglas County School District (DCSD) Number RE-1, held at 620 Wilcox St., Castle Rock, CO, 80104, was called to order by President Williams at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

RECOMMENDATION: That the presiding Board Director calls roll.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Geiger, Meek, Myers, Thompson, Williams, Winegar.

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: N/A

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Superintendent Kane, Deputy Superintendent Hiatt, Assistant Superintendent Winsor, Learning Services Officer Reynolds, General Counsel Klimesh, Chief Technology Officer Blair, Chief Operations Officer Cosgrove, Chief Human Resources Officer Thompson, Chief Financial Officer Schleusner, Communications Officer Rader and Board Assistant Secretary Brockman.

Pledge of Allegiance

3. Pledge of Allegiance

RECOMMENDATION: That the presiding Board Director leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

DCSD Spotlight

4. VIDEO: Faces of DCSD - Sue Tymkew, Physical Education Teacher/Athletic Trainer, Chaparral High School

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

The Board of Education viewed a school spotlight video featuring Sue Tymkew, a physical education teacher and athletic trainer at Chaparral High School. The "Faces of DCSD" series can be found on DCSD's YouTube channel.

Superintendent Reports

5. Superintendent Updates

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

Superintendent Kane provided the following updates:

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- January 9th was Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Superintendent Kane expressed her gratitude to the local heroes who keep our schools safe.
- The Eagle Academy Winter Class of 2024 will graduate on Friday, January 12th.
- The Continental League Musical Festival will take place on Tuesday, January 16th at Boettcher Hall in Denver.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is Monday, January 15th. DCSD schools will be closed in observance of this holiday.
- A Highlands Ranch High School alumni represented Douglas County in the College Football Playoff National Championship game. Drake Nugent plays Center for the University of Michigan Wolverines who pulled off the win over the University of Washington.
- Mountain Vista High School student Austyn Modrzewski was named the Gatorade Colorado Football Player of the Year. Austyn is the first Gatorade Colorado Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Mountain Vista High School.
- The Foundation for Douglas County Schools is hosting its "Lend a Hand" School Supply Drive for DCSD teachers. Donations can be dropped off at any Douglas County Library, any Douglas County Office Depot, or at DCSD's Administration Building on Wilcox from now until January 26th!
- Last month, DCSD completed a critical step towards adding another endorsement area (Special Education Generalist) to its Alternative Licensure Program for next year. The application will be peer reviewed by the Colorado Department of Education prior to being presented to the State Board of Education for approval later this spring. Once approved, DCSD will have the ability to grow our own Special Education teachers and address a key staffing need.
- On Monday, January 8th, Castle View High School and Legend High School Unified Basketball teams played during halftime at the Denver Nuggets game.
- Prior to Winter Break, many DCSD schools and departments participated in community service projects. For example, Mesa Middle School partnered with the Town of Castle Rock Government Municipal Court and Castle Rock Police Department to provide Christmas for ten families at Mesa. In addition, HOPE Online hosted a HOPE Angel program in which their community could adopt a family for the holidays.
- On Wednesday, January 24th, Chaparral High School will host a parent event, "The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana", featuring author Laura Stack. The event is open to the public and takes place at Chaparral in the Mary Gill Theater beginning at 6:15 p.m.
- Douglas County High School hosted the 12th Annual "Rumble at the Rock" on Saturday, January 6th for all DCSD high school unified basketball teams. Arapahoe High School's (Littleton Public School District) and Cherokee Trail High School's (Cherry Creek School District) unified basketball teams also participated in the tournament.

6. State Accountability Task Force Update

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

- Attachment #1: Accountability Task Force Updates BOE 1-9-24
- Attachment #2: Accountability Task Force Updates FINAL BOE 1-9-24

Superintendent Kane updated the Board of Education on the work of the State Accountability Task Force of which she is a member. Passed during the 2023 legislative session, House Bill 23-1241 created a 26-member representative task force to study academic opportunities, inequities, promising practices in schools, and improvements to the accountability and accreditation system.

Study Session

7. Mill Levy Certification Update

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

- Attachment #1: 2023-2024 Mill Levy Certification for Board 1.9.24 (Presentation)
- Attachment #2: Letters to Douglas and Elbert Counties for Mill Levy Certification

Chief Financial Officer Schleusner presented 2023-2024 certified mill levy numbers to the Board. A discussion ensued concerning the impact to mill levy numbers should the Douglas County Commissioners successfully institute a four percent reduction in residential home values.

8. District Performance Framework Presentation

RECOMMENDATION: Information only

- Attachment #1: BOE Presentation - 2023 Performance Frameworks (Final)

Learning Services Officer Reynolds presented the final 2023 District Performance Framework Summary and the final 2023 School Performance Framework Summary to the Board. DCSD is currently ranked "Accredited," and is very close to meeting the "Accredited with Distinction," threshold. Additionally, DCSD schools will receive a combined 44 School Performance Framework awards from the Colorado Department of Education this spring.

9. Superintendent Monitoring Report: End #1: Academic Excellence

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

- Attachment #1: MonitoringReportAcademicExcellenceBOE 1-9-24 DRAFT
- Attachment #2: Monitoring Report_ Academic Excellence (23-24)

Superintendent Kane presented her Monitoring Report on End #1, Academic Excellence, to the Board of Education.

10. Social Media Challenges Presentation

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

Attachment #1: Social Media Impacts BOE 1-9-24 (Presentation)

Superintendent Kane discussed the negative consequences of social media on students' mental health and presented staff's recommendation that DCSD join other school districts in bringing litigation against social media companies. If authorized by the Board at their January 23rd meeting, the lawsuit would be filed by the law firm of Wagstaff & Cartmell which would represent the District on a contingency fee basis, meaning that DCSD would not be required to pay any legal fees and expenses unless compensation/damages are recovered as a result of the litigation.

A Board discussion ensued on partnering with parents versus joining a lawsuit. There was general Board consensus to have Wagstaff & Cartmell present at the January 23rd Board meeting.

Recess

President Williams called a recess at 7:04 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

11. Growth and Decline Update

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

- Attachment #1: Growth and Decline Updates BOE 1-9-24

Superintendent Kane and Assistant Superintendent Winsor discussed growth and decline in DCSD including enrollment challenges, opportunities, and next steps. DCSD's North Area Planning Team will provide an update to the Board in February 2024.

Policy Governance

12. Board of Education Community Connections Plan

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

Attachment #1: 2023-24 DCSD Community Connections Plan_Jan2024.docx

Attachment #2: DAC Feedback at 11_16_23 meeting

Attachment #3: 11.29.23_BOE Engagement (Charter Leaders)

Attachment #4: 12.11.23_BOE Engagement (Legislators)

The Board discussed their Community Connections Plan, DAC feedback on proposed changes to DCSD's mission and vision statements, the Board's engagement with charter school leaders, and the Board's engagement with the Douglas County legislative delegation.

Board of Education Reports

13. President Report

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

President Williams advised:

- Welcomed everyone back from Winter Break.
- A Special Board Meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. to conduct initial candidate interviews for the vacant Director District B seat. Nine candidates will be interviewed and the Board will select up to three candidates from this group for a final interview on January 23, 2024.
- The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
- Agenda Planning for the January 23rd Board Meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.
- Congratulations to Eagle Academy graduates.
- Thank you to our law enforcement heroes for their dedication to school safety.

14. Vice President Items

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

Vice President Winegar thanked fellow Board members for covering her committee meetings while she is out of town next week. She also provided updates from the last Mill Bond Oversight Committee (MBOC) meeting.

15. Director Items, Board Committee and Liaison Reports

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

Director Geiger stated that there is an impressive candidate pool for the vacant Director District B seat. He also commented on the resiliency of the Ponderosa High School students who elected hold their concert anyway despite the recent passing of their beloved music teacher.

Director Myers provided updates from the last Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning Board of Cooperative Educational Services (RMSEL BOCES) and Douglas County Youth Initiative (DCYI) meetings. DCSD will be leaving RMSEL at the end of this school year.

Director Thompson stated that she also attended Ponderosa High School's music concert and thanked those who applied for the Director District B seat.

Director Meek also thanked the Director District B applicants, reminded everyone that the Foundation for Douglas County Schools' school supply drive is underway, and announced that she has been appointed to the Colorado Association of School Boards' (CASB) Board for a one-year term as well as to the CASB Legislative Resolutions Committee.

Adjournment

16. Adjournment

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board President adjourns the meeting.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Director Geiger moved; Director Myers seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

Geiger, aye; Meek, aye; Myers, aye; Thompson, aye; Williams, aye; Winegar, aye.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 6 Nay: 0. The motion carried 6-0.

President Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

These minutes summarize the final decisions made by the Board of Education at the referenced meeting. View the meeting via You Tube by accessing the following link: <https://youtube.com/live/d30pLK30Pw4?feature=share>.

Supporting document(s) attached to the agenda <https://douglas.ic-board.com/>



Christy Williams

Christy Williams
Board of Education President

Becky Myers

Becky Myers
Board of Education Secretary

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