

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE DISTRICT FREMONT RE-1 BOARD OF
EDUCATION HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM, LOCATED IN THE CENTRAL
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 101 N. 14TH STREET, CAÑON CITY, COLORADO
5:30 p.m., April 9, 2012**

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

President, **Honey Moschetti** , called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. Roll Call:

Secretary, **Dan Cushman**, called roll.

Present: **Honey Moschetti**, President; **Mike Near**, Vice-President; **Dan Cushman**, Secretary; **Larry Oddo**, Treasurer; and **Lloyd Harwood**, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

Also present: Superintendent, **Robin Gooldy**; Director of Human Resources, **Ty Valentine**; Director of Business Services, **L. F. "Buddy" Lambrecht**; Director of Instruction/Assessment, **Carole Brown**; Director of Student Services, **Dominic Carochi**; Director of Special Services, **Kirsten Javernick**; and Chief Information Officer, **Shaun Kohl**.

Absent: Attorney, **Rocco Meconi**.

II. General Business

A. Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Gooldy announced the following changes to the agenda:

Addition to the Personnel Reports – Item II. D. 3. b. – Terminations and Leaves

Addition to the Action Agenda – Item V. B. 9. – Selection of a Principal

Larry Oddo made a motion to accept the agenda as amended. Dan Cushman seconded the motion. On a 5-0 vote, the Board approved the motion.

B. Any person who has submitted a written request prior to the meeting may express views concerning school district programs and policies. Comments of a critical or negative nature regarding any employee are not allowed. Each speaker will be limited to 5 minutes. Discussion of a specific topic will normally be limited to no more than 4 speakers, or 20 minutes total.

Members of the media will be allowed to video or record, so long as their actions do not interfere or interrupt the meeting process.

No one present wished to speak on any item not on the agenda.

D. Consent Agenda:

Items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and approval is with one motion. If a Board member or a citizen requests separate discussion of an item, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

1. Approval of the Minutes of March 12, March 19, and April 2, 2012

2. Approval of the Financial Disbursement Report For the Period Ending April 5, 2012
3. Approval of the Following Personnel Reports:
 - a. Appointments
 - b. Terminations and Leaves
 - c. Substitute Lists For Certificated and Classified Positions

Mike Near moved and Dan Cushman seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. On a 5-0 vote, the Board approved the motion.

E. Staff Report

1. INFORMATION ITEMS:

The following items are presented for information only unless otherwise noted or if a Board member has a question.

a. Hiring Cycles per Senate Bill 191 Requirements:

Director of Human Resources, Ty Valentine, presented new S.O.P. 541, which clarifies the District's hiring cycles and mutual consent. These must be identified per State Statute related to Senate Bill 191 in the event of teacher displacement. The SOP defines mutual consent and clarifies the law derived from the Teacher Effectiveness Bill.

b.

2. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a.

F. BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS:

III. Review of Board Policies

A. POLICIES:

1.

IV. Old Business

A. ACTION ITEMS:

1.

V. New Business

A. ACTION ITEMS:

1. School-to-Work Alliance Program (SWAP) Continuing Contract:

It was recommended that Board approve the School-to-Work Alliance Program (SWAP) Contract for continuation July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

Director of Special Services, Mrs. Kirsten Javernick, provided details about the SWAP Program, citing that it is a year-round rehabilitation program which addresses the needs of post-high school individuals with mild to moderate disabilities, and assists them with securing employment or post-secondary education. SWAP currently serves 18 clients.

1. The SWAP Contract for 2012-13, which totals \$81,868.00, will finance the following:
 - a. Salary & benefits for the SWAP Coordinator, 1.0 FTE
 - b. Office expenses at ACCESS Center, including internet and email access, phone, technology assistance and office space
 - c. Mileage reimbursement for the SWAP Coordinator
 - d. Insurance coverage for the SWAP Coordinator's occasional transport of clients
 - e. Miscellaneous supplies

The grant requires matching funds. The local fund will match a total of \$36,840.58 via percentage of salaries for the Director, high school special education personnel and counselors, and Special Services Secretary.

Larry Oddo made a motion to approve the School-to-Work Alliance Program (SWAP) Contract for continuation July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Dan Cushman seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the motion was passed.

B. ACTION ITEMS Concerning the Recommendations Presented at the March 9, 2012 Board Meeting:

On behalf of the entire Board, Mrs. Honey Moschetti made the following statement prior to considering the recommendations for budget reduction/academic improvement:

"I would like to convey the gratitude and appreciation of the entire Board of Education for all the input given to us both in letter form and at the public meetings. The respect and thoughtfulness shown to each one of us throughout this entire process has guided us to stay on task these past weeks and as we move into the future.

The Budget Reduction Taskforce provided us with possible avenues to take to reduce our budget. It was never our intention to get to our goal by simply closing schools. Many options were presented. Every line and item was looked at and discussed.

Academic achievement was and is foremost as we move forward. The direction we are going is positive. With your continued support and guidance in the years ahead, future decisions made will be collaborative and respectful. Thank You."

1. Consolidate Middle School Athletics:

It was recommended that the Board approve consolidating selected middle school athletic programs from Cañon City Middle School and Harrison Middle School into one middle school athletic program, and increasing participation fees sufficiently to reduce General Fund costs by \$47,000.

The programs designated for consolidation to serve students from both middle schools include girls' softball, coed cross country, coed track and field, and coed wrestling. Girls' basketball, girls' volleyball, boys' basketball, and boys' football would continue to be offered at both middle schools. The participation fees would be increased to \$75 per sport.

1. Consolidate Middle School Athletics, cont'd.:

Larry Oddo made a motion to approve consolidating selected middle school athletic programs from Cañon City Middle School and Harrison Middle School into one middle school athletic program, and increasing participation fees sufficiently to reduce General Fund costs by \$47,000. Mike Near seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the motion was passed.

2. Discontinue Offering Long-Term Disability Insurance:

It was recommended that the Board approve discontinuing the offering of long-term disability insurance as a benefit for employees.

Dr. Gooldy pointed out that in the past 8 or 9 years only 3 or 4 people have taken advantage of this benefit. The intent is to assist interested employees in purchasing this insurance for themselves.

Lloyd Harwood made a motion to approve discontinuing the offering of long-term disability insurance as a benefit for employees. Dan Cushman seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the motion was passed.

3. Establish Lincoln Elementary School as the Lincoln School of Science & Technology:

It was recommended that the Board approve establishing Lincoln Elementary School as the Lincoln School of Science & Technology to serve as a vehicle for improving science achievement in the district.

Academic achievement in the school district has not kept pace with growth in state science achievement results. To complement recent efforts by the Lincoln staff to pursue technology for their school, establishing a school initiative to integrate science into the full curriculum will serve as a model for other schools in the district.

The intent is to use 2012-13 as a planning year and fully implement the program in the 2013-14 school year.

Mike Near made a motion to approve establishing Lincoln Elementary School as the Lincoln School of Science and Technology. Larry Oddo seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the motion was passed.

4. Close GPHS and Consolidate With CCHS:

It was recommended that the Board consolidate the alternative high school program currently in the Garden Park facility with Cañon City High School and move the program into CCHS. This recommendation would close Garden Park High School.

Dr. Gooldy shared that for the past year, efforts have been underway to consolidate the Garden Park High School program into CCHS. A separate area of CCHS will be established to operate the program so that the core program teachers will be able to work as a team. It is expected that this will allow twice as many students to access the program.

4. Close GPHS and Consolidate With CCHS, cont'd:

Dan Cushman made a motion to approve consolidating the alternative high school program currently in the Garden Park facility with Cañon City High School and move the program into CCHS. This recommendation will close Garden Park High School. Lloyd Harwood seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the motion was passed.

5. Reorganize CCMS as K-8 School:

It was recommended that the Board reorganize CCMS as a K-8 school and close the current Skyline Elementary School. Students currently attending Skyline would become students in the CCMS K-8 school.

Mrs. Moschetti asked for a motion to move forward with this recommendation. Hearing none, she declared that the recommendation would “die for lack of a motion”.

6. Reorganize CCMS into Cañon City Exploratory K-8 School:

It was recommended that the Board reorganize Cañon City Middle School into the Cañon City Exploratory K-8 School. As a part of this recommendation, Madison School and Skyline School would be closed. All students would be accepted through an application process, with enrollment capped at 300 K-5 students and approximately 320 6th-8th students.

Mrs. Moschetti asked for a motion to move forward with this recommendation. Hearing none, she declared that the recommendation would “die for lack of a motion”.

7. Establish K-5 Exploratory School at Skyline:

It was recommended that the Board establish a new elementary school, Cañon Exploratory School, in the current Skyline building serving kindergarten through 5th grade, with an option for 6th graders to remain in the program. The school would utilize the exploratory model currently demonstrated in the Madison program and would serve approximately 300 students. This recommendation would close the Madison facility and would close the Skyline attendance area. All students in the new exploratory program would be accepted through the transfer process.

Discussion centered around the fact that this action would close both Madison and Skyline, and create a new school. In delivering the curriculum in this new school it is expected that the exploratory model will be implemented with fidelity.

The Board reiterated that this action was not taken lightly and that the Board members appreciated the passionate parents and awesome students who spoke in favor of keeping Madison Exploratory ‘as it is’. They felt, however, that more students could benefit and academic achievement could be improved if the exploratory model was made available in a larger setting. They encouraged parents to stay involved to help these goals be achieved.

Current interested Madison Exploratory and Skyline students will have priority in the transfer process.

7. Establish a K-5 Exploratory School at Skyline, cont'd.:

Larry Oddo made a motion to approve establishing a new elementary school, Cañon Exploratory School, in the current Skyline Elementary building. The school will serve kindergarten through 5th grade, with an option for 6th graders to remain in the program. The school will utilize the exploratory model, serving approximately 300 students. The recommendation closes the Madison facility and the Skyline attendance area. All students in the new exploratory school will be accepted through the transfer process. Mike Near seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the motion was passed.

8. Establish a Board Committee to Explore Further School Consolidation:

It was recommended that the Board approve the establishment of an advisory committee to examine further consolidation of school facilities in future years to accomplish more efficient use of space.

Discussion centered around the fact that even with the board actions of this meeting, there still exists unused capacity in most of the schools in the district. It is understood that this has the possibility of causing the school district to use funds unnecessarily and not in a manner that supports instruction. Therefore, this committee shall examine opportunities available to further consolidate schools in the future, and make recommendations to the School Board.

As an explanation of the formation of this committee, Mr. Larry Oddo presented the following statement:

(The Board has been) “tasked with reducing the budget, addressing excess capacity, and improving academic achievement. Some of the options presented regarding school closures would have resulted in greater savings. However, after weighing public comments and further due diligence on our part, it was determined that the options that resulted in higher savings would be too disruptive in the short run and threaten the success of our other actions designed to improve academic achievement. We have made great progress, and we have been forced to make some difficult decisions already, but we are not there yet.

Some of the measures to reduce the budget this year cannot be sustained in the long haul (e.g. capital budget, declining enrollment calculation). The Board needs to continue to evaluate options presented by the Budget Reduction Committee that could not be implemented immediately due to potential negative impacts on academic achievement. As a part of that process, we must continue to look at ways to better utilize the space we operate in order to free up funds for instruction.”

Lloyd Harwood made a motion to approve the establishment of an advisory committee to examine further consolidation of school facilities in future years to accomplish more efficient use of space. Dan Cushman seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the motion was passed.

9. Selection of the Principal for K-5 Exploratory School:

It was recommended that the Board select Mrs. Beth Gaffney as the Principal of the new K-5 Exploratory School, with her duties beginning as of April 10, 2012.

Discussion centered around the fact that the Board recognizes that strong leadership for the school is essential, as is having a leader who is familiar with and has experience with the exploratory model. Mrs. Gaffney's duties will begin immediately.

Mike Near made a motion to approve the selection of Mrs. Beth Gaffney as the Principal of Cañon Exploratory School, with her duties beginning April 10, 2012. Larry Oddo seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the motion was passed.

VI. Miscellaneous Business

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, Mrs. Moschetti called for a motion to adjourn.

Lloyd Harwood moved to adjourn the meeting. Dan Cushman seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

**SECRETARY, BOARD OF EDUCATION
FREMONT RE-1 SCHOOL DISTRICT**