

**THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DISTRICT RE-1 BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD IN THE
BOARD ROOM LOCATED IN THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 101 N. 14TH
STREET, CANON CITY, FREMONT COUNTY, March 19, 2012**

I. Roll Call

President, Honey Moschetti, called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and 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 Special Services, Kirsten Javernick, Director of Student Services, Dominic Carochi, and Chief Information Officer, Shaun Kohl.

Absent: Attorney, Rocco Meconi

A. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. General Business

A. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Gooldy announced that there were no changes to the agenda.

Mike Near made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Lloyd Harwood seconded the motion. On a 5-0 vote, the Board approved the motion.

III. New Business

A. Procedures for Public Comment during Special Board Meetings

1. Public comment will be reserved for the appropriate place on the agenda.
2. Anyone wishing to address the board must fill out a speaker information slip and turn it in to the Clerk of the Board prior to the meeting.
3. Individual speakers will be limited to 3 minutes.
4. This is an opportunity for the Board of Education to receive public input on proposed actions. This is not intended as a question & answer process. Accordingly, expect board members to thank you for your comments but not to engage in a dialogue.
5. No one may "donate" their speaking time to another speaker, thereby increasing the 3 minute time limit.
6. No signs, banners, placards, or other "demonstration" type displays or outbursts will be allowed or tolerated.
7. All comments should be directed to the Board of Education members. Do not direct questions or comments to the audience or other individuals.
8. Comments of a negative or critical nature directed toward other people will not be tolerated.
9. Members of the media will be allowed to video or record, so long as their actions do not interfere or interrupt the meeting process.
10. The board hopes to have sufficient time to give everyone who wishes to address the board that opportunity. However, if it appears more people want to speak beyond the scheduled time, the board will have the option to continue the meeting to another date.
11. Any persons requesting to speak at the first meeting, but not having time to do so, will be called at the next meeting before new requests are honored.

Mrs. Moschetti read the above listed procedures aloud, and then called on the people who had signed up to speak.

B. Public Comment Regarding Cost Saving and Academic Improvement Recommendations Under Consideration by the Board

The following 16 people addressed the Board:

Tristen Rowe:

A third grader at Madison, Tristen told of his love for learning and asked the Board to keep Madison as it is in its present location.

Cary Rowe:

Mother of Tristen, Mrs. Rowe also voiced her concerns about changing anything about Madison. She pointed out its strengths and urged the Board to keep the school the way it is.

Mitchell DeDuca:

As a parent of a Skyline student, Mr. DeDuca stated concerns about the options being considered. He questioned the possibility of the 4-day school week and suggested combining the two middle schools, closing the administration building and moving it into the vacated middle school facility.

Dawn Ward:

As a Madison parent, Mrs. Ward expressed gratitude for the recognized success of the Madison Exploratory model. She voiced concern about “too-rapid expansion”, and suggested that instead of the proposed options, the board consider expansion of the exploratory school by opening a Pre-K through 8th Grade multiage school at the old Harrison School.

Lydia Beals:

The mother of a Madison student, Mrs. Beals focused on the attributes of the small school community, and cautioned the Board about the consequences of growing too big too fast. She encouraged the Board to embrace slow growth of the Madison model to preserve the unique culture they enjoy.

Emily Bosisio:

As a former Madison student who is now a senior at CCHS, Miss Bosisio stated that the strong foundation she gained at Madison prepared her for the honors and AP classes she has undertaken in high school. She said she and her Madison alumnae peers have met the challenges of high school classes with much more success than the majority of high schoolers who did not have a Madison background. She urged the Board to keep Madison open in its present location and format.

Dena Brady:

Mrs. Brady, who has taught at Skyline for 25 years, noted that the Skyline community is a close-knit neighborhood with the school being central and within walking distance for a majority of students. She suggested that moving the students to another school if Skyline were to close would present a transportation hardship for already struggling families. Mrs. Brady said Skyline has experienced many changes over the years, and the staff is excited to embrace the change that would be brought by adding the Madison Exploratory model along with its students and staff. She appreciated the tough decisions the Board would have to make, and summed up her statements by asking the Board to consider Option 2, which would combine Madison with Skyline and create the Skyline Exploratory Academy.

Jennifer Newton, Monica McGowan, Tonya Fisher, Judy Near, and Leslie Yale:

Other Skyline staff members, Mrs. Newton, Mrs. McGowan, Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Near, and Mrs. Yale also echoed their support for Option 2, outlining the physical attributes of both Skyline and Madison, and pointing out how the two cultures could blend in very positive ways, changing the face of instruction for the better. They expressed excitement at the possibilities of embodying the 'best of both schools'. The staff spoke enthusiastically about welcoming the Madison staff, students, and Exploratory Model into the Skyline community, allowing the expanded Exploratory School to stay smaller than it would if they were to be merged into Cañon City Middle School in a K-8 exploratory model.

The staff members realized the Board is faced with hard decisions and vocalized their appreciation for the work the Board is doing. They acknowledged that we are journeying into the unknown, hoping to build a stronger school community in the process.

Thiry Mills:

Speaking as a parent of Lincoln students, Mrs. Mills voiced concern about adding students who did not wish to attend the Skyline Exploratory School (if established) to Lincoln's already full classrooms. She was also concerned about the possibility of the school revoking transfers from established students if Lincoln's enrollment grew to accommodate the displaced Skyline students. She expressed her opinion that keeping 6th grade in the elementary schools should be an option available to all schools, not just to one school as it is now.

Scott Elliott:

Mr. Elliott, speaking as a parent, supported having all the district elementary schools become K-8 schools, or if that wasn't feasible, he proposed blending both existing middle schools into one. He believes that the competitive attitudes between the two middle schools are detrimental and would be non-existent if the schools were merged.

Renee Newey:

Mrs. Newey thanked the Board and voiced her appreciation for the job they are doing and the unenviable position they are in to make the decisions which will balance the budget.

Joshua Boone-Wallis:

Madison parent, Mr. Boone-Wallis, expressed despair at not having any good answers for his daughter who he said is "scared to death" of going to another school.

Mrs. Moschetti asked Dr. Gooldy if there was any other information to be shared. Dr. Gooldy invited anyone who might not want to speak publicly, but who had a suggestion or opinion to put that information in writing, and either mail or e-mail it to him or any board member. The board members' e-mail addresses are available on the school district web site. The Board will meet again to receive public input on April 2nd. At the regular board meeting on April 9, 2012, the Board will announce its decisions.

IV. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.