

**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. 14<sup>TH</sup> STREET, CAÑON CITY, COLORADO  
5:30 p.m., February 9, 2015**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call**

President, **Mike Near**, 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, **Lloyd Harwood**, called roll.

Present: **Mike Near**, President; **Larry Oddo**, Vice-President; **Lloyd Harwood**, Secretary; **Shad Johnson**, Treasurer; and **Mary Kay Evans**, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

Also present: Superintendent, **Robin Gooldy**; Director of Business Services, **L. F. "Buddy" Lambrecht**; Director of Special Services, **Kirsten Javernick**; and Director of Support Services, **Paula Buser**

**II. General Business**

**A. Approval of the Agenda**

Dr. Gooldy announced the following changes to the agenda:

II. E. 1. a. CCHS Concurrent Enrollment Partnership with PCC moved to

II. B. 2. Awards and Kudos

II. D. 3. a. Appointments - addition

II. D. 3. b. Substitute Lists for Licensed and Classified Positions - addition

II. E. 1. e. Information Item – S.O.P. 104. A – 504 Guidelines - addition

V. A. 2. Board Action Regarding School Consolidation

**Mary Kay Evans made a motion to accept the agenda as amended. Lloyd Harwood seconded the motion. On a 5-0 vote, the Board approved the motion.**

**B. Awards and Kudos**

1. Recognition of Ken Cline for his work with Tiger Print Recycling and the ADDA Program:

The board recognized Mr. Ken Cline for operating the Tiger Print Recycling program. This program provides students with work experience and job skills in the recycling area. Additionally, Mr. Cline has worked to provide “experienced” technology for our ADDA program with computers, replacement routing switches, and printers.

Two students in the ADDA program, Emily Lambrecht and Kristin Katchmar, acknowledged Mr. Cline’s efforts on behalf of all the students. Also acknowledged was both of these young ladies who volunteered their time during the Christmas break to re-build the CAD lab.

Dr. Gooldy opened with information regarding the Tiger Print Recycling program and how successful the program has been. He also commented on how replacing the technology in our district has been a challenge and that Mr. Cline has been part of the solution.

Dr. Gooldy introduced Mr. Mike Geesaman, instructor for the ADDA program. Mr. Geesaman praised the Tiger Print Recycling Program as an outstanding program and Ken Cline as an outstanding employee. He also recognized two of the five students who came to school over Christmas break to “save their lives in the CAD lab.” Students recognized were Emily Lambrecht and Kristin Katchmar. He added that help sometimes comes from unexpected places and it’s good to take time to recognize that help.

Emily Lambrecht and Kristin Katchmar presented a “major” award to Mr. Cline for all his help. Both students expressed their appreciation to Mr. Cline. Emily commented that it is nice to work at a steady pace and not have to wait for computers to load or worry if work will be saved. Kristin Katchmar added that the difference of the computers in the lab before and after Christmas was incredible. Both students were thankful that Mr. Cline thought of the Design and Drafting and was able to help them out.

Mr. Ken Cline expressed his thanks to Mrs. Javernick for the opportunity to be part of the program. Mr. Cline also expressed his thanks to Julie Cook and Roger Tuttle who are very instrumental in the program. He also stated that the warehouse people, including Jeff Peterson, are huge in helping out. Knowing that it is inconvenient for them at times, they have still been very supportive.

2. CCHS Concurrent Enrollment Partnership with PCC:

Ms. Patricia Erjavic, President of Pueblo Community College and Dr. Lana Carter, Dean of the Fremont Campus of Pueblo Community College, discussed progress with the Concurrent Enrollment program available to students at CCHS. This partnership between PCC and the RE-1 School District is working well for our students who wish to pursue college credit while still in high school.

Dr. Robin Gooldy introduced Ms. Patricia Erjavic, Dr. Lana Carter, and Mr. Mike Gage, Director of Advising and Concurrent Enrollment at PCC. Dr. Gooldy commented that Cañon City Schools has had a long relationship with Pueblo Community College that has been very positive.

This long standing practice has evolved in to something much better. The instructors that are matched up with PCC are able to teach with much more rigor. Also highlighted was the guarantee of transfer credit that students can take with them. This program provides secondary involvement for students and gives students a chance to earn college credit while still in high school saving up to a semester in tuition. With the new scholarship format the district will be able to make it available for more students for less money.

Ms. Erjavic, Dr. Carter, and Mr. Gage presented the district with a refund check for \$61,715.00 and spotlighted the great work of Dr. Gooldy and the school district with the concurrent enrollment. The enrollment numbers and credits hours earned are both up from last fall.

Mr. Buddy Lambrecht explained that this program reimburses the district for 75% of the cost for the program. This is a much better reimbursement than it used to be. It used to be a reimbursement of 25%. It is a much better program.

- C. 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.

No one present wished to address the board.

- 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 January 26, 2015
2. Approval of the Following Financial Reports:
  - a. Financial Disbursement Report For the Period Ending February 4, 2015
3. Approval of the Following Personnel Reports:
  - a. Appointments
  - b. Substitute Lists For Licensed and Classified Positions

**Lloyd Harwood moved and Shad Johnson 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. CCHS Concurrent Enrollment Partnership with PCC:

Item was moved to II. B. 2. Awards and Kudos

b. Harrison GOCO Playscape Project :

Ms. Vicki Knapp from Harrison gave an update on the GOCO Outdoor Playscape Project.

Ms. Knapp explained the GOCO (Great Outdoors Colorado) grant was a joint effort with the Cañon City Recreation District. The grant was applied for in March of 2013 and received notification of receiving the grant in June of 2013. The amount applied for was \$100,000 with Harrison PTO adding \$30,000. The project was completed in November of 2014 with a total of \$110,000 spent. The components of the GOCO playground at Harrison included an amphitheater, a calming maze, a rock play structure with climbing ropes, planting beds and a pavilion. Most of the materials chosen for the project were from the Cañon City area.

Ms. Knapp thanked several who supported the project including Stoner's, Brady's, McComb Lumber, Fremont Paving & Redi-Mix, Inc., Tezak, Siloam Stone, Seufer Brothers, Recreation District, Cañon City Schools Maintenance Department (Jeff Peterson and group), and Buddy Lambrecht. Dana Horne was also recognized for her work writing the grant.

c. Introduction of S.O.P. to be Revised:

Dr. Robin Gooldy introduced a revision to S.O.P. File 29A, School Trips. This revision speaks to driver responsibilities while on a student trip.

d. Superintendents Position Statement on School Funding:

Dr. Robin Gooldy presented information regarding the effort by superintendents across Colorado to advocate for restoring school funding. As part of this discussion, parents, staff, and community members were encouraged to contact their legislators to encourage restoration of funding.

Dr. Gooldy added that this message needs to come from all of us, not just superintendents. If we do nothing, we may only get half of what we received in funding last year. February 21<sup>st</sup> is the next

Legislative Day where everyone can meet local state representatives at the County Building. "If we don't advocate for ourselves, no one else will."

Mr. Larry Oddo added that parents and the community really need to get out there, not just the superintendent.

e. Introduction of S.O.P. to be Added:

Mrs. Kirsten Javernick introduced the addition of S.O.P. File 104A, Section 504 Guidelines.

Mrs. Javernick commented that these practices are things we already use. This is just the written format that needs to be on file.

2. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a.

F. BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS:

Mr. Shad Johnson shared that Saturday was the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival Of Winds Band Concert at CSU in Pueblo. "It was absolutely a Hallmark event for students in band. To hear what they did in a two day period was unbelievable. This goes back to local band directors who not only recognize those students but have taught them for so many years. We had 11 students from CCHS band attend that are just absolutely unbelievable. Kids had an opportunity to endeavor in to areas and to have such incredible talent come to teach them. You have the world premiere of a piece that had never been performed by one of the groups. Our staff never seems to quake whatsoever in what they can do and what they have done and continue to do."

Mrs. Evans commented that Speech and Debate was here at CCHS. She complimented Mr. Summers on what he does with that and how many students came. "They had a Congress and Speech Team back to back, which is an unusual event. Mr. Summers housed all the kids. When you walked in there the kids were so excited. Students were talking to walls and to each other preparing for their speeches." Mr. Johnson added that over 12 teams were represented and over 200 students. "It is the practice that our students really run the program and don't necessarily compete in the event."

Mr. Mike Near mentioned that there were a lot of kids at the Chocolate Walk.

Mr. Larry Oddo added that the Chocolate Walk was sponsored by the Music and Blossom Festival.

**III. Review of Board Policies**

A. POLICIES:

1.

**IV. Old Business**

A. ACTION ITEMS:

1.

**V. New Business**

A. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Purchase of Additional Digital Security Radios:

It was recommended that the Board approve the expenditure of \$23,490 for the purchase of an additional fifty-five (55) digital Hytera security radios.

Dr. Gooldy reported that radios are used when there is an event of some kind taking place at a school. These radios are specifically used during the reunification drill. One of the major issues that cropped up soon and continued to crop up during the year was the inability of people to communicate with a mixture of digital and analog radios. The district was advised to move away from analog and replace with digital radios.

The unit cost is less than \$1000 so it can't come directly out of Capital Reserve. Indirectly, money from the sale of Garden Park and Madison will be used along with funds from Food Services.

**Shad Johnson made a motion to approve the purchase of 55 additional digital Hytera security radios. Larry Oddo seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the motion was passed.**

2. Board Action Regarding School Consolidation:

It was recommended that the board not take action this spring that would close a school at the conclusion of the 2014-15 school year. It was further recommended that the board continue a thoughtful deliberation of the strategies to (1) restructure and consolidate our K-12 programs and (2) improve the financial well-being of the district through recovering funding by legislative means and with community support.

Mr. Larry Oddo commented that the board has talked a lot about this but they disagree. At the risk of offending some folks and without wanting to be too critical of this board, he read the excerpts of the minutes from the Board of Education meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

**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.”

Mr. Oddo stated he believes that this board has not taken the necessary steps to rethink the configuration of our schools. “Over the last 2 years we have had the opportunity to explore the committees’ recommendations to further consolidate the space we currently operate in a manner that would have been thoughtful and would not have been too impactful to the educational process ... and we did not push the

matter forward. I understand that there is value associated with having neighborhood schools. However, survey after survey indicates that parents value choice above all else, including the neighborhood school model. I believe that the costs we incur for operating more space than necessary, could be better invested in the classroom ... curriculum, technology, staff salaries and smaller classes. That investment would benefit the entire school population, not a small percentage. Therefore, I agree we need to continue thoughtful deliberation, I just think we need to step on it a little bit more and actually put some action behind our words.”

Mr. Shad Johnson commented that he agreed with Mr. Oddo’s comments.

Mrs. Mary Kay Evans stated that not being a part of the Board at that time, she is not comfortable to compromise the other side. That being the impact on the community schools, the emotional piece, possible loss of teachers, knowing that closing a school that more than likely it won’t be reopened. Her concern is that before she makes that decision she really feels that our community as a whole needs to be educated (and she believes we tried to with the last bond issue) but after talking with community members after the bond issue, she doesn’t think that a lot of people understand the seriousness of the financial needs that we really have. How many millions it is going to take to buy new books, the infrastructure, replace roofs and replace plumbing? All of these things. She would like to have one last ditch effort before she makes that final choice to really communicate the seriousness of all of this to the everyday public and let them come up with some information to help her make a better choice for them and the teachers and the kids. That is what she is struggling with.

Mr. Lloyd Harwood responded by saying that Larry Oddo was right but needed to be done down the road. The timing is not right. Mr. Harwood agreed with Mary Kay Evans that we need substantial revenue. Closing a building and consolidating, he isn’t totally convinced the amount that the district will see is correct. He apologized to the audience for being vocal, if that is what they were thinking, but he just isn’t convinced. He added that the district needs more revenue just like any business. “You can’t save your way to prosperity.” He also commented that an empty building would require insurance and wasn’t sure the district would be able to sell it. That is where he is at right now...”like it or not, that is my position”.

Mr. Mike Near opened by saying that he respects Shad very much and respects Larry very much. “We have talked extensively in our meetings about what is the best way forward. And Larry is exactly right in what he has read because that at the time was part of the discussion. I contend that if we go to the public and let them know just how desperate our situation is, we would attack the shortfall in curriculum, in technology, and building repairs on a much greater level than if we close a building. If we close a building, we’ve estimated that we would save between \$150,000 and \$200,000 a year. Notwithstanding the problems of having an empty building that we could not sell. That would take 5 years on a 5 year plan to just get technology back to where we would like to have it, it would not address the fact that we have old school buses, leaking roofs, textbooks that are 10 years old,



and 2.5 million dollars in mostly urgent school building repairs. So I would come down on the side of trying to attack it on a multi-faceted approach that would meet more needs in a five year plan than just closing a school. On the emotional part of it, when my kids were in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup> grade, they were asked to move from McKinley which was their home school. Actually, my daughter was in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, pardon me, and my son was in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. That's their security system. Their neighborhood school was their security system. That's all they know apart from the home in a lot of cases and that's their security. I'm not saying that within several months they wouldn't be fine if we move them to a different school. But at this late date, in this school year, to do it would be unjustified. I'm not saying that it won't happen in another school year, but it really affected my kids and I'm just extrapolating on what would happen if we would close an entire school and those kids were asked to go to a different building, especially, the very young ones."

**Lloyd Harwood made a motion that the board not take action this spring that would close a school at the conclusion of the 2014-15 school year. It was further recommended that the board continue a thoughtful deliberation of the strategies to (1) restructure and consolidate our K-12 programs and (2) improve the financial well-being of the district through recovering funding by legislative means and with community support. Mary Kay Evans seconded the motion. The vote was 3-2, and the motion was passed. Mr. Oddo and Mr. Johnson voting against the motion.**

**VI. Miscellaneous Business**

**VII. Adjournment**

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

**Lloyd Harwood moved to adjourn the meeting. Larry Oddo seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.**

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

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