

**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., January 11, 2021**

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

President, **Shad Johnson**, 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, **Robin Reeser**, called roll.

Present virtually: **Shad Johnson**, President; **Mary Kay Evans**, Vice-President; **Robin Reeser**, Secretary; **Beth Gaffney**, Treasurer; and **Mike Near**, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

Also present virtually: Superintendent, **George Welsh**; Assistant Superintendent, **Adam Hartman**; Director of Business Services, **L. F. "Buddy" Lambrecht**; Director of Human Resources, **Jamie Davis**; Director of Special Services, **Tim Renn**; Director of Technology, **Shaun Kohl**; Director of Support Services, **Paula Buser**; Director of Operations, **Jeff Peterson**, and Attorney, **Rocco Meconi**.

II. General Business

A. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Welsh announced the following changes to the agenda:

II.D.3.b – Terminations and Leaves - addition

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

B. Awards and Kudos

1. Jaden Bell:

The Board and Harrison K-8 recognized Jaden Bell who completed her capstone regarding the food pantry at Harrison School. Jaden's capstone was judged not only by her teacher at CCHS, but also by Harrison staff members James Krumm and Lorraine King, who have been co-facilitators of the food pantry this year.

During Jaden's field experience with the food pantry since last year, she gathered data about the number of students, adults, and families we served, as well as the number of families new to the pantry due to COVID-19 impact on their household.

Due to Jaden's understanding of the need of our families, she took it upon herself to ask for donations from her neighborhood and friends at school.

Jaden demonstrated the traits of Innovation, Knowledge and Agency, and the skills of Reflection, Communication, Contribution, Leadership, Solution Seeking, and Empowerment to provide additional food to our families!

Thank you, Jaden!

2. School Board Recognition:

The community, staff, and students of the Canon City School District recognized and thanked the members of the Board of Education who invest their time feely to govern the school district. The countless hours devoted to sorting through correspondence, attending meetings, developing governance skills, participating in community activities, and visiting schools and attending their events are appreciated. As a result of their diligent effort, we are able to provide our children with outstanding opportunities that prepare them for life.

Mr. Welsh shared the following:

I wish to take a moment to remind everyone that on January 1st Governor Jared Polis proclaimed the month of January 2021 to be School Board Appreciation Month.

In years past, when we have been able to meet in a more traditional fashion, we have shared formal proclamations in honor of this.

This year we simply wish to express our heartfelt appreciation for how Shad Johnson, Mary Kay Evans, Robin Reeser, Beth Gaffney, and Mike Near have steered us through the most challenging nine months of public schooling our generation has ever experienced. They have done all of this despite being constituted as a board only a little more than a year ago.

Thanks to expert governance, fiscal management, and outstanding foresight, the Canon City School District was able to secure the technology resources it needed to fully shift from in-person to digital learning in the matter of one week of time.

Thanks to expert governance and fiscal management, the district was able to reward all staff with experience steps and continued 100% health plan coverage, as well as a generous holiday bonus, despite experiencing deep budget cuts at the state level.

Thanks to outstanding governance and guidance of leadership, the district was able to develop a plan, supported by the community, to open its doors to in-person learning for the entire fall 2020 semester, when the vast majority of students in Colorado were still relegated to attending classes only through digital means.

Thanks to expert governance and fiscal management the district once again experienced a flawless financial audit, while also achieving its long-stated goal of acquiring greater than a 12% annual operating reserve. This has placed the district in a strong position as it continues to navigate a worldwide pandemic.

Though from the outside it may appear this work has happened gracefully and seamlessly, the fact of the matter is there have been many difficult and contentious discussions as to what the best path forward is for the district. In this process, each board director has felt safe in sharing their opinion, and though many decisions have been evenly split, every board member has supported the decisions of the whole.

At a time when our national politics are extremely strained, it is my opinion that many of our state and national legislators could learn a lot from Shad, Mary Kay, Robin, Beth, and Mike. And they do what they do for no pay!

- C. Any person who has submitted a written request prior to the meeting may express views concerning school district programs and policies as concern them, but are encouraged to exercise their speech rights responsibly. The Board encourages the discussion of all personnel matters to be conducted in executive session.

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 December 14, 2020
- 2. Approval of the Following Financial Reports:
 - a. Disbursement Report for the Period Ending January 6, 2021
- 3. Approval of the Following Personnel Reports:
 - a. Appointments
 - b. Terminations and Leaves
 - c. Substitute Lists for Licensed and Classified Positions

Mary Kay Evans moved and Beth Gaffney 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.
- 2. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
 - a.

- F. BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS:

Shad thanked everyone for all the work through this pandemic episode. "Thank you all for keeping up the good work in keeping the school doors open."

III. Review of Board Policies

- A. POLICIES:
 - 1.

IV. Old Business

A. ACTION ITEMS:

1.

V. New Business

A. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Posting of Meeting Agendas for District Meetings:

It was recommended that the Board designate the front window of the Administration Office at 101 N. 14th Street as the official place to post agendas of School District RE-1 meetings.

Robin Reeser made a motion to approve that the Board designate the front window of the Administration Office at 101 N. 14th Street as the official place to post agendas of School District RE-1 meetings. Mike Near 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, Mr. Johnson called for a motion to adjourn.

Mike Near moved to adjourn the meeting. Mary Kay Evans seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0, and the meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.



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



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

