

DOLORES SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4A
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 19TH, 2013
BOARD MEETING

Regular Board (Policy) Meeting
Professional Development Room

November 19th, 2013
5:30 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER - The Dolores School Board meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m. on November 19th, 2013.
- II. ROLL CALL - Members present were: Jon Kelly, Vangi McCoy, Deanna Truelsen, and Linnea Vass. Joye McHenry was not in attendance (due to a recent surgery). Scott Cooper, Superintendent, Sherri Maxwell, Elementary Principal, Brandon Thurston, Secondary Principal, Jimmie Lankford, Assistant Principal, Karen Andrews, Business Manager, and staff members were also in attendance.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
A motion was made by Linnea Vass and seconded by Vangi McCoy to approve the Agenda and Additions as presented.
Votes: Kelly-aye; McCoy-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye

IV. POLICIES:

CODE	TOPIC	READING
GCBA-R	Instructional Staff Contracts / Salary Schedules	review
IKE *	Promotion, Retention of Students	review
ILBC*♦	Third Grade Literacy	review
ILBC-R*♦	" " " - regulation	review
IHBG	Home Schooling	review
JEA	Compulsory Attendance Ages	review
JFBB♦	Inter-District Open Enrollment	review
JFBB-R♦	" " " " - regulation	review
JFC♦	Student Withdrawal from School / Dropouts	review
JH♦	Student Absences and Excuses	review
JHB♦	Truancy	review
JICH-R	Drug and Alcohol Involvement by Students – reg.	review
JJJ	Extracurricular Activity Eligibility	review
JKD/JKE♦	Suspension / Expulsion	review
JKF	Educational Alternatives for Expelled	review
JKG♦	Expulsion Prevention	review
JLDBG	Peer Mediation	review
JRA/JRC♦	Student Records / Release of Information	review
JS♦	Student Use of the Internet...	review
BE	Board Meetings	review
*READ Act Policy Update		
♦ Required by law		
† New Policy		

The policy revisions from CASB were discussed in detail for each policy.

GCBA-R – Instructional Staff Contracts / Compensation / Salary Schedules – Mrs. Andrews mentioned that this regulation has not kept up with the changes to the policy, and we are addressing it tonight in order to align it with current practice. The only change made (under: 2. Teaching Experience) is to change the credit for years of experience from five to ten. The Board approves of the change.

IKE – Promotion / Retention of Students; Ensuring All Students Meet Standards - The title of policy IKE, for many districts, is Promotion / Retention of Students, while CASB's sample of IKE is Ensuring all students Meet Standards. The titles and content of this policy have differed for many years, and many district's boards have continued to keep their version of the policy. The newly revised CASB sample has very specific procedures that must be followed if a student is being retained due to significant reading deficiency. It also directs schools to follow the guidelines in the third grade literacy regulation (ILBC-R), rather than policy IKE, when retaining a student due to a "significant" reading deficiency. In order to comply with the READ Act requirements, the Board feels they will need to adopt the CASB version.

ILBC – Third Grade Literacy - This policy has had a major revision due to the READ Act. The new changes make it clear that once a child has been identified with a significant reading deficiency, the school has the responsibility to make and implement an instructional program and interventions that enable the student "to the greatest extent possible, to achieve reading competency", and meet the state's academic goals. Mrs. Maxwell expressed her frustration about the new READ Act. Her main complaint was that students could be classified as having a "significant reading deficiency" based on a test that measures only fluency (instead of comprehension and other measures), rather than using a body of evidence to make the determination. The Board will adopt the CASB sample policy in order to comply with READ Act requirements.

ILBC-R – Third Grade Literacy – regulation – This is a new regulation that contains very specific steps and requirements that must be followed in developing a READ plan and retaining or promoting a student with a significant reading deficiency. The Board will adopt the regulation.

IHBG – Home Schooling – HB 13-1095 was passed in order to allow homeschoolers to be able to participate in sports and extracurricular activities without having to enroll in public school. Although our district has never made home school students enroll to play sports, the Board would like to adopt the CASB policy since it is now state law.

JEA – Compulsory Attendance Ages – CASB has only made a note change to this policy. A new state statute requires districts to notify parents and students prior to initiating court proceeding to enforce the compulsory attendance law. The Board will add the note change to the district's current policy.

JFBB – Inter-District Open Enrollment – Colorado passed another House Bill similar to the one that allows home schoolers to participate in extra-curricular activities. HB 13-1047 states that students who wish to be involved in interscholastic /extracurricular activities at a public school (other than the one they attend), will have the same curricular and extracurricular status as all other students attending the school. However, the district in which the student wants to participate will choose the school of participation, rather than the student. The Board will adopt the CASB sample policy.

JFBB-R – Inter-District Open Enrollment – regulation – As with policy JFBB, CASB has updated this regulation to reflect the new law pertaining to out-of-district students who wish to be involved in extracurricular activities. Changes were made to the section on Eligibility and Appeals to align the policy with state law. The Board will accept the CASB changes.

JFC – Student Withdrawal from School / Dropouts – CASB made a minor revision in the definition of “dropout” in order to align it with two new state laws addressing intervention strategies for grades 6th-9th, and dropout recovery programs. The legal references were also updated to reflect this. The Board will adopt the CASB changes.

JH – Student Absences and Excuses –CASB has made major revisions to their sample policy, primarily with the addition of a section addressing chronic absenteeism, its definition, and how intervention strategies will be implemented. Mrs. Maxwell and Mr. Thurston explained the current practice for their schools in dealing with absenteeism / truancy. On the CASB policy, a note has been revised to reflect the new requirement that school districts must provide written notice to students and parents/guardians prior to initiating court proceedings for compulsory attendance. The Board would like to adopt the CASB changes and make some additional wording changes for clarification.

JHB – Truancy – The only changes CASB made to the Truancy policy was to the Legal References and Notes. The note change is the same as was made to the Student Absences and Excuses policy (JH) – written notice prior to court proceedings. The legal references were updated to include C.R.S. 22-33-108 (judicial proceedings to enforce school attendance). The current district policy will be updated with the changes, as these types of changes to policies don’t require board action.

JICH-R – Drug & Alcohol Involvement by Students – regulation – This regulation was put on hold at the last policy meeting to wait for legal counsel regarding the use of breathalyzers. Mr. Farrington replied, and schools can use breathalyzers, but under very specific conditions. The Board would like to table this regulation again and wait for Kathy Shannon (CASB) to respond to Mrs. Arnett’s request for a policy on breathalyzers. Ms. Shannon stated that CASB doesn’t have a policy on this subject; however, she stated that she had seen other districts’ policies, so she was going to look for those and get back to Mrs. Arnett. Also Mrs. Arnett will look at neighboring districts’ policies.

The Board took a five minute break, and returned at 7:25 to resume policy discussions.

JJJ – Extracurricular Activity Eligibility – Significant revisions have been made by CASB to this policy as a result of two new state laws pertaining to student participation in extracurricular and interscholastic activities. The Board will accept the CASB sample policy revisions.

JKD/JKE – Suspension / Expulsion – This policy is one of several that CASB has revised in order to comply with HB 12-1345. The revisions include language that would ensure uniform, fair and consistent enforcement of the discipline code, and proportionate disciplinary interventions (including “restorative justice” when possible) that don’t involve expulsion or out-of-school suspension. CASB also made several legal reference, cross reference and note changes to the revised policy. The Board will adopt the CASB sample policy, but replace #3 under “Delegation of Authority”, with the paragraph in the current policy.

JKF – Educational Alternatives for Expelled Students – Minor changes in wording (regarding applying for grant monies) were made to the revised CASB sample policy. The Board will accept the CASB changes.

JKG – Expulsion Prevention – CASB made revisions to this sample policy in order to align it with JKD/JKE – Suspension / Expulsion, and other policies revised as a result of HB 12-1345. All changes to this policy will be accepted by the Board.

JLDBG – Peer Mediation – The District does not currently have a policy on peer mediation. After discussing the CASB sample policy and its content, Mr. Thurston and Mr. Lankford both stated that research does not show positive results with the implementation of a peer mediation program. The Board does not want to adopt this as a policy.

JRA/JRC – Student Records / Release of Information – Due to an amendment in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), CASB has updated this policy to include the changes. The “Disclosure without written consent” section was revised to include disclosure of student records to the Secretary of Agriculture (for Free & Reduced meals), or an agency caseworker (child welfare agency, tribal organization, Safe2Tell program). Specific exclusions in disclosing student records were also added by CASB to this section. The Board will adopt the CASB sample with some minor edits.

JS – Student Use of the Internet – Most of the revisions made to the CASB sample policy relate to the definition of “district technology device”, and changes to the Suspension / Expulsion policy. The Board will accept the CASB changes with the omission of a paragraph regarding a specific staff-to-student supervision ratio.

BE – Board Meetings – The Board wanted to review this policy to decide if one monthly meeting would be sufficient in meeting the District’s business needs. The Board discussed this extensively and decided to meet once a month on the second Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office Compound. Special meetings and workshops will be scheduled as needed. The current policy will be adjusted to reflect this.

Mrs. Arnett reminded the Board that because all of the policies addressed at the last two policy meetings (except GCBA-R Instructional Staff Contracts and BE- Board Meetings) were revised to conform to new state statutes, the District needs to implement them now. Policy, BG – School Board Policy Process, allows Boards to waive the standard three reading requirement if there are “revisions mandated by changes in law”. The revisions may be “adopted upon final vote at the second meeting”. These policies will be officially adopted at the next regular board meeting on December 17th, 2013.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Personnel: *Substitute Bus Driver's*: Carl Barnes, Michael Bade; *Food Service Custodian*: Joe Atencio; *Varsity Girls Basketball Coach*: Bernadette McClain

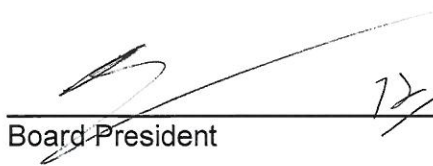
A motion was made by Deanna Truelsen and seconded by Linnea Vass to approve the Action Items as presented.

Votes: Kelly-aye; McCoy-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye


A motion was made by Vangi McCoy and seconded by Deanna Truelsen to approve having advertising signs on the buses with the stipulation that the District can choose the advertisers, and pending further investigation by Mrs. Andrews.

Votes: Kelly-aye; McCoy-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye

VI. ADJOURNMENT WAS AT 8:35 p.m.



Board President 12/17/13 Date



Board Secretary 12-17-13 Date