

**School Board Notes**  
**May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010**  
**Sagewood Middle School**

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

Call to order at 5:15

**Present:** John Carson, Cliff Stahl, Doug Benivento, Megan Silverthorne, Dan Gerkin

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Acceptance of Agenda**

Vote approved by all

**Executive Session 1**

Went into Executive Session at 5:20

Reconvened the meeting at 6:00

**Board Superintendent Updates**

**Update on Healthy Grants/Wellness Dept.- Carol Jefferson Jenkins- ppt  
Coordinated School Health Grants-**

Paulette Joswick and Coordinator Terri Wood,

DCSD received a grant that will last for 3 years

Aligned with national initiatives

Began with 10 schools this year

17 schools on board for next year

40 schools will participate by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year

**Transportation Fee Summary-Kevin Larson- DAC- PPT**

DAC feedback on proposed transportation fee

Feb. DAC supported a fee but wanted to gain feedback from community

3 meetings were held across the district.

50 cent fee seems reasonable/ family cap was questioned/additional routes and/or stops were questioned

Pay in advanced discount? This may be something the district will look at for the following school year. Unable to put it into practice for the 10/11 year

DAC took a vote and supported the 50 cent fee with no family cap. DAC decided that since there is no cap on other fees, there shouldn't be a cap on these fees.

District has added 200 routes for 10/11 school year

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget to Actual Report FY 09-10-PPT**

Shelley and Diane ppt. presentation

#### **Proposed Budget for 10/11 David Hart**

In the interest of time we might not get to all departments of this budget. Budget is being brought forward tonight just for the purpose of discussion. At the last scheduled meeting the BoE will be expected to approve and adopt the budget for next year. This ppt is detailed. We will not be in compliance with EL 1.5 because the state is not giving projections out for 5 years. Per Pupil Revenue reduced by 6.3% and PPR will drop from \$7000 to \$6545.

Number is subject to change due to student enrollment.

Each years projections become very tight. PPR will drop another .6% to \$6200 in years 11/12. We are trying to be very conservative due to the states financial health. Could go down another \$200 in 12/13. Anticipating there to be a per diem pay freeze for 10/13 and would actually lose one days pay per year. Consumer driven health plan needs to get the account fully funded by 12/13 at the time that PERA will be increasing. 23 cents on every dollar will be going to PERA.

We are making allowance for KLA for certified. Longevity will also stay in place but up to negotiations in 11/12. We are assuming it will not still be there. PFP funds will be transferred to wellness initiative in 10/11 and 11-12. The following year the assumption is that it will no longer be there. Hiring freeze will be apparent in 12/13 due to PPR reductions, bigger class sizes, etc. There will certainly be a reduction in discretionary spending at sites. Predictable that it will lower staff at individual buildings. Also included increase fees for transportation, athletics, etc.

While medical costs are decreasing, PERA costs are rising.

#### **Capital Reserve Fund**

Reducing General fund transfer to cap reserves. There will be about 75% next year and 50% the following year. We are cutting this fund to bare minimum. There are no large projects such as new buses, etc. Now we are operating under, if it is broke we will fix it. This is a big change in thinking.

#### **Grant Funds**

Grant Funds are a pot unto themselves. In 10/11 the last year that the ARRA Act will be available. After this, they will not be a part of the states fund.

### **Bond Redemption Fund**

Couldn't get the funding done before Europe market crashed. No other bond money available. Keeping an eye on this.

### **Nutrition Services**

Nutrition services is an enterprise fund. It is a self-contained fund that continues to be an area of emphasis as we improve the quality of the food and it is remaining profitable.

Childcare is also an enterprise

### **Insurance Reserve**

Historically have transferred funds from general fund to insurance.

Fund continues to operate at a break-even point.

John Carson: Thank you David for your presentation. The audit gave us an outstanding rating on our bonding. Is the financial state of the district solid at this time?

David: You are correct that the rating agencies rated us outstanding. We are a double A credit which is honorable. It is not a positive story. As the state continues to feel their budget crunch, we need to act with prudence to move forward. It is vital to get support for a bond election. This decision must be a serious one. Fiscal plan needs to be articulated well to the public. School year 12/13 will be 13 million under what the 08 school year was with 5000 more students.

Cliff: How many other districts have this rating?

David: I am not sure since the ratings companies changed the way they rated.

John Carson: Thank you for all the work you have done the last 3 years. Good luck in DPS.

### **Student and Staff Recognitions**

#### **Community Engagements**

Opening remarks from John Carson welcome to everyone. Tonight is the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting dedicated to community forum. Next one will take place June 15<sup>th</sup>. We would like to thank Steve Herzog for his work this year.

Mr. Herzog: Thanks to everyone for the best 15 years of my life. I have accepted a position in California. I know DCSD will continue to be the best district in CO

John: Thanks again to Steve who will be transitioning out the end of June. There has been much political activity in Colorado.

School Finance Act changes that we just had a presentation on. PERA decisions to help shore up that system

Biggest piece of legislation was the Teacher Tenure Bill. In this school district we feel we will benefit from this legislation. We want to thank the DCF and Brenda Smith for supporting this bill. Also thank you to our lobbyist. Later we will hear about 3 initiatives that will be coming up.

### **Update on school board member**

Received 22 applications. 19 were determined to meet the qualifications. Sub committee Megan and Cliff will be looking at these applicants and make recommendations of 3-6 people to the board for consideration. Vacancy must be filled by June 6<sup>th</sup>

We held a retreat at the Castle with both outgoing and incoming superintendent. A good discussion took place about a bond. Board will make final decision at the first meeting in June on this issue.

Dr. Fagen was here and visited with many employees and attended the board retreat last weekend.

We have the honor of seeing our seniors graduating this week. More than 3000 students will graduate this year and we congratulate them and wish them well on their journey ahead.

Thanks to everyone who helped put this meeting together tonight.

We will be making a decision at this meeting tonight about the proposed transportation fees. The DAC supported the proposal. This fee will account for slightly more than 10% of the cost of each student who rides the bus. This proposal calls for 50 cents a trip on the bus. We began discussing this fee last year. The citizens want a comprehensive transportation system.

## **Public Comment**

David DeCarlo

I attended 2 of the 3 meetings on bus fees. I applaud you guys for putting this together. I think if you decide to go for a mill it will help you guys. I would pay double that, just for you to know.

I oppose Legislation issues 60, 61 and 101. It reminds me of a quote, "No courage, no heart, and no brain." I don't want to trust them to run my schools. Feel it is reactionary legislation at its worst.

Dan Gerkin: You should know that we are against all 3 unequivocally!

Bill Reed

Thanks to Mr. Herzog for an email response. I want the board to really look at the policy for when the administration at schools should get involved or not in off campus issues. Ex. was given about a girl cited for possession of under-aged smoking off campus and was brought back to school. 2 weeks ago at PHS, students did a prank of riding trikes and scooters down Parker Road. Admin knew some kind of prank was going to take place but the admin could do nothing about it because it wasn't on school property. Point is, look at this relative to the issues. Someone could have gotten hurt or killed in the prank and they chose to do nothing about it? Seems very inconsistent.

Kevin Larsen

Thank you again and I commend the board for these meetings where we can speak publicly. I want to encourage everyone to feel welcome and get involved not only here but at the state level. I had the privilege to testify recently. I worked with the DCF, our union, and was able to see them making amendments that made legislation better. I can't stress how important it is for us to come to meetings like this but also get out in your neighborhood. Get engaged in your social settings. Amendment 51 sounds like a taxpayers dream. It is not! Get involved! I encourage you to do the same.

Les Lilly

Thank you board and thank you to Mr Herzog and David Hart and your years of service. A press release stated that 16 million makes up the transportation budget. This is 3.3% of the entire budget. Only 17000 children choose to ride the bus. About half of the entire students. I don't

know if charging a fee is necessary. The school district is going to quite an expense to get to 0 recovery. We need to look at special needs bussing. When we have a bus going to Colorado Springs for one student. What is the cost of that? Is this fee really necessary?

John Carson: There will be no fee for students who have bussing in their IEP, free and reduced lunch students and students with financial issues will not have to pay.

I want to thank Paul Valon for everything he and his staff have done. They have responded very well to everything. We will not set down iron-clad rules. We want to have community input.

Cub Scout leader: Thank you, this is the first meeting I have attended. I will find this a burden for our family to pay a fee. It will cost me \$10 a week, \$40 a month. I don't see this as 100 a year. It is much more. Those families that are driving their kids to school are families that can afford to have one person at home. You are in a no win situation. With all the fees coming in it will limit what my family will be able to participate in. If the economy doesn't turn around, we will not be able to afford for my students to participate in many things in high school. This saddens me.

Another person: For my kids next year it will cost me \$1500. I appreciate everything we have. It gets a little confusing. I have been coming to these meetings since December. People have been begging you to make a decision about the mill levy. Will these fees go away? I'm not saying I am not willing to pay a little more since my kids ride the bus and participate in music but should just a few people pay for everything? I am asking again, what are your thoughts on a mill levy?

John: As I said in my remarks, we are considering a mill levy either this year or next year. We have a lot of things to consider. We will make a decision at the June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Thank you for your input. We have input at every meeting and you are welcome to come and give it at any meeting.

### **Adoption of Consent Agenda**

Board voted in favor of acceptance of the following:

- Proposal to adopt 6 textbooks-**
- Two course proposals from Chaparral**
- Personnel Changes**

## **Adoption of Joint Motion Agenda**

Board voted in favor of acceptance

## **Board Decisions**

### **Resolution: Transportation fee**

Any discussion on the transportation fee? Cliff: Thanks to everyone who spoke. If you look at this fee as just one fee this is a small piece of a solution to a big problem. At the same time I am sensitive about tech fees, etc and there are no good answers to this. We all have that burden to get our kids to school. We have to do what we can to have less impact on classroom size. This is a very large and complex problem.

Megan: I want to reiterate what cliff said. I don't want to support this but will vote in support of this because there is no money. We want to maintain the quality of education in our classroom. The busses are a wonderful service but do not add to the classroom. I appreciate everyone stepping up and taking responsibility.

Cliff moved to ask for 50 cent with no cap per rider for bus fee.

John: I will support the transportation fee. Last year when there were changes many parents came to the board and said they were willing to pay. This will help shore up our transportation. We are not moving towards complete funding. We will continue to take feedback.

Bus fee was voted on and approved by all board members

### **Annual Contract: Renewals of Probationary teachers**

Board voted and approved this resolution by all board members

### **Annual Contract: Non-renewals of probationary teachers**

Approved by all board members

### **Annual Contract: Renewals of Admin & Pro-tech employees**

Approved by all board members

### **Annual Contract: Renewals of classified employees**

Moved and voted on. Approved by all members.

## **Work Session 1**

### **Presentation by the Law firm Wisor, Sherman, and Howard on Proposition 101, Amendments 60 and 61**

**See ppt.**

John: So would you recommend we oppose these?

That is your decision but yes we would recommend you oppose all these amendments.

## **Board/Superintendent Updates II**

### **Report from President/Vice President (Carson, Gerkin)**

No report. Everything has been covered.

### **Report from DAC (Stahl)**

Basically Kevin reported out everything earlier.

### **Fiscal Oversight Committee (Gerkin, Silverthorne)**

No meeting. Next meeting is June 10.

### **Community Engagement (Stahl)**

No report

### **Long Range Planning**

Nothing really to report.

**John:** On the election, the board has until August to deliberate this issue about a bond election.

### **Government relations**

Legislation is done so it will slow down.

District vacancy we covered.

**Parental choice June 10, 7:00 at Wilcox. 2 presentations. It will be an interesting 2 1/2 hour meeting. Board will come up with a proposal by December.**

**Stahl moved to adjourn at 9:45.**