

# MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION LIMON SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J Limon, Colorado

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| Regular<br>KIND OF MEETING | Media Center<br>MEETING PLACE | 7:00 p.m.<br>TIME | April<br>MONTH | 18<br>DAY | 2016<br>YEAR |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------|

Troy Jaklich  
PRESIDING OFFICER

Jason Bandy  
MEMBER

Craig Bailey  
VICE CHAIRMAN

Dave Marx  
SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Hines  
TREASURER

Wendy Pottorff  
SECRETARY

- Roll Call:** The regular Board of Education meeting of Limon School District RE-4J was called to order by Board President Troy Jaklich at 7:08pm. Roll call reflected that all Board members were present.
- Mission Statement:** Wendy Pottorff read the district mission statement.
- Agenda:** Craig Bailey moved and Jason Bandy seconded the motion to approve the amended agenda for April 18, 2016 adding action item 12.12, approve Haselden construction change order #17. The motion passed unanimously.
- School Officials:** Dave Marx, Joel Albers, Traci Weisensee, Dirk Pedersen
- Audience:** Charles Hoffman, Mercedes McCue, Les Layton, Gary Lewman, Kim Steinhart, Becky Frank, Steve Monks, Teresa Monks, Judy Cummings, Peggy Ashcraft, Brandie Bellefeuille, Kit Bellefeuille, Kim Brossart, DeAnna Steinhart, Sharon Hansen, Annette Andersen, Cass Vernie and Greg Tacha
- Minutes:** Mike Hines moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the regular board meeting minutes of March 14, 2015 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- Audience Participation:** Traci Weisensee asked Kit Bellefeuille to present his science fair project. Brandi Bellefeuille introduced Kit and explained a little about the science fair. Limon had 3 people place at the State science fair. Kit placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in plant science. Kit explained his project which dealt with the germination of seeds. His hypothesis was that seeds given both a particular fungi and bacteria would grow faster. He had a control group, a group with just the fungi, a group with just the bacteria and a group with both. He used wheat and alfalfa seeds. He measured the root and shoot lengths and learned that his hypothesis was correct. The group with both the fungi and bacteria grew the fastest. Brandie encouraged the Board and audience to take a look at the other posters she had setup in the library.
- Gary Lewman stated that he just learned that we do not have an art program at the school. He is willing to try to raise funds for all the material that's needed for a program.
- Steve Monks wanted the Board to know that he and Teresa have had some issues with our current dental insurance not paying their claims. They refused to pay for the crowns both he and Teresa got even after getting preapproval. Their dentist told them that Principal is the worst company for dental insurance. They were told by Principal customer service to look at the pamphlet that their employer has showing what they will and will not pay for. The pamphlet shows that they are supposed to pay for 50% of a crown but they were told that they were refusing to pay anything.
- Sharon Hansen stated that she too has had trouble with the dental insurance not paying 100% of a cleaning. She asked the Board if it were possible to have better communication between the Board and staff. She understands that we need to follow the chain of command. Jason Bandy stated that the Board used to have meetings after school once a month with staff and that 2 Board members would attend. They used to have a sign-up sheet when staff members were required to attend at least two Board meetings. The Board didn't want anyone to be forced to attend a Board meeting but they encouraged more staff to attend. Annette Andersen suggested they try having after school meetings which would be a more informal setting. Jason agreed that there needs to be better communication all around. Troy asked if Sharon would head this up and notify staff about the meetings. Sharon said she would and she would have a sign up sheet for staff to attend Board meetings. Traci suggested they start with a meeting once a quarter. It was decided that they would have their first meeting starting at 4:15 on Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. We will put it on the May School

Board Meeting Agenda as a work session starting at 4:15 that way if more than 2 Board members want to attend, they can.

DeAnna Steinhart stated that changing insurance companies is not as easy as we were told. The deductible does not always transfer over.

Sharon stated that a new hire shouldn't be making more money than someone that's been working for the district for 24 years. Craig stated that they are working on getting everyone up to their step.

**Financial Reports:**

Jason Bandy moved and Craig Bailey seconded the motion to approve the General Fund and Insurance Reserve expenditures for March of 2016 in the amount of \$406,548.24. The motion passed unanimously

**Education Reports:**

**Elementary Principal Report** (stated report was in the packet)

Mr. Albers highlighted items from his report. We currently have 237 elementary students enrolled. This is 9 down from last month. The attendance rate is above our goal of 95%. He thanked Mrs. Bandy for all her work getting the many tests ready for the elementary. The end of the year testing window for DIBELS will open next week. We will use this information to report to the state all our students with a significant reading deficiency. He's excited to have summer school in our new building this year. He really appreciated the Methodist Church allowing us to hold it there the last 2 years. Kindergarten Round-Up will be held Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping for nice weather for the many field trips planned in late April and early May. Last year the elementary raised just over \$10,000 for the American Heart Association. This year we raised \$12,248.62 which is our new high record. Shirley Jo Thompson raised over \$1,000. Joel said that Andy Love does a great job organizing and getting the kids excited about Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart. The elementary spring concert will be Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and the Bike Rodeo is scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>. He asked Les for more bike racks to put in the dirt parking lot for that day.

**Secondary Principal Report** (stated report was in the packet)

Mrs. Weisensee highlighted items from her report. We currently have 262 secondary students enrolled. The middle school is above the goal of 95% attendance. There's a lot of senioritis going on in the high school so the attendance rate is below our goal. There was a great turnout for the freshman orientation. She's had three interviews for the Business position and may have one more before the deadline of May 1<sup>st</sup>. She had two interviews for the Ag position today and two possibly three more. Four of the applicants are either teachers or student teachers and one has an alternative license. She's only had one application for the foreign language position so they might just use the Vnets again next year for these classes. Mary Andersen was not able to come to the Board meeting but left a MCC report for them to look at. Traci stated that with paying 4 credits we are in the red this year by just over \$3,000. We did receive \$9,000 at the end of last year as a onetime catch up payment. If we would have only paid for 3 credits this year we would have made \$6,000. Craig asked if she was thinking of paying for 4 credits next year? Traci stated that it depends on how many students are taking MCC classes. This year the majority were seniors so she is thinking we will have less next year. They discussed that we are only letting sophomores take college Spanish and they have to pay for all the credits. We were selected for CMAS testing monitoring from CDE this year. The person that came was impressed with our process and had a lot of positive praise for Shirelle and our teachers giving the test. She listed all the upcoming events. This time of year is very busy. There will be a Baccalaureate this year on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. James Larson is currently in charge with senior class volunteers helping. She hasn't heard of anything bad happening on the senior trip. It sounded like it was a successful trip. Stacy said that they were all exhausted. Mercedes McCue said it was a great learning experience and she thanked the administration for letting them start at 10am the Monday after they came back late. Traci thanked Dirk for making sure there weren't any games during spring break but the airline tickets were much cheaper going the first weekend in April. She heard from some parents that appreciated not having anything planned over spring break but then teachers do not like that there are so many games during the school week. She congratulated Mrs. Higgins and the cast of Willy Wonka on an outstanding performance last Friday. Unfortunately they had to cancel the Saturday performance because of the bad weather.

**Accountability:**

Joel reported that their last meeting for the school year will be April 25<sup>th</sup>.

**STUCO Report:** (none given)

**Athletic Department Report:** (stated report was in the packet)

Dirk Pedersen highlighted items from his report. He thanked all the volunteers for helping run the Warren Mitchell Invitational. They were short about 10 teams because of other meets that same weekend. The baseball varsity team has a 9 – 3 record and the JV team has a 3 – 4 record. Their regular season ends on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Districts will be held the week of May 8<sup>th</sup>. Their game in Calhan tomorrow is being postponed because of the wet field. The middle school I70 relays are on Thursday. This year's uniform rotation is softball and boys basketball.

**FFA Report:**

Mercedes McCue gave the FFA report. Eight teams traveled to Lamar on April 6<sup>th</sup> to compete in the District CDEs. All of our teams won and will be competing at the state level. Their District Banquet was on April 12<sup>th</sup>. She and Cheyanne Hope retired as district offices. Topper Parker and Anna Weisensee were installed as the Vice President and Secretary, respectfully. They had chapter officer interviews on April 14<sup>th</sup>. They will announce the positions at their chapter banquet. She listed upcoming events. The State Convention in Sterling Colorado will be June 6 through the 9<sup>th</sup>. Mercedes and Cheyanne will be running for a state office position and will find out on June 9<sup>th</sup> if they get it.

**Board Reports:**

Wendy Pottorff stated that there will be an ESSA summit on June 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss what changes, if any, should we seek in state law to take full advantage of the changes made by ESSA. Senator Owen Hill is sponsoring Senate Bills 187 and 188. These bills would force any district with a charter school to share mill levy funds even if the school didn't exist when the mill levy was approved. CASB is against these bills. CASB is encouraging everyone to contact their legislator and ask for a no vote.

Mr. Marx was approached by the Lions Club to see if the cafeteria would be available for running their bingo games on Saturdays. They've been out growing the Senior Center and are looking for a new and bigger place. Jason Bandy asked if they tried the Community Building. Dave said that they need one large space. They discussed what we would charge them and that if we could have gambling in our building. The Board decided that it wouldn't be a good idea at this time.

**Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Marx highlighted items from his Board report. At the superintendents meeting at BOCES they learned that funding will not improve for next year. Legislators have also been talking about consolidating small districts. He commended Shirelle on the great job she has done getting all the testing scheduled and setup. The new doors on the foyer have been installed. They are nice heavy doors. The new dishwasher has been installed and the lunch ladies are really happy with how well it's working. Coulter has sent a letter with pictures of the updates done to OCR and hopefully we will be done with all this.

**Audience Participation:** None

**Action Items:**

**2016-2017 School Calendar**

Jason Bandy moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading of the 2016-2017 school calendar D. There was a discussion with the audience on calendars B and D. Stacy Larson stated that she liked calendar B. We've had a calendar before where we had to come back for two days before Christmas break and it was very hard on staff and students to come back and take finals. Kim Steinhart stated that 27 staff members voted for calendar B and only 6 voted for calendar D. Cass Vernie stated that usually they have a review day on that Monday of finals week. She's worried that attendance would be down because parents are taking them on vacation. Judy Cummings stated that it would be hard to come back in the elementary and teach something educational for just that day and a half. Troy stated that the half day would be for the Christmas party. Annette Andersen replied that the party only lasts an hour so we would still have to fill 3 hours of class time. The Board asked the administrators which calendar they preferred. Joel stated he is not in favor of coming back the day and a half for that first week of Christmas break. Traci likes calendar B and Dave likes calendar D. Troy thought they had discussed breaking up finals. Stacy said that she has found that typically Monday tests have lower grades. She also stated that the staff will make any of the calendars work. They discussed the pros and cons of having a full five days of school the first week we come back in August. Most staff would rather get the Fridays out of the way. Also, kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade does their testing that Thursday and Friday. The motion failed with five nos. Craig Bailey moved and Mike Hines seconded the motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading of the 2016-2017 calendar B. The motion passed unanimously.

**2<sup>nd</sup> and Final Reading of Revised Board Policies**

Craig Bailey moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading of the following revised policies as presented –

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|---------------|--|
| ADD-E         | Safe Schools Exhibit   |
| AE option 2   | Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment                      |
| AE-R option 2 | Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment                      |
| AEA           | Standards Based Education  |
| AEE           | Waiver of State Law and Regulation                               |
| BC-R          | School Board Member Financial Disclosure – Regulation            |
| BDFA          | District Personnel Performance Evaluation Council                |
| BE            | School Board Meetings  |
| DAB-E         | Financial Administration Online Posting of Financial Information |
| DEA           | Funds from Local Tax Sources                                     |
| GBGAB         | First Aid Training   |
| IKA           | Grading/Assessment Systems                                       |
| JLCD-R        | Administering Medications to Students – Regulation               |
| JLCE          | First Aid and Emergency Medical Care                             |
| KLK           | Relations with State Agencies                                    |

The motion passed unanimously.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> and Final Reading of Revised Policy GBGG**

Mike Hines moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading of revised policy GBGG, staff discretionary leave as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Revised Policy JLCE-E**

Mike Hines moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of revised policy JLCE-E, student health history form. Our school nurse asked if we could add a paragraph to the health history form allowing her to enter students' immunization records on the Colorado Immunization Information System. Troy asked if we need to ask for parents' permission to look up their child's immunizations online. We will clarify this with Holly our school nurse. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Teacher Resignation**

Wendy Pottorff moved and Mike Hines seconded the motion to accept the resignation of Cody Weber as Ag Teacher/FFA Advisor for the 2016-2017 school year. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **School Board Meeting Calendar**

Craig Bailey moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the school board meeting calendar for the 2016-2017 school year, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Probationary Teaching Contracts**

Jason Bandy moved and Craig Bailey seconded the motion to approve the teaching contracts for the listed probationary teachers. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Non-Probationary Teaching Contracts**

Wendy Pottorff moved and Craig Bailey seconded the motion to approve the teaching contracts for the listed non-probationary teachers. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Athletic Director's Contract**

Jason Bandy moved and Mike Hines seconded the motion to approve the athletic director's contract for Dirk Pedersen. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Counselor Contract**

Wendy Pottorff moved and Craig Bailey seconded the motion to approve the counselor's contract for Shirelle Bandy. The motion passed with four ayes and Jason Bandy abstaining.

#### **Coaches**

Mike Hines moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve following coaches – Don Schmidt as volunteer high school and middle school assistant track coach, Travis Taylor as volunteer middle school assistant track coach and Laci Liggett as head dance coach. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Construction Change Order**

Craig Bailey moved and Jason Bandy seconded the motion to approve the Haselden construction change order #17 in the amount of \$10,044.79 credit. The motion passed unanimously.

**Future Business:** Work Session – Sunday, May 1, 2016 at 3:00pm in the Limon School Large Conference Room  
Work Session – Monday, May 16, 2016 at 4:15pm in the Limon School Media Center  
Next School Board Meeting – Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Limon School Media Center

**Adjournment:** At 9:12 p.m Jason Bandy moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the Board of Education to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

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Jill Bull, Clerk to the Board of Education

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ President: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Troy Jaklich