

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

Regular KIND OF MEETING	Choir Room MEETING PLACE	7:00 p.m. TIME	January MONTH	19 DAY	2015 YEAR
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Russell Lengel  
PRESIDING OFFICER

Wendy Pottorff  
MEMBER

Troy Jaklich  
VICE CHAIRMAN

Dave Marx  
SUPERINTENDENT

Bart O'Dwyer  
TREASURER

Craig Bailey  
SECRETARY

- Roll Call:** The regular Board of Education meeting of Limon School District RE-4J was called to order by Board President Russell Lengel at 7:01 p.m. Roll call reflected that all Board members were present.
- Mission Statement:** Troy Jaklich read the district mission statement.
- Agenda:** Craig Bailey moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the amended agenda for January 19, 2015 combining 12.2 and 12.3 and changing 12.3 to approve the Career and Tech classes for Traci Weisensee. The motion passed unanimously.
- School Officials:** Dave Marx, Joel Albers, Traci Weisensee & Dirk Pedersen
- Audience:** Les Layton, Kim Steinhart, Charles Hoffman, Linnea Zeschin, Zane Carpenter, Lenny Zeschin, Jill Coonts, Gary Lewman, Dan Bates and Chuck Jordan
- Minutes:** Bart O'Dwyer moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve the regular board meeting minutes of December 8, 2014 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- Audience Participation:** Zane Carpenter spoke to the Board regarding a grade he received in weights class that he believes was not a fair grade. He stated he is an A student and has made a goal to have a 4.0 GPA through high school and be the valedictorian of his class. He stated that they were never given class expectations. Linnea Zechin, Zane's mother, gave handouts to the Board. She stated that she took the appropriate steps to appeal the grade and followed the chain of command. The next step according to the handbook was for her to ask to be put on the agenda. She was told she could not be put on but could speak for 3 minutes during audience participation. She stated that Mr. Love did not have a syllabus for the high school weights class and expectations were not clarified to students. She also stated that grades aren't entered weekly like the rest of the secondary has to do so she was not able to catch the lower grade and deal with it right away. She asked the Board to change the grade or give administration the directive to change the grade. Russell thanked both Zane and Linnea for their comments. He stated that the administration has made the decision and that it is the administrations job to make that decision and not theirs. Linnea asked the Board to spend more time and look over the packet she gave them. They agreed to this. Charles asked if it would be appropriate for Linnea to ask to be put on next month's agenda. Bart stated that they needed to check with their attorney regarding this issue. Russell stated he would let her know after checking with the attorney.
- Financial Reports:** Bart O'Dwyer moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve the General Fund and Insurance Reserve expenditures for December of 2014 in the amount of \$298,942.98. Bart read the breakdown. The motion passed unanimously.
- Education Reports:** **Elementary Principal Report** (stated report was in the packet)  
Mr. Albers highlighted items from his report. Enrollment is at 228 students. The attendance rate continues to be above our goal. The elementary is getting ready for the upcoming testing season. Some teachers went to a Title I workshop at BOCES last week. He, Ms. Steinhart and Mrs. Monks will be going to a training for Amplify tomorrow at BOCES. He was able to move the end of year testing window to the last two week of April. Second grade will be going to the Denver Aquarium on Wednesday for their field trip. He included the GOCO project agreement with the town. The next step is a community meeting that he proposed be on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Someone was out to give a demonstration on the Promethean boards last Friday. The demo didn't go so well because of technical problems but he believes the boards will be useful in the classroom. He stated that

teachers will need training on the boards before school starts next school year. OfficeScapes was also here last Friday and dropped off more samples for desks and chairs to be put in classrooms.

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

Traci Weisensee highlighted items from her report. Enrollment in the secondary is at 246. She included 1<sup>st</sup> semester honor roll percentages. The high school had 71% on the honor roll. Middle school had 74% on the honor roll. On January 8<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Scherrer and 58 of his band students participated in the Eastern Colorado Honor Band in Bennett. We had 35 middle school students and 22 high school students perform. She said it was a proud moment when all the Limon school students stood because of their numbers. She thanked Ryan and Sherri Smithburg and Hoffman Drug for donating \$2,500 to the school. She included the testing schedules for March and April. Craig asked about last year's yearbook. Traci stated that as far as she knew that Rocky was still working on it but she would check with him.

**Accountability:** Joel stated that the next meeting will be Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm.

**Staff Report:** (none given)

**STUCO Report:** (none given)

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

Dirk highlighted items from his report. Tyler Kimble and Kerigan Kappel made the football all conference 1<sup>st</sup> team all state. Devin Christian, Luke Meier and Jayden Hilferty made 2<sup>nd</sup> team all state. He updated the middle school and high school basketball records. 28 teams came to our wrestling invitational. They are making a few adjustments to the new score table to make it more comfortable to sit at. Since the awards banquets will be in the gym this year, Lacreata suggested to just have dessert after the awards are handed out instead of a meal. Charles Hoffman stated that he was considering writing a letter to Mr. Pedersen asking that we no longer play Ellicott after their very rude and threatening behavior at last weekend's games. Russell stated that he and Dirk were already discussing this issue. Dirk stated that we are on a 2 year cycle so our games are already set for next year but after that unless we are put in the same conference as them we do not have to schedule any games with them. Dirk also stated that he did talk to CHSAA about what happened.

**FFA Report:**

Cody Weber stated that on December 29<sup>th</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup> they went to Denver for a winter officers retreat. On January 12<sup>th</sup> they went to a career development speaking event. Mercedes McCue received a silver, Layne Higgins received a bronze, Cassidy Thompson received a bronze and Cheyenne Hope received a gold. Last Thursday they took a trip that was coordinated by a student to Denver's Jump Street. This Wednesday he is taking 42 students to the Stock Show.

Mrs. Weisensee asked Cody to give a teacher presentation about his classes. He teaches an Ag Business class that alternates yearly with an Ag Science class. He also teaches an Ag Leadership class, Ag Mechanics, Intro to Ag, Aquaculture and junior high ag classes for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. They might restructure the Ag Mechanics class next year and add another class for tractor restoration. The Ag Science and Aquaculture classes are offered as science credits. Currently they have 230 tilapia fish that have doubled in size in about a month and a half. They plan to process and eat most of these fish and also keep some over summer to reproduce. He invited the Board to stop by and see the cool things they are doing in there. They are growing plants using hydroponics. Cody also told the Board about getting picked by National Geographic, who sent him and his family to Nashville where he presented his handmade artificial insemination teaching tool and received an award.

**Board Reports:**

The Board discussed the three rough draft calendars for next school year. Traci stated that she prefers calendar D, which starts in late August and then use one of the other start dates after Labor Day if the building isn't ready. Bart would like to start September 14<sup>th</sup> so that there is time to get everything done in the building. Dirk stated this will only affect Mr. Scherrer because homecoming is on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Dan Bates stated that they are contractually obligated to hand over the new building occupancy on July 17<sup>th</sup>. There will still be site work such as the playground until late September. Craig asked if we could approve a Plan A and a Plan B. They don't want to do this because we would like parents to be able to make plans ahead of time. Dan stated that they should know by May 1<sup>st</sup> if things will be done on time. It was agreed that they would have the first reading of the 2015-2016 calendar at March's Board meeting.

There was a resignation letter from Chris Bailey in the packet. Craig asked if we were going to look to hire a new para. Traci stated that she is just looking at having a long term sub because she doesn't know if they will need a para for the next school year.

**Superintendent’s Report:** Mr. Marx highlighted items from his report. The topping out ceremony went well. He thanked Dan Bates for explaining to the kids what it was about. They received good news from the BEST Grant. They are going to release \$260,000 for the abatement. Commissioner Robert Hammond of CDE was at last Wednesday’s SAC meeting. He told them even though the State Board of Education said that schools could opt out of testing, the Attorney General told them that legally schools cannot opt out of mandated testing. The Commissioner is aware of the school districts’ feelings about all the testing and is working on lessening it.

**Audience Participation:** None

**Action Items:**

**LVI Change Order #1**

Bart O’Dwyer moved and Craig Bailey seconded the motion to approve the LVI change order #1 in the amount of \$155,177.00. The motion passed unanimously.

**Haselden Change Order #6**

Craig Bailey moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the Haselden change order #6 in the amount of \$158,218.55. Dan and Chuck went over the change order with the Board during the work session. The motion passed unanimously.

**Career and Tech Director Certification Classes**

Craig Bailey moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve Traci Weisensee to attend Career and Tech director certification classes. The motion passed unanimously.

**2<sup>nd</sup> and Final Reading of Revised Policy GCQA-R**

Craig Bailey moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading of revised policy GCQA-R, Instructional Staff Reduction in Force Regulation as presented. There weren’t any staff present to request changes to the wording. The motion passed unanimously.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of New and Revised School, Community and Home Relations Policies**

Craig Bailey moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the following new and revised school, community and home relations polices –

- KB Parent Engagement in Education
- KBA District Title I Parent Involvement
- KBA-E School-Level Title I Parent Involvement Policy – NEW EXHIBIT
- KDB Public’s Right to Know/Freedom of Information
- KDB-R Public’s Right to Know/Freedom of Information – regulation
- KDDA Press Releases, Conferences & Interviews
- KDE Crisis Management
- KFA Public Conduct on District Property
- KF-E Fee Schedule for Public Use of School Facilities

They discussed the dollar amount of \$30 per hour to be paid for staff time spent in excess of one hour for researching and retrieving requested records in Policy KDB. They also discussed increasing the facility fees in policy KF-E. The classroom/library fee will be \$50 for Category 2 and \$100 for Category 3, the cafeteria went up to \$100/\$200, the cafeteria with the kitchen and cook went up to \$150/\$300, the Activity Building or Event Center went up to \$400/\$500, the athletic fields went up to \$400/\$500 and \$600 with lights, they added the Activity Building foyer to the list and set the fees as \$100/\$200. Use of the gyms for high school tournaments increased for volleyball to \$400 and basketball to \$500. Kim Steinhart asked that they include custodial fees on this policy. It was also discussed adding a signature line to the current facility use form. The motion passed unanimously.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of New and Revised Education Agency Relations Policies**

Craig Bailey moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the following new and revised education agency relations policies –

- LBB Cooperative Education Programming
- LBD Relations with District Charter Schools
- LBD-R Relations with District Charter Schools – Regulation
- LBD-E Intent to Apply to Become a District Charter School (form) - NEW EXHIBIT
- LBDA Facilities Planning & Funding for District Charter Schools

LBDA-R Facilities Planning & Funding for District Charter Schools – NEW REGULATION  
LBDB-1 Relations with Institute Charter Schools – NEW POLICY

LC Relations with Educational Research Agencies

On policy LBD-R they decided to increase the days for an intent to apply form to 60 days. They also increased the amount of days the district accountability committee has to review the charter application to 30 days. They agreed to add the optional paragraph on the 6<sup>th</sup> page. On policy LBD-E form the days were changed to 60 days for filing an intent to apply form. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Wendy Pottorff moved and Craig Bailey seconded the motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of revised policy GDBA-E, classified staff pay schedule, as presented. Troy asked why every step increased by \$.25. He also asked if there was some way to word the policy so we wouldn't have to approve the changes every year. They decided to change the base to say minimum wage and each step would be +.25. The motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution Designating the Posting Place of Public Meetings**

Craig Bailey moved and Bart O'Dwyer seconded the motion to approve the resolution designating the posting place of public meetings, as presented. The front doors of the school will continue to be the posting place of public meetings. We will need to look at this again when we move into the new school. The motion passed unanimously.

**Elementary Principal/Bus Director Contract**

Bart O'Dwyer moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve the elementary principal/bus director contract for Joel Albers. The motion passed unanimously.

**Secondary Principal Contract**

Bart O'Dwyer moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the secondary principal contract for Traci Weisensee. The motion passed unanimously.

**Coach**

Wendy Pottorff moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve Chris Penny as volunteer assistant high school wrestling coach. The motion passed unanimously.

**FY-2014 Audit**

Craig Bailey moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014 from Dixon, Waller & Co. as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Session**

It was decided that an executive session was not needed for this month's meeting. The Board did decide to have an executive session at the next Board meeting to go over Mr. Marx's evaluation.

**Future Business:**

Work Session – Monday, February 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Choir Room

Next School Board Meeting – Monday, February 16, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room

**Adjournment:**

At 9:30pm Bart O'Dwyer moved and Craig Bailey 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

President: \_\_\_\_\_  
Russell Lengel