

# MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## LIMON SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J

Limon, Colorado

Regular	Media Center	7:00 p.m	September	17	2018
KIND OF MEETING	MEETING PLACE	TIME	MONTH	DAY	YEAR

Craig Bailey  
PRESIDING OFFICER

MEMBER

Mike Hines  
VICE CHAIRMAN

John McCleary  
SUPERINTENDENT

Theron Perry  
TREASURER

Wendy Pottorff  
SECRETARY

**Roll Call:** The regular Board of Education meeting of Limon School District RE-4J was called to order by President Craig Bailey at 7:00pm. Roll call showed Mike Hines was absent. Mike came to the meeting at 7:25.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Everyone stood and recited the pledge.

**Mission Statement:** Wendy Pottorff read the district mission statement.

**School Officials:** John McCleary, Traci Weisensee, Joel Albers, Dirk Pedersen

**Audience:** Gary Lewman, Kim Steinhart, Anna Weisensee, Jill Bull, Will Bublitz, Molly Wagner, Emily Rudder, Mikaela Taylor, Rick Ashcraft and Rick Carducci

**Agenda:** Theron Perry moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the agenda for September 17, 2018 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**Minutes:** Wendy Pottorff moved and Theron Perry seconded the motion to approve the regular board meeting minutes of August 20, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

**Audience Participation:** Mr. Carducci recommended that the Board create a full semester class for 7<sup>th</sup> graders teaching just the constitution. He had seven reasons why he believed there should be a class including the checks and balances, the similarities of the Declaration of Independence to the Constitution and what would happen if we got rid of the Electoral College. John stated that we already teach the Constitution in US History and Government classes but we do not have a full semester unit on it. He agrees that social studies is very important. Until recently the emphasis was on reading, writing and math.

**Education Reports:**

**FFA Report:**  
Anna Weisensee gave the FFA report. They held their Family Dinner on August 29<sup>th</sup>. They went over expectations, upcoming events and opportunities for members. The District Leadership Conference was held in Hugo on September 5<sup>th</sup>. There were 130 members present, 20 or so were from Limon. They are working on the theme of Just One. They were in charge of all the lunch stops for Pedal the Plains last weekend. They served at three different locations. The BIG conference will be in Sterling on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Farm Safety Day is on the 26<sup>th</sup>. They will be taking 10 members to the Made for Excellence/Advanced Leadership Development conference October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. This is during Homecoming so members were given a choice to go or not. The National Convention is October 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>. Two teams will be competing. The Ag Sales team of Eleanna Rosler, Amy Weisensee, Ashlyn Gillis and Mahalie Owens and the Employment Skills team of Anna Weisensee. Kyle Rudder will be receiving his American Degree. Five other members will be attending the conference. Anna and Amy will be flying home with their dad Thursday night so they don't miss their volleyball games. Everyone else will be coming home on Sunday.

**FBLA Report:**  
Mikaela Taylor gave the FBLA report. They partnered with the Youth Advisory Council and the Rec Department to host kids' games during the car show. Bradyn Tacha did most of the research and organizing of this event. They had officer training in Denver on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Four of the six officers attended. The emphasis was on leadership and professionalism and effective meeting planning. They will have a Pie in the Face fundraiser during Homecoming week. There will be a silent auction and the winner will get to pie that person at the bonfire. They will have representatives from all sports, coaches and teachers. She asked if any of the school board members would like to volunteer to get a pie in the face. None of the Board members volunteered.

**STUCO Report:**

Anna and Mikaela both reported that the Homecoming dress-up days are posted in the upstairs hallway. They also thought that the vending machine was doing well.

**Staff Report:** None Given

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

Mr. Albers highlighted items from his report. We have 202 students enrolled in the elementary. The attendance rate is above our goal of 95%. He included the school performance frameworks. The elementary overall score is 77.2% which is an increase of 18.3% from last year. He also included the beginning year DIBELS report. He feels this report shows that we have a strong reading program. He's pleased with the data. Four elementary teachers will be attending the fourth annual READING Conference in Pueblo on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. There will be one 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher, both 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers and Peggy Ashcraft going. The focus of the conference will be on direct and explicit instruction for all students including English learners, emerging readers and struggling readers. Our 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will be attending Farm Safety Day in Hugo on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Bandy has an assembly every Monday morning for kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to go over the 7Mindsets. This year we've asked that all staff and students pick one word that will be on their lockers or doors. He asked the Board what their one word would be. Lieutenant Governor, Donna Lynne, will be visiting Limon Elementary on September 25<sup>th</sup>. They want to have a meet and greet at 8:30am, tour the school and have her read to a kindergarten class and be able to leave by 9am. He's not sure how they are going to get that all done in that short of a time frame.

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

Mrs. Weisensee came later in the meeting and highlighted items from her report. We currently have 128 middle schoolers and 139 high schoolers. The attendance rate is above our goal of 95%. All but two teachers have done their peer observations. She's had positive feedback on this. The secondary teachers are able to learn from each other. Homecoming is the week of October 1<sup>st</sup>. Parent/Teacher conferences are the nights of October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Shirelle has seven tutors for the tutoring center. New MCC bills were sent to parents. She appreciates the Board agreeing to pay for more credits. The ASVAB will be given to all sophomores on September 26<sup>th</sup>. The optional PSAT will be on October 10<sup>th</sup>. We will be hosting the College Fair again on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Accountability:**

Mr. McCleary stated it was a good meeting. He was really pleased with the turn out and thought that a few more would be coming to future meetings.

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

Mr. Pedersen came later in the meeting and highlighted items from his report. He gave the current records for football, softball and volleyball. Mike O'Dwyer asked if the Meeker football game can be played on Saturday next year. Next year's Homecoming will be this week in September. We will be playing Strasburg.

**Financial Reports:**

Theron Perry moved and Mike Hines seconded the motion to approve the General Fund, Insurance Reserve and Capital Reserve expenditures for August of 2018 in the amount of \$376,902.95. Kim went over the new reports from the new accounting program. She included the old reports. She really likes the new program. The Board agreed that the new reports are easier to read. John wanted to recognize all the training Kim has done on the new AptaFund. Teachers are now requesting days off online and will also be able to look at their paystubs. She is hoping to get the subs on so she doesn't have to mail paper paystubs. The motion passed unanimously.

**Board Reports:**

Wendy stated that CASB held their fall regional meeting here on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Attendance was down but she told CASB that Tuesday and Thursday meetings are not good for rural schools. All of Limon's Board members attended the meeting. We haven't had any Board applications turned in yet. They are due on Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. The LEF meeting will be on Wednesday. John will have to call in for this meeting. Wendy asked that the Board look at the Delegate Assembly resolution book and let her know how she should vote.

**Superintendent's Report:**

Mr. McCleary received a number of compliments on how service oriented our students are from those participating in Pedal the Plains. He gave a presentation on Amendment 73 and why he would like the school to support it. He would like to see Colorado schools get back to the national average for funding. Limon will lose \$400,000 this school year. It was asked why we will lose that. John said that he would explain later in the presentation. 97% of taxpayers in Lincoln County will not be impacted by this Amendment. When you compare the property tax revenue that Aspen gets compared to Limon, it is unfair in funding schools. This Amendment will freeze Gallagher at 7% for

education mills. The revenue will come from taxes on higher income families and corporations. Some of the things Limon School would like to do with the increased revenue is improve teacher salaries. The Board would also like to improve school grounds, pay off debt faster, provide more support for students, expand and pay for more concurrent credits and for our transportation needs. Craig used the calculator at the [www.greatschoolsthivingcommunities.com](http://www.greatschoolsthivingcommunities.com) to check how it would affect his property taxes if the amendment past. His property taxes would go down \$6 a year. Craig and John explained why Limon School would lose money this year. In 2009 the State didn't have enough money to fund schools through Amendment 23 which was supposed to increase per pupil funding by inflation plus 1%. They started the negative factor which was taking money from school transportation, teacher student ratio and other factors. Districts were forced to back fill the cuts with mill levy overrides.

**Action Items:**

**Coach Resignation**

Theron Perry moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to accept the coach resignation of Ted Bandy Jr. as middle school head wrestling coach. The motion passed unanimously.

**Coaches**

Wendy Pottorff moved and Mike Hines seconded the motion to approve Ted Bandy Jr as head high school wrestling coach, Dave Marx as assistant high school girls' basketball coach and Makinna Hubbard as volunteer assistant high school volleyball coach. Dirk stated he is still looking for a middle school basketball coach. The motion passed unanimously.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Revised Policy EEAA**

Mike Hines moved and Theron Perry seconded the motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of revised policy EEAA, Walkers and Riders as presented. There are minor revisions from CASB. The motion passed unanimously.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Revised Policy JJH-R**

Mike Hines moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of revised policy JJH-R, Senior Class Trip as presented. Traci stated that Sharon Hansen suggested changing the deadline so it wasn't so strict. The motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution**

Wendy Pottorff moved and Mike Hine seconded the motion to approve the resolution in support of Amendment 73. John stated that District 1 needed 1,500 signatures and we received 3,000. There are over 100 schools that are in support of the amendment. Mike stated that this can help us retain our teachers. Kim stated that our beginning teacher pay is lower than others even in nearby districts. Wendy stated that most people think schools receive money from the taxes on marijuana but that money goes towards the BEST grant and to educate students not to smoke. The motion passed with three ayes and Theron Perry voting no.

**DAC Members**

Mike Hines moved and Theron Perry seconded the motion to approve the District Accountability Committee members list as presented. John stated that he was excited to be part of DAC. Emily Rudder stated it was nice to see fresh faces. The motion passed unanimously.

**FFA Sponsors**

Wendy Pottorff moved and Theron Perry seconded the motion to approve Kay Rudder, Wayne Rudder and Brad Weisensee as FFA sponsors. Emily stated they are volunteers. The motion passed unanimously.

**Amended Teacher Contract**

Mike Hines moved and Theron Perry seconded the motion to approve the amended teaching contract for Molly Wagner as presented. Craig stated that this is to change her contract from 9 months to 10 months because of her FBLA duties. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Van**

Theron Perry moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the purchase of a new van in the amount of \$22,975. John thanked the Board for their flexibility with this purchase that we already made because of the time limit with the insurance claim. This is to replace the van that was totaled in a hail storm last spring. The motion passed unanimously.

**Future Business:** Agenda Planning – Friday, October 5, 2018 5:30pm at Limon School - Theron Perry will be there  
Board Vacancy Interview – Wednesday, October 10, 2018 Time TBD  
Work Session – Monday, October 15, 2018 6:00pm at Limon School Media Center  
Next School Board Meeting – Monday, October 15, 2018 7:00pm at Limon School Media Center

**Adjournment:** At 8:46pm Theron Perry moved and Mike Hines 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Craig Bailey