

Official Minutes
Weld Re-3(J) Board of Education
 Regular Meeting Minutes
 December 10, 2014

1. **Call to Order** by President Haffner @ 7:05pm.
2. **Roll Call** Baumgartner, Haffner, Jensen and Veldhuizen present. Gustafson was absent.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Approval of Agenda**
 Baumgartner moved to approve the agenda as presented.
 Jensen seconded the motion

Baumgartner –Yes	Gustafson –	Haffner – Yes	Jensen – Yes	Veldhuizen – Yes
------------------	-------------	---------------	--------------	------------------

5. **Public Open Forum**

5.1 Recognition of Visitors

5.2 General Public Comment

Justin Glenn of Roggen voiced concerns about teacher responses to parent emails, student make up work, and the time it takes for teachers to get make up work to the students. He also praised Scott Richardson for the things he is doing with Athletics like the Pep Bus to get students to away games to support their teams.

5.3 Correspondence

6. **Special Reports / Recognition**

6.1 Academic Spotlight on Hudson Academy

Principal Dent highlighted the Classroom Economy that is used in the 3rd through 5th grade classrooms at Hudson Academy. Ms. Macias and Ms. Ortiz presented information on how the Classroom Economy aligns to standards in Math, Reading, Writing and Social Studies. They showed a short video of students talking about the Classroom Economy, what they like about it, what challenges they face when using it, and how it applies to the real world.

7. **Board Consent Agenda**

7.1 Approval: November 12, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

7.2 Approval: November 19, 2014 GP Meeting Minutes

7.3 Approval: October Financial Reports

7.4 Approval: Resignations/Retirements

- Angelica Ramirez – Health/Office Aide @ WCMS
- Ben Vigil – Custodian @ WCMS
- Casey McGaughey – Science Teacher @ WCHS

7.5 Approval: Additions to the 2014-2015 Substitute Teaching List

- Crystal Bryant

7.6 Approval: Request for Open Enrollment/Within District Transfer for 2014-2015

7.7 Approval: Administrative Policy A-2 (AD) School District Mission

7.8 Approval: Administrative Policy G-a-27 (GBEBA) Staff Dress Code

Veldhuizen moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Baumgartner seconded the motion.

Baumgartner –Yes	Gustafson –	Haffner – Yes	Jensen – Yes	Veldhuizen – Yes
------------------	-------------	---------------	--------------	------------------

8. **Action/Discussion/Policy 2nd Reading**

8.1 Approval of the Fiscal Year 2014 Financial Audit Report

Alan Holmberg of Anderson & Whitney presented the 2014 Audit Report during the Work Session. He stayed for the regular meeting and was available to answer any remaining questions from the Board.

The Board must formally accept the Financial Audit Report prior to submission to CDE.

Baumgartner moved to approve the 2014 Financial Audit.

Veldhuizen seconded the motion.

Baumgartner –Yes	Gustafson –	Haffner – Yes	Jensen – Yes	Veldhuizen – Yes
------------------	-------------	---------------	--------------	------------------

8.2 Approval of Mill Levy Certification

The Mill Levy Certification must be approved by the Board no later than December 15, 2014. Ms. Clark was present to explain the Mill Levy Certification. Ms. Clark explained the effect of the dramatic increase of Assessed Valuation due to Oil & Gas and the resulting decline in taxes for homeowners. Veldhuizen moved to approve the Certification of Mill Levies at 14.140 mils, based upon an assessed valuation of \$1,301,057,210, for Property Tax Year 2014 to be collected in 2015. Jensen seconded the motion.

Baumgartner –Yes	Gustafson –	Haffner – Yes	Jensen – Yes	Veldhuizen – Yes
------------------	-------------	---------------	--------------	------------------

8.3 Approval of Cash Flow Loans Resolution

Due to the increase in Assessed Valuation, revenue to the district will be primarily from local sources. Based on the school finance formula, state payments will cease with the December payment, and any overpayment from the State will need to be returned prior to the end of the fiscal year. Because local property taxes will be the primary (and almost sole) form of revenue under the finance formula, the district will have no additional revenue coming in until property taxes are distributed from Adams and Weld Counties (March, April, May). The District does not have sufficient reserve to operate without taking out loans. The state offers an interest free loan program. Ms. Clark completed the paperwork to ensure these loan funds are available; however, the Board must pass a resolution authorizing the loans. Veldhuizen moved to approve Resolution #3-2015, a Resolution authorizing the participation by the district in the State Treasurer’s interest-free loan program for Colorado school districts and borrowing under such program in an aggregate principal amount up to \$4,500,000; establishing the terms and provisions of loans to the district pursuant to such program; providing for the payment of and security for such loans; and authorizing the execution, delivery and acceptance of documents in connection with the loans. Baumgartner seconded the motion.

Baumgartner –Yes	Gustafson –	Haffner – Yes	Jensen – Yes	Veldhuizen – Yes
------------------	-------------	---------------	--------------	------------------

8.4 Administrative Policy: I-33 (IJOA) Field Trips

The language in policy 1-33 (IJOA) Field Trips was updated per first reading discussion. Baumgartner moved to approve policy 1-33 (IJOA) Field Trips. Jensen seconded the motion.

Baumgartner –Yes	Gustafson –	Haffner – Yes	Jensen – Yes	Veldhuizen – Yes
------------------	-------------	---------------	--------------	------------------

8.5 Administrative Policy: I-40 (IJNDAB) Instruction through Online Courses

The District’s policy regarding on-line instruction has been updated to be in line with current programs and practice. There were no changes from first reading. Baumgartner moved to approve policy 1-40 (IJNDAB) Instruction through Online Courses. Veldhuizen seconded the motion.

Baumgartner –Yes	Gustafson –	Haffner – Yes	Jensen – Yes	Veldhuizen – Yes
------------------	-------------	---------------	--------------	------------------

8.6 Approval of CNG School Bus Purchase

Dr. Rabenhorst has worked with Noble Energy and the Regional Air Quality Council to secure full funding for a CNG powered school bus. Noble will provide upfront funding, while the grant funding through RAQC will be received after the bus is acquired and paid for. Because this expense is not budgeted and exceeds the \$10,000 threshold, the Board must approve the purchase. Approval will allow the release of funds from Noble, and the District can proceed with a purchase order for the new bus. Veldhuizen moved to approve the purchase of CNG bus with the understanding that the cost will be covered with funding from Noble Energy and the RAQC grant. Baumgartner seconded the motion.

Baumgartner –Yes	Gustafson –	Haffner – Yes	Jensen – Yes	Veldhuizen – Yes
------------------	-------------	---------------	--------------	------------------

9. Information/Discussion/Policy 1st Reading

9.1 2015-2016 School Calendar

A draft of the 2015-2016 School Calendar was provided to the Board. The calendar has been developed by the Superintendent's Advisory Council and is modeled after the 2014-2015 calendar. The SAC is still receiving some feedback regarding mid-term/report dates but conceptually, the SAC recommends the attachment. With this calendar, the district meets statutory requirements for attendance hours. The Board directed the Superintendent to compare Re-3J student attendance days with neighboring districts.

9.2 WCHS Course Description Book for 2015-16 School Year

Mr. Fleming was present to answer questions regarding the 2015-16 Course Description Book. Mr. Fleming highlighted changes that were made in the course offerings. The Board discussed including fees, and options for those who cannot pay the fees immediately, in the course book.

9.3 Weld Re-3J Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan was provided with the goals previously reviewed by the Board. Board members discussed the continuation of Board Ends, and consensus was that the Ends are no longer needed. This will be placed on the GP agenda in February. The Board also determined that Goal 5 should be included on the first page as written, under the summary, but not implemented until funding constraints change. The goal and related activities will be removed from the plan.

9.4 CASB Conference Feedback

Board members had the opportunity to report information and insights from the CASB convention. Each Board member highlighted sessions they attended as well as the information gleaned from those sessions.

10. Superintendent Reports and Presentations

10.1 Community Focus Group Feedback Results

Dr. Rabenhorst went over the feedback from the Community Focus Group in November. Board members discussed the feedback. Dr. Rabenhorst also mentioned that he met with the Mayor of Hudson along with two town officials on Monday. They were very concerned with the idea of closing Hudson Academy as a budget reduction option. Dr. Rabenhorst explained that it was only an idea at this point, but that the Board will need to consider all options for cost saving.

11. Board Member Reports/Discussion

Director Veldhuizen shared her frustration of communication with teachers at WCHS. She reminded the audience and other Board members that the Home for the Holiday's event is this Friday at the high school. The money raised by the foundation will go to Art programs in the district.

Director Jensen voiced concerns for the advertising of the Foundation event this Friday. He has created an event on Facebook and would like everyone to include it on their Facebook page to get the word out. He also voiced concern about teachers not getting student make-up work to them in a timely manner. He mentioned that the Board policy goes both ways. The student has two days, for every day missed, to make up work; likewise, the teacher needs to provide that work in enough time for the student to complete it. Director Jensen also had questions about STEM and the alignment from middle school to high school.

Director Baumgartner challenged the Board to think about ways they will communicate with the community over the next year.

12. Adjournment @ 9:16pm.