

Kind of Meeting	Place	Time	Month/Day/Year
Regular	HS Library,	6:00 p.m. Executive Session 7:00 p.m. Regular Session	1/23/2017

Present:

David Steinert,  
Board President

Eric Pfannenstiel

David Bower

Gina Mitchell

Heather Paulson

Steven Marantino,  
Superintendent

Absent:

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Board President, David Steinert called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., all members were present. Mr. Steinert asked for a motion to adjourn to executive session for discussion of personnel, evaluations. [C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f)]

Motion was made by Mr. Pfannenstiel and seconded by Ms. Paulson to adjourn to executive session for discussion of personnel evaluations [C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f)].

Vote: Mr. Bower, aye; Mrs. Mitchell, aye; Mr. Pfannenstiel, aye; Ms. Paulson, aye; Mr. Steinert, aye. Motion carried.

The meeting returned to regular session and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:02 p.m.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Steinert asked audience members if the comments for Community Input were related to the 4-day week pilot program, and then suggested agenda action item C, the Board Resolution pertaining to this program be moved up to item A.

Motion was made by Ms. Paulson and seconded by Mrs. Mitchell to approve the agenda as amended.

Vote: Mr. Bower, aye; Mrs. Mitchell, aye; Mr. Pfannenstiel, aye; Ms. Paulson, aye; Mr. Steinert, aye. Motion carried.

### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Steinert noted items under the consent agenda; minutes of the previous meeting, financial reports, and he reviewed the employment list.

Motion was made by Mr. Mr. Pfannenstiel and seconded by Ms. Paulson to approve the Consent Agenda.

Vote: Mr. Bower, aye; Mrs. Mitchell, aye; Mr. Pfannenstiel, aye; Ms. Paulson, aye; Mr. Steinert, aye. Motion carried.

### **Good News Reports**

#### **Students**

Head Girl and Boy, Syree Gunnels and Eamon Zollars provided a report on current athletic seasons and activities including FBLA, FFA, History Fair and Student Council.

#### **Assessment**

Mr. Haddican gave a brief update on upcoming assessments.

#### **Principals**

Questions were answered pertaining to reports included in the board packet from principals, and Mr. Steinert reviewed the Directors reports.

#### **Board Reports**

Mr. Steinert reported on the District Accountability Committee meeting, and Mrs. Mitchell reported on the BOCES board meeting

#### **Superintendent**

Mr. Marantino reported the salad/potato bar donated by the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee will be implemented this week, with a special event during lunch serving times, upcoming staff training provided by the Colorado School District Self Insurance Pool and the all-valley PLC training. He also reported that, based on a request from parents to have students picked within other district boundaries, he sent letters to other superintendents requesting permission, per requirement of state law. Responses received to date decline permission.

Mr. Marantino explained budgetary challenges of recent years and the district's efforts to address them and the development of new mission, vision and goals for the district. He stated he believes the district needs to change the current model, and therefore is recommending the pilot plan for a 4-day week schedule. He stated the success or lack of it will be measured after 3 years. Mr. Steinert reviewed the Board Resolution pertaining to the 4 day week school pilot program.

He noted this decision has been made over the course of years of revisiting and researching this option. He then reviewed the process for audience members for Community Input, and asked that comments be respectful and limited to 3 minutes.

### **Community Input**

Tammy Hagner stated she is a parent and substitute teacher and expressed support for the 4-day schedule as it is beneficial for teachers and for students in allowing time for extra rest.

Brighton Burkhart addressed the board in support of reestablishing a wrestling program at Sargent. He related his conversations with former graduates and how their experience in the wrestling program affected their lives. He asked what was needed to reestablish the program; AD, Don Scherden responded. Mr. Burkhart thanked the board for their time, and noted he knows of 5 students who would be interested in wrestling for the 17-18 school year. Discussion followed.

Bob Mattive addressed the board stating he is opposed to a 4-day week, and responded to points made previously in the meeting, questioning the salary savings, asking for an estimate of cost savings to be available. Also improved attendance, as all students will not be able to schedule appointments on Fridays. He asked if consideration has been given to optimum numbers for students vs staff, and whether students are college ready and not in need of remedial courses. He expressed doubts about returning to a 5 day week after 3 years on a 4-day schedule.

Drew Hoffstaetter spoke in favor of a 4-day week schedule stating he is a parent and expressed his student's concerns regarding staff turn-over and program cuts. He stated he doesn't want "Friday's off" but wants a good education.

Luke Hoffstaetter stated he supports a 4-day week, and explained his sister's success attending a 4 day school; he does not feel a longer day would create a problem, and noted the advantages relating to sports.

Michelle Burkhart thanked the board for their dedication and stated she is both a taxpayer and employee. She expressed her disappointment with the mill levy failure, and stated she realizes the 4-day won't completely solve challenges. It would, however help them at home as their kids would be able to help on the farm more. She stated she understands her hours and pay could drop, however feels the district can't take more educational staff cuts.

Clay Mitchell stated he graduated from Sargent in 2000, and explained his family ties to the school. He stated he feels the more time students spend at school the

better. He believes the board should have asked the community for comments, and that without community support the school would fail.

Tyler Mitchell stated he opposes the 4-day week; he expressed concerns pertaining to hourly staff salary cuts and that the 4-day schedule would not change after the pilot period. He noted the Accredited with Distinction status was attained with a 5-day schedule, and asked if there could be a loss of students in changing to a 4-day.

Jeff McCullough spoke in favor of a 4-day schedule, explaining as a student he experienced both, and found the 4-day to be a positive learning experience. He believed the longer class time was a benefit, as was the block schedule he had as it was good preparation for college. He noted his kindergarten age child does better with the shorter week. Other advantages he experienced were higher moral, the advantage with athletics on Fridays, and the cost savings being an added benefit.

Jean Ann Consaul stated she is a parent and former teacher, and supports a 4-day schedule having attended a 4-day school and having taught in a 5-day school. Advantages for both teachers and students were explained.

Terri Baker stated she is a kindergarten teacher at Sargent; she found during the 2 weeks in December that were 4 day weeks she felt energized. She noted advantages of a 4-day schedule including athletics, cost savings, options for extra student activities on Fridays such as internships. Concern was expressed regarding past loss of students, and fears of the district becoming a K-8 school in the future. She stated by making the 4-day week decision, Sargent can continue to be the best school in the Valley.

Mr. Steinert read a letter submitted by Mike Mitchell, as he was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Mitchell supports a 5-day schedule and addressed concerns with the pilot plan.

Mrs. Mitchell read a letter from Leslie Alvarez in opposition of a 4-day schedule, however stressed the importance of Friday enrichment opportunities for students if the majority favors a 4-day schedule.

Mr. Steinert stated projected savings would be \$30-\$50,000; policies are being reevaluated; employee leave time may be reduced. He noted numbers of leave days taken on Fridays. He noted the district's vision to be in the top 10 performing schools in the state. He noted Sargent's progress in closing the achievement gap, as have other 4-day week schools. Also noted was the survey conducted last year in which over 70% of parents preferred a 4-day week. He explained how times have changed and the on-going process that lead to the

point of moving to consider a 4-day week schedule. He thanked audience members for their attendance and comments.

Mr. Pfannenstiel noted in addition to the negative factor, declining enrollment estimates would result in staff and budget cuts. He stated a K-8 program has never been a consideration of the board. He highlighted program costs such as curriculum. Discussion followed, with input from audience members. The option of a Friday enrichment program for students was discussed at length. Mrs. Mitchell asked that the Friday program be included in the Board Resolution. Mr. Marantino stated he would not recommend including the language at this time as details would need to be worked out. A lengthy discussion followed.

### **Action Items**

#### **Board Resolution—4-Day Week School Pilot Program**

Mr. Steinert read the Board Resolution, and asked for a motion.

Motion was made by Mr. Bower and seconded by Mr. Pfannenstiel to approve the Board Resolution as presented.

Vote: Mr. Bower, aye; Mrs. Mitchell, nay; Mr. Pfannenstiel, aye; Ms. Paulson, nay; Mr. Steinert, aye. Motion carried.

#### **FY 2017 Final Amended Budget**

Mr. Marantino noted the preliminary budget was approved in June, and amended budgets must be approved by January 31. Ms. Quintana reviewed the amended budget noting adjustments made based on current information and explained the new Colorado minimum wage requirements which will be phased in over a 4 year period. She noted reserves included for curriculum purchases. Discussion followed and questions were answered. Ms. Quintana explained a change in formatting for the budget, and noted anticipated improvement in the food service budget, discussion followed.

Motion was made by Ms. Paulson and seconded by Mr. Pfannenstiel to approve the FY 17 Amended Budget.

Vote: Mr. Bower, aye; Mrs. Mitchell, aye; Mr. Pfannenstiel, aye; Ms. Paulson, aye; Mr. Steinert, aye. Motion carried.

### **Policy Revisions**

Mr. Marantino noted two policies, IKF and IKF-2, Graduation Requirements. He reviewed edits from the versions discussed last month. Discussion followed with input from Counselor, Janae Naranjo, and questions were answered. It was noted in Policy IKF-2 under the cut score English and math should be 2.0 or higher.

Motion was made by Mr. Pfannenstiel and seconded by Ms. Paulson to approve second reading and adoption of the policies, with revisions.

Vote: Mr. Bower, aye; Mrs. Mitchell, aye; Mr. Pfannenstiel, aye; Ms. Paulson, aye; Mr. Steinert, aye. Motion carried.

### **Discussion Items**

#### **Superintendent Evaluation forms and process**

Mr. Steinert noted evaluation forms and asked that board members complete and return to him for the evaluation at the February meeting. Discussion followed.

#### **Out-of-District Board Representative**

Mr. Steinert stated if the Accountability Committee alters their meeting time so that it is more convenient for parents, it could be an opportunity for parental input. PTO was also noted as an option to allow input, with one or 2 board members present at meetings. Also suggested was informal events for board and community members to get together; discussion followed.

#### **CASB Winter Legislative Conference**

Mr. Steinert noted the conference will be February 23 and 24, he will be unable to attend. Discussion followed; board members will let Lynda know if they are interested in attending.

#### **Debrief Meeting, February agenda**

Discussion followed pertaining to the audit presentation in February and the board's preferences as to whether to have a work session or special meeting with the auditors prior to the meeting. Consensus was to schedule the audit presentation during the regular February meeting. Items for the February board meeting include executive session for evaluation, a report on the competency based learning trip and an update from principals on achievement of board charge items; action items include the district audit, the 2017-18 school calendar and discussion items will include the option of a wrestling program, with a report from Mr. Scherden, and a list of things to be measured during the pilot program for the 4-day week. Mr. Pfannenstiel stated he believes items should be specified to ensure Sargent is a school of choice moving forward, to allow time for planning and budget consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.