

Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Board Work Session Minutes

February 7, 2023

Board Work Session Minutes

A - Doug Levinson
 B - Kari Sholtes
 C - Andrea Haitz
 D - Will Jones
 E - Angela Lema

Board of Education
Mesa County Valley School District 51
Board Work Session: February 7, 2023
Adopted: March 28, 2023

	A	B	C	D	E		ACTION
						AGENDA ITEMS	
Present Absent		x	x	x	x	<u>BUSINESS ITEMS</u>	4:00 p.m.
Motion Second Aye No		x	x	x	x	A. Call to Order/Roll Call ➤ Mr. Levinson was excused absent.	
Motion Second Aye No						B. Agenda Approval	Approved
Motion Second Aye No				x	x	C. Personnel Actions [Resolution 22/23: 58]	Approved
Motion Second Aye No		x	x	x	x	D. Executive Session Executive session for a conference with legal counsel for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b), specifically to discuss the Stocker Stadium. ➤ Motion to move to executive session ➤ Persons attending the executive session: Dr. Brian Hill, Ms. Tammy Eret, Mrs. Melanie Trujillo, Mr. Clint Garcia and Board members, Ms. Haitz, Mr. Jones, Ms. Lema and Dr. Sholtes. ➤ Motion to adjourn executive session. Time spent discussing Stocker Stadium: 47 Minutes	4:07 p.m.
Motion Second Aye No		x	x	x	x	[Recess 4:50 p.m. Resume 5:00 p.m.]	
Motion Second				x	x	E. Adjournment of Business Meeting	5:00 p.m.
Present Absent	x	x	x	x	x	<u>WORK SESSION</u>	5:00 p.m.
						➤ Mr. Levinson arrived at 5:00 p.m.	
						1. Black History Month Resolution [Resolution 22/23: 59] ➤ Mr. Jones read the resolution to honor and recognize the achievements and contributions of African Americans and to encourage all citizens to participate in the various community activities to highlight February as Black History Month.	
						2. National Counseling Week Resolution [Resolution 22/23: 60] ➤ Dr. Sholtes read the resolution to recognize the week of February 6 th through the 10 th as National School Counseling Week and to highlight the tremendous impact school counselors have on student success.	
						3. Mt. Garfield Middle School International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme Presentation ➤ Mrs. Jennifer Marsh, Chief Academic Officer, Mr. Dan Bunnell, Site Director,	

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Ms. Nikki Johnston, Mt. Garfield Middle School Principal, Ms. Sally Huddle and Ms. Danielle Bagwell, Mt. Garfield Middle School Assistant Principals and Ms. Rachel Brown, Learning Model Coach and Middle Years Programme Coordinator, were present to share information on Mt. Garfield Middle School's request to apply to become an International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) School. If becoming a MYP School, Mt. Garfield Middle School would implement an application process for other students, across the District, to attend Mt. Garfield Middle School, in a similar way as students apply for the Palisade High School IB Diploma Programme. Students in a MYP learn the same traditional standards but through a real world global concept, making this a pedagogical shift rather than a curriculum shift and aligns with the District's Strategic Plan. Information was shared on the MYP model, the IB learner profile and how the MYP aligns with the Strategic Plan. A timeline was shown, noting the initial process began in the 2018-2019 school year, but was halted during the pandemic. Next steps and financial commitment information was shared on what would be required to move the process forward, noting a new consensus vote, with this year's staff, showed 100% commitment.

4. Enrollment and Grade Configuration Update
 - Mr. Shannon Bingham, Western Demographics Demographer, shared updated information on survey results and feedback from two community meetings. He was pleased to report the number of survey responses were greater than anticipated with the majority of stakeholders being in favor of replacing older schools, combining small schools to create more appropriately-sized programs and to reconfigure the secondary schools in the Fruita area to traditional sixth through eighth grade for middle school and ninth through twelfth grade for high school. He reported stakeholders were split when asked if they supported two smaller middle schools in the Fruita area or one larger middle school. Mr. Bingham answered questions from the Board and shared his recommendations for moving forward. He will focus on steps to address under enrollment schools, mapping out what the process will look like if closing some schools and a pathway to support the impacted communities.

[Recess 6:20 p.m. Resume 6:26 p.m.]

5. Strategic Plan Focus Group #3 Presentation
 - Mr. Tracy Gallegos, Equity/Inclusion Director, shared updated information on the work being done under the Strategic Plan Focus Group # 3 of Engaged and Supportive Community Partners. He reminded everyone of the three priority areas under the Focus Group, Effective Community Partnerships to Advance Strategic Goals, Transparent and Effective Resource Allocation and Communication and Connection with Families. The teams working under the priority areas are working diligently to develop clear, concise communication to design the ultimate plan with authentic community partnerships.
 - Mr. Clint Garcia, Chief Operations Officer, Mrs. Melanie Trujillo, Chief Financial Officer, Mrs. Ashley Zhang, Accounting Supervisor, Ms. Jannelle Ochoa, Finance Accountant, Mrs. Rachel Talley, Data Analyst, Mr. Dan Bollinger,

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Palisade High School Principal and Mr. Dan Prinster, St. Mary's Vice President of Business Development, reported on work being done under the priority area of Transparent and Effective Resource Allocation. The team is on track to reach their goals for the first year of reviewing current resource allocations, budgeting systems and benchmarking current resource allocations to those of similar districts. Graphics were displayed showing the amount of funding received from the state in per pupil revenue and mill levy overrides in District 51 and nine other comparable districts along with student performance. The data showed District 51 is the second lowest funded district but is higher in student performance than many of the other districts. Information and design graphics were shared for new school profile website pages to be rolled out. The new pages will contain financial and demographic information on individual schools and will be easy to navigate.

- Mrs. Angela Christensen, D51 Foundation Director, Mr. Bo Tobin, Work Based Learning Liaison, Ms. Tabitha Britt, Mesa County Workforce Center Youth Employment Specialist, Dr. Raul De Villegas-Decker, clinical and organizational psychologist, small business owner, past D51 Foundation President and current Palisade High School varsity girls soccer team head coach, shared information under the priority area of Effective Community Partnerships to Advance Strategic Goals. The work of the team for the first year is to develop a map of community partners, a tool to measure the level of engagement of the partners and identify gaps. The team reported they are on track and have identified one hundred and seventy one partnerships. Ms. Britt spoke on the work she does in partnering with the District by assisting students in career exploration, job searching and resume creation. Dr. Villegas-Decker spoke on the work of the D51 Foundation and the support and funding they have provided to the District. He displayed posters showing the increase in community partners/sponsors of the D51 Foundation from 2017 to now.
- Mrs. Callie Berkson, Public Information Officer, and Ms. Karrie Kuklish, Communication/Media Specialist, shared information on the priority area of Communication and Connection With Families. Information was shared on the completed communication audit and the Rubrics of Practice from the National School of Public Relations Association to be used as a tool to identify components of the District's communication system. The Rubric divides communication into five sections to focus on. The five sections are 1) Comprehensive Planned Communications 2) Internal Communications 3) Parents and Family Communications 4) Marketing/Branding Communications and 5) Crisis Communications. Information was shared on the steps and strategies outlined under each section.
- Mr. Gallegos and Ms. Estrella Ruiz, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education Family Coordinator, shared information on the District being invited to participate in a five year program called the Colorado Statewide Family Engagement Center. The program was formed under collaborative work from the Colorado Department of Education, Colorado Education Initiative and the National Center for Families. Information was shared on a road map being built and steps to be taken for the District to establish infrastructure needed to build

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- and maintain good partnerships, with all families. It was noted that the District is now offering classes for parents to learn to speak English and for teachers or staff to learn to speak Spanish.
6. Charter Schools Presentation (Mesa Valley Community School and Independence Academy)
 - Mrs. Jennifer Marsh and Mr. Dan Bunnell explained why Mesa Valley Community School, an existing charter school, had to submit a new application and follow the new application process due to a change in their teaching structure. Rubric ratings from sections scored by the District Accountability Committee and sections scored by a District administrative team were shared with the Board. Mrs. Marsh and Mr. Bunnell also shared rubric ratings scored by a District administration team in regards to the renewal application for Independence Academy. Independence Academy's application did not require a review by the District Accountability Committee as it was a renewal only and not a new application. Both schools scored in the upper two tiers of a four tiered rating system in all categories.

 7. K-12 Early Release Update
 - Mrs. Jennifer Marsh and Dr. Danny Medved, Professional Learning Director, shared additional information on implementing a kindergarten through twelfth grade early release program. Early release would offer additional staff collaboration time and robust learning opportunities. Information was shared on the five pillars of the Colorado Department of Education evidence based Multi-tiered Support System, which ties into the early release time and the priority items to be focused on during an early release time. Family survey results were reviewed along with common supportive comments, concerns and information on how the District would address the concerns. A timeline and information on next steps, to implement the early release in August, were shared along with a prototype of an early release planning time breakdown showing an example of what work could be completed during the early release time.

 8. Policy First Reading
 - 8.a. BE, School Board Meetings
 - 8.b. CBB, Recruitment and Appointment of Superintendent

 9. Board Open Discussion
 - Dr. Sholtes and Mr. Jones reported on comments heard at the community meeting and Board Coffee, held to gather feedback from the community on the Mesa Valley Community School application. They reported the participants were overwhelmingly in support of the school and the Board approving the application.
 - Mr. Levinson was impressed with seeing the work being done through the Strategic Plan. He noted, as a former educator and administrator, he has seen many strategic plans end up on the shelf with no action taken. He is impressed with the progress being made with the current plan.
 - Mr. Jones complimented Mrs. Angela Christensen, D51 Foundation Coordinator, on a successful White Iced Event.

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					<p>➤ Dr. Hill asked if any Board member had heard any negative feedback regarding the change in start time for Board meetings from 6:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. No negative comments were shared, but members discussed comments regarding the length of the meetings.</p> <p>Adjourn</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____ Bridget Story, Assistant Secretary Board of Education</p>	8:42 p.m.



Mesa County Valley School District 51
Licensed and Administrative Personnel Action

Board of Education Resolution: 22/23: 58

Adopted: February 7, 2023

Name	Location	Assignment	Effective Date
Retirements			
NONE AT THIS TIME.			
Resignations/Termination			
STONE, MICKEY R	BTK	OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST	1/13/2023
Leave of Absence			
CASTRO, TEAGAN P	NISLEY	GRADE 1	2/2/2023
HAWLEY, CASEY J	CENTRAL	SOCIAL STUDIES	1/30/2023
SKAFF, MICHELLE J	BROADWAY	GRADE 5	1/20/2023
New Assignments (Transfer/New Hires)			
MARSH, TONY S	MAINTENANCE	COORD, MAINT & OPERATIONS	2/8/2023
STEINBRINK, LEAH K	BTK	TEACHER, SPED/PRESCHOOL	2/3/2023
Return from Leave			
PUCKETT, DANIELLE N	TAYLOR	TEACHER, CLD	1/6/2023

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Board of Education on February 7, 2023.

 Bridget Story, Assistant Secretary
 Board of Education

WHEREAS, the origin of Black History Month began in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. The month of recognition grew out of “Negro History Week,” first started by historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, the week-long celebration was extended to the entire month of February to honor and recognize the achievements and contributions of the central role of African Americans in U.S. history; and

WHEREAS, National Black History Month is a time for all Americans to remember and honor African Americans' history, teachings, suffering, and strength, which gave a voice to the struggle for freedom, equality, access, and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of African Americans from all walks of life and in all fields reflect the greatness of the United States. African American citizens have participated, and continue to participate, in every American effort to secure, protect, and maintain the essence and substance of American democracy; and

WHEREAS, not only during the month of February 2023 but throughout the remainder of this year, it is important that we as a district continue to build awareness and understanding of African American history and emphasize the importance of valuing differences within our school district.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mesa County Valley School District Board of Education does hereby recognize February 2023 as Black History Month, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mesa County Valley School District Board of Education encourages all citizens to participate in various school and community activities that highlight Black History in February and throughout the year.

National School Counseling Week is this week, Feb. 6-10, 2023, and is a time to recognize the unique contributions of school counselors in the U.S. school system and focus public attention on their hard work and dedication to a challenging yet rewarding profession.

National School Counseling Week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career. This year, the theme of National School Counseling Week is “Helping Students Dream Big,” and that’s precisely what our school counselors do. They are highly educated, professionally certified individuals who are actively committed to helping students explore their talents, strengths, abilities, and interests and achieve their greatest potential in both school and life.

An integral part of the education system, school counselors help students focus on positive ways to enhance social/personal, educational, and career development. They work in partnership with parents as they encounter the challenges of raising children in today’s world. And they work with teachers and other educators to provide an educational system where students maximize their potential and set healthy, realistic, and optimistic views.

We want to take this opportunity to recognize and thank all District 51 school counselors. You are integral to our student’s success and are not thanked nearly enough for all you do.

Mesa County Valley School District 51

BE

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Adopted: October 10, 1972, Revised: May 15, 2001

Revised: September 3, 2002, Adopted: June 16, 2009

Adopted: February 20, 2018, March 19, 2020

Adopted: August 17, 2021, September 14, 2021

Policy Revision First Reading: February 7, 2023

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All meetings of a quorum of three or more members of the Board at which any public business may be discussed or any formal action taken shall be open to the public at all times except for periods in which the Board is in executive session. Any person who disturbs good order may be required to leave.

A recording shall be made of regular and special meetings as required by law and at a minimum shall be an audio recording. Recordings shall be maintained for 90 days.

All regular meetings of the Board of Education shall be held in the Harry Butler Board Room, 455 N. 22 Street, Grand Junction, Colorado, at 65:00 pm, unless otherwise publicly announced.

1. Regular Meetings

- a. The Board, as a decision making body, is confronted with a continuing flow of problems, issues and needs which require action. The Board is mindful of the importance of planning, brainstorming and thoughtful discussion prior to any action. Therefore, the Board will schedule a Work Session for discussion of educational and business issues to be held on the first Tuesday of each month, with the exception of November and December, when ~~no a~~ work sessions is optional, depending on the needs of the Board and calendar scheduling will be held. Business items may be added to the agenda when necessary under a business meeting format.
- b. Business meetings shall be held on the third Tuesday of each month, with the exception of the November, December, January, March and May meetings, when the business meeting may instead be scheduled on an alternative Tuesday to accommodate Thanksgiving, ~~Christmas~~Winter Break, Spring Break and/or high school graduations. ~~No b~~Business meetings will may be held during the month of July, if needed. Adjournment will be no later than 9:30 p.m., except for good cause.

2. Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the president at any time, and shall be called by the President upon the request of two or more of the members.

The secretary of the Board shall cause written notice of any special meeting to be emailed to each member of the Board stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting. The notice shall be sent no later than 24 hours prior to the hour set for the meeting. Hand delivery shall be a valid substitute for email.

Any member may waive notice of the time, place and purpose of a special meeting before, during or after such meeting, and attendance there at shall be deemed to be a waiver. No business other than stated in the notice of the meeting shall be transacted unless all members are present and consent to consider and transact other business.

The Board shall adopt an agenda setting forth the business and the order of business to be transacted, discussed or considered at each regular meeting of the Board.

Except as otherwise specified by state law or Board policies pertaining to its own operating procedures, the Board generally shall operate by the rules prescribed in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

Electronic Participation

Mesa County Valley School District 51

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SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

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Board members may attend and participate by electronic means in regular or special meetings of the Board in accordance with this policy and state law. For purposes of this section concerning participation of a member electronically in a meeting, "electronic means" shall be defined as attendance via telephone, video or audio conferencing, or other electronic device.

Board members may attend and participate by electronic means in a regular or special Board meeting when circumstances prevent the Board member(s) from physically attending the meeting. A meeting at which one or more Board members attend and participate by electronic means shall be open to the public, except for periods in which the Board is in executive session.

The electronic means used shall allow the public to hear the comments made by the Board member(s) participating by electronic means and allow the Board member(s) to hear the comments made by the public. A Board member participating by electronic means will be included in the recording of the Board meeting.

A Board member who seeks to attend and participate by electronic means in a Board meeting shall notify the Board president and superintendent at least one business days prior to the meeting and shall explain the circumstances that prevent the Board member from physically attending the meeting. If such notification is not possible, the Board member shall notify the Board president and superintendent as soon as is reasonably possible of the request to attend by electronic means.

A Board member may attend and participate by electronic means in a maximum of two Board meetings per calendar year, unless otherwise approved by the Board.

A Board member's failure to comply with this policy may result in the Board's refusal to allow the member to participate by electronic means in Board meetings.

Electronic Meetings

A regular or special Board meeting may be held by electronic means in the event of extenuating circumstances, as determined by the President of the Board. For purposes of this section regarding virtual meetings, the term "electronic means" shall be defined as a meeting conducted by video conferencing with a stream / link for members of the public to use so that the public is able to hear and observe the meeting. Public comments may be allowed and taken at virtual meetings.

Voting

All voting shall be by roll call with each member present voting "Aye" or "No" alphabetically. However, election of the president and vice president may be by secret ballot. A member may abstain from voting only if excused by the Board for good cause.

A Board member who has a personal or private interest in any proposed or pending matter which presents a conflict of interest in accordance with Board policy shall disclose such interest and shall not vote unless his participation is necessary to obtain a quorum or otherwise enable the Board to act. Under such circumstances, the member shall comply with the voluntary disclosure requirements set out in state law.

To pass, any motion must be approved by a majority of the members present except as state law or policies of this Board may require a majority of full membership.

Mesa County Valley School District 51

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Legal References:

- C.R.S. 22-31-129 (board vacancies)
- C.R.S. 22-32-104 (3) (president and vice president must be elected by majority of the entire membership)
- C.R.S. 22-32-108 (board meetings)
- C.R.S. 22-32-108 (6) (voting by roll call, excused for good cause)
- C.R.S. 22-32-108 (7) (a) (a board member who participates electronically in conformance with the board's policy on electronic meeting participation is considered "present")
- C.R.S. 24-6-401, et seq. (open meeting law)
- C.R.S. 24-6-402 (2)(d)(IV) (outcome of a secret ballot vote must be recorded contemporaneously in the minutes)
- C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4) (a two-thirds majority of the quorum present is required to go into executive session)
- C.R.S. 24-18-109 (3) (conflict of interest and voting)
- C.R.S. 24-18-110 (voluntary disclosure of conflict of interest)

Cross References:

- BCB, Board Member Conduct/Conflict of Interest
- BEC, Executive Sessions/Open Meetings
- BEDA, Notification of Board Meetings

Mesa County Valley School District 51

CBB

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Adopted: January 9, 1973

Revised to Conform with Practice: Date of Manual Adoption

Revised: November 19, 1996

Policy Manual Review: September 3, 2002

Policy First Reading: February 7, 2023

The appointment of a superintendent is a function of the Board. When an opening in the superintendency occurs, the Board may aggressively recruit in an effort to fill the position with the most capable person available. -The Board shall consider only those candidates who are eligible for state certification and meet local qualifications and who display the ability to successfully carry out the duties of the superintendent.

The Board shall solicit applications from qualified members of the staff and may list the vacancy with placement offices at selected educational institutions in Colorado and in neighboring states and with other educational placement agencies at its discretion. The Board may seek the advice and counsel of interested individuals or of an advisory committee, or it may employ a consultant to assist in the selection. It may also, at its discretion, determine that an external search is not necessary due to a qualified internal candidate. Final selection rests with the Board after a thorough consideration of qualified applicants.

Applications for the superintendency shall be screened, and those candidates who appear to be most promising shall be interviewed. The Board shall endeavor to conduct interviews on a school day so that applicants may visit the schools of the district while they are in session.

A vote of the majority of Board members present at a Board meeting for which due notice has been given of the intended action shall be required for the appointment of the superintendent.

Search Process

When the Board conducts a search for the position, the writing or revising of the job description, requirements for applicants, selection procedures and applicable deadlines shall be adopted at a public meeting.

Records submitted to the ~~e~~District by an applicant for the superintendent's position shall remain confidential until the applicant becomes a finalist for the position. ~~if so requested in writing by the applicant when submitting the records. Demographic data, meaning information on an applicant's race and gender that has been legally requested and voluntarily provided on the applicant's application and does not include the applicant's name or other information, of an applicant who was interviewed by the Board but not named as a finalist will be available for public inspection upon request.~~

A list of all finalist(s) being considered for the position shall be made public by the Board at least 14 days prior to appointing the finalist to fill the position. ~~the first interview conducted for the position. No offer of appointment may be made prior to this public notice.~~

When an applicant becomes a finalist, all records submitted by the applicant shall be available for public inspection except that letters of reference or medical, psychological and sociological data shall remain confidential.

~~An applicant shall become a finalist when he is chosen for an interview or when he still is being considered for the position 21 days prior to the Board's selection of a person to fill the position, whichever comes first. However if there are six or fewer applicants competing for the position, all shall be considered finalists.~~

Legal Reference:

C.R.S. 22-32-110(1)(g) (power to employ a CEO)

C.R.S. 22-44-115 (4) (administrative contracts)

Mesa County Valley School District 51

CBB

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF SUPERINTENDENT

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Revised to Conform with Practice: Date of Manual Adoption

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C.R.S. 24-6-402 (~~3-52~~) (d)(IV) (outcome of a secret ballot vote must be recorded contemporaneously in minutes)

C.R.S. ~~24-72-202 (1.3)~~-24-6-402 (3.5) (search committee duties)

C.R.S. 24-72-204 (3)(a)~~(XI)~~(A) (inspection of public records)