

ENGLEWOOD SCHOOLS  
Englewood, Colorado  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
September 1, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT

MS. HEATHER HUNT, President  
MS. KAREN MILLER  
MS. MICHELLE GONZALEZ  
MS. VICKI HOWARD  
MR. SCOTT GORSKY

ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Sean McDaniel, Superintendent  
Ms. Peg LaPlante, Asst. Superintendent/CFO  
Ms. Callan Clark, Director of Student Services  
Ms. Mary Vedra, Director, Learning Services  
Ms. Michell Ansley, Director of Achievement

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ruth Riley & children  
Stephanie Fredricks & children  
Gene Turnbull  
Tom Munds  
Sel Hewitt  
Bob McCaslin  
Georgia Greer  
David Henderson

**Principals**  
Nikki Westfall  
Linda McCaslin  
Eva Pasiewicz  
Chris Laney-Barnes  
Bobby Thomas  
Bobbie Skaggs  
Mandy Bruan

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Hunt, President, called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Board Room of the Roscoe L. Davidson Administration Building.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ADDITIONS TO AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. McDaniel said there was a Personnel Addendum.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Miller moved and Ms. Gonzalez seconded to approve the August 18, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL:	Mr. Gorsky, Aye	Ms. Hunt, Abstain
	Ms. Gonzalez, Aye	Ms. Miller, Aye
	Ms. Howard, Aye	Motion Carried, 4-0

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A Bishop parent expressed concern that a bus was not provided, this year, to take Bishop area students to Hay Elementary.

VI. SPECIAL REPORTS AND RECOGNITION

Mr. McDaniel noted that his special recognition was to Ken Anderson and the transportation team for making every necessary and possible adjustment to get students to school this year. Faced with the consolidation of the elementary schools, this year the start of school had its challenges. Priority must be given to special needs children and students who reside a long distance from their assigned school. Mr. Anderson and his staff have tried to accommodate as many kids as possible with the busses available. It is not possible for the district to meet the transportation needs of every student.

VII. BALLOT DRAW FOR DIRECTORS

Ms. Hunt, retiring Board President, drew the names of the board candidates to determine the order they would appear on the November 2009 ballot. Names of the four people running for the three seats on the Board of Education were drawn in the following order: Scott Gorsky, Kali Crespian Reagan, Michelle Gonzalez, and Gene Turnbull. The election will be conducted by mail-in-ballot. Ballots are scheduled to be mailed the middle of October. There will be a candidates forum in October where community members will have an opportunity to meet and ask the candidates questions.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

- Ms. Miller talked about the Education Foundation's Creativity Grants and mentioned that work to select the winners began last week. This year, the program will provide \$20,000 to Englewood Teachers for special projects. Lisa Schomp contributed \$6,000 and Bank of Choice provided three \$1,200 awards. Ms Miller stated that the EEF deeply appreciates this support from our community business partners. The Education Foundation attempts to award the Creativity Grants evenly across the district. Teachers' support of the EEF provides \$500 each month via payroll deductions. Ms. Miller said the theme for the Fall Fling this year is "Back to Our Future" and attendees are encouraged to dress with the theme in mind. Proceeds from the Fall Fling are used for student scholarships.
- Ms. Miller worked the school district booth at Englewood Days and said there was a good turn out. Englewood teachers provided fun activities. Ms. Miller said the car show was on the opposite side of Broadway and seemed to be the biggest attraction. Ms. Hunt added how happy and impressed she was by the teacher support of the various extracurricular activities.

- Ms. Gonzalez attended Back-to-School nights at Englewood Middle School and Clayton Elementary and said they were very well done and informative. Good communication is being stressed and the schools want to build a strong sense of community. Ms. Gonzalez mentioned that Clayton provided a low cost dinner for families at Back-to School-Night. Ms. Gonzalez said Ms. Westfall did a great job and having the events outside was great and much more comfortable than trying to fit everyone in the school. Ms. Gonzalez also attended Englewood Days, and like so many others, really appreciated the memorabilia give away of Flood and Sinclair items. Ms. Gonzalez also mentioned attending the Englewood Fun Fest and thought the highlight was the dunk tank featuring Superintendent McDaniel wearing a business suit.
- Ms. Howard said she was pleased with the support and thought Englewood Days was a lot of fun. Ms. Howard was the lead on this event and thanked everyone who came and helped. She especially appreciated the teachers for their school spirit, and for the fun activities they presented like bracelet making and body and face painting. Special thanks to Tim Flynn who made wire sculptures and provided instruction. Ms. Howard was happy at the overwhelming response of people who wanted Flood and Sinclair memorabilia. Ms. Howard stated it was great to see the community come together in this way. Ms. Howard attended the EHS Back-to-School night where the attendance was so high the school ran out of food for dinner that night.
- Mr. Gorsky also attended the community events and thanked Mr. McDaniel for his strong presence.
- Ms. Hunt attended the community events and thought they were fun. She also appreciated what a good sport Mr. McDaniel was at the dunk tank. After the Englewood Days booths closed, Ms. Hunt observed some of the schools OMT people helping take down booths and cleaning up, not just the school's area but helping others also. She sent kudos to those who went above and beyond. Ms. Hunt talked about the strong adult presence at Clayton Elementary before and after school. She stated that having staff members on the corners and playground is very reassuring to parents.

#### VIII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Mr. McDaniel noted that the kids are safe at all of our schools with all principals taking steps to keep kid safe. Central office administrators have been attending late-start Monday meetings at the schools and are pleased with the work being done and the procedures being followed.
- Mr. McDaniel stated that again this year the Business Services Department received the Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA) award for excellence in financial reporting. Englewood has been a recipient of this award for many consecutive years. The GFOA commended the Englewood Business Services people for their spirit of full disclosure to communicate its financial story to the public.

There are 705 member districts and this award goes to the top ten percent. Mr. McDaniel and the Board congratulated Ms. LaPlante and her team. Mr. McDaniel added that he would like to recognize the entire Business Services Department, at a future meeting, for their excellent work.

- Mr. McDaniel stated that seeing the school community come together for Englewood Days was the highlight of his 16 months as superintendent. He appreciated the many teachers and other volunteers who came out and made this a fun and positive happening for Englewood. Englewood's Kid Quest program and EHS Athletics had booths with dozens of volunteers. Mr. McDaniel estimated that 50 staff members participated in Englewood Days. He appreciates this commitment to Englewood Schools. Mr. McDaniel stated that he received email from the City Manager Gary Sears, Councilman Randy Penn, and Jerrold Black, Director of Parks and Recreation about the outstanding participation by the schools in Englewood Days. Mr. McDaniel thanked Vicki Howard for all her work coordinating the school district's booth and activities. Mr. McDaniel said with very short notice, Ms. Howard put together an outstanding booth with fun activities that the public seemed to enjoy.
- Mr. McDaniel reported that, as of day five August 28, the student count for the district was just over 96% of the projected number that was the basis for the district's budget. Enrollment is up at four schools and down at four schools. Mr. McDaniel said it is difficult to predict the number of kids who will continue to middle and high school. Kindergarten classes are large and some accommodations have been necessary. A kindergarten class was added at Charles Hay and an additional first grade was required at Clayton. Staffing the additional classes was accomplished by moving teachers. The teachers who were impacted by the changes were extremely cooperative and positive about their new assignments. Principals also provided support to ease the transitions. Ms. Hunt asked if the board could be provided on-going enrollment data. Mr. McDaniel said enrollment data is posted on the First Class desktop and accessible to those on the First Class email system. Ms. Hunt also inquired if full-day kindergarten was responsible for the increase in kindergarten students. Mr. McDaniel said that some increase is contributed to offering free full-day kindergarten; students will be tracked to see if they continue to first grade in Englewood.
- Mr. McDaniel briefly reviewed activities on late-start Mondays and said central office administrators are attending the schools' meetings on Monday mornings. Professional development is on-going and as needs are identified they will be addressed. Mr. McDaniel and his Cabinet (Peg LaPlante, Callan Clark, Mary Vedra, Michell Ansley) want to learn about Professional Learning Communities and Data Teams work in the schools. Mr. McDaniel explained that last year new approaches to teaching and learning were introduced and compliance to the new program took place. This year teachers and principals will form a commitment to the plan. This commitment will lead to enhanced teaching and increased student achievement.

- Mr. McDaniel asked Ms. LaPlante to talk to the Board about the plan to meet the challenges of the H1N1 flu that is expected this year. Ms. LaPlante has attended meetings and received communications from the Tri County Health Department regarding the flu pandemic that we have all been hearing about. Ms. LaPlante said flu shots this year would be necessary for the seasonal flu and the H1N1 flu. H1N1 will require 2 shots 28 days apart. The H1N1 virus is different than the seasonal flu in that it is affecting different populations. H1N1 disproportionately affects young children, teens and young adults; the elderly seem to have some immunity. Most of the cases of H1N1 flu have been mild, but that could change. Information on the flu and procedures that will be used in the event of a serious outbreak are on the district's web site. Tri County also has a lot of information available on their web site. A vaccine for H1N1 is being developed with the limited supply being made available to people most at risk, pregnant women, health care workers, young people, and people with health concerns. The school district will provide free clinics for students to receive the H1N1 flu shot. The schools will send home permission slips for kids to receive the flu shot. There will most likely be two sites and kids will be bused to a site. If a serious outbreak of flu occurs, students who have not been vaccinated will be required to stay home. This could mean weeks out of school. Ms. Hunt asked how the district was tracking the flu in students. Ms. LaPlante said when parents call, to report their child is sick and will miss school, they are to report if the child has flu symptoms including fever. If kids are at school with a fever they will wait in a separate room for their parent to pick them up. They will have to wear a mask while waiting for their parent. If the district has a large number of reported flu cases, Tri County Health will be contacted for assistance. Ms. Howard asked if teachers would receive the H1N1 flu shot and Ms. LaPlante said only if they are in a high-risk category. The vaccine is supposed to be available in October. Ms. LaPlante said the school district is putting hand sanitizer in buildings and conducting a hand-washing campaign. Posters are in all the buildings encouraging people to cover their cough/sneeze with tissue or their upper sleeve and wash their hands. Custodians will receive training on dealing with sanitizing their buildings to help prevent spread of the flu. Ms. LaPlante stated the district would have the supplies necessary to combat the flu. Ms. Hunt asked about on going communications to parents. Ms. LaPlante promised that parents would be kept informed.
- Mr. McDaniel stated that Mr. Anderson, Supervisor of Transportation, has worked tirelessly to address problems that have arisen since the opening-of-school and he, along with his drivers, are to be commended for their approach to problem solving and to caring for our kids. Redistricting and consolidation of the elementary schools has strained the resources of the transportation department. Mr. McDaniel explained that redistricting has required changes in bus routes to accommodate the largest number of students. As field trips and activity trips get into full swing the transportation department will be stretched once again to get kids home in a timely and safe manner. This year, partially due to the economy and other stresses in kid's lives, the district has more student placements in facilities like the Tennyson Center. The district must transport these special needs kids. The district cost this year for

third party transportation of 40 kids is \$114,000. Some of the cost could be reduced by the purchase of a used Suburban that would be used to transport smaller groups of students to and from activities. The Suburban, that has eight seats, will be both a short-term and long-term solution to some of the problems the transportation department is facing. The savings in fuel and in drivers' hours will pay for the Suburban in a short span of time. A commercial drivers license would not be required to drive the Suburban creating many driver options. Money to pay for the Suburban will come from the Capital Reserve fund.

## IX. ACTION/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEM

### 1. District Green Environment Update

Ms. LaPlante introduced Mr. David Henderson, Director of OMT, who presented a PowerPoint on environmentally friendly procedures initiated across the district. This includes:

- Replacing the lights in the EHS field house with efficient more reliable and brighter lights
- Turning off unnecessary lights and conserving by turning down heat and air conditioning
- Using "green seal certified" cleaning products when possible (products that kill bacteria cannot be certified as "green")
- Using recycled paper made using a low water/no chlorine process
- Single-stream recycling across the district
- Improvements are continually being considered and, as funds allow, increased green practices will be added across the district. Items the district would like to afford include better controls for HVAC equipment, centralized irrigation control, and new windows in all building beginning with EHS and Cherrelyn.

Ms. Georgia Greer, Director of the Food Services, presented information on green practices in the Food Services Department. Ms. Greer began by thanking Mr. McDaniel and school principals for the extended lunch hours. Ms. Greer stated that this has improved the lunchroom atmosphere and allowed kids more time to eat, leading to better nutrition and less waste. The added time and second lunch at EHS allows time for workers to clean and make presentable the salad bars and food service areas. Ms. Greer stated that Englewood offers a wider variety of food than many larger districts in the metro area. She invited the board and central administrators to have lunch at a school to see the quality provided Englewood kids. The kitchens have phased out Styrofoam products and are using washable plastic trays. Ms. Greer said she is trying to hire people who would work, two hours days, washing the dishes required now that disposables are not being used. Ms. Greer passed a plastic mat and explained that one of her staff is recycling plastic bags by cutting them into strips and crocheting mats of different sizes. Recycling of cans, aluminum foil, and large jars has increased. Kitchens are using environmentally safe cleaning and paper products and inventory reports are now done on-line saving paper. Mr. Gorsky asked if consideration of recycling food waste to animals had been considered. Ms. Greer said there was some possibility of

recycling/composting kitchen waste but the trash from the students' lunch was too messy to consider recycling. It was agreed that Ms. Miller would check, at the next Parks and Recreation meeting, if there was any interest in the school kitchens waste being picked up for composting at the community garden site. Ms. Hunt asked if it was possible to use students to wash dishes and Ms. Greer said the possibility of students cutting or injuring themselves was too great to consider having them wash dishes. Ms. Hunt thanked Mr. Henderson and Ms. Greer for their reports.

Ms. LaPlante added that disposing of old computers is done through a company that takes out unsafe components.

2. Consensus Items

Ms. Hunt moved and Ms. Miller seconded, to approve the consensus items as follows:

- a. Personnel Recommendations and Addendum
- b. EHS Band semi-annual trip to Orlando

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Gorsky, Aye	Ms. Hunt, Aye
Ms. Gonzalez, Aye	Ms. Miller, Aye
Ms. Howard, Aye	Motion Carried, 5-0

X. COMMUNICATIONS

A list of upcoming Board events is provided in the agenda.

XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. McDaniel provided these items in the form of a memorandum.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Ms. Hunt adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

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Ms. Karen Miller, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Board of Education

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Linda Felling, Secretary to the  
Superintendent and Board of Education

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Date Approved