



Board of Education  
Minutes  
Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Available seating is contingent on room capacity restrictions and provided on a first-come basis or lottery system, if necessary. Community members can also view this meeting via livestream via YouTube.

Call to Order and Roll Call

1. Call to Order

RECOMMENDATION: Presiding Board Member calls the meeting to order.

The meeting of the Board of Education of Douglas County School District (DCSD) Number RE-1, held at 620 Wilcox St., Castle Rock, CO, 80104, was called to order by President Peterson at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

RECOMMENDATION: Presiding Board Member calls roll.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Meek, Myers, Page, Peterson, Ray, Williams, Winegar.

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: N/A

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Superintendent Kane, Deputy Superintendent Hiatt, Assistant Superintendent Winsor, Learning Services Officer Reynolds, General Counsel Klimesh, Chief Operations Officer Cosgrove, Chief Financial Officer Schleusner, Communications Officer Rader and Board Assistant Secretary Brockman.

Pledge of Allegiance

3. Pledge of Allegiance

RECOMMENDATION: The presiding Board member leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Peterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

DCSD Spotlight

2023 Youth Congress

The Board of Education viewed a recap video on the 2023 Youth Congress which was held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Colorado State Capitol Building. This year's conference focused on Youth Mental Health and was hosted by the Douglas County Youth Initiative and the Community Engagement Team from All Health Network.

4. 2023 National Merit Semi-Finalists from DCSD Schools

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

The Board of Education recognized the 29 Douglas County School District (DCSD) National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. These students are part of an elite group representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors. These academically talented students will advance in the competition, which awards 7,140 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$28 million. Finalists will be announced

in February, with National Merit Scholarship winners announced in the months to follow.

5. Parker Core Knowledge Charter School Named 2023 National Blue Ribbon School

RECOMMENDATION: Information only

The Board of Education recognized Parker Core Knowledge Charter School which was named a 2023 National Blue Ribbon School. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes schools whose students achieve at very high levels or schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program sets a standard of excellence for all schools striving for the highest level of achievement. Parker Core Knowledge Charter School represents one of only four schools in Colorado and 353 schools nationwide.

6. Highlands Ranch High School Teacher Bas Wolf - 2023 Junior Achievement-Rocky Mountain Educator of the Year.

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

The Board of Education recognized Highlands Ranch High School Alternative Cooperation Education Teacher, Bas Wolf, who was named the 2023 Junior Achievement-Rocky Mountain Educator of the Year.

Acceptance of Agenda

7. Acceptance of Agenda

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approves the agenda as presented.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Director Ray moved; Director Williams seconded the ORIGINAL motion that the Board of Education approves the agenda as presented.

Meek, aye; Myers, aye; Page, aye; Peterson, aye; Ray, aye; Williams, aye; Winegar, aye.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent Reports

8. Superintendent Updates

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

Superintendent Kane provided the following updates:

- Last week, all DCSD high schools were recognized by College Board as being part of the AP School Honor Roll at either the bronze, silver or gold level. This is a new College Board award that recognizes AP programs that are delivering results for students while broadening access.
- ThunderRidge High School Field Day took place on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Superintendent Kane and Board of Education Directors Myers, Meek and Ray attended this event.
- The first Aerospace Partners Collaborative meeting took place on October 5<sup>th</sup>. This collaborative represents a partnership between higher education, industry and k-12 education to support the growth of the aerospace industry in Douglas County.
- Student Advisory Group (SAG) students planned and executed a school board director candidate forum on October 9<sup>th</sup> at Legacy Campus.

- DCSD Student Congress took place at the Colorado State Capitol Building on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Approximately 150 students participated.
- Congratulations to Rock Canyon High School Boys 5A golf team who won the 5A State Championship and to Charlie Tucker at Rock Canyon who won the state championship as an individual.
- The Foundation for Douglas County Schools' Building the Dream Gala was held on September 29<sup>th</sup>. This event raised \$100,000 in donations and scholarships to help support our schools.
- Apple Award nominations are open through November 12<sup>th</sup> on the Foundation for Douglas County Schools' website. Superintendent Kane encouraged families and students to nominate exceptional teachers and staff.
- The DCSD District Library and Media Center, DCSD Sustainability Department and the Douglas County Conservation District are partnering to host a "One Book One District" community event on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. All are welcome to attend.
- October 9-13 is Gifted and Talented Education Week in Colorado. We are proud of our educators and leaders who presented this week at the state Gifted and Talented Conference.
- Several DCSD counselors and leaders presented at the Colorado Counseling Conference last week. We are proud of our DCSD educators who are seen as leaders across the state in these important professional fields.
- Dr. Kelly Smith, DCSD's Director of Health, Wellness and Prevention, received the Counselor Advocate of the Year award at the state counseling conference last week. She will be celebrated at a future Board meeting.
- She and her husband have been enjoying DCSD's Friday night football games. She encouraged everyone to attend games and show off their school spirit.

Public Comment

9. Public Comment

RECOMMENDATION: Information only

- Attachment #1: 10.10.2023 Public Comment Roster (No Public)

Community input that could help the District meet the challenge of becoming the best school system possible is always welcome.

- Student Advisory Group (SAG) Co-President, Student Nandhana Vivek, provided an update on SAG activities. Approximately 50 individuals attended the student-led school board director candidate forum on October 9<sup>th</sup>. SAG will incorporate some of the responses and data collected into their actions moving forward. SAG subgroups are continuing to work hard on their initiatives.
- Jennifer Iverson of Castle Pines provided public comment on DCSD Curriculum Advisory Council (DAC) structure.
- Cathy Lees of Highlands Ranch provided public comment concerning the DAC.
- Kelly Mayr of Highlands Ranch provided public comment in support of DCSD's mill levy override (MLO) and bond initiatives and on the importance of DCSD special education teachers and staff.
- Christa Gilstrap of Highlands Ranch provided an update on the 2023 MLO and bond campaign.
- Andy Jones of Highlands Ranch provided public comment on Toepfer Park and in support DCSD's MLO and bond initiatives.
- Maria Sumnicht of Parker provided public comment in support of DCSD's MLO and bond initiatives.

- Tiffany Baker of Highlands Ranch provided public comment on SAG's October 9th student-led candidate forum and on conservative school board candidates' campaign to turn off students' cell phones during school time.

Recess

10. Recess

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board President calls a recess.

President Peterson called a recess at 5:50 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

11. Adoption of Consent Agenda: Staff Recommendations, Detailed in Agenda Items #12-#15 Organized for Board of Education Block Approval

RECOMENDATION: That the Board of Education adopts the Consent Agenda as presented.

Items in the Consent Agenda are organized for block approval by the Board. If an item is pulled from the Consent Agenda discussion will be limited to ten minutes.

- Item #12: SY 2023-2024 Mill Bond Oversight Ad Hoc Committee (MBOC) Membership Recommendations
- Item #13: Approval of Menstrual Hygiene Products Accessibility Grant for Hope Online Learning Academy
- Item #14: 2023-2024 Supplier Spend Estimated to Surpass Board of Education Threshold Specified in Policy DJ
- Item #15: Approval of Course Proposals

ORIGINAL - Motion

Director Meek moved; Director Myers seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion that the Board of Education adopts the Consent Agenda as presented.

Meek, aye; Myers, aye; Page, aye; Peterson, aye; Ray, aye; Williams, aye; Winegar, aye.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion carried 7-0.

Agenda Items #12-#15 are summarized below:

12. SY 2023-2024 Mill Bond Oversight Ad Hoc Committee (MBOC) Membership Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approves the MBOC membership recommendations under Adoption of Consent Agenda.

- Attachment #1: 2023 October MBOC Membership Recommendations

The Mill Bond Oversight Ad Hoc Committee (MBOC) posted an announcement to recruit new members and received one charter school member application. The MBOC Membership Subcommittee conducted an interview with the applicant using a standardized set of interview questions. At the MBOC meeting on September 27, 2023, the subcommittee presented the recommendation for membership to the MBOC along with the recommendation for membership of a student representative from the Student Advisory Group and a representative from the Fiscal Oversight Committee. The MBOC unanimously approved these recommendations.

13. Approval of Menstrual Hygiene Products Accessibility Grant for Hope Online Learning Academy

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approves the Menstrual Hygiene Products Accessibility Grant for Hope Online Learning Academy under Adoption of Consent Agenda.

- Attachment #1: 0900\_Hope Online\_ Menstrual Hygiene Products Accessibility Application 2023-2024

Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op is applying for the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) Menstrual Hygiene Products Accessibility Grant for both their middle and high schools. These grant funds enable schools highly impacted based on Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) data to acquire and distribute menstrual hygiene products at no expense to students or install and maintain a dispensing machine or disposal receptacles for menstrual hygiene products. Hope Online will utilize grant funds for hygiene products. Hope Online Middle School and High School are the only eligible schools in the District due to high FRL percentages. Funding is for the 23-24 school year.

14. 2023-2024 Supplier Spend Estimated to Surpass Board of Education Threshold Specified in Policy DJ

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approves the SY 2023-2024 Supplier Spend estimated to surpass the Board of Education threshold specified in Policy DJ under Adoption of Consent Agenda.

The Board approved the estimated aggregated spend for the following suppliers for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Land O Lakes Inc.: \$1,000,000.00 for Nutrition Services cheese purchase
- National Food Group Inc.: \$515,000.00 for Nutrition Services dried and canned fruits purchase
- Savvas Learning Company LLC: \$710,000.00 for core math curriculum
- Yangs 5th Taste (Out of the Shell): \$600,000.00 for Nutrition Services Asian chicken purchase

15. Approval of Course Proposals

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approves all courses for use in the appropriate grade level classrooms under Adoption of Consent Agenda.

- Attachment #1: Course Proposal: Environmental Science
- Attachment #2: Course Proposal: Honors Physics

The District approval process was followed for the above courses and content was vetted to ensure rigor and alignment.

Adoption of Joint Motion Agenda

16. Approval of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approves the September 26, 2023 Board minutes as presented.

- Attachment #1: 09.26.2023 BOE Meeting Minutes\_Unofficial

ORIGINAL - Motion

Director Ray moved; Director Winegar seconded the ORIGINAL motion that the Board of Education approves the September 26, 2023 Board minutes as presented.

Meek, aye; Myers, aye; Page, aye; Peterson, aye; Ray, aye; Williams, aye; Winegar, aye.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion carried 7-0.

#### Study/Action Items

##### 17. Douglas County School District Pathways Updates

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

- Attachment #1: Oct 10 Student Pathways and Programming Update
- Attachment #2: Oct 10 Student Pathways and Programming Update FINAL

DCSD staff provided an update on Douglas County School District's pathway options including career and technical education in our schools.

##### 18. Alternative Licensure Program Update

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

- Attachment #1: Alternative Licensure Presentation

Erica Mason, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, and Kristie Krier, Alternative Licensure Program Coordinator, provided an update on DCSD's Alternative Licensure Program. In Colorado, designated agencies that are approved and authorized by the State Board of Education are allowed to create alternative educator preparation programs to alleviate the educator shortage faced by many school districts.

##### 19. Curriculum Advisory Council Plan/Updates

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

- Attachment #1: DCSD Curriculum Advisory Council Presentation

Mr. Reynolds and Ms. Mason provided information on the forthcoming DCSD Curriculum Advisory Council including membership, timeline, and its role in providing feedback concerning academic standards and district adopted curricular resources to the Superintendent.

##### 20. Universal Preschool (UPK) Update

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

- Attachment #1: BOE 10.10.23\_ Universal Preschool Programming

Danelle Hiatt, Deputy Superintendent; Liza Meier, Executive Director of Special Education; Lisa Graham, Director of Early Childhood Education; and Colleen Doan, Director of Budget; provided an update on Universal Preschool including background, eligibility, capacity, funding, impacts, challenges, and next steps.

#### Recess

President Peterson called a recess at 8:27 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

21. Resolution in Support of Mill Levy Override and Bond

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approves the Resolution in Support of the Mill Levy Override and Bond.

- Attachment #1: Resolution in Support of DCSD 2023 MLO and Bond 10.10.2023

The Board discussed the proposed resolution and requested the following amendments:

- Third "Whereas" statement: Change "Dever" to Denver"
- Eighth "Whereas" statement: Insert "Board of Education" after "Douglas County School District"
- Fourteenth "Whereas" statement: Insert "trades and" prior to "career and technical education opportunities."

ORIGINAL - Motion

Director Ray moved; Director Meek seconded the ORIGINAL motion to approve the Resolution in Support of the Douglas County School District's 2023 Mill Levy Override and Bond Ballot Initiatives with the above amendments.

Policy Governance

22. Consideration of New Policy DFD, Debt Management - First Reading

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education consider adopting the proposed new Board Policy DFD, Debt Management.

- Attachment #1: DFD Debt Management (Presentation)
- Attachment #2: DFD - Debt Management Policy

Ms. Schleusner presented new Board Policy DFD, Debt Management, to the Board. Board Policy DFD defines governing authority concerning debt, debt limits, debt structure, debt issuance, and debt management practices. This policy, which was developed and approved by the Fiscal Oversight Committee, was designed to improve the quality and consistency of decisions regarding new and outstanding debt. The policy has also been reviewed by outside legal counsel, Butler Snow, and by financial advisor, Hilltop.

Current Board Policy DFC, Certificates of Participation, has been combined with new Board Policy DFD, Debt Management. Staff recommends that the Board repeal Policy DFC following Board approval of Policy DFD.

Staff will have legal counsel determine whether an intercept agreement should be added to Policy DFD and bring the policy back for a second reading at the November 14, 2023 Board meeting.

Board of Education Reports

23. President Report

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

President Peterson advised:

- The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. President Peterson will be out of town; therefore, Vice President Williams will chair the Board Meeting.
- Agenda Planning for the November 14, 2023 Board Meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.
- Concerning the November 7, 2023 election:
  - There's a dire need to pass an MLO and Bond

- Thanked InvestInDCSD.com and those who have worked hard to educate the public on school funding and ballot issues 5A (MLO) and 5B (Bond).
- Urged everyone to go to InvestInDCSD.com for information on volunteer opportunities to support 5A and 5B.
- Ballots go out on October 16<sup>th</sup> and election day is approximately four weeks from now.

24. Vice President Items

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

Vice President Williams advised:

- The Board will engage with charter school leaders on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Invitations are forthcoming.
- She attended the football game between Mountain Vista and Rock Canyon High Schools Friday night. She gave a shoutout to the amazing DCSD programs for kids at all levels.
- She attended funding presentations with Superintendent Kane which were positively received by attendees.
- She served as Board delegate at the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) 2023 Delegate Conference and Assembly on October 7<sup>th</sup>. She stated that it would be helpful to schedule a Board work session prior to next year's Delegate Assembly to discuss the Board's position on the issues at stake.
- She discussed the legal spend for the Board of Education over the past five fiscal years. The Board exceeded the budgeted amount by \$2,000 in school year 2018-2019, but has been under budget in all subsequent years including the 2022-2023 school year.

25. Director Items, Board Committee and Liaison Reports

RECOMMENDATION: Information only.

Director Page advised that he attended his daughter's first choir concert at Rocky Heights Middle School. He also discussed the need for electors to invest in their school district and community by passing the MLO and Bond on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Director Winegar echoed the need for voters to pass the MLO and Bond and thanked those who are working hard to promote these initiatives. She also provided updates from the MBOC and the Fiscal Oversight Committee (FOC).

Director Myers provided highlights from Youth Congress which was held on October 3, 2023 at the Colorado State Capitol. She also attended ThunderRidge High School's Field Day and visited their culinary department. She stated that she has attended funding presentations with Superintendent Kane which were well received.

Director Ray advised that he attended ThunderRidge High School's Field Day and a production of "The Diary of Anne Frank" at Highlands Ranch High School. He also attended a funding presentation at the Pinery Country Club with high school principals and went door knocking Saturday to promote DCSD's MLO and Bond initiatives. He provided an update from the Safety and Security Committee meeting and advised that while people are individuals, they also have the need to associate with those who have common interests, cultures, religion, etc.

Director Meek advised that she attended ThunderRidge High School's Field Day, the Foundation for Douglas County School's Building the Dream Gala, the Alliance for Douglas County Charter School Forum, and SAG's Student-led Candidate Forum. She provided an update from last week's Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) meeting and reminded everyone that the Career Pathways Expo will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> at Legacy Campus. She also relayed DAC's timeline for providing feedback on Policy KB to the Board and their request to have this item on the December 12<sup>th</sup> Board agenda.



Finally, she thanked Director Williams for attending the CASB Delegate Assembly and discussed the importance of passing the MLO and Bond initiatives.

Adjournment

26. Adjournment

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board President adjourns the meeting.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Director Williams moved; Director Page seconded the ORIGINAL motion that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

Meek, aye; Myers aye; Page, aye; Peterson, aye; Ray, aye; Williams, aye; Winegar, aye.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion carried 7-0.

President Peterson adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10, 2023.

These minutes summarize the final decisions made by the Board of Education at the referenced meeting. View the meeting via You Tube by accessing the following link: <https://youtube.com/live/Xjrqd F8LDM?feature=share>.

Supporting document(s) attached to the agenda <https://douglas.ic-board.com/>

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Mike Peterson  
Board of Education President

ATTEST

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Becky Myers  
Board of Education Secretary