

DOLORES SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4A
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 23rd, 2017
BOARD MEETING

Policy Meeting
Professional Development Room

October 23rd, 2017
5:00 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER - The Dolores School Board meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. on October 23rd, 2017.
- II. ROLL CALL - Members present were: Vangi McCoy, Dee Prock, Deanna Truelsen, and Linnea Vass. Rebecca Frasier was not in attendance. Scott Cooper, Superintendent, Doreen Jones, Finance Manager, and Laurie Arnett, Superintendent Secretary, were also in attendance.

III. DISCUSSION - POLICIES

CODE	TOPIC	READING
ADD♦	Safe Schools	review
EBBB	Accident Reports	review
EBCE	School Closings and Cancellations	review
ECA/ECAB♦	Security/Access to Buildings	review
ECAF†	Use of Video and Audio Monitoring	review
ECAF-R†	Use of Video and Audio Monitoring-reg.	review
EEAEF	Video Cameras on Transp. Vehicles	review
EEAEF-R	Video Cameras on Transp. Vehicles reg.	review
GBEB♦	Staff Conduct & Responsibilities	review
GBEB-R†	Staff Conduct & Responsibilities – reg.	review
IC/ICA	School Year/School Calendar	review
JFBB-R♦	Inter District Choice / Open Enrollment	review
JICDD	Violent and Aggressive Behavior	review
JICF♦	Secret Societies / Gang Activity	review
JICH-R	Drug & Alcohol Involvement by Students	review
JICJ	Student Use of Cell Phones & Tech. Devices	review
JK♦	Student Discipline	review
JK-R♦	Student Discipline – regulation	review
JKA♦	Use of Physical Intervention & Restraint	review
JKA-R♦	Use of Physical Intervention - regulation	review
JKD/JKE-R♦	Suspension / Expulsion of Students	review
JQ	Student Fees, Fines, and Charges	review
BCA-E-1	Code of Ethics for School Board Members	review
BEDB	Agenda	review
♦ Required by law		
† New Policy		

Mrs. Arnett stated that the bulk of the policies being reviewed tonight are a result of the School Safety Act, a waiver of governmental immunity that became effective July 1st, and the 2017 state legislative changes. All of these factors resulted in changes to many staff and student policies, which in turn will need to be updated in the staff and student handbooks.

ADD – Safe Schools – This policy was updated to include requirements from the School Safety Act. State law now requires (rather than “encourages”) schools to have a child sexual abuse and assault prevention plan. Our current policy did include this option, but the Board will accept the other minor changes in CASB’s revised sample policy.

EBBB – Accident Reports – CASB’s main change to this policy was to remove unnecessary language. “School sponsored activities” was added to the list of situations where an accident report would be required should an accident happen. The Board will accept the CASB changes.

EBCE – School Closings and Cancellations – When school closings occur, such as a snow day, current policy requires the action to be ratified at the next regular board meeting. CASB has removed this requirement from their revised policy. The Board discussed the last paragraph which states, “all staff members... unless otherwise notified shall be required to report to work as soon as possible on emergency days”. Dr. Cooper explained that in the case of a snow day, keeping staff members off the roads could be a matter of safety. Keeping them home would also allow the highway crews and our maintenance staff to remove snow more efficiently. The Board discussed this statement in the policy, and decided that the wording, “...unless otherwise notified” would allow Dr. Cooper the flexibility to decide whether or not to have staff come in to work on a snow day, depending on the severity of the weather. They will adopt the CASB changes.

ECA/ECAB – Security / Access to Buildings – Minor revisions were made to this policy due to the School Safety Act. The Board will adopt the changes.

ECAF – Use of Video and Audio Monitoring; ECAF-R – Use of Video and Audio Monitoring, regulation – This policy and regulation were recently created by CASB to assist school districts that have implemented video and audio surveillance systems. The policy and regulation are meant as an overall policy, so that our policy, EEAEF, Video Cameras on Transportation Vehicles would no longer be necessary to keep. One of the requirements in the regulation, ECAF-R, directs districts to notify students, staff, and the public that the video surveillance systems are present. The district has signs posted in the buildings doing so; however, districts are also required to include the notification in the staff and student handbooks. Mrs. Arnett will notify the principals and preschool director to include these in next year’s handbooks. The Board will adopt the new CASB policy and regulation.

EEAEF – Video Cameras on Transportation Vehicles; EEAEF-R – Video Cameras on Transportation Vehicles, regulation – the Board discussed the CASB sample policy and decided to adopt the CASB changes. However, after the policy meeting, it was discovered that if districts adopt ECAF, and ECAF-R, Use of Video and Audio Monitoring, they do not need to have a policy specific to video cameras on transportation vehicles. This policy and regulation will be put on the agenda to be repealed.

GBEB – Staff Conduct and Responsibilities; GBEB-R – Staff Conduct and Responsibilities regulation – This policy was at 1st reading with previous CASB modifications, when CASB issued a special policy update that included minor grammatical changes to the policy. The Board will accept the revisions. Because part of the School Safety Act's definition of school violence includes "felony sexual assault", CASB has created a regulation to policy GBEB. This regulation defines professional boundaries with students and what staff must do to report violations. The Board will adopt the new regulation.

IC/ICA – School Year / School Calendar - Like the School Closings and Cancellations policy (EBCE), the only revision made by CASB to IC/ICA was the removal of the requirement for districts to ratify a school closure (like a snow day) at the next board meeting. The Board will accept the CASB revision.

JFBB-R – Inter District Choice / Open Enrollment – CASB has made extensive changes to the open enrollment regulation. Due to the considerable changes and the fact that both principals are absent from this meeting, the Board would like to bring this regulation to the next board meeting as a discussion item and get input from the principals. This policy will be put on hold until after the November 9th, 2017 board meeting.

JICDD – Violent and Aggressive Behavior – This policy is another that has had significant changes from CASB due to the School Safety Act. The Board will accept all changes.

JICF – Secret Societies / Gang Activity – CASB has completely rewritten and simplified this policy. Much of the language on prevention education and in-service training has been removed, as it is included under the Safe Schools policy (ADD). The Board will adopt the CASB changes.

JICH-R – Drug & Alcohol Involvement by Students – Only minor grammar revisions were made to this regulation by CASB. The Board will accept the CASB revised policy.

JICJ – Student Use of Cell Phones & Technological Devices – CASB has overhauled this policy to include cell phones and other technological devices. New legislation prohibits devices with video recording capabilities from being used in bathrooms, locker rooms, etc. CASB has completely revised this policy to include violation specifics and district reporting responsibilities. Mrs. Arnett had previously asked Mr. Baxter, the IT Director, for his input on this policy. He wanted to make sure that it was clear in the student handbooks that having cell phones in bathrooms and locker rooms would be a violation of this policy. Mrs. Arnett will ask the principals to add this information to the student handbooks. All changes were accepted by the Board.

JK – Student Discipline; JK-R – Student Discipline, regulation – The waiver of governmental immunity became effective July 1st, 2017, so CASB made a couple of changes to this policy to reflect that. The main change was the deletion of the section titled, "Immunity for enforcement of discipline code". The Board will adopt the CASB revised sample. The CASB updates to the regulation were minor and only for clarity. The Board will accept these changes as well.

JKA – Use of Physical Intervention & Restraint; JKA-R – Use of Physical Intervention, regulation – New state legislative changes on the use of restraints on public school students

has prompted CASB to make major revision to this policy. The revisions addressed the limited exceptions in using mechanical or prone restraints, and the specific procedural requirements that districts must follow when using them. The Board will accept all CASB changes to this policy. Although the regulation has fewer revisions than the policy, these changes were made to clarify either the definition, or accepted use of specific restraints. The Board will also accept all changes to JKA-R.

JKD/JKE-R – Suspension / Expulsion of Students – CASB’s only change to this policy was to strike a short paragraph defining “parent/guardian”. The Board will keep the current policy with that paragraph removed.

JQ – Student Fees, fines, and Charges – The passage of HB 17-1301 resulted in only a couple of changes to this policy. The new law prohibits districts from withholding transcripts or other student records due to a student’s failure to pay fees/fines for books, or other school property. The law does allow schools to require payments of fees or fines and collect the student debt. CASB has also added language that will give schools the authority to prohibit a student from participating in graduation if they haven’t returned books or other school property by the date of the ceremony. The Board will adopt the CASB revised version of this policy.

BCA-E-1 – Code of Ethics for School Board Members – Although this exhibit was not currently in the policy manual, Mrs. Vass would like to adopt it. Mrs. Arnett has had the Code of Ethics for Board Members in the Board Information Notebook (which is given to all board members) for several years. The Board would like to adopt this as an exhibit in the policy manual, and also continue to keep it in the Board Information Notebook.

BEDB – Agenda – The Board discussed the changes they want to make to the board meeting agenda and how they would like to arrange the order of business. They would like to do a consent agenda so they can approve the action items without reading them all. They would also like to move the action items from where they are on the agenda, to right after the student government and MLT reports. The Board also discussed the request to have a monthly SRO report on the agenda. They decided to change the “Town Board Report” to “Town / County Report”. That way, both the Town of Dolores and Montezuma County (including the Sheriff’s Office, Road Department, etc.) can report during this time. Attention was turned to BEDB, the agenda policy. The Board reviewed CASB’s version of the policy, which doesn’t list the Order of Business as the district’s current policy does. After discussion on changes to the agenda policy and how to arrange the agenda items, the Board decided to keep the current policy. However, they would like to remove the statement, “the order of business at regular meetings shall be as follows:”. This will allow the Board more flexibility in discussing items during board meetings.

V. ADJOURNMENT was at 6:45 p.m.


Board President Date


Board Secretary Date