SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4
Monday, April 21, 2025
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
6:00 PM @ 475 W. 5th Avenue, Springfield School District, MakerSpace Lab

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL: Darrell Mackey, Board President, called the Monday, April 21, 2025 regular board meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

B. MEMBERS PRESENT: Jennifer Esch, Andrea Keenan, Darrell Mackey, Heath Piper and Larkin Smith.

C. SCHOOL PERSONNEL PRESENT: Shelly Swayne, Jerri-Ann Montoya, Pam Hartley, Carey George, Van Walker, Deb Sharpe, Troy Crane, Tanisha Hinds, Brenda Chick, Tiffany Hume, Samantha Thomas and Donna Meltabarger.

D. GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Quinten George, Brenda Brooks, Eden Rothman, Tyanne Miller, Colin Swanson, Valerie Woller, Brody Rosengrants, Laura Coast, Tucker Meltabarger, Brad Meltabarger, Joel Moffett, Kent Homsher, Liberty Meltabarger, German Medina, Jamie Smith, Laura Rosengrants and Tawnie Lusk.
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II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

III. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. APPROVAL of AGENDA
B. ROUTINE ITEMS:
1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
a) Special Meeting: March 10, 2025
b) Special Meeting: March 14, 2025
c) Special Meeting: April 01, 2025
C. FINANCIAL REPORTS
D. CLAIMS PAYABLE

Heath Piper made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda as presented. Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM:

Please note: ***Welcome to the open forum portion of our meeting. We appreciate your interest in participating in this conversation with the Springfield School District RE-4 Board of Education. A sign-up sheet was provided at the entrance to the Board meeting for all persons wishing to address the Board. Comments are requested to be limited to five minutes per speaker. Patrons are invited to share comments with the Board in an orderly manner consistent with the respect and dignity that should be part of a Board of Education public meeting. The Board will require that speakers and audience members adhere to basic standards of civility, and, with limited time available, as the Board President, I may need to limit or terminate discussion to maintain decorum or to give as many people as possible the opportunity to speak. The Board will not take any action during this time. It is the preference of the Board that comments concerning District personnel be addressed in an executive session. Discussion of individual students must occur in the executive session. Please inform the***

Board if you intend to make comments concerning District personnel or students so those comments may be heard in the executive session.

Kent Homsher, representing the Class of 1973, addressed the board about the placement of the restored Longhorn Mascot. Through donations, the Longhorn statue has been refurbished and is ready to be put back on campus as previously agreed to by the school board. The board assured Mr. Homsher that once the right spot is determined, the Longhorn will be placed on the school campus.

Jamie Smith spoke to the board about the movie "Devasted" that is being bought to Springfield on May 4. It is the hope that a time can be determined during the 25-26 school year to bring the movie back to be shown to students in grades 5 – 12.

Tanisha Hinds shared that the Springfield Teachers Association would like to be invited to share input on the update of Board Policy GBGG, Staff Sick & Discretionary Leave.

Colin Swanson, student council president, shared highlights of the K-5 Easter Extravaganza that included approximately 257 students from all 5 Baca County schools. The Springfield Student Council members planned the event and collaborated with student council members from the schools and local fire and police departments to executive the event.

V. Curriculum Corner - Daniels and Boettcher Scholarship Recipients

Several members of the Class of 2025 have been honored to receive prestigious scholarships to aid them financially in their pursuit of higher education after high school graduation. Tyanne Miller, Brody Rosengrants and Rayne Thomas have each received a Daniel's Foundation Scholarship and Colin Swanson is the recipient of a Boettcher Foundation Scholarship. They each spoke to the board about their future plans and expressed their appreciation to the teachers, administration and community for all the support that helped them to achieve their accomplishments.

VI. Board Forum

A. Accountability Committee Update- A. Keenan

Andrea Keenan, board liaison for the Accountability Committee, reported that the committee met on April 14. Topics discussed included the need for better parent engagement in the JH/HS, and different types of events were discussed as ways to get people together. They also reviewed the high number of student tardiness and absenteeism and the need to continue the building trades curriculum on our campus. The next accountability meetings are scheduled for July 14 and September 8.

VII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. <u>Legally Required Policies, sections B, D, E</u>

The board discussed legally required policies from the board policy manual sections B, D and E. Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve first reading for Policies BCB, BE, BEAA, DAC, DIA, DJB, DJB-R, DJE, DKC, ECA/ECAB, EEAEAA, EEAEAA-R, EEAFB, EF-E-1, EF-E-2, EFEA, EGAEA, EHC with the removal of the phrase "*reasonably anticipated"* from policy EGAEA. Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Policy GBGG Consideration

The board discussed the current and the newly proposed board policy GBGG Staff Sick and Discretionary Leave. There were various concerns considered by the board and it was decided more budget details were needed as well as feedback and suggestions from STA (Springfield Teacher's Association). Heath Piper made a motion to table action on Policy GBGG until the May meeting. Larkin Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Work Study Programming

Board members agreed that they would like to see a work-study program offered at SHS. There are several questions they would like to have answered about the cost, legal aspects and administration. The boards' direction was to bring an implementation plan to the next meeting for their consideration.

D. Springfield School District Hiring Committee

This is already an existing Hiring Committee and it was the consensus of the board to maintain the established interview committee membership and process. Members include Deb Sharpe, Carol Grahn, Mark Ricker, Tiffany Hume, Shuamay Gale and Carey George.

E. Board Graduation Responsibilities

The board was updated on graduation details. Graduation is set for 10:30 AM on Saturday, May 24. The ceremony will be hosted in the Longhorn Gym and will carry on our traditions for Springfield High School.

F. Southeastern BOCES Assessments/ Costs

Details were shared with the board via email regarding some significant changes in the assessment due to our BOCES. This item was communicated for and clarity for 2025-2026 budget planning. The board also ask for information on the current agreement rental agreement with BOCES.

VIII. Administrator Reports

A. Springfield Preschool Director: Deb Sharpe reviewed the Preschool Board Report that was included in the BOE packets. The Pre-K classes took a field trip to the Baca County Library, many parent volunteers helped with Easter parties. Preschool enrollment communication for next years' 3-year-old will be sent out next week. The final critical staffing was held. Kindergarten transition days went well with 20 students transitioning to kindergarten next year. The students enjoyed the FFA petting zoo. Mr. Andrew earned his Colorado Shines Level 1 Credential and preschool staff are still waiting for license inspection. UPK is still messy, but we keep doing our best to meet requirements and shift with the updates. Mrs. Sharpe reported that custodial services have improved and there are still some needs on the list.

B. Springfield Elementary School: Elementary Principal, Jerri-Ann Montoya shared her April board report and noted that enrollment is at 121 and attendance this quarter is 96%. CMAS testing is nearly complete and DIBELS and NWEA will start soon. She

praised the student council for their great efforts with the county wide Easter Extravaganza. This month the students also enjoyed the FFA Petting Zoo. She would like to consider some improvements to the drop-off process. Mrs. Montoya also reported that the Good Grief Group is wanting someone in the school to take over the program and Emily Sharpe will be taking on this program next year as an internship.

C. Springfield Jr/Sr High School: Mrs. Walker provided a written report for the board packets. In addition, Superintendent Swayne gave a shout-out to Mr. Gale for his work with the CMAS testing schedule.

D. Superintendent: In addition to her written board report provided to the board, Ms. Swayne reviewed the final roofing reports provided by GTC. The board requested a meeting with GTC to discuss some ongoing issues.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Session 1: The board moves to convene in executive session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(g), to discuss confidential documents submitted by applicants for the position of superintendent, these documents are protected by the mandatory nondisclosure provisions of the Colorado Open Records Act, C.R.S. § 24-72-204(3)(a)(XI)(A).
Recommend attendance session 1: BOE; P. Hartley, BOE Secretary; S. Swayne

Session 2: The board will convene in executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(g) to consider documents protected by the mandatory non-disclosure provision of the Colorado Open Records Act, specifically, letters of reference and records submitted on behalf of candidates for the positions of JH Science Teacher, substitute staffing, 2025-2026 fully licensed staff list, HS Coaching, & JH Coaching which are exempt from disclosure under C.R.S. 24-72-204(3)(a)(III) and (XI).
Recommend attendance session 2: BOE, G. Walker - Admin, J.A. Montoya - Admin, S. Swayne - Supt.
Jennifer Esch made a motion to go in to Executive Session. Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The board entered Executive Session 1 at 8:17 p.m. Superintendent Swayne and Pam Hartley distributed documents from applicants for the position of superintendent then left the session. Executive Session 1 ended at 8:50 p.m.
The board entered Executive Session 2 at 8:50 p.m.,
Executive Session 2 ended at 10:29 p.m.
The board returned to Regular Session at 10:32 p.m.

X. ACT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION(S)

a. Retirements, Resignations:
    i. J. Houghton
b. Employment Recommendations:
    i. J. Anderson, JH Science
    ii. 2025-2026 fully licensed staff list
    iii. 2025-2026 Coaching

c. Other:
    i. Superintendent Finalists

Andrea Keenan made a motion to accept the resignation of Jamie Houghton as a Special Education Para-educator. Larkin Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Swayne recommended that Jessica Anderson be approved as a Junior High Science Teacher for the 2025-26 school year and Roxanne Hall and Shawna McCallum be approved as substitute teachers. Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve the hiring of Jessica Anderson as a Junior High Science Teacher for school year 2025-26 and to approve Roxanne Hall and Shawna McCallum for substitute teachers. Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Heath Piper made a motion to approve all currently contracted staff, who are highly qualified and fully certified in their teaching area with exceptions for Leah Concepcion, Lloyd Bancairen and Samantha Thomas and postponement of Mark Ricker based on further research. Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
Preschool: Deb Sharpe, Kristen Schmidt and Andrew Shumate.
Kindergarten: Christa Ricker
First Grade: Carey George
Second Grade: Jessica Marsh
Third Grade: Carol Grahn and Tanisha Hinds
Fourth Grade: Melissa Reid and Emily Sharpe
Fifth Grade: Veronica Murphy
Title I: Shuamay Gale
Special Education: Brenda Chick
K-5 Counselor: Emily Sharpe
Math: Tiffany Hume and Kira Oliver
ELA: Tawnie Lusk
Science: Jessica Anderson and Van Walker
Social Sciences: Blake Gale and Brady Humphrey
Agricultural Education: Randy McEndree
Business/FACS: Kathy Self
Building Trades: Ernie Felzien
Physical Education: Rafe Hutches

Andrea Keenan made a motion to approve Fall Coaches as listed in board packet. Larkin Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL

Football: Head-Rafe Hutches
Assistants – Doug Hutches and Darian Schaller
Volleyball: Head-Adrienne Rothman
Assistants – Julia Mondragon and Laura Rosengrants
Cross Country: Head-Brooke Hartley
Cheer: Head-Hunter Babbitt

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Football: Head-Brady Humphrey
Volleyball: Head-Julia Mondragon
Cross Country: Head-Brooke Hartley
Cheer: Head-Alayah Meltabarger
Assistant-Amelia Mort

Darrell Mackey, Board President, declared that thru the process of review, the Springfield Board of Education has recognized two finalists for the position of Springfield Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Jeffery Verosky and Mr. Kurt Baxter

XI. <u>ADJOURNMENT:</u>

Larkin Smith made a motion to adjourn. Heath Piper seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

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Darrell Mackey, President Larkin Smith, Vice President

_____ _____
Jennifer Esch, Secretary Heath Piper, Treasurer

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Andrea Keenan, Director