

Woodland Park School District Re-2

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Board Meeting – March 11, 2026

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Board President Keegan Barkley at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Robb, Davidson, Kassidi Gilgenast, Laura Gordon, Carol Greenstreet and Mrs. Barkley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Gordon, second Davidson, to approve the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED; Voting Aye – Barkley, Davidson, Gilgenast, Gordon, Greenstreet.

DISTRICT/COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

President Barkley welcomed Columbine Elementary Physical Educator and K-Kids Faculty Advisor Teri Goldberg to present the highlights and accomplishments of the K-Kids Club. Ms. Goldberg introduced Kiwanis Representative Jason Roshek, and expressed gratitude for his many years of support for the K-Kids program. She shared that K-Kids collected pasta sauce and pasta for the Community Cupboard, earning the distinction of collecting the most of any organization this year, and noted that last year they collected tea, dish soap, dog treats, and other animal treats. In April, the club plans to visit Forest Edge Senior Facility to play bingo with the residents, highlighting that one student wrote her favorite activity is “bringing joy to the old people.” She also emphasized the ongoing community service at Columbine Elementary, including trash pickups, and shared that the club hopes to use some Kiwanis funds to purchase a bear-proof trash can. Ms. Goldberg concluded by acknowledging all K-Kids students and leading the audience in a round of applause in recognition of their efforts.

DISTRICT VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Board President Barkley invited Columbine Elementary Principal Landis Seabolt to introduce the Columbine Team Lift parent volunteer group. Principal Seabolt began by recognizing the K-Kids students for their exemplary representation of Columbine Elementary before turning her remarks to the outstanding contributions of Team Lift. She highlighted the group's significant behind-the-scenes efforts, including the launch of a Thursday afternoon Snack Box concession stand last spring, which offers items priced under one dollar — all donated by families — with proceeds directed entirely back to Columbine students and staff. Those funds have supported school initiatives such as Family Fun Night, as well as Math and Literacy nights. Seabolt further noted that Team Lift fully funded a mobile planetarium experience and is sponsoring an upcoming Readathon Kickoff on May 1. Community members interested in supporting Team Lift's efforts are encouraged to do so through the Team Reach App.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

President Barkley shared that she and Director Gilgenast have been working on a communication plan aimed at keeping the public more regularly informed of board activities beyond what is covered in meetings. As part of that effort, she has begun drafting a quarterly overview letter to be edited by Director Gilgenast that will provide a comprehensive review of board activities and initiatives from the previous three months and outline priorities for the months ahead. Gilgenast noted that the goal is to have a draft of the communication ready by the end of the week, with any updates incorporated based on the outcome of the superintendent search process. She indicated that the communication would then be ready for public release the following week. Barkley reported that the communication is intended to be posted on the board section of the district website, with the possibility of coordinating

with the newspaper for a condensed version as well. She emphasized that the overall goal is to provide the community with greater access to information and a clearer line of sight into the Board's plans and priorities going forward.

President Barkley shared that the board has been working with CACSA, the Colorado Association of Charter School Authorizers, to gain guidance on best practices and learn how other districts across the state are managing charter school relationships, policies, and contracts. She noted that CACSA has agreed to provide assistance and will be conducting a three-hour work session with the board on March 31st. She indicated that the session will focus on building a foundational understanding of what effective charter school authorization looks like, with additional discussion on the topic planned later in the meeting.

Director Davidson reported that the On Wings of Eagles proposal is advancing well, describing it as a proposed community recognition program designed to honor individuals or organizations that go above and beyond to inspire students in their pursuit of academic excellence, personal responsibility, and civic duty. He noted that he has confirmed the program would not duplicate any existing district initiatives, and that he and Director Gilgenast have been working to streamline the submission and review process, including the development of an automated online submission template in collaboration with Communications Officer Lindsey Prah. Director Davidson shared that a detailed briefing will be provided at the next work session, with the goal of formally introducing the program at the April board meeting. He also noted that the Board is developing a similar recognition program for district staff.

Director Gilgenast noted that the Board has been discussing a layered communication plan that includes a comprehensive quarterly community letter and an upcoming State of the District presentation in April. She shared that these efforts will help organize key topics and provide opportunities to gather community feedback, particularly related to the strategic plan. She also highlighted recent district successes, including a well-received career day, a district-wide concert showcasing students from all schools, and Board participation at the chamber gala where students were recognized with scholarships and connections with local leaders were strengthened. Vice President Greenstreet wanted the public to know that board members personally paid for their own tickets to the chamber gala, emphasizing that fiscal responsibility to the community remains a priority regardless of the amount. She also noted that the Strategic Plan has been refined and is now available on the district website, encouraging community members to review it and share their feedback through the provided link.

President Barkley noted that following the recent Community Connection, several former district families reached out expressing a desire to participate but were unable to attend, prompting her to explore scheduling an additional session later in the day to better accommodate working parents. She expressed her belief that opportunities for this type of community dialogue are invaluable and that the district would benefit from hosting more of them. President Barkley also shared that she is honored to serve as Grand Marshal of the St. Patrick's Day Parade, and that she has designated any additional proceeds from the event to support district activities programs.

Director Gilgenast sought clarification regarding the scheduling of upcoming board meetings, and the Board agreed that this matter would be addressed and planned during the Board Work Session on March 18.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Interim Superintendent Slocum shared that Columbine Elementary students have been actively engaged in a building wide reading and math bingo challenge, working through April to complete 50 math and reading challenges with prizes and celebrations awarded for each completed bingo card, and that the annual Columbine Community Day on Friday, March 20 will invite students to bring a special guest to campus to celebrate the school through refreshments, a slideshow, a musical performance, and classroom activities. She noted that Summit Elementary is launching its Readathon and hosting a Literacy Night on March 12 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., bringing elementary families together around a shared love of reading. Slocum also highlighted the All-District Music Concert held on March 9 at the Jr./Sr. High School, commending the students and staff from Columbine, Summit, and the Jr./Sr. High School for their outstanding performances. She noted that the Jr./Sr. High School is also in the final stages of course registration for the upcoming school year, with student services staff working diligently to process student course requests. Additionally, she announced that second and third grade students at Columbine will present a musical performance on March 19, spring sports have officially begun, and spring break is scheduled for March 23 through 27.

Slocum noted that the fourth quarter DAC meeting is scheduled for April 2, and that the agenda will include a discussion of budget priorities from each school. President Barkley inquired whether the Strategic Plan would be included on the agenda, and Interim Superintendent Slocum confirmed that it would, noting its significance as a priority item.

Slocum reported that each of the shared leadership committees has held at least one meeting. The Climate and Culture Committee held its second meeting, engaging in meaningful dialogue around what district and school leaders should start, stop, and continue doing to rebuild trust, with members leaving with homework centered on identifying activities that would provide staff with natural opportunities for connection and team building. The Teacher Advisory Council, led by Director of Academics Karen Hamlow in Slocum's absence, focused its initial work on reviewing the staff handbook and conditions of employment with the goal of finding common ground and honoring teacher and staff concerns, with the next meeting scheduled for March 31. The District Safety and Security Committee convened for the first time, to advance work on the district's reunification plan, including the development of emergency kits and outreach to community locations that could serve as a reunification site. The inaugural Student Advisory Council meeting drew approximately ten high school students who shared positive feedback about their experiences, expressed enthusiasm for the variety of elective offerings, and demonstrated such eagerness to engage that the group agreed to increase their meetings from once to twice per month.

Slocum provided an update on the PROM program, recommending that student attendance at the assembly remain required while the crash scene depiction be made optional, and that any injured individuals portrayed in the scene be represented by a dummy or mannequin rather than live individuals. President Barkley inquired whether Slocum had received any community feedback on the matter, noting that she herself had not received any responses. Slocum shared that she received one email in response, which aligned with her own philosophy that while education on important topics is valuable, the goal is never to traumatize students. Barkley asked for clarification on the location of the crash scene, specifically whether it would be placed in a visible area accessible to passersby or in a designated location requiring intentional attendance. Slocum shared that the crash scene is being considered for placement in the Gateway parking lot. Barkley requested that the community be notified about the crash scene, noting that the Gateway playground is commonly used by community members after school and that it would be important for families to be made aware.

Slocum shared feedback from the recent Community Connections event for former district families, noting that the purpose was to gather honest input on why families left and how the district can improve, and highlighted that many of the concerns expressed align with ongoing trust-building efforts already underway. Families continue to value the district's strong sense of community, dedicated staff, and opportunities for involvement, and a Google form has been shared through the district newsletter and social media to invite additional families to provide feedback and express interest in future in-person meetings. Slocum also reported that a Community Connection was held with local realtors. The realtors emphasized the importance of positive online reviews given that incoming families frequently rely on social media when selecting a school, and shared that Communications Officer Lindsey Prah is developing a brochure for realtors highlighting the district's Strategic Plan. Additionally, Slocum proposed hosting open house style events during the summer months to welcome incoming families, provide facility tours, and ensure new community members feel welcomed by the school district. Director Gilgenast expressed interest in collaborating with Prah and Slocum welcomed the involvement.

FACILITIES REPORT

Director of Facilities and Maintenance Jason Farris reported that a new rooftop unit was successfully installed at the high school in late February, with the crane operation and full setup completed within a single day, and expressed appreciation to staff for accommodating the temporary classroom relocations necessary to ensure student safety. He noted that facilities operations across the district are running well and took the opportunity to recognize the outstanding contributions of the building managers at each campus, as well as maintenance team members, for their invaluable dedication to the district. Secretary Gordon extended her appreciation to Farris for the prompt and thorough snow removal efforts on roads and sidewalks in preparation for the track meet held on Saturday. Director Gilgenast asked Director Farris to consider identifying some specific projects from the existing priorities list that the community could participate in as the weather warms, noting that clearly communicating simple and accessible ways for residents to get involved would be helpful in fostering community engagement. Farris agreed to the request, and Gilgenast suggested that the list of projects could be shared at the March 18 work session.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Chief Financial Officer David Kuritar provided a comprehensive audit update, noting that he has been in communication with CDE and working closely with the district's auditor, Chris Banta and his team at Hoelting & CO. Despite this being their busiest time of year, their audit team has gone above and beyond, accommodating the district's delayed timeline by inserting our work into their already full schedule. Kuritar noted that the district team has prepared nearly three dozen journal entries to address previously unresolved items, working to reduce and eliminate unknowns in the financials, and that the district is headed toward a disclaimed opinion. This direction is supported by CDE and all relevant parties as the appropriate path to securing district funding. Kuritar reported that the district recently received just over five million dollars in March funding, which also included February funding that had been delayed due to a state computer system issue, and that combined with anticipated state shares in April, the district is financially well positioned through early May. He also confirmed that several grants not tied out, including Title I, II, III, and IV, Read Act, Auto Enrollment, Concurrent Enrollment, Project Lead the Way, SWAP, Newmont, CTE, and Pre-K, among others, have all been tied out. Vice President Greenstreet asked Mr. Kuritar to clarify what he meant by the grants being "tied out." Kuritar clarified that "tied out" refers to the process of matching grant funds received with the corresponding expenses incurred, ensuring that every dollar of grant funding, particularly federal funds such as Title grants, is fully accounted for and can be reported to the government with precision. Mr.

Kuritar noted that the remaining outstanding audit item is the 2025 true-up with Merit Academy, sharing that while the numbers were agreed upon in December, the district had attempted to incentivize Merit Academy's participation in COP, which Merit Academy ultimately declined, resulting in the district returning to the original December figures.

Director Gilgenast sought clarification on the projected timeline for completion of the audit, noting her understanding that the Board is required to approve the audit and asking Mr. Kuritar to share the date the district is currently tracking toward for the audit's conclusion. Kuritar indicated that a firm completion date is pending further communication with the auditor, who may identify additional work to be completed, but expressed confidence that the district is making solid progress and remains in a good position with funding on hand.

Kuritar informed the Board that as the district moves into fiscal year 2026, a material discrepancy has emerged between the district's books and those of Merit Academy, with Merit Academy's administration publicly referencing a figure of \$421,000 that they believe the district owes them, a claim that has also been raised with CDE. He noted that he has requested a detailed breakdown from Merit Academy to understand how they arrived at that figure but has not yet received it, and that a meeting with their CFO is scheduled for Wednesday, with interactions between the two parties now occurring on a near bi-weekly basis. Mr. Kuritar emphasized that the district does not reflect a \$421,000 payable to Merit Academy on its books and expressed his commitment to working through the discrepancy and keeping the Board informed. President Barkley asked whether Merit Academy had identified where they believe the discrepancy exists or where the amount is owed from. Kuritar explained that a portion of the discrepancy stems from Merit Academy's belief that they are entitled to an exact percentage of the total per pupil revenue awarded to the district by CDE, when in reality funding is distributed through a more nuanced structure that includes base level funding, cost of living adjustments, and student-specific allocations such as special education, at-risk, and ELA funding that follow individual students. He noted that because Merit Academy has a smaller percentage of qualifying students in those categories relative to the district as a whole, their allocation is appropriately less, and that all students are being fully funded in accordance with the correct methodology. Mr. Kuritar also shared that Merit Academy has yet to provide receipts for their Gifted and Talented expenditures, which is a reimbursement-based grant that requires submitted receipts before the district can apply for and distribute reimbursement funds. He further noted that he has been withholding transportation flow-through dollars back to July 1, 2025, per language agreed upon and signed by both parties in the fiscal year 2025 true-up, and that even if transportation were the source of the discrepancy, it would account for approximately \$100,000, far short of the \$421,000 Merit Academy is claiming. Mr. Kuritar expressed his intention to work closely with Merit Academy's CFO in the coming week to identify the source of the variance, emphasizing that the discrepancy represents a material difference between the two organizations' books that must be resolved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following list of people (name and topic they listed when signing up to speak) made public comment to the Board of Education listed in order of speaking: Erin O'Connell, Parent, Legal.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION Greenstreet, second Gordon, to approve the consent agenda.

VIII.a. Minutes – February 11, 18, & 23, 2026

VIII.b.1. Personnel – New Contracts – Support Staff: *Sheila Talbot*, CES Building Paraeducator, effective February 4, 2026; *Ramon Soto, Jr./Sr.* High Night Custodian, effective February 2, 2026; *Leah Strawmatt*, SES Instructional Paraeducator, effective February 13, 2026. **Guest Teachers/Staff:** *Stacey Knutzen*, 5 Year Sub Authorization; *Elise Dalton*, 3 Year Sub Authorization; *Thersia Payne*, Paraprofessional; *Leigha Meyer*, Paraprofessional.

VIII.b.2. Personnel – Resignations – Teacher(s): *Caitlin Braden, Jr./Sr.* High School Band Director, effective end of the 2025-26 school year; *Bethany Geist, Jr./Sr.* High School English Language Arts, effective end of the 2025-26 school year; *Linene Blanton-Kleppe, Jr./Sr.* High School Social Studies, effective end of the 2025-26 school year; *Rebecca Madigan*, SES Grade 1, effective April 1, 2026. **Support Staff:** *Stephanie Hughes, Jr./Sr.* High Sp. Ed. SSN Paraeducator, effective February 11, 2026; *Nicholas Thomas*, SES Sp. Ed. SSN Paraeducator, effective March 6, 2026. **Termination(s):** *Jean Crosby*, District Van Driver, effective February 18, 2026.

MOTION CARRIED; Voting Aye – Barkley, Davidson, Gilgenast, Gordon, Greenstreet.

WPSD FOUNDATION

Steve Vela addressed the Board as a representative of the Woodland Park School District Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization historically governed by a community-based board of directors with key district staff serving as ex-officio members, whose sole purpose has been to support the school district through donations, fundraisers, and special events, with proceeds distributed as micro grants to district schools and contributions to pre-funded scholarship funds (Addendum A). He noted that following the resignation of former Foundation President in 2019, the majority of community board members also stepped down, leaving Mr. Vela as the sole remaining member maintaining the Foundation's records through the challenges of COVID-19, staff turnover, and personal health circumstances that made recruiting new board members difficult. Mr. Vela shared that it is now his preference to step away from his role and distribute the Foundation's remaining funds back to the district, noting that the Foundation currently holds \$5,941 in restricted funds, the majority of which are designated for the Karen Scholarship supporting prospective teachers, and \$22,319 in unrestricted funds available for distribution. He expressed openness to either assisting in winding down the Foundation or transitioning it to new leadership, and while acknowledging that the Board may not have direct standing in Foundation matters, he respectfully requested their guidance given that he is currently managing the organization independently.

Vice President Greenstreet expressed sincere appreciation to Mr. Vela for his dedication and perseverance in maintaining the Foundation through a difficult period, acknowledging that circumstances beyond his control made the work especially challenging. She shared her hope that a community member, such as a parent or engaged resident, might be willing to step forward to take on leadership of the Foundation and revitalize its work on behalf of the district. President Barkley expressed that while she did not want to place any obligation on Mr. Vela to remain in his role, she would strongly prefer to see the Foundation transitioned to new leadership rather than dissolved, emphasizing that having an organized means of raising additional funds for the district is an important endeavor, particularly at this time. Director Davidson echoed the sentiment that the Foundation is an important vehicle worth preserving, expressing appreciation to Mr. Vela for his years of dedication in maintaining it and acknowledging his request to be relieved of his responsibilities while remaining open to assisting with a transition. He expressed his personal opinion that it is appropriate to continue the Foundation as a means of receiving both directed and unrestricted community donations, and recommended that the Board take time to review the scope of the organization's articles of

incorporation to fully understand the value and capabilities the Foundation provides before making any decisions about dissolving it or transferring its funds.

President Barkley asked Mr. Vela to describe his current role within the Foundation and what efforts he has been making to keep it operational. Mr. Vela shared that his current role is essentially limited to maintaining the Foundation's financial records and related documents, noting that there is no active programming or fundraising taking place and that the Foundation is effectively dormant at this time. Director Gilgenast asked Mr. Vela to elaborate on the foundation's activities during its peak period, when it had a highly active and engaged board. She requested additional insight into the types of initiatives and work the foundation carried out at that time. Mr. Vela clarified that the Foundation's prior success was largely attributable to the efforts of its former president, who served as the primary driving force behind all of the organization's activities, and that when she stepped down and he assumed the role, the remaining board members chose not to recommit to a broader vision and subsequently resigned. He noted that staff turnover within the district further complicated his ability to maintain momentum, as supporting staff moved on and he found himself without familiar contacts at the district until he was recently contacted. In terms of the Foundation's activities during its more active period, Mr. Vela described a number of small fundraisers including gift card sales, an annual dinner held at the Swiss Chalet, and small donations from local businesses and individuals, though he noted that upon reviewing the financials, the annual dinner proved difficult to justify as the district itself was covering much of the cost and community support was limited. He shared that a significant challenge he faced was identifying a realistic path to generating revenue at a scale that would provide meaningful support to the district rather than just a few thousand dollars annually.

Director Davidson noted that the district is already seeing community donations come in through groups such as Team Lift, and suggested that having an active 501(c)3 vehicle like the Foundation could prove beneficial to organizations like Team Lift by providing them a formal structure through which to receive and direct donations. Mr. Vela noted that the tax implications of donating to the Foundation versus donating directly to the school district are identical, meaning there is no distinct financial advantage to routing donations through the Foundation. Mr. Kuritar acknowledged the significant work Mr. Vela has put into maintaining the Foundation and noted that forming a new foundation is not a simple undertaking, suggesting that it may be worthwhile to keep the existing Foundation operational in the short term while the Board develops a broader community strategy and determines how the Foundation fits into that vision. He identified the most compelling long-term benefit of the Foundation as its potential to house an endowment, from which investment earnings could be directed toward scholarships or district support, noting that while building an endowment takes time and current circumstances call for every available dollar to go directly to the district, establishing that structure during more favorable financial conditions would be a valuable asset. He added, however, that routing small individual donations through the Foundation is inefficient.

The Board agreed to revisit the matter of the Foundation's future direction at upcoming meetings, and Mr. Vela graciously offered to assist in drafting a position description for a qualified individual to assume leadership of the Foundation. Mr. Vela also committed to updating the Foundation's annual reports with the IRS.

FIRST READ OF REVISED GP-8

President Barkley reported that during a review of the governance policies, the Board identified outdated procedural language in GP-8, which governs agenda planning and board meetings, and outlined two proposed revisions (Addendum B). The first revision removes a provision requiring a

district or community spotlight to begin at 5:30 p.m. prior to regular board meetings, as the community spotlight has since been incorporated into the regular board meeting agenda, making the earlier start time unnecessary. The second revision updates the special meeting notice requirement by removing the outdated language requiring hand delivery of written notices to board members at least 24 hours in advance, replacing it with notification by email or text in keeping with current communication practices. President Barkley noted that this was the first reading of the proposed changes and that no action would be taken that evening, with formal approval of the revisions scheduled for the following month's agenda.

CONTRACTS RENEWAL DISCUSSION

President Barkley introduced the contract renewal discussion by referencing the Board's prior work session conversation around the need for more formalized written documentation governing the district's relationship with Merit Academy, emphasizing that verbal agreements and informal understandings are not sufficient, especially with the recent high level of turnover. She noted that the lack of documented agreements has historically led to confusion and unnecessary conflict, and expressed the Board's commitment to establishing clearer and more structured communication and documentation practices going forward. President Barkley acknowledged that several aspects of the contract renewal will require further discussion and that additional meetings will be needed to work through the details, and indicated that CACSA will be invited to present at the March 31 work session to share how other districts structure and manage their relationships with charter schools and to provide guidance on recommended best practices for Woodland Park.

Vice President Greenstreet elaborated on the Board's engagement with CACSA, describing it as a nonprofit organization whose mission is to help charter school authorizers build relationships with their charter schools that are grounded in state law and best practices, and noting that one of the presenting consultants also works with a national organization focused on ensuring access to quality education for all students. She emphasized that CACSA is not being brought in as a mediator but rather as an educator, with the goal of establishing a strong foundation of knowledge and best practices before moving forward with any contract work, and outlined that the initial work session will cover board and staff roles and responsibilities as authorizers, contracting, oversight and monitoring, financial and grant sharing practices aligned with Colorado law, and tiered interventions and annual reporting expectations. Greenstreet also shared that CACSA has expressed willingness to return for a follow-up session to address questions gathered from the Board, Merit Academy's board, and the community, and noted that the organization offers an additional fee-based service to work directly with district administration to review contracts, facilities agreements, and district policy to ensure all documents accurately reflect the district's relationship with its charter school.

President Barkley encouraged the broader community to attend the upcoming work session, noting that while all work sessions are open to the public, this is one where community participation is especially valuable given that charter schools are relatively new to many residents and a shared understanding of what a healthy authorizing relationship looks like would benefit the community as a whole. She emphasized that an informed community is better equipped to hold current and future district leaders accountable, and expressed her belief that transparency around best practices in charter school authorizing is an important part of that accountability.

Director Gilgenast expressed a desire to obtain clarity on the full scope of existing agreements between the district and Merit Academy, ensuring that the Board has access to the most current versions of all relevant documents for review. She emphasized that in addition to the education and

guidance that will be provided through the upcoming CACSA training, it will be important to engage district legal counsel to identify areas in the existing contracts and working agreements that need to be strengthened or addressed as the district moves forward. President Barkley noted that to her knowledge, the only formal written agreements currently in place between the district and Merit Academy are the Facilities Use Agreement and the Charter Agreement. Mr. Kuritar confirmed that there is no formal transportation agreement currently in place, and noted that the existing charter contract is incomplete as it is missing several key exhibits, most notably the purchased services section. The Board agreed to work toward identifying all necessary agreements and contracts with the help of CACSA and legal counsel, with the intention of reviewing existing documents and developing any new agreements needed to ensure the district's relationship with Merit Academy is fully and properly documented.

2026-27 DISTRICT CALENDAR

President Barkley noted that the draft 2026-27 District Calendar was discussed at the last board meeting and requested a motion to approve the calendar (Addendum C).

MOTION Gilgenast, second Gordon, to approve the 2026-27 District Calendar.

Director Gilgenast sought clarification as to whether any revisions had been made to the draft district calendar since it was last reviewed, and it was confirmed that the document remained unchanged. President Barkley inquired whether any feedback had been received regarding the draft calendar since it was last discussed, and Interim Superintendent Slocum confirmed that she had received very positive staff feedback. Director Gilgenast suggested the calendar format be updated to be more user friendly.

MOTION CARRIED; Voting Aye – Barkley, Davidson, Gilgenast, Gordon, Greenstreet.

CASB POLICY MANUAL OVERHAUL PROJECT

Interim Superintendent Slocum explained that the purpose of the policy update effort is to ensure all district policies are current and aligned with state laws and regulations, noting that they have not been updated in several years. She outlined that the total cost of \$16,000 is structured in three installments, with 40% paid at the initiation of the project, a second 40% upon delivery of the draft manual, and the remaining 20% upon final completion. She emphasized the importance of completing the update as promptly as possible (Addendum D).

MOTION Greenstreet, second Davidson, to approve the CASB Policy Manual Overhaul Project.

President Barkley sought clarification on the projected completion date of February 2028, and Interim Superintendent Slocum confirmed that the policy update process is anticipated to be a two-year undertaking. Secretary Gordon asked whether the policy update project covers both administrative and board policies, and President Barkley confirmed that the current project is limited to administrative policy only. She noted, however, that CASB provides board policy templates and drafts that board members can access through their website, and suggested that the Board consider utilizing those resources during work sessions to review and update board policies alongside CASB-recommended counterparts. President Barkley asked Mr. Kuritar whether available funds exist for the policy update project, and he affirmed that they do. Gordon noted that the contract references potential expenses beyond the \$16,000 project fee, such as transportation, printing, and other incidental costs, and asked whether any of those additional expenses are anticipated. Slocum indicated that no such costs were discussed during her conversations with the vendor, and that while additional expenses could arise in certain circumstances, such as an in-person presentation, she does not anticipate them being significant.

MOTION CARRIED; Voting Aye – Barkley, Davidson, Gilgenast, Gordon, Greenstreet.

APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT FOR O'CONNELL V. WOODLAND PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF ED.

MOTION Gordon, second Gilgenast, to approve the Settlement for O'Connell v. Woodland Park School District Board of Ed.

President Barkley acknowledged that the Board has been in communication with legal counsel regarding the case, noting that it serves as a stark reminder of how costly and disruptive breakdowns in governance can be for a community. She expressed that the time and effort the current Board has invested in numerous meetings and work sessions is driven by a shared commitment to preventing these types of situations from occurring in the future. Barkley noted that some of the prior Board members responsible for the breakdown no longer reside in the community, leaving current residents to bear the consequences. She expressed that it is deeply disappointing that a parent had to take legal action simply to ensure that the prior Board was following the law and operating transparently, and reflected that the only true beneficiaries of the situation were the attorneys, while the district and community as a whole paid a significant price in time, resources, and erosion of public trust.

Vice President Greenstreet addressed the community's questions regarding the district's reserves and the circumstances surrounding the legal case, sharing that she was present at the same meeting as the parent who brought the original concern forward, and that her own concerns that evening were very similar. She shared that the night before the meeting in question, upon noticing that it had been changed from a work session to a special board meeting, she emailed the then-board president to inquire about the change, and his response made clear that he was not the one who had made the decision and was unaware of its significance. She noted that the agenda item had been titled "Board Housekeeping" at the direction of then-district attorney, and that when she raised her concern that a special board meeting would allow for a vote to be taken, she received no further response. Greenstreet outlined that the attorney, who had previously served as attorney for Merit Academy before transitioning to represent the Woodland Park School District Board, was paid to advise the use of the non-transparent agenda title, paid to represent the district in the subsequent court case in which open meeting law violations were found, paid to advise against paying the plaintiff's court fees, and then paid to fight those fees all the way to the Colorado Supreme Court, compounding the costs significantly. She expressed her belief that the plaintiff should have been paid her initial court fees four years ago, noting that the cost at that time would have been minimal and that the course correction in transparency expectations that resulted from the case continues to benefit the district today. Vice President Greenstreet emphasized that it is only funding from district-run schools that has been used to pay for the legal costs associated with this matter, and suggested that the attorney who provided the advice that led to the lawsuit bears responsibility for the outcome and should consider reimbursing the district for those costs.

MOTION CARRIED; Voting Aye – Barkley, Davidson, Gilgenast, Gordon, Greenstreet.

BOARD INFORMATION REPORTS


The operations report was included in the board packet as information for the Board of Education.

ADJOURN

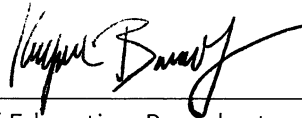
MOTION Greenstreet, second Gordon, to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED; Voting Aye – Barkley, Davidson, Gilgenast, Gordon, Greenstreet.

Attest:



Board of Education Secretary



Board of Education President

WPSPD Foundation – Current Status

- Historically had been a fundraising entity that funded microgrants to the District Schools
- Also custodied pre-funded Scholarship Funds, one of which still has a balance (Kerrins Scholarship)
- After Chris Cosgriff stepped away, the Board dissolved and finding new members has been problematic
- Steve Vela has been maintaining records for the last several years, but the Foundation is otherwise dormant
- Steve would like to be relieved of the Foundation responsibilities, but is willing to help with a transition if it is deemed appropriate to continue



WPSD Foundation-
Financial Summary 2/28/26

Main Account	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Restricted-Kerrins Scholarship	\$ 4,073.60		
Restricted-HID Aero Scholarship	\$ -		
Restricted-Tuttle Memorial	\$ 175.00		
Restricted-Baseball	\$ -		
Unrestricted Funds		\$ 21,259.32	
Subtotal	\$ 4,248.60	\$ 21,259.32	\$25,507.92
Paypal Account			
Columbine Read a Thon	\$ 748.63		
Restricted-Tuttle Memorial	\$ 944.15		
Unrestricted Funds		\$ 1,059.71	
Subtotal-Paypal	\$ 1,692.78	\$ 1,059.71	\$ 2,752.49
Total Cash on Hand	\$ 5,941.38	\$ 22,319.03	\$28,260.41

GP-8

Policy Type: Governance Process**Agenda Planning & Board Meetings**

To accomplish its job, the Board will follow an annual agenda for its meeting.

Regular meetings

1. Regular meetings of the Board of Education shall be held in the Board room of the administration building unless otherwise posted.
2. Meetings of the Board shall be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise established by the Board, ~~and may be preceded by a District/Community Spotlight at 5:30 p.m. if included on posted meeting schedule.~~

Accordingly:

1. The planning cycle will start with the Board's development of its agenda at the annual Board Retreat for the school year, and may include:
 - a. methods of obtaining input, including consultations with selected groups and persons, will be determined and arranged to be held during the balance of the year
 - b. governance education, including orientation of new Board members in the Board's governance process and periodic Board discussion of process improvement, will be determined and arranged to be held during the balance of the year
 - c. education related to Board Purpose Statement (e.g. presentations by futurists, demographers, advocacy groups, staff, etc.) will be arranged to be held during the balance of the year
 - d. include ongoing review, modifying and refinement of Board Purpose Statement.
2. Throughout the year the Board will attend to consent agenda items as expeditiously as possible.
3. Monitoring of Governance Process, Board/Superintendent Relationships and Executive Expectations policies will be included on the agenda for separate discussion.
4. The planning cycle will conclude each year in June in order that administrative decision-making and budgeting can be based on accomplishing a one year segment of the Board's most recent statement of long term ends.

To accomplish its job, the Board will adhere to the following meeting protocol.

Accordingly:

1. All regular and special meetings of the Board shall be open to the public. The Board desires input from the public at those Board meetings. In order to ensure Board meeting deliberations are fair, open, and thorough, but also efficient, timely, and orderly, the Board commits to the following protocol for public participation and comment.
2. Board meetings are business meetings where elected representatives conduct the business of the District.
3. The agenda for the Board meeting will be prepared by the Board President and Superintendent in an agenda setting meeting at least one week prior to the Board meeting. If any Board member wishes to include a topic on the Board agenda, that topic will be brought to the Board President at least 24 hours prior to the agenda setting meeting if possible, and no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting.
4. Members of the public desiring to make a presentation to the Board must contact the Secretary to the Board one week prior to the scheduled meeting. No item will be placed on a Board agenda without prior approval of the Board President and/or Superintendent. No item will be placed on the agenda that has not gone through this process.
5. A Public Comment period is scheduled at every regular board meeting.
 - a. any person not on the agenda desiring to address the Board must place their name and topic of discussion on the "Public Comment Sign-up Sheet" available at the Board Meeting.
 - b. any personnel or individual student matters are considered confidential under Colorado Law. We require that those discussions take place privately in executive session.
 - c. the Board President shall be responsible for recognizing all speakers, who shall properly identify themselves.
 - d. individual comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.
 - e. time allocated to a particular topic will be limited to a total of fifteen (15) minutes.
 - f. at the discretion of the Board President, the total time may be extended.

- g. the Board will make no decision or take no action on public comment during the meeting.
- h. the President may request that comments on an item on the agenda occur as the Board addresses that agenda item.

All public comment will occur during the Public Comment section on the agenda, unless otherwise rescheduled. Members of the public will not be recognized by the President as the Board conducts its official business.

Work Sessions and Retreats

1. The Board, as a decision-making body, is confronted with a continuing flow of problems, issues and needs which require action. While the Board is determined to expedite its business, it is also mindful of the importance of planning, brainstorming and thoughtful discussion without action. Therefore, from time to time the Board may schedule work sessions or retreats, which shall be open to the public.
2. No action shall be taken during such sessions.
3. Public notice of the session, including the topics for discussion and study, shall be provided.

Executive Sessions

All meetings of the Board shall be open to the public except that at any regular or special meeting the Board may proceed into executive session upon affirmative vote of two-thirds of the quorum present.

Final policy decisions, resolutions, policy(ies), or regulation(s) to be adopted or approved and formal action of any kind shall only be taken during regular or special board meetings. The Board is authorized to approve written minutes of an executive session in executive session, if written minutes are taken.

1. The Board may hold an executive session for the sole purpose of considering any of the following matters:
 - a. Purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer or sale of any real, personal or other property interest. However, no executive session shall be held to conceal the fact that a member of the Board has a personal interest in such property transaction.
 - b. Conferences with an attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions. The mere presence or participation of an attorney at an executive session is not sufficient to satisfy this requirement.

- c. Matters required to be kept confidential by federal or state law or rules and regulations. An announcement will be made indicating the specific citation to state or federal law which is the reason the matter must remain confidential.
 - d. Specialized details of security arrangements or investigations.
 - e. Determination of positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, development of strategy for negotiations and instruction of negotiators.
 - f. Personnel matters except if an employee who is the subject of an executive session requests an open meeting. If the personnel matter involves more than one employee, all of the employees must request an open meeting. Discussion of personnel policies that do not require discussion of matters specific to particular employees are not considered "personnel matters."
 - i. The Teacher Employment, Compensation and Dismissal Act shall prevail in teacher dismissal hearings. (It provides that a dismissal hearing shall be open unless either the administration or employee requests that the hearing be closed.)
 - ii. Discussions concerning a member of the Board, any elected official or the appointment of a Board member are not considered personnel matters.
 - g. Consideration of any documents protected under the mandatory nondisclosure provision of the Open Records Act, except that consideration of work product documents and documents subject to the governmental or deliberative process privilege must occur in a public meeting, unless an executive session is otherwise allowed.
 - h. Discussion of individual students where public disclosure would adversely affect the person or persons involved.
2. Prior to convening in executive session, the Board president shall announce the topic of the executive session which shall be reflected in the minutes. The Board shall include the specific citation to statute authorizing it to meet in executive session when it announces the session and identify the particular matter to be discussed in as much detail as possible without compromising the purpose for which the executive session is authorized.
 3. Only those persons invited by the Board may be present during any executive session regardless of the topic of the session (including personnel matters).
 4. The Board shall cause an electronic record to be made of the executive session which shall be retained by the Board for 90 days following the session. No record shall be made of an executive session held for the purpose of discussing an

individual student matter or of a session in which the discussion involves a privileged attorney-client communication. The record must include the specific statutory citation to the executive session law that allows the Board to meet in executive session.

Special Meetings

1. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Board president at any time and shall be called by the president upon the written request of a majority of the members.
2. The secretary to the Board shall be responsible for giving a written notice of any special meeting to each Board member at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting if mailed and 24 hours in advance if ~~hand-delivered~~ personally emailed or texted to the member. The notice must contain time, place and purpose of the meeting and names of the members requesting the meeting.
3. Any member may waive notice of a special meeting at any time before, during or after such meeting, and attendance at a special meeting shall be deemed to be a waiver.

No business other than that stated in the notice of the special meeting shall be transacted unless all members are present and agree to consider and transact other business.

Adopted: September 9, 1998

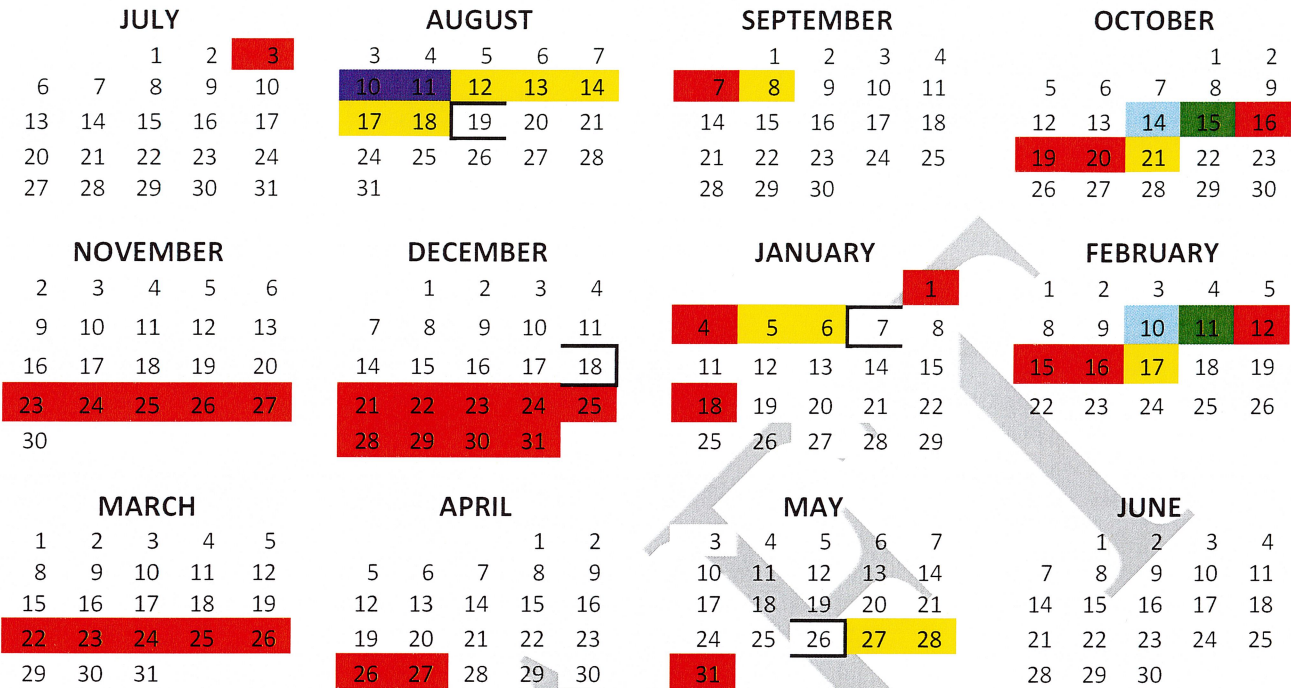
Revised: 09/05, 05/08, 12/10, 10/14, 08/18, 01/23

Monitoring Method: Board self-assessment

Monitoring Frequency: February

WOODLAND PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-2
2026-2027 Calendar

Disclaimer: Calendar Subject to Change



- July 3 - Fourth of July Observance
- September 7 - Labor Day
- November 26 - Thanksgiving
- December 25 - Christmas
- January 1 - New Year's Day
- January 18 - MLK Jr. Day
- February 15 - Presidents' Day
- March 22-26 - Spring Break
- May 31 - Memorial Day

- New Teachers Report: August 10 & 11
- Staff Development/Workday
- District Closed
- K-12 AM Half Day for Students for PM Staff Development, Evening Parent Teacher Conference
- K-12 No School for Students, AM Parent Teacher Conference, PM Staff Release

- Beginning of Semester
- Ending of Semester

of Full Instructional Weeks: 27

Board approved:

Elementary Hours –	162 x 380 minutes = 1026 hours
Jr./Sr. School Hours –	163 x 400 minutes = 1086.66 hours
First Semester = Elem -	75.5 days, Jr./Sr - 76
Second Semester = Elem -	86.5 days, Jr./Sr. - 87

POLICY MANUAL OVERHAUL PROJECT
Services Agreement

This agreement made and entered into **February 17, 2026** by and between the Colorado Association of School Boards (hereinafter referred to as the "Association") and **Woodland Park School District Re-2** (hereinafter referred to as the "District").

1. **Project description.** The Policy Services Department of the Association will work cooperatively with the District in a project to be known as the Policy Manual Overhaul Project.
 - 1.1. The District will assign a Liaison (hereinafter referred to as the "Liaison") to communicate with the Association during the course of the project.
2. **Policy services.** The Association will provide the following services to the District:
 - 2.1. **Policy review and revision.** With the assistance of the Liaison, the Association will review current District policies and identify areas where policy needs updating. The Association will then create a new policy manual using the CASB Core Policy Manual as a starting point, incorporating district-specific philosophy, goals, objectives, policies and practices as appropriate. The Association will provide such technical editing as may be necessary.
 - 2.2. **Preparation and presentation of draft manual.** The Association will prepare one draft manual of all policy/regulation statements identified as appropriate for inclusion in the policy manual and forward one electronic copy of the draft manual to the District liaison for review by the Board of Education of the District.
 - 2.3. **Policy review by the Board of Education.** The Board of Education and District liaison will review the draft manual and submit to the Association one electronic copy of the draft manual and any comments on the response sheet regarding suggested edits.
 - 2.4. **Revisions.** After review by the Board of Education, the Association will revise policies contained in the draft manual as a result of the review process between the Association and the Board of Education and the District liaison.
 - 2.5. **Production of final manual.** The Association will provide one electronic copy of the final policy manual to the District. The Association will then meet with the Board of Education to review the final manual, at the District's request.
3. **District responsibilities.** The District will be responsible for the following:
 - 3.1. The District will assign a Liaison to communicate with the Association during the course of the project, as described in Provision 1.1.
 - 3.2. The District will comply with reasonable requests from the Association in order for the Association to fulfill its responsibilities under this Agreement.

- 3.3. At the commencement of the project, the District will be responsible for providing the Association with current District policies in Microsoft Word format or an alternate electronic format that is readily exportable into Microsoft Word format. As provided in paragraph 6.2 herein, the Association reserves the right to charge a conversion fee for any current District policies not provided to the Association in the format required by this Agreement.
- 3.4. The District will be responsible for providing all pertinent district documents to be used during the policy review process by the Board of Education, unless agreed otherwise by the Association and the District.
- 3.5. The District will be responsible for any revisions made to the policy manual subsequent to delivery of the final manual, including all language updates and insertion of adoption dates.
4. **Timeline and project completion.** The services will be carried out by **February 22, 2028**, unless a different date is mutually agreed to by the Association and the District. The District will send the materials outlined in 3.3 by **May 18, 2026**.
- 4.1. The Parties may mutually agree to modify the timeline described in Section 4 above. A modification to any of the project completion dates will not be valid unless made in writing and signed by both parties. No oral understanding or agreement not incorporated in a valid agreement is binding on either of the parties. The parties understand that there may be delays in the revision and review process due to various internal factors associated with either the District or the Association. As such, neither party will hold the other party liable for reasonable delays. If either party anticipates a delay in the revision and review process of longer than six months, the parties will modify the completion date by adding a signed amendment to this Agreement.
5. **Association membership.** It is agreed that the District's Board of Education shall be a member in good standing of the Colorado Association of School Boards for the duration of the project.
6. **Fees and expenses.**
- 6.1. **Fees.** The District agrees to pay the Association the sum of **\$16,000** for the professional services rendered pursuant to this Agreement, plus reasonable expenses as provided in paragraph 6.2 herein. The Association will invoice the District upon the signing of this Agreement for forty percent (40%) of the total fee and expenses incurred to date, upon delivery of the draft manual for forty percent (40%) of the total fee and expenses incurred to date and the final twenty percent (20%) of the fee plus remaining expenses upon delivery of the final manual. In the event the District fails to provide the necessary assistance, documents or revisions to enable the Association to prepare the final manual within six months of delivery of the draft manual the final twenty percent (20%) payment will become immediately due. The District agrees to make payment for billed

services and expenses within 30 days of billing.

- 6.2. **Expenses.** In addition to the fees payable under the terms of the preceding paragraph, the District shall reimburse the Association for expenses incurred in connection with the performance of the Agreement. Such expenses shall include the following, if applicable: transportation; long-distance telephone; printing costs; postage; meals; lodging; supplies; copying costs; administrative costs to convert current District policies into Microsoft Word format; and all other incidental expenses related to performance of duties outlined in this Agreement.
7. **CASB's Policy Support Services.** Unless the Association otherwise provides the District with complimentary access to CASB's Policy Support Services, the Association will provide the District with complimentary access to CASB's Policy Support Services during the initial year of this Agreement.
8. **Legal compliance.** The Association makes reasonable efforts to ensure all sample policies provided under this Agreement reflect current law and established practice. The policies and related information provided under this Agreement will be prepared by experienced policy experts, but may not have been reviewed in detail by legal counsel and do not constitute legal advice.
9. **Employment.** The relationship of the parties is that of independent contractors. The parties hereto are not deemed to be employees, employers, agents, partners, or joint venturers of the other for any purpose as a result of this Agreement or the work completed pursuant to this Agreement.
10. **Ownership.** Except for rights expressly granted under this agreement, the Association shall retain all rights, title, and ownership of the "CASB Core Policy Manual." The District shall have a limited license to use and access the CASB Core Policy Manual. The District shall not copy the CASB Core Policy Manual. The District shall not share, distribute, or otherwise make the CASB Core Policy Manual available to any person or organization without express written permission of the Association.
 - 10.1. This provision does not prohibit the District from sharing its own policy manual, once reviewed and edited in accordance with this Agreement, with its students and community.
11. **Assignment.** Neither this Agreement nor any of the rights, interests, or obligations hereunder shall be assigned by either of the parties hereto without the prior written consent of both parties.
12. **Service not exclusive.** The District understands and agrees that the Association may enter into agreements with other educational organizations located in the State of Colorado to provide professional services related to policy projects.

13. **Total agreement.** This Agreement constitutes the total agreement between the Association and the District. No modification of the Agreement shall be effective unless reduced to writing and approved by both parties.

BY:

Colorado Association of School Boards

Woodland Park School District Re-2

Executive Director

District Board President

Date

Date