
Colorado State Board of Education

BOARD REPORT

Members of the Board

Pamela Jo Suckla, Chairman, 3rd Congressional District

Jared Polis, Vice Chairman, Member-at-Large

- ♦ **Randy DeHoff**, 6th Congressional District ♦ **Evie Hudak**, 2nd Congressional District
- ♦ **Peggy Littleton**, 5th Congressional District ♦ **Karen Middleton**, 7th Congressional District
- ♦ **Rico Munn**, 1st Congressional District ♦ **Clair Orr**, 4th Congressional District

William J. Moloney, Commissioner of Education and Secretary to the State Board of Education

Karen A. Gerwitz, Director of State Board Relations

Board Actions April 14, 2005 Department of Education, Denver

COLUMBINE REMEMBERED

April 20, 1999
11:30 a.m.

By Clair Orr

As chairman of the State Board I was on a routine call with Commissioner Bill Moloney when he said after an eerie silence, "I just received a note that there has been a shooting at Columbine High School." Little did anyone outside the school know the extent of the evil acts being committed that sunny morning in April.

By 12:30 p.m., as the story unfolded, the bright sun was at high noon but there was an ominous cloud building with a sinister appearance. As students rushed to flee the horror that would brand their memory forever, swat teams moved in like a scene from a bloody action movie. The news crews catching every movement and reporting every detail.

By late afternoon, I had talked to the Commissioner again only to learn that

fellow board member Randy DeHoff's daughter, a student at Columbine, had not been heard from. That dark cloud was not just over Columbine now, it had begun to spread across the Columbine State as the sinister acts of two demented young men were affecting the lives of thousands across our state and nation. When I called Randy around 6 p.m. inquiring about his daughter's safety, he had just received word that she was on her way to the library when a hand reached out from behind a door and pulled her into a room to safety. An untold miracle in the midst of all the death.

I don't remember seeing the setting sun that day. It must have been blocked out by a cloud of brutality spilling innocent blood from the senseless acts of two minds self-destructing, bent on

spreading destruction. The evil that had captured the shooters' minds was fulfilling the devious plan they had replayed over and over.

We will never know if they could have been rescued from this fate had the early warning signs of their tormented minds been taken seriously. We will also never know how many students are living today because similar warning signs were taken seriously.

The following morning the sun rose but it did little to answer the questions or warm the soul as the magnitude and reality of the tragedy unfolded. In praying, like thousands of others, for the families who suffered untold loss, I was also praying for direction as to what I should be doing as chairman to lead our board in the wake of such a tragedy.

I called an emergency meeting of the State Board not knowing for sure what we could do but that we had to do something. A conference call was arranged and all board members participated: Pat Chlouber, Gully Stanford, Ben Alexander, Randy DeHoff,

John Burnett, Patti Johnson and myself. Also included were the Commissioner and Lynn Fontanier (the Director of State Board Relations). After hearing the latest update from the Commissioner, I asked the Board to share their thoughts regarding this tragedy. The meeting was intense and sobering as every board member spoke from their hearts. The Commissioner was taking notes to capture the Board's best thinking at a time of our state's worst nightmare.

We decided to produce a statement from the Board, in an effort to look beyond these dark hours to a light guiding us out of this current darkness.

The statement would be a catalyst for change showing that Colorado is still the backbone of the nation, like our Rocky Mountains, and affirming that the forces of evil will not prevail. We can and will remember the fallen and resurrect the spirit and the decency that made Colorado a great place to live and raise a family.

The statement that was issued the day after the Columbine tragedy can be found at:
www.cde.state.co.us/cdeboard/download/RESOLUTION/res_columbine.pdf

ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA (approved by unanimous vote)

State Board / Commissioner

- Approved the Turning Point - 11th Avenue facility to establish on-grounds school
- Approved appointments filling the vacancies on the Colorado Special Education Advisory Committee (CSEAC), effective July 1, 2005 as follows:
 - Dani Lisa Arck – representing parents (CD 1)
 - Paula Christina – representing parents (CD 2)
 - Ray Mix – representing parents (CD 3)

- Jann Clevenger – representing facilities (CD 6)
- Diana Kellner – representing teachers (CD 2)
- Linn Oliver – representing teachers (CD 7)

Professional Services

- Approved Type III Authorizations as follows:
 - Renewal – 5
 - Initial – 49
- Approved the proposed Teacher Induction Programs for Omar D. Blair School
- Approved the content of the proposed Endorsement Preparation Programs as follows:
 - Special Education: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialist, University of Northern Colorado (UNC), Greeley
 - Special Education: Vision Impairment Specialist and Orientation and Mobility, University of Northern Colorado (UNC), Greeley
- Instructed department staff and the attorney general's office to prepare the documents necessary to request a formal hearing for the revocation of the holder's license pursuant to §22-60.5-108, C.R.S. concerning License No. 140435 Charge No. 2004EC43

Special Services

- Approved the waiver request for a 3-year period ending June 30, 2007 as follows: 22-32-109(1)(b)(n)(t); 22-32-110(1)(k)(y), C.R.S. concerning East Grand 2 School District and Indian Peaks Charter School
- Approved the waiver request for a 29-day period ending May 12, 2005 as follows: 22-1-110, 22-32-109(1)(n)(t); 22-32-109.7, 109.8 & 109.9, 22-32-110(1)(i)(k)(ee)(y), 22-32-119, 22-28-111(1)(a), 22-32-120, C.R.S. concerning Boulder Valley School District RE-2 on behalf of Peak to Peak Charter School
- Approved the waiver request for a 29-day period ending May 12, 2005 as follows: 22-32-109.7, C.R.S. concerning Colorado Springs 11 School District on behalf of 21st Century Charter School at Colorado Springs

ITEMS NOT ON CONSENT, REQUIRING A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS
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State Board / Commissioner

- Adopted the 2005 Administrative Procedures for Review of a State Board Grant of Exclusive Chartering Authority as amended

(7-0) Ms. Suckla, Mr. Polis, Ms. Hudak, Ms. Littleton, Ms. Middleton, Mr. Orr and Mr. Munn concur. Mr. DeHoff recused.

Professional Services

- Approved the proposed Teacher induction Program for New America School

(7-0) Ms. Suckla, Mr. DeHoff, Ms. Hudak, Ms. Littleton, Ms. Middleton, Mr. Orr and Mr. Munn concur. Mr. Polis was absent.

- Conducted a hearing for the Rules for the Educator Licensing Act of 1991, 1 CCR 301-37, Alternative Principal Authorization Preparation, closed the oral portion of the hearing, directed revisions and scheduled for consideration at the next Board meeting

(7-0) Ms. Suckla, Mr. Polis, Mr. DeHoff, Ms. Hudak, Ms. Littleton, Ms. Middleton, and Mr. Orr concur. Mr. Munn was absent.

- Approved the Designated Agencies for the Alternative Licensing
 - Metro State College of Denver
 - Friend's School
 - Naropa University

(8-0) The motion was carried unanimously

- Instructed department staff to issue a notice of denial and appeal rights to the applicant pursuant to §24-4-104, C.R.S. concerning Application for an Authorization, Charge No. 2005EC05

(7-0) Ms. Suckla, Mr. Polis, Mr. DeHoff, Ms. Littleton, Ms. Middleton, Mr. Orr and Mr. Munn concur. Ms. Hudak dissents.

- Approved Centennial R-1, Miami-Yoder 60 JT & Wray RD-2 for exclusive chartering authority according to 22-30.5-504 (5)(b)(I), C.R.S. (Schools less than 3000)

(7-0) The motion was carried unanimously. Mr. DeHoff recused.

EXCLUSIVE CHARTERING AUTHORITY

Colorado League of Charter Schools re: Exclusive Chartering Authority for Adams-Arapahoe 28J School District: Decision was to uphold the original decision and grant Executive Chartering Authority to Adams-Arapahoe 28J School District

(6-1) Ms. Suckla, Mr. Polis, Ms. Hudak, Ms. Middleton, Mr. Orr and Mr. Munn concur. Ms. Littleton dissents. Mr. DeHoff was absent.

EXCLUSIVE CHARTERING AUTHORITY - CHALLENGE

Jefferson County Parents for School Choice re: Exclusive Chartering Authority granted to Jefferson County School District, withdrawn by challenger

Final Disposition of State Board Disciplinary Action

Charge No.:	2005EC05
Applicant:	Pierre R. D'Auray
Last Known Residence:	Boulder, Colorado
Reason for Disciplinary Action:	Pierre R. D'Auray was convicted of one felony count of conspiracy to possess a controlled substance with intent to distribute, one felony count of importation of marijuana and one felony count of aviation smuggling, and failed to disclose the conviction for conspiracy to possess a controlled substance with intent to distribute on his substitute authorization application
Final Action of the State Board:	Denial of the application
Date of State Board Action:	April 14, 2005

Future Business

June 8-9	Board Retreat -	Keystone Conference Center
July 13	Work Session	
July 14	Regular Meeting	
August 10	Work Session -	Off-site / TBA
August 11	Regular Meeting -	Off Site / TBA
September 14	Work Session	
September 15	Regular Meeting	

October 5	Work Session
October 6	Regular Meeting
November 09	Work Session
November 10	Regular Meeting
December 7	Work Session
December 8	Regular Meeting

Future Hearings

RULE HEARINGS:

None Scheduled

CHARTER SCHOOL HEARINGS:

June 6, 2005 12-4:30 p.m.	Exclusive Chartering Authority Applications
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EXCLUSIVE CHARTERING AUTHORITY - CHALLENGE

None Scheduled

Board Report provides a monthly summary of Colorado State Board of Education business to the Department of Education, Colorado school districts, education-related agencies, and concerned citizens.

For additional information, contact:

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