

Facility Schools Board Minutes of Meeting

11/13/25 9:30am - 3:00pm

In Person Venue: Shiloh Family Resource Pavilion, 9700 E Easter Lane, Centennial, CO 80112

Board Members Present: Steven Ramirez, Carolena Steen, Mylynda Herrick, Doug Hainley, Megan Coggins, Rebecca Carpenter

Board Members Absent: Sonjia Hunt

Staff Present: Tara Butler, Margarita Colindres, Wendy Dunaway, Carrie Foster, Annie Haskins, Cheryl Jackson, Lori Kochevar, Robin Singer, Judy Stirman, Ann Symalla, Celina Uliberri

Staff Absent: Allie Miller

Others Present: Virginia Winter - Consultant to the Board, Jason Langberg - Assistant Attorney General

Meeting Commencement: Co-Chair Steen called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes for September 4, 2025: Co-Chair Steen entertains a motion to accept the Board minutes.

Board member Coggins makes a motion to approve the minutes from September 4, 2025, and Co-Chair Ramirez seconds the motion. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.

Approval of Agenda for November 13, 2025: Co-Chair Ramirez entertains a motion to accept the agenda.

Judy Stirman provided the following amendment to the agenda - removal of the board vote for the 9:45am Spectra Transition Program presentation. Board vote was not required.

A motion was made by Board member Carpenter, seconded by Board member Herrick, to approve the amended November 13, 2025, agenda. The Board unanimously approved the agenda.

Public Comment: Members of the public who wish to address the board must sign up 24 hours prior to the meeting.

❖ No public comment provided.

Spectra Transition Program-Presentation: Kevin McCarthy, president of Spectra, presented a timeline of the school's history. Looking to expand the school to include a Transition Program. A special education teacher and a lead therapeutic instructor will run the program. The ratio will be a minimum of 2:1 for ages 18-21. The program will focus on Lifelong Learning, Personal Life, Community Access, and Employability. Co-Chair Steen complimented Spectra on starting the program in a much-needed area. No board members expressed concerns.

Handprints School-Approval (Specialized Day School)-Presentation, discussion, decision: Betsy Hart, executive director, presented information about Handprints and its application to become a specialized day school to the Board. The program will serve learners with autism, developmental disabilities, and behavioral needs. Grades K-5 will eventually increase to 8th grade. There will be a 1:1 ratio, to fade to small groups. Includes ABA therapy, speech, OT, and PT. Classrooms will be 4-8 students. Board members asked questions and discussed concerns about reporting requirements related to physical managements/restraints. The Board asked the applicant to provide the following changes to its application: Updated fire and ADA inspections. In the Policies and Procedures the school should ensure policies for the use of restraints, and delineate the processes, procedures, and include a sample form to document incidents/restraints, as well as documentation of whom they are required to send the reported information to, including parents and school districts.

Board member Coggins made a motion to table voting to approve Specialized Day Schools until the Board puts policies or rules into place regarding physical managements in Specialized Day Schools. There was no second. Co-Chair Steen moved to approve Handprints as a specialized day school contingent upon changes to the application discussed during the meeting. Board member Coggins seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Kaleidoscope Conference-Glow and Grow Data: Tara Butler provided a presentation about Kaleidoscope attendance and attendee feedback. The presentation will be emailed to the board. Next year's conference will be held on October 29-30 at Adams 12.

Board Leadership- Stepping Up-G. Winter: During the 25-26 School Year-Virginia Winter: Goal this year is to coach more than to develop the strategic plan. The board reviewed the document completed last June regarding progress on three goals. The

responsibility matrix was also reviewed, discussing which areas have been addressed so far. The current strategic plan is set to expire in 2027. Stewards were encouraged to conclude the meeting by discussing the progress of the strategic plan. Reference was made to the Facility Schools Board Annual Training, conducted by the Board's legal counsel, completed on May 8, 2025, and speaking with one voice. Board member Carpenter suggested inviting school staff to lunch with the board during site visits. Staff are working on the 2026 work plan; the board is encouraged to participate in this agenda item at the December board meeting.

Project Education Overview: Annie Haskins, Carrie Foster: This is the first year of Project Education after piloting the program last year. All schools will be using the program this year. Office hours and individual support are available.

Data: October Count, December Student Count, and December Staff- Lori Kochevar and Celina Uliberri: The reasons for completing the October Count were explored. Facility schools do not get funding through the October Count. Facility schools must use October 1 as their count day. In 2024, there were 31 facility schools. In 2025, there are 34 facility schools. The October Count increased by 90 students. December Count is the count for special education students. Lori Kochevar and Celina Uliberri will be working with Annie Haskins and Carrie Foster to compile December 1 data.

Dialogue: Accreditation Discussion (report, data mapping)-Wendy Dunaway: Working with IMS to map the data for the accreditation reports. The first reports are due in one year. Rubric has been developed. The board requested the use of the rubric to provide an external review of schools during visitation check-ins. Various options were discussed by the board, including partnering with a national entity. Board member Ramirez shared the current accreditation practice for Cognia. The board discussed connecting accreditation to monitoring visits and concerns of a perceived conflict of interest for OFS staff.

Multilingual Programming-Margarita Colindres- Reframing: Margarita Colindres provided a presentation to the board reframing outdated and current terms, strategies, and processes for equitable instructional practices for multilingual students. She also provided an overview of the goals of the OFS office for the remainder of the school year. Presentation will be emailed to the board and placed in board documents on the Google drive.

Future Dialogue Topics: Board member Coggins expressed concerns about the lack of incident reporting in Specialized Day Schools. OFS will meet with SDS to obtain their forms, policies, and procedures related to restraint and incident reporting and share the data with the board. Look for timing, communication, training, and what the board should require.

Board member Herrick suggested discussing compliance issues and school lunch. Restraints will be addressed at the December board meeting, and school lunch will be discussed at the February board meeting.

Compliance-Questions about when the board becomes involved? How do we address non-compliance?

Cheryl Jackson, the OFS's new Administrative Assistant, was introduced to the board.

Board Corner (Realignment): Board member Hainley to December (Havern), Board member Coggins-January, Board member Herrick to February (Monarch)

Adjournment of Meeting: Co-Chair Steen adjourns the meeting.

Next Meeting Date – December 11, 2025, 9:30 Virtual