



Colorado State Board of Education

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
BEFORE THE
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMMISSION
DENVER, COLORADO
June 8, 2016, Public Comment, Board Reports, Adjourn

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT on May 5, 2016, the
above-entitled meeting was conducted at the Colorado
Department of Education, before the following Board Members:

Steven Durham (R), Chairman
Angelika Schroeder (D), Vice Chairman
Valentina (Val) Flores (D)
Jane Goff (D)
Pam Mazanec (R)
Joyce Rankin (R)
Debora Scheffel (R)



1 CHAIRMAN DURHAM: We're just running a couple
2 of minutes late. Just one item. Mr. Dill, if you would,
3 please this -- to may we give -- so we can put the previous
4 issue to rest. House Bill 1323 puts certain obligations on -
5 - on districts and schools that threaten parents or students
6 with retaliation for opt out. I think we ought to enter into
7 rulemaking on that, and start with the notice of rulemaking
8 next month on that topic. That would provide an opportunity
9 for complaints to be made to the Board by parents or
10 children who feel threatened or feel they've been
11 threatened. And that gives the -- implies -- puts some
12 penalties on districts and schools that engage in the
13 behavior in violation of the provisions of House Bill 1323.
14 So maybe we'll -- maybe the message will eventually get down
15 to the appropriate level. We're now -- we're now here for
16 the recognition of the 2016 Distinguished Administrator in -
17 - in support of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse
18 Learners.

19 MR. ASP: Pardon me?

20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Go back one.

21 CHAIRMAN DURHAM: I am at --

22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Student.

23 CHAIRMAN DURHAM: I'm sorry, students?

24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: The academy student art
25 contest. Yes.



1 CHAIRMAN DURHAM: Okay. All right, we'll try
2 it again. For the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse
3 Education Academy art contest, and commissioner, if you
4 would take off this work.

5 MR. ASP: As Melissa said earlier, this
6 really is her show today, so listen please, if you will.

7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Today, we would like to
8 honor Ms. Jocelyn McCarthy, Ms. Saskia Dimberg, and Mr.
9 Martin Zapata, who couldn't be here today. He's on the
10 middle of taking an AP exam. The Colorado Department of
11 Education's Office of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse
12 Education, CLDE, held a K-12 art contest called I am a
13 Student of Culture to showcase talented students. This was
14 the first year that the CLDE unit held the contest and had
15 initially planned on awarding only one K-12 winner. However,
16 the response from the schools was so great that the unit was
17 able to award three winners in the following grades spans,
18 K-5, 6-8, and 9-12.

19 The art competition was held to highlight the
20 artistic talents of students through fine arts including
21 photography, digital media, sculpture, et cetera. In
22 addition to their artwork, the students submitted a personal
23 statement to promote reflective and critical thinking
24 regarding their visual art piece and to enhance visual
25 awareness skills and processes. The students were recognized



1 at the 10th Annual CLDE Academy Conference held on Friday,
2 April 22nd. Their artwork was also featured on the
3 conference's program.

4 The art pieces submitted were reviewed for
5 the following criteria: relevance to the theme, I am a
6 Student of Culture, visual effectiveness, and overall
7 appearance, originality, and message.

8 Of these submissions received, Jocelyn,
9 Saskia, and Martin rose to the top. To give you a little
10 background on each of the awardees, Jocelyn McCarthy is a
11 kindergarten student -- student at Global Village Academy in
12 Douglas County School District. Her art piece is entitled
13 Earth of all People. In her artist statement, Jocelyn said
14 that her art piece represents all the different kids at her
15 school, and how they are all like -- how they are like all
16 of the people on earth. She said that the bowl was very hard
17 to make because the clay was hard and that she had to warm
18 it with her hands. Sometimes when she is mad or sad or
19 happy, she uses art to help show those feelings. Her art
20 instructor, Ms. Yolanda Perez, submitted her piece.

21 Saskia Dimberg is an eighth grade student at
22 Morey Middle School at Denver Public Schools. Saskia
23 submitted a self-portrait in Arcimboldo style. Saskia stated
24 that these drawings -- that drawing this picture made her
25 think how every one of the interests and different aspects



1 of her personality ultimately impacts who she is as a
2 person. Saskia said that it was difficult to make every part
3 fit together in a way that resembled a human body while
4 still showing the fundamental parts of who she is. An
5 example of this was how she struggled to find a way to
6 represent her lack of sense of time. She overcame that
7 challenge by thinking creatively and drawing a cracked
8 clock. Ms. (inaudible), the visual arts teacher at Morey
9 Middle School, submitted her piece.

10 Martin Zapata is a junior at Pinnacle High
11 School with the Charter School Institute. Martin's
12 submission is entitled Troubled. Martin describes his piece
13 as a drawing that came to him through the memories of the
14 struggles he experienced in the past that no one really saw.
15 He used a black and white color scheme in the piece to show
16 that some points in one's life will not be full of color and
17 joy. Sometimes to achieve the color and joy, things that put
18 you temporarily in the dark have to happen first. He says
19 that art is a language that is understood throughout the
20 world regardless of race or language. That art universally
21 binds us through time and space. That is what makes art so
22 important. Ms. Laura Hahn, the High School Art Teacher at
23 Pinnacle Charters, submitted Martin's piece.



1 Please help me recognize Jocelyn, Saskia, and
2 Martin as they come forward. We're going to have Jocelyn
3 come talk to you first.

4 (Applause)

5 MS. MCCARTHY: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,
6 and Members of the Board. I like art because I get to make
7 cool things, because sometimes when I'm mad or sad or happy,
8 I used art to show my feelings. For the people that liked my
9 art, thank you very much.

10 CHAIRMAN DURHAM: Thank you.

11 (Applause)

12 MS. DIMBERG: Mr. Chair and Members of the
13 Board, first of all, before I talk about the art piece
14 itself, I'd like to thank a few people. I'm so grateful that
15 I could be here and that I was chosen to share my art, so
16 I'd first like to thank all of you. I appreciate this so
17 much. I also want to thank my parents for always supporting
18 me. My art teacher, Ms. Knowles, for giving me this
19 opportunity and helping me make my art piece what it is. And
20 my insanely artistic friends who have always made me strive
21 to be a better artist and reach out further and try harder.
22 I couldn't have done this without all of them, and I'm so
23 supremely grateful that they are in my life.

24 The art piece that I submitted for the
25 contest was an Arcimboldo-style portrait of myself,



1 consisting of my different interests, my habits, and my
2 culture. It was a lot of fun to create actually. And in the
3 future, I hope to create more of these, since it was
4 definitely an interesting experience. While I don't want to
5 pursue a career in art, I will definitely continue creating
6 works over the years in an attempt to improve my artist
7 abilities until I can express myself without messing up or
8 being dissatisfied with the final product. The struggle of
9 not properly showing what I envision in my mind is one that
10 I suffer from often, and hopefully, as I learn more
11 techniques, I will find some way to do that successfully.

12 Art interests me because it's such a
13 beautiful way of conveying how you feel and how you perceive
14 the world. It's wonderful that an abstract idea such as a
15 thought or a dream can create something that inspires
16 others. Because of this abstractness, it also means that art
17 is a good way to escape the daily grind of everyday life and
18 create a physical product through my internal experiences.

19 (Inaudible) where I have filled a page with doodles are
20 excellent in particular for training to my daydreams,
21 especially with (inaudible). This is also makes a good way
22 of dealing with emotions, whether they can be overwhelmingly
23 positive or negative. Art concentrates that into a single
24 pencil stroke which helps me remember and learn from old
25 days and isolate the feeling, letting me deal with it in an



1 appropriate way. Through art, I learned more about myself
2 and the world around me, and even more possibilities opened
3 up. If I can inspire even one person, I will be happy with
4 what I have done. Thank you again so much for this
5 opportunity, and I hope to (inaudible) since this has been a
6 thrill to participate in.

7 (Applause)

8 CHAIRMAN DURHAM: On behalf of the State
9 Board, I would like to extend you our congratulations, and
10 thank you for sharing the beautiful art that you have
11 created. So we will be able to take now a break to take
12 pictures. So if you'd come forward, and commissioner, if
13 you'd like to join them down there. And we'll get the
14 chairs out of the way here. Down here. Right in front of
15 you. Or here. Either way.

16 (Pause)

17 CHAIRMAN DURHAM: All right. Very good. Now,
18 we'll move on to the recognition of the Distinguished
19 Administrator in support of Culturally and Linguistically
20 Diverse Learners, and Melissa, you're still on. All right.

21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Today we would like to
22 honor Mr. Patrick Kilcullen, the priority programs
23 coordinator for the St. Vrain Valley School District. The
24 Distinguished Administrator Award honors an administrator
25 who has exhibited excellence in the success of Culturally



1 and Linguistically Diverse Learners. The administrator who
2 is chosen must demonstrate how they have created successful
3 outcomes and have supported the academic, linguistic, and
4 social-emotional needs of these diverse learners. The
5 nomination process includes the narrative from the
6 nominator, certifying that the nominee meets all the
7 requirements to participate in the award program. A resume
8 and letters of support were also submitted as additional
9 documentation of the nominee's qualifications. A selection
10 committee conducted a process to choose the distinguished
11 administrator award.

12 Mr. Kilcullen met the following criteria. He
13 is actively engaged in CLDE program. He contributes to
14 increased achievement of culturally and linguistically
15 diverse learners. He has the respect and admiration of
16 students, parents, and colleagues, and he exhibit --
17 exhibits distinguished leadership in service to the
18 profession and the community. Mr. Patrick Kilcullen was
19 recognized at the 10th Annual CLDE Academy Conference held
20 on Friday, April 22nd. He was selected based on his
21 experience, passion, and expertise with English learners and
22 their families. Through his role in the district, Mr.
23 Kilcullen has worked tirelessly to provide support,
24 resources, professional development, and guidance to ESL
25 teachers, core content teachers, and specialists who work



1 with culturally and linguistically diverse students daily.
2 He has helped create and implement district-wide
3 professional development for all teachers regarding
4 Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol or SIOP
5 strategies, reader resources, data analysis of student
6 progress, and Tier 1 best practices that support the
7 instruction and academic growth for culturally and
8 linguistically diverse students at all grade levels.

9 He is described as having an open nature and
10 good humor, became extremely popular with families,
11 students, teachers, and administrators. He has had a
12 profound impact on all the lives he has touched in his
13 service to the St. Vrain School district. Please help me and
14 recognize Mr. Patrick Kilcullen as he comes forward.

15 (Appause)

16 MR. KILCULLEN: Mr. Chair, Members of the
17 Board, thank you for allowing me to be here before you
18 today. Thank you to the Colorado Department of Education for
19 hosting the -- the -- the annual event, the Culturally and
20 Linguistically Diverse Academy. It's a great way for us as
21 School Districts to collaborate, share best practice, and
22 celebrate like we were this morning with the children here,
23 so it's a great honor to be here. Our superintendent, Don
24 Haddad, loves to quote Mark Twain, who said that, "Out of
25 the public school grows the greatness of the nation."



1 And so I want to again, thank you for the
2 work that you do in terms of supporting public education in
3 Colorado. I'm honored to be a part of that. I'm honored to
4 be part of a St. Vrain Valley, which I feel is very forward-
5 thinking in terms of public education for all kids,
6 especially linguistically diverse students. We've got a lot
7 going on in terms of making sure that we're -- we're meeting
8 not just State standards, but that we're innovating, and
9 that our ESL kids and kids of diverse economic backgrounds
10 are a part of that innovation.

11 So it's a really exciting place to work in,
12 and I'm glad that the commissioner and -- and others have
13 been able to come up and visit. I invite you all up to --
14 to come up and see St. Vrain anytime. So thank you very
15 much.

16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.

17 (Applause)

18 CHAIRMAN DURHAM: Mr. Kilcullen, on behalf of
19 the State Board, we wanna thank you for what you've done,
20 and we appreciate all the hard work that you've invested in
21 assisting culturally and linguistically diverse learners.
22 Thank you. And if you'd come forward for a picture, we'll go
23 from there.

24 (Pause)



1 CHAIRMAN DURHAM: All right. I think what
2 we'll do is we'll take a 30-minute lunch break. We can meet
3 at 12:00, and we'll finish the last item on the agenda,
4 which is the school district performance framework waiting
5 and plan time. So approximately we will have a little lunch
6 and then reconvene at about 12:00.
7 (Meeting adjourned)



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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Kimberly C. McCright, Certified Vendor and Notary, do hereby certify that the above-mentioned matter occurred as hereinbefore set out.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT the proceedings of such were reported by me or under my supervision, later reduced to typewritten form under my supervision and control and that the foregoing pages are a full, true and correct transcription of the original notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 25th day of October, 2018.

/s/ Kimberly C. McCright
Kimberly C. McCright
Certified Vendor and Notary Public

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