



**TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
BEFORE THE
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMMISSION
DENVER, COLORADO**

January 12, 2017 Meeting Transcript -- Prt. 1

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT on January 12, 2017,
the above-entitled meeting was conducted at the Colorado
Department of Education, before the following Board Members:

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



1 MADAM CHAIR: Good morning, ladies and
2 gentlemen. We call the State Board Meeting back to order.
3 Would you call the attendance, please?

4 MS. CORDIAL: Yes. Board Member Durham?

5 MR. DURHAM: Here.

6 MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Flores? Probably
7 on her way. Board Member Goff?

8 MS. GOFF: Here.

9 MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Mazanec?

10 MS. MAZANEC: Here.

11 MS. CORDIAL: Board Member McClellan?

12 MS. McCLELLAN: Here.

13 MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Rankin?

14 MS. RANKIN: Here.

15 MS. CORDIAL: And Board Member Schroeder.

16 MADAM CHAIR: Here. Thank you. Our first
17 item this morning is a very happy one, the recognition of
18 Colorado's outstanding educators. The first item is to
19 recognize the 2017 Colorado Teacher of the Year.
20 Commissioner Anthes?

21 MS. ANTHERS: Yes, thank you, Madam
22 Chairwoman. We are really excited to be honoring our 2017
23 Teacher of the Year today, and right now, I'm going to call
24 on Executive Director of Federal Programs, Patrick Chapman,



1 to come and tell us a little bit about our Teacher of the
2 Year. And then we will hear from him.

3 MR. CHAPMAN: Okay. Thank you,
4 Commissioner. As you noted, today we are here to honor Mr.
5 Sean Wybrant, the 2017 Colorado Teacher of the Year. Each
6 year, the Colorado Teacher of the Year Program honors an
7 exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled teacher
8 to represent the entire profession in Colorado.

9 The role of the Colorado Teacher of the Year
10 is to act as an education ambassador to businesses, parents,
11 service organizations, and media; a resource on the state of
12 the profession to be available for workshops and conferences
13 around the state; and an educator-leader involved in teacher
14 forums and education reform.

15 A selection committee conducted a rigorous
16 selection process to choose the Colorado Teacher of the
17 Year. The selection committee consisted of representatives
18 from the State Board of Education -- Ms. Goff -- Colorado
19 Association of School Boards, Colorado Education
20 Association, the Colorado Education Initiative, the Colorado
21 Parent Teacher Association, the 2015 Teacher of the Year,
22 and other representatives from the education community.

23 The application process included a written
24 application, letters of recommendation, a personal
25 interview, and a site visit. Candidates were judged on



1 their ability to inspire students of all backgrounds and
2 abilities. The teacher is expected to play an active role
3 in the community and to have earned the respect and
4 admiration of students, parents, and colleagues. Sean
5 clearly demonstrates these qualities.

6 Sean Wybrant, a career and technical
7 education teacher at William J. Palmer High School in
8 Colorado Springs District 11, was named the two -- I'm sorry
9 -- the 2017 Colorado Teacher of the Year by Education
10 Commissioner Katy Anthes at an assembly on October 11, 2016.
11 Mr. Wybrant has taught for 11 years, the past 4 at William
12 J. Palmer High School. He engages students in meaningful
13 projects and encourages exploration of a variety of topics,
14 bringing learning to life for students. He says he became a
15 teacher to change the world.

16 In accepting this award, Mr. Wybrant will
17 have the opportunity to spend part of 2017 -- will have
18 opportunity -- making public appearances in support of the
19 teaching profession and will be a -- will be the face of all
20 dedicated teachers in Colorado. Sean is at the top of his
21 profession, respected and incredibly knowledgeable. In
22 April, he will be honored by the President in a ceremony at
23 the White House. Throughout his year, he will receive a
24 number of high-quality professional development
25 opportunities and will get to attend NASA's Space Camp



1 during the summer. Interim -- or Commissioner Anthes was in
2 attendance at the assembly. Would you like to say a few
3 words about that day?

4 MS. ANTHES: Yes. Thank you. Yes, I just
5 want to say a few words about Sean and the assembly. It was
6 clear when I went there how much the entire community and
7 the students just absolutely love you and your passion,
8 Sean, and how much of a difference you've made in that
9 school and community. And it was just absolutely riveting
10 and vibrant to be there when we announced Sean, so he --
11 it's clear. I've been able to work with Sean since then on
12 a couple of things. His ability to inspire students is
13 amazing, and his passion just exudes from him, no matter
14 where he -- he teaches everybody, not just students. When
15 we walked into a meeting together the other day, he
16 immediately said, "Let me show you something one of my
17 students is working on." And we walked through it, and so I
18 think we couldn't have picked a better teacher for this
19 honor, and I'm thrilled that he's here today.

20 MR. CHAPMAN: Great. Now let me introduce
21 Sean Wybrant, the 2017 Colorado teacher of the Year, to say
22 a few words.

23 (Applause)

24 MR. WYBRANT: Madam Chair and Members of the
25 Board, thank you very much of taking some time this morning



1 to recognize educators. Not just me, but other educators
2 that are in the room as well. I appreciate that, as I'm
3 sure does everybody else. And thank you, Ms. Goff, for
4 coming down and being part of the selection committee. And
5 thank you for coming down and being a part of the assembly.

6 I'm really excited about the opportunity that
7 I get to be a voice for educators over the next year, and
8 I'm really excited that I get to go around and gather
9 stories from those educators. And I'm hoping over the
10 course of this year that I can take those stories and bring
11 them back and share them with you again, so that we kind of
12 have a bookend so that you can see where things are
13 starting, and then I can come back and tell you about all of
14 the great things that are going on.

15 We have some really innovative and amazing
16 programs around the state that I've been able to learn
17 about, and while my program might have some great things
18 going on, there are other programs that have some amazing
19 things going on as well, and I look forward to sharing that
20 with you and with the entire Colorado community, and, you
21 know, with the world because that's the way I roll.

22 (Chuckling)

23 MR. WYBRANT: I also want to take just a
24 second to say thank you very much to the people from CDE,
25 who have been helping in the transition, helping me learn



1 and understand a little about what the roles and
2 responsibilities are, and some of the opportunities that I
3 have to go off and experience and explore. And I would like
4 to just sort of end by saying thank you very much for the
5 work that you do on behalf of teachers' and students'
6 communities. You know, it's all about trying to make a
7 better world, and the work that you do, and the work that we
8 do is aligned. And I'm really hoping that we can build a
9 world where students are actually building a future that is
10 bright and meaningful and powerful for everybody around
11 them. So thank you very much.

12 (Applause)

13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you, Mr. Wybrant.
14 We commend you for your dedication to student achievement.
15 We commend you for inspiring students to reach higher. We
16 too look forward to all that you're going to be doing in
17 your role in the coming year. Please, folks, join me in
18 honoring our 2017 Colorado Teacher of the Year.

19 (Applause)

20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mr. Wybrant, if you'll
21 come forward, you'll have your picture taken with your
22 representative and our commissioner. As soon as I move.

23 (Pause)

24 MS. FLORES: Sorry I'm late.

25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: You okay?



1 (Pause)

2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: The next item on our
3 agenda is recognition of four districts and schools for
4 their exemplary implementation of the student Individual
5 Career and Academic Plans, or ICAPs. Together with their
6 counselors, teachers, and parents, these students direct the
7 process of meaningful career and college exploration through
8 ICAP. Commissioner Anthes, please.

9 MS. ANTHERS: Yes, thank you, Madam Chair. At
10 this point, I'm going to turn it over to Misti Ruthven, our
11 Executive Director of Student Pathways, to introduce the
12 districts and the awards.

13 MS. RUTHVEN: Thank you, Commissioner Anthes,
14 Madam Chairman, Members of the Board.

15 So this morning, the Individual Career and
16 Academic Plan is highlighted, and we've brought forward to
17 you ICAP teams in the award-winning districts and schools
18 that represent some of the best ways that ICAP provides
19 meaning and excitement for students as they explore what is
20 possible in the world after high school. The Individual
21 Career and Academic Plan, or ICAP, was enacted into state
22 law. It was Senate Bill 256 in 2009.

23 This is the third year that the State Board
24 of Education will be recognizing ICAP recipients, and



1 selections were made by past recipients and a panel of
2 schools and district representatives.

3 So ICAP awards are divided into two
4 categories, schools and districts. The award recipients for
5 School ICAP teams include Leshar Middle School from Poudre
6 School District and the Colorado School for the Deaf and
7 Blind. The recipients for District ICAP include teams from
8 Garfield 16 in Parachute and District 11 in Colorado
9 Springs. So we have also two honorable mentions: Del Norte
10 Middle School in the San Luis Valley and Westminster High
11 School.

12 As far as process goes, just a brief note on
13 process. I'll read brief excerpts from the nominations and
14 then followed by photos. There are a few folks of the
15 recipients that would like to just give brief comments after
16 each.

17 At Leshar Middle School, who'd like to join
18 me? Come on up. At Leshar Middle School, students are
19 involved in the ICAP process all year. In November, many
20 were part of a future planning extravaganza, and the ICAP
21 teams wrote about it for two days. Eighth graders attended
22 interactive sessions with professionals to learn more about
23 healthcare, law, real estate, and avionics, along with
24 postsecondary options like advanced placement, international
25 baccalaureate, and concurrent enrollment. Then, they joined



1 their teachers and workforce center representatives for
2 visits to businesses all over the Fort Collins area. This
3 program, one of many at Lesher, has open partnerships with
4 local businesses that have flourished. It builds
5 relationships with teachers, students, councilors,
6 administrators, and community members. Students look
7 forward to this event, and parents are engaged.
8 Congratulations to Warren Morrow, school counselor, and
9 Stacy Arellano, and who are here from Lesher Middle School,
10 and they just wanted to say thank you.

11 MR. MORROW: Thank you.

12 MS. ARRELLANO: Thank you.

13 (Applause)

14 MS. RUTHVEN: Next is the Colorado School for
15 the Deaf and Blind. The staff in the Employability Center
16 at the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind work with
17 students who exit our academic program with better sense of
18 who they are and how they can meaningfully contribute to the
19 community. Included in the ICAP that each student designs
20 are postsecondary education, independent living, and
21 employability goals they can live in their personal lives
22 and in their communities, because the ICAP goals are created
23 by and for them, which will then -- which they embrace as a
24 road map for their future.



1 Congratulations to Tera Lynn Gray from the
2 Colorado School of the Deaf and Blind. She's here to say a
3 few words.

4 (Applause)

5 MS. GRAY: Thank you. I really -- I am
6 sorry. I have a cold, so my voice is not too great right
7 now, but I do thank you for this honor. And while I am a
8 supervisor of the Employability Center at the Colorado
9 School for the Deaf and the Blind, we have a team of 13
10 other individuals that work very hard to help our students
11 to get an ICAP, to get a portfolio, to help them to
12 understand why high school is so important, but starting all
13 the way in elementary school. Helping them understand why
14 it's important, and where they are going, and what goals
15 that they have for their futures. So we work with those 13
16 individuals, as well as for our schools for the deaf and the
17 schools for the blind, the teachers in there. It's really a
18 collaborative effort. So I am really honored to be here to
19 accept this award on behalf of the entire school. So thank
20 you.

21 MS. RUTHVEN: Thank you.

22 (Applause)

23 MS. RUTHVEN: Next up is Garfield 16, and
24 representatives did not make it today because of the record



1 four feet of snow that the western slope has had over the
2 past week.

3 (Chuckling)

4 MS. RUTHVEN: But we wanted to make sure and
5 recognize them, so I'll just briefly read their excerpt. We
6 believe that the ICAP is essential in helping our kids plan
7 for their future, as well as helping the district plan to
8 meet their needs as they work toward essential and
9 professional skills. The ICAP is meaningful because it
10 focuses on students' interests. We are starting at a very
11 young age, engaging our students in as many experiences as
12 possible. They really take ownership of the process, and
13 each student is unique. Also, this process involves in-
14 depth talks with parents about what is next and how they can
15 support their student. We see the ICAP much more relaxed --
16 we see the students much more relaxed in their senior year
17 simply because they have a plan.

18 And in the words of Ken Haptonstall, their
19 superintendent, "That is huge." So congratulations to
20 Superintendent Ken Haptonstall and their lead counselor,
21 Mandi Dovey, and I know that they're listening, so congrats
22 to them.

23 (Applause)



1 MS. RUTHVEN: And the next and the final
2 award is Colorado Springs District 11, and there are several
3 representatives here today. So come on up, D11.

4 (Applause)

5 MS. RUTHVEN: So there's a trend here this
6 morning, with the Teacher of the Year and the ICAP
7 recipients, all from Colorado Springs D11.

8 The ICAP leadership team behind me in
9 Colorado Springs District 11 has made ICAP a priority.
10 Internal and external stakeholders are driving the process.
11 Schools own their part in their process. Parents are
12 engaged because they see the value. Students love learning
13 and charting their future because they see relevance in
14 their day-to-day. Ownership is high.

15 We have written ICAP into District Board
16 policy as a graduation requirement. Even the mayor of
17 Colorado Springs is involved in promoting ICAP. Career and
18 technical education programming participation is up. FAFSA,
19 which is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid,
20 completion is up, and college applications are up. And
21 remediation is down.

22 Dr. Gledich, our superintendent, calls it,
23 "Adding value to the handshake as we help students prepare
24 for the world yet to be imagined." So congratulations to
25 the ICAP team from D11. We have Logan, Cory, Rob, Sandra,



1 and Julie, and Dan, who represent counselors and principals
2 from Russell and Holmes Middle School, and three
3 administrators from D11. And Dan, I believe you want to say
4 a few words.

5 MR. AJAMIAN: Well, first and foremost,
6 welcome to D11 Day up at the State Board of Education.

7 (Chuckling)

8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.

9 MR. AJAMIAN: What you'll also notice is that
10 it always takes a team effort to do any of these things and
11 to get them up and running for every child, all children in
12 every single district. So thank you for the award. We're
13 very humbled by it, and with that said, I would like to
14 introduce Sandy Watkins, who is a school counselor at Holmes
15 Middle School; her principal, Rob Utter; Logan Laszczyk, who
16 is our PWR, Postsecondary Workforce Readiness counselor, who
17 is available to us because of the school counseling Corps
18 Grant. The school counseling Corps Grant has been a
19 catalyst for us to implement this work and make sure that
20 it's effective for every single student who connects with
21 businesses.

22 And then, of course, we have Cory Notestine,
23 former School Counselor of the Year, National School
24 Counselor of the Year, and our Counseling Facilitator in



1 District 11, and Julie Johnson, the principal at Russell
2 Middle School.

3 So collaboratively, all of our work together
4 has made the ICAP effective, and we're very proud of that.
5 Thank you very much.

6 (Applause)

7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So I'd like to commend
8 all of you for your work in implementing the student career
9 and academic plans. You've demonstrated that working
10 together as school counselors, teachers, and parents and
11 students have successful impact on students, telling them
12 what they can achieve beyond high school. Please join me in
13 honoring these award winners, and then if you'll come
14 forward one school at a time, we'll get a picture. Thank
15 you.

16 (Applause)

17 (Pause)

18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Sure. Sure, sure. So
19 first, Leshar Middle School.

20 (Pause)

21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: All right, eight more.
22 Hold on. Just one sec.

23 (Pause)

24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No promises.

25 (Laughter)



1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'm a teacher, not a
2 photographer.

3 (Laughter)

4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Exactly. All right.
5 All right. All right. We're good.

6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'm sorry. I'm waiting
7 for somebody else, too. Not that I don't care about you,
8 but I have one assignment.

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Good. Gotcha.

10 (Chuckles) I know. That has a little bit to do with it.

11 (Chuckles) I know. They're like, perfectly done.

12 (Laughter)

13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Do I wait for you?

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'm Photoshopping ten.

15 (Chuckling)

16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay.

17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: One more. Today?

18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: She's the official one.

19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Did we do

20 (indiscernible)? Wait. Should we do a picture really
21 quick?

22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: What?

23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Should we do a picture
24 with everybody so coordinated?



1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, you should, yeah,
2 put that up on the Facebook and Twitter, saying...

3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Can you send this to
4 Ken?

5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah.

6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: This has happened
7 several times.

8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I love it.

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Joyce has a comment she
10 wants to make.

11 MS. RANKIN: This is Joyce Rankin, Board
12 Member Rankin, speaking. I just want to congratulate Ken
13 Haptonstall, superintendent from school -- Garfield School
14 District 16, and I want to let you know you were not in the
15 picture. We're going to try to Photoshop you in the
16 picture...

17 (Laughter)

18 MS. RANKIN: ... of myself and Commissioner
19 Anthes receiving your certificate. It'll be in the mail
20 today. Congratulations, Ken, and thank you for all you do
21 for Garfield School District 16.

22 (Applause)

23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay, okay. So folks,
24 we're going to make a couple of comments, and then we're



1 going to recess in order to go across the street to hear the
2 State of the State. We'll be back in session at 1:00?

3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mm-hmm. (Affirmative)

4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: At 1:00 today, but first
5 of all, Ms. Mazanec, you have a comment?

6 MS. MAZANEC: Yes, I failed to do this
7 yesterday. But National School Choice Week starts the week
8 of the 22nd, and there will be a rally at the Colorado
9 Capital. I can bring you all scarves.

10 (Chuckling)

11 MS. MAZANEC: On Thursday the 26th at 11:30,
12 and I hope to see everybody there supporting school choice
13 in Colorado.

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Great. Great. Thank
15 you, and if I may, I would like to provide some information
16 to my colleagues, which is that next Tuesday -- we got this
17 invitation kind of late -- next Tuesday, there will be a
18 Colorado ESSA Summit that is sponsored by a number of
19 education organizations in the front range. It will take
20 place at the Adams 12 Five Star School Conference Center,
21 which is in Thornton. You're going to receive a written
22 invitation. It goes from -- did we figure out -- 10:00 to
23 3:30. And you are all invited to attend. It will have lots
24 of teachers and principals. It's a great opportunity to
25 hear comments from the folks who are in the trenches. And



1 they will be talking about some of the -- I believe some of
2 the recommendations that have been coming out of the Spoke
3 Committees.

4 So I wanted to make sure you have that.
5 Sorry it's so late, but that's -- it just came to us quite
6 late. Jane, do you have a question?

7 MS. GOFF: Yes. Thanks. I wondered that --
8 is that intended to be a public meeting? Because it's out
9 in there as such.

10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, I think they
11 (indiscernible).

12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah. Help,
13 (indiscernible).

14 MS. ANTHES: Yes, Madam Chair. I think it's
15 not organized by us, so it's organized by the various
16 organizations, so I'm not sure what their registration
17 situation is. There's probably some space limits there.
18 But I think we haven't been in charge of the invitation, so
19 I'm not quite sure.

20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And actually, the
21 invitation is literally coming after the registration
22 deadline. However, since we received an invitation, I have
23 a hunch we will be welcome.



1 MS. GOFF: Well, the invitation, the
2 announcement and the invitation with the details has been
3 the public sphere for about two to three weeks.

4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Right. I received -

5 MS. GOFF: So would you (indiscernible) this?

6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I received one directly,
7 but I'm not sure The Board did. Just stumbling through
8 here. This came in -- this came to Denise yesterday.
9 Rebecca?

10 MS. FLORES: And how much does it cost?

11 MS. McCLELLAN: And I apologize. Could you
12 repeat the details just one time?

13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Sure. It's next Tuesday
14 from 10:00 to 3:30 in Thornton at the Adams 12 Five Star
15 Conference Center. And I think you have the invite right
16 there in front of you.

17 MS. McCLELLAN: Oh, thank you so much. I
18 apologize. You're right.

19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That should help. It's
20 not -- there's not an agenda on this invitation. I'm
21 guessing there might be an agenda with the times somewhere
22 online. Would you happen to know, Dr. Flores?

23 MS. ANTHES: I just don't know. I'm sorry.
24 I'm making a few comments towards the end, but since we're
25 not organizing it, I'm not quite sure about the details, so.



1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Same here. This might
2 be all we know.

3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Dr. Flores, did you have
5 a question?

6 MS. FLORES: No, I was just wondering about
7 the cost.

8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay. There is not a
9 cost. It's supported by these organizations.

10 MS. FLORES: Oh.

11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So I guess we're
12 recessing again?

13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mm-hmm. (Affirmative)

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Until 1:00.

15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mm-hmm. (Affirmative)
16 Yes.

17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you, folks. Oh,
18 you want me to hammer? Go ahead and hammer.

19 (Gavel bang)

20 (Chuckling)

21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We were going to head
22 over there at 10:30?

23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It says 10:15. Yeah.

24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Oh, that's when we
25 recess, so you're probably right.



1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So you shove us out the
2 door when it's time. Which means we walk around the
3 building, or we go in and... oh, that's right, yes. So we
4 don't have to go through security. Got it. I should find
5 my nametag to put on. They like it when you have a nametag
6 down there. They think you belong over there.

7 (Meeting recessed)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Kimberly C. McCright, Certified Electronic Transcriber, for the State of Colorado, 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

Verbatim Reporting & Transcription, LLC
1322 Space Park Drive, Suite C165
Houston, Texas 77058
281.724.8600