



COLORADO
Department of Education

Colorado State Board of Education

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
BEFORE THE
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMMISSION
DENVER, COLORADO
August 13, 2014, Part 3

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT on August 13, 2014,
the above-entitled meeting was conducted at the Colorado
Department of Education, before the following Board
Members:

Paul Lundeen (R), Chairman
Marcia Neal (R), Vice Chairman
Elaine Gantz Berman (D)
Jane Goff (D)
Pam Mazanec (R)
Debora Scheffel (R)
Angelika Schroeder (D)



1 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: State Board will come
2 back to order. The next item on our agenda this
3 afternoon is recognition of seven of Colorado's
4 outstanding art students. Mr. Commissioner?

5 MR. HAMMOND: Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Keep in mind, you're
7 speaking internationally now.

8 MR. HAMMOND: Thank you.

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (indiscernible)

10 MR. HAMMOND: Yeah, that I don't,
11 unfortunately. But anyway, at this point I'd like to
12 invite Liz Burke (ph) who is here and is going to help us
13 with the presentation today. The current Colorado Art
14 Education of the Year from Normandy Elementary School in
15 Jefferson County Schools to come to the podium, and she's
16 going to help present, as I said, the awards today. So
17 (indiscernible).

18 MS. BURKE: Thank you. I'm honored to be
19 here today, to be asked to celebrate the student artist
20 who epitomize the talent and commitment of hundreds of
21 art students throughout our state. I've had the
22 privilege of teaching art for the past 26 years, and in
23 Colorado since 1996. What I continually marvel at with
24 my students, is their unlimited abilities to stretch and
25 extend their unlimited -- their thinking in our studio



1 classrooms. We really get to see the full cycle of depth
2 of knowledge in action from the initial concrete level of
3 teaching a specific artistic technique, to the highest
4 level of creating, where students literally design and
5 create something unique and never seen before.

6 One of my first graders said it perfectly
7 when I asked them: What is art? And they replied: Art
8 is exercising your fingers and your imagination. I think
9 that really captures the excitement and creativity I have
10 the distinct honor to witness each and every day.

11 We have seven multi-talented students to
12 celebrate today, and it is my privilege to introduce each
13 one of them to you. This recognition has become an
14 annual tradition through the collaborative partnership
15 established with our congressional representatives in
16 providing their second and third place award-winning
17 artwork from the 2014 Congressional Art Show competition
18 to be housed here at the Department of Education for one
19 year.

20 First I would like to introduce Ms. Anna
21 Lee Fan (ph) from the First Congressional District.
22 Anna?

23 (Applause)

24 MS. FAN: Okay, so good afternoon
25 everyone. So this is my drawing, the title of it is



1 Still Life, because it's a still life. I didn't really
2 have a specific title for it or anything. So I made this
3 is one of my art classes; it was actually a warmup
4 project before we started our other ones. Because you
5 know, like, it's just shading and very kind of basic
6 things. So it's like a start to everything else. So how
7 I drew this was that our classroom, the desks were
8 arranged in a square, and in the middle of that square
9 was a table with different objects on it. And so I had
10 to draw whatever I saw from my perspective, from where I
11 was sitting, and this is what I saw.

12 So one of the challenges that I came
13 across while I was drawing this was that I had to make
14 sure everything was proportional to each other. I wanted
15 it to look as realistic as possible, so proportion was
16 definitely important to me. And how I came across that
17 challenge was that I would compare the object's height
18 and width with each other. Like, if one object was
19 taller than the other, I would see how much taller it was
20 than the other object and I would draw accordingly.

21 Another challenge that I came across was
22 how to make each individual object stand out. And that
23 was hard with this, because I shaded and drew everything
24 with a pencil, so everything is the same color. You
25 know, so if I didn't shade it right, everything would



1 look very flat, and all the objects would look blended
2 together. So I came across that challenge by making sure
3 that each object -- I shaded each object with very
4 different color values so that you can tell them apart
5 very easily. And if you look closely, I also left lines
6 -- like, white spaces on lines between each object that
7 looked like they were touching, so that they would kind
8 of pop out at you more, as opposed to if it was just
9 straight on black lines. And then I added highlights or
10 white spots wherever it was needed, or where the light
11 hit at the objects, so that you know, they just looked
12 more three dimensional and more real. So yeah, that's my
13 still life drawing.

14 (Applause)

15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.

16 MS. FAN: Thank you.

17 MS. BURKE: Thank you, Anna. Next is Mr.
18 Chandler Call from the 2nd Congressional District. He was
19 unable to attend today, however I will read his
20 statements that he wrote, and Bizy will hold up his art
21 work. Thank you, Bizy.

22 Chandler's statement reads, "For a period
23 of time, I was inspired by the emotions and facial
24 characteristics of the homeless people. I focused on
25 capturing their emotion that they were feeling. I found



1 a photographer, Lee Jefferies, who finds homeless people
2 and photographs their portraits to see their emotion.
3 This is what inspired me. I found a couple photos of his
4 that I loved, so I decided to draw them. My Hands of
5 Sadness charcoal drawing is one of those.

6 I love the simple emotion of the woman I
7 was portraying, and can be conveyed into different means.
8 I tried to fade her out into the background to show how
9 homeless people in today's society are overlooked and
10 hidden from everyday life. Her hands are shown to me how
11 she is willing to work, but necessarily isn't given the
12 chance to do so. The overall mood I was trying to show
13 is how even though they are seen as lesser than everyone
14 else, they are just like us. They are trying to get by
15 and will do anything to do so, to make a life for
16 themselves." Chandler Call.

17 (Applause)

18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible)

19 MS. BURKE: Second Congressional District;
20 was that your question?

21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: What year in school?

22 MS. BURKE: In school. Oh. Pardon me.

23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Senior, he was a
24 senior.

25 MS. BURKE: Senior.



1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: At what school? At
2 what school?

3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It doesn't say the
4 school here.

5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Pouter High School,
6 sorry.

7 MS. BURKE: Next, Mr. Ryan Maestes (ph)
8 from the 3rd Congressional District. Ryan?

9 MR. MAESTES: Well, I chose to title my
10 work Mouthy, and I chose to title it that because when
11 you're looking at it, the mouth is what really stands out
12 to you. And basically what you're looking at is a
13 mirror-image of the print and it's from a way called
14 Relief Printing. So all the white are the spots that you
15 carve away and what you do is you get this piece called a
16 gouge and you scrape away each individual line and you
17 make it stand out.

18 So when doing that, you gotta -- you have
19 the challenges of making sure each line is the same as
20 how you put it on the linoleum tile piece. And you run
21 it through a printing press, which I have the fortune of
22 having the Venteto (ph) open press in (indiscernible),
23 it's a non-profit organization that helps art students
24 come in and teaches them. And they helped me work on
25 this, because it was a project with my school. They let



1 me use their gouges because I wasn't able to do this the
2 day the class was -- had gone to do it.

3 The -- I chose to make her lips pink,
4 because it's -- I don't know, it's kind of pin-up style
5 to me and I'm interested in the style of pin-ups and they
6 used a real bright lipstick and that's why I chose that.

7 And I'm from Centennial High School.

8 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Thank you, Ryan.

9 MS. NEAL: Thank you.

10 (Applause)

11 MS. BURKE: Next is Mr. Trevor Seymour,
12 4th Congressional District.

13 MR. SEYMOUR: Visual arts has always been
14 a part of my life growing up. From starting as a kid,
15 doodling on notes and worksheets in middle school while
16 looking up to my brother's small sketches, all the way to
17 being in high school and pushing my artistic talents in
18 preparation for a career in the visual arts field. After
19 seeing the growth that I've made with a piece, or a
20 series of pieces, I'm encouraged to work harder to expand
21 that growth. That is the exact reason I make my art.
22 However, I also create it in hopes that others will enjoy
23 it whether it's because they are influenced, encouraged,
24 or simply think that the piece is visually intriguing. I
25 really love how being an artist has enabled me to



1 document my progress as an artist. Like I said before,
2 seeing that makes me want to work even harder in the
3 future.

4 I was inspired by an artist that I ran
5 across in a random Google image search. Therefore, I do
6 not recall the name, but they had taken photos of
7 landscapes and added simple shapes over the center of it,
8 and then flipped the landscape where that shape had laid.
9 I found it interesting, so I tried it with text instead.
10 I actually tried it with several different pictures
11 before I got one with a map. I tried with different
12 landscapes, but it just didn't seem to fit as well. I
13 created this piece completely using Adobe Photoshop. I -
14 - actually it was quite a simple process, when looking
15 back at it.

16 I first took a picture of a ruffled
17 Colorado map, then overlaid the letters on top, flipped
18 the image where the letters were, adding a few lighting
19 adjustments and there it was. The difficult part during
20 the process was determining what part of the map I should
21 use, what lighting adjustments I should make, the font of
22 the text, whether or not to even use the image of the
23 world in the background that I overlaid. The idea to
24 draw the roots to the camp on it, if you look close, even
25 getting the map, et cetera. But trust me, looking back



1 on it, it's a simple process.

2 My piece is titled Move in hopes that it
3 will simply get viewers to do just that. I view the
4 words "Go" and "Move" as encouraging words that promote
5 progress. So in whatever instance that it may be, I
6 would like everybody to think of a time that growth is
7 necessary, and work upon that. Thank you.

8 MS. NEAL: Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And what high school?

11 MR. SEYMORE: I graduated Roosevelt High
12 School, I'm going to UNC in the fall.

13 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: And now we shrink the
14 world down to size.

15 MS. BURKE: Yes, we do. Next is Ms.
16 Annette Tenforth (ph), I hope I said that correctly,
17 Annette. Congressional District -- she's from the 5th
18 Congressional District. Annette was an exchange student
19 last year and has returned to Norway. We are thrilled
20 that she's able to share her statement with us via
21 webcam. Annette?

22 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Annette, can you hear
23 us? Do you want to make a statement?

24 MS. TENFORTH: Yes, I can hear you now.
25 My (indiscernible) won't turn on for a second. So yeah,



1 I came to Colorado as an exchange student and I got a
2 really good teacher. He said that one of our projects
3 was to make a self-portrait. So that is what I've done.
4 It took about two months. (indiscernible) and I really
5 like to draw, I like to paint and it turned out good, I
6 think. So thank you very much for the award.

7 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Thank you for sharing
8 your art with us. We're going to display it here in our
9 Board Room for the next year.

10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Is this a self-
11 portrait?

12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes.

13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It is a self-
14 portrait. Okay. I didn't quite hear. So how did you
15 like the American educational experience?

16 MS. TENFORTH: It's been very fun. I
17 learned a lot more within art than what I did here,
18 because we don't (indiscernible) as much of it. So I got
19 a really good education within the arts in Colorado.

20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And where did you go
21 to high school here?

22 MS. TENFORTH: I went to a Charter
23 Academy, the -- what's it called -- Vanguard?

24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Vanguard?

25 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Sure, Vanguard Charter



1 Academy in Colorado Springs.

2 MS. TENFORTH: Yes.

3 MS. NEAL: Yes.

4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Wonderful, we look --
5 we'd love to come visit you.

6 MS. NEAL: Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Thank you and
8 congratulations.

9 (Applause)

10 MS. BURKE: And last -- the last of the
11 students who could be with -- couldn't be with us today.
12 Well, could be with us today, is Sophia -- I'm sorry,
13 Sophia -- Sophia Coney from 6th Congressional District.
14 Sophia?

15 MS. CONEY: Hello.

16 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Welcome.

17 MS. CONEY: So the title of this piece is
18 Astro Projection. I was hoping to give the piece a
19 literal and more concise title that can illustrate the
20 subject matter more properly. The face in the
21 foreground, as you can see, is the astral body itself,
22 and the dreamscape in the background is the astral plane.
23 The artwork details an original character that I named,
24 called Opany (ph), which is -- her name is derived from
25 Blackfoot Indian dialect meaning "butterfly". I just



1 thought it sounded amazing.

2 Anyway, Opany's astral body is the effigy
3 of her soul and I wanted to represent that on a
4 dreamscape that introduces elements of astral projection
5 such as planetary astrology. Each planet, as it's been
6 known, is interpreted differently aside from our own
7 earth, so I had free reign and liberty over what that
8 might entail or look like.

9 During the piece, I actually learned a
10 strong sense of the value of contrast; not only through
11 artistic elements, but I actually learned it through the
12 color pallet itself. For instance, I wanted to
13 incorporate the anthesis of traditional and futuristic.
14 Opany is implied to be wearing a traditional Native
15 American garb, yet is -- has biomechanical aspects about
16 her. The picture predominantly features warm color hills
17 unfettered by technology; however in the distance, you
18 can quite clearly see a city prominent against the bright
19 colors, because it's black and gray. And this is
20 precisely why I outlined Opany in cyan, to really
21 accentuate the point.

22 Let me see here. There's no inherent
23 message to any work that I've ever done, just merely
24 something to be representative to my mood. Which when I
25 was creating this piece, I was feeling calm at the time.



1 Hence, cooler colors and whatnot. The piece was done
2 exclusively in colored pencil. It's -- I'm an advocate
3 of the medium and whatnot. And I decided to use colored
4 pencil because I'm fairly experienced with the use, and
5 it's not a medium prevalently used in the art as context.

6 The medium allows for use of a plethora of
7 colors not easily accessible to other types of mediums,
8 so I felt it was a lot easier to work with. And this was
9 one of my goals in fact; I wanted to convey that the
10 colors are the most important aspect of the artwork. I
11 believe I was actually quite successful, considering that
12 it goes quite cohesively with the black and gray aspects
13 of the artwork itself.

14 In conclusion, it's actually one of my
15 favorite pieces, because it's one of my most original
16 concepts. And I kind of understand that I have to use
17 originality to basically compete with artists with better
18 technical skills than myself.

19 (Applause)

20 MS. CONEY: Oh, I actually just graduated
21 from Rangeview High School and I'm going to be going to
22 community college Aurora.

23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Great.

24 (Applause)

25 MS. BURKE: I also have the -- thank you,



1 Bizy. I also have the artwork of Mr. Austin Skirkland
2 (ph), 7th Congressional District, who was unable to attend
3 or provide a statement due to vacation. It's a lovely
4 piece. I'm not sure what high school he is.

5 MS. NEAL: What high school? Oh, you
6 didn't --

7 MS. BURKE: It doesn't say on the --

8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It doesn't say, but
9 it's (indiscernible).

10 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: It is a Grand Canyon.

11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Very nice.

12 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Well, excellent. On
13 behalf of the Board, I would like to thank and
14 congratulate all the artists here, and Annette, you in
15 Norway as well. It's very rewarding for the State Board
16 to hear from students such as yourselves and see the work
17 that you're doing. And we are especially grateful that
18 you're willing to lend it to us for a year. Our wall
19 over here is very blank right now. And this tradition
20 we've had over the last couple of years of sharing
21 wonderful art work like this is -- is very nice for us
22 and we're grateful you're willing to share with us.

23 So on behalf of us all, I would like to
24 say congratulations, and thank you. And I would also
25 like to acknowledge the parents that are here with us and



1 your parent who may not be able to be with us as well. I
2 know that they offer encouragement and support as you
3 work through your academic and artistic skill development
4 So congratulations and thanks to the parents as well.

5 So now let's do a round of picture taking
6 and award presentation. We'll run mathematically one to
7 seven and if the artists and if their parents would like
8 to join them, would come down here in the front, we'll
9 call the Board Members up, and the Commissioner will
10 stand with you. We'll get a picture and we'll just cycle
11 through.

12 So the 1st Congressional District, Anna Lee
13 Fan.

14 (Pause for pictures)

15 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: And Annette, if you
16 stay in place, we'll get a picture with (indiscernible -
17 audio cut) An artistic round of applause for all.

18 (Applause)

19 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Thank you all so very
20 much.

21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And I think that
22 Carol wanted everyone to know that pictures will be
23 emailed. Is that correct? Okay.

24 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: So we'll email the
25 pictures, except the one going to Norway, and we're going



1 to send that by a slow boat, right?

2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay, great, thank
3 you.

4 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Thank you very much.
5 Now what have I done with my agenda?

6 MS. NEAL: Here it is.

7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It said that -- it
8 says that their predictions came in more than 60 percent
9 below. I mean, their actual revenue came out 60 percent
10 (indiscernible -- multiple speakers)

11 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Next item on the agenda
12 is recognition of Colorado's 2014 Green Ribbon Schools
13 award winners. Mr. Commissioner?

14 MR. HAMMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chair. As we
15 acknowledge the award winners for 2014, the Green Ribbon
16 Schools again this year, I'll turn it over to Keith Owen
17 for the presentation.

18 MR. OWEN: Mr. Chair, or Madam Chair --
19 Vice Chair. Good afternoon. The recognitions will
20 continue and we're excited to talk a little bit about the
21 Green Ribbon Schools and districts that we're going to be
22 honoring for 2014.

23 The U.S. Department of Education Green
24 Ribbon Schools honors America's public schools and
25 private schools at the elementary, middle and high school



1 level for their efforts toward improving student health,
2 achievement and reducing their environmental impact. A
3 Green Ribbon School Award represents a healthy and
4 sustainable school or district recognized by parents,
5 students, staff and governments of federal, state and
6 local levels, as an exemplary model of achievement,
7 sustainability, health, and environmental education.

8 Today we are proud to honor three schools
9 and one district from Colorado that have achieved Green
10 Ribbon School status in 2014. They are among only 48
11 schools and nine districts nationally to receive this
12 recognition this year.

13 First we will recognize Mesa Elementary
14 School via video conference, and I can see superintendent
15 Alex Carter there on the screen, so that's great. And
16 one of the things that -- and I think he has some other
17 staff joining him that when they have a chance to talk,
18 I'll let you introduce. As you know, Mesa Verde -- Mesa
19 Elementary School is located in the shadow of Mesa Verde.
20 It's part of the Montezuma School -- Cortez School
21 district. It's nestled amongst historic landmarks and
22 Native American reservations.

23 The district identifies itself as a
24 community that's rooted in family, tribe and tradition.
25 On Earth Day, 2009, Mesa's kindergartener launched a



1 service learning project that focused on recycled paper
2 in the school. Word of mouth helped expand the project
3 and the community friends pitched in to help. The
4 appearance of a big green dumpster in the parking lot put
5 Mesa at the forefront of paper recycling for the
6 district.

7 In addition, Mesa is in it's third year of
8 working cooperatively with McKinstry energy efficiency
9 contractor to address energy education and operational
10 optimization. The campaign spearheaded by this
11 organization have challenged students and staff to
12 continually assess, audit, and address energy and
13 resource consumption at school and at home. And we are
14 also joined by three of the other award winners that are
15 here in person and I'll go through and briefly describe
16 each of those as well.

17 I'd like to talk a little bit now about
18 Larkspur Elementary in Douglas County. Larkspur
19 Elementary has received district innovation funds to
20 implement an environment based education program over the
21 next three years. The program, Environment Is
22 Integrating Context, or EIC, is a nationally recognized
23 vehicle for improving student's learning through engaging
24 them and community-based investigations, which result in
25 student-led service learning projects.



1 Larkspur has instituted a large-scale
2 recycling and composting program making daily
3 measurements of the number of bags of recycling and
4 pounds of compost the school is diverting. In
5 (indiscernible), the school has reduced landfill barrel
6 waste by 47 percent. In addition, the school started a
7 school community e-waste and textile recycling program,
8 reducing the school's community landfill waste stream and
9 earning money for students. The school installed a
10 water-bottle refill station, which keeps students
11 hydrated and has diverted over 2000 bottles of -- plastic
12 bottles from the landfill.

13 The next school is Leshar Middle School in
14 Poudre School District. They've made a commitment to
15 sustainability in five areas: Resource conservation,
16 greenhouse gas emissions, education for sustainability,
17 transportation, and health and wellness. This commitment
18 dates back to the fall of 1960 when the school opened as
19 a state-of-the-art representation of an international
20 school designed on ten acres on the side of a former
21 Colorado State University farm. More recently, in the
22 fall of 2006, Leshar completed a 3.7 million dollar
23 remodeling, (indiscernible) mill levy.

24 Few schools are as well designed and as
25 efficient as this 54 year old building and Energy Star



1 award recipient 2005. And every year from 2008 through
2 2013. It a school that maximizes its limited square
3 footage to create a healthy learning and work environment
4 for 750 students and 75 staff members. Leshar Middle
5 School strives to improve student's health and staff
6 health, reduce it's impact on the environment and
7 promotes sustainability education throughout the school.

8 And lastly is our district that is
9 represented. Boulder Valley School District is building
10 on a 20-plus year of environmental stewardship and
11 embracing environmental sustainability to new level. The
12 district created a sustainability (indiscernible) system
13 in 2008-2009. In doing this, Boulder was able to
14 coordinate existing health efforts and to define goals
15 and vision around sustainability at a district level for
16 the first time.

17 Some specific highlights of the districts
18 were -- include a 34 percent decrease in water use since
19 2008, and an 18 percent decline in energy use since 2010.
20 The district has expanded renewable energy technologies
21 from five schools and facilities, to over 28, and has
22 offset more than 3500 metric tons of carbon. Half of
23 Boulder Valley School District schools are now composting
24 school-wide, and all schools recycle paper and in our co-
25 mingled containers.



1 Boulder Valley School District has
2 completely revamped the food service programs that they
3 serve, to highlight and support healthier choices, local
4 and organic foods, and is one of 72 districts in the
5 nation to receive a USDA (indiscernible) school grant.

6 In September the U.S. Department of
7 Education will be coming to tour and celebrate Colorado's
8 exceptional green building sites. And we hope that some
9 of you will be able to join us. I will now introduce
10 each of our sites to say a few words, and we'll start
11 with a video conference with Superintendent Alex Carter.

12 MR. CARTER: Hi, Board, can you hear me?

13 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: We can, Alex, hello.

14 MR. CARTER: (Indiscernible). I just want
15 to thank the Board and Commissioner Hammond and Deputy
16 Commissioner Owen for (indiscernible) a couple minutes
17 here today. You know what's special about
18 (indiscernible) is that, you know, we're one of the
19 lowest funded school districts in Colorado, so there was
20 actually zero dollars that were put into this.

21 (Indiscernible) 100 percent earned through hard work and
22 the mission of the people. And I'm privileged to sit
23 next to two of those people who really deserve 100
24 percent of the credit toward (indiscernible) National
25 Green Ribbon Award, and that's my incredible colleague,



1 Katie Umberger (ph), who (indiscernible) high school, and
2 Kate Lee one of our lead teachers. So I'm going to step
3 aside and let these heroes talk about this a bit.

4 MS. UMBERGER: Thank you, Board, for
5 recognizing us today, I'm Principal Katie Umberger. And
6 I have just extraordinary staff and students
7 (indiscernible) project and part of it was students and
8 staff going out to the community and getting support from
9 there, and I want to publicly recognize five of those
10 community supports. And that is the McKinstry Energy
11 Efficiency Contractor, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, San
12 Juan Mountains Association, Four Corners Recycling
13 Initiative and the Dolores Public Lands Office. And
14 thanks to their support, we were able to accomplish our
15 goals this last year. And it's my honor to introduce the
16 person who started the whole thing, and that's an
17 extraordinary educator at my school, Kate Lee.

18 MS. LEE: Hi, how is everybody? Thank you
19 for having us. We're just thrilled to be a part of this.
20 My administrators here beside me are -- have been so
21 supportive and proactive with our efforts for this award.

22 The partnership Katie spoke of has really
23 enabled these students to take to heart the importance of
24 environmental stewardship, as well as cultural and
25 archeological preservation. (indiscernible) really was a



1 village effort. They give me way too much credit. But I
2 think the most important village members that need to be
3 recognized are our students. They have really led the
4 charge and once McKinstry got it's (indiscernible) three
5 years ago, they really have taken the idea of changing
6 behaviors to heart. And take ownership in it.

7 And the most powerful thing that I have
8 experienced is that they take these behaviors that
9 they've learned home with them, so they share with family
10 and friends and neighbors what you need to do. Make sure
11 you are turning off the water, turning out the lights.
12 They get on me if I don't turn off the lights
13 (indiscernible) computer. We had a first grade teacher
14 who, one of her students said, you know, my parents just
15 won't turn off the water, what can we do? So
16 collaboratively, they wrote a persuasive letter to that
17 family (indiscernible) what you can do and why, because
18 we are stewards of the planet.

19 There is a bumper sticker that says:
20 Think locally, and act locally, (indiscernible). Our
21 students truly are acting locally and thinking locally
22 and they (indiscernible) to do more. They are really
23 taking part in service learning projects that they have
24 been involved in, which includes two years ago, they
25 raised funds to help (indiscernible) tsunami areas



1 (indiscernible) and recently the flooding areas in
2 Northern Colorado, and most recently they raised funds to
3 adopt (indiscernible) who were involved in the oil spill
4 in South Africa. (loss of connection) They really are
5 our greatest champions for saving the planet.

6 We thank you so much for the time that you
7 have given us to acknowledge their efforts and the fact
8 that they are thinking and acting globally, and locally,
9 it's very heartening. Thank you.

10 MR. CARTER: (Indiscernible) 100 percent.
11 One hundred percent of the credit that she gives and
12 more. She's an amazing teacher.

13 MR. OWEN: Thank you to your team, we
14 appreciate it. (Indiscernible)

15 (Applause)

16 MR. OWEN: Up next we have Ms. Chattel
17 Estes (ph) from Larkspur Elementary, which is in Douglas
18 County School District, if you want to come to the
19 podium?

20 MS. ESTES: Yes, thank you so much. And
21 good afternoon, Board, thank you so much for having us
22 here today and honoring what great work our students and
23 teachers are doing. This is our principal, Cory Moore,
24 and I just want to introduce him. He has -- what did you
25 call it -- inherited the Green Ribbon award. So we're



1 excited to teach him everything we're doing about
2 environment-based education and get him on board.

3 So I just wanted to say, over the past few
4 years I've really noticed this perfect storm of
5 opportunity, community partners, and also just great
6 opportunity for kids to learn about sustainability in
7 ways that they have never been able to before. And we're
8 living it out in Larkspur. So it's exciting, our little
9 school in the woods. The kids are going outside every
10 single day, and we're reaping all these different
11 benefits of just taking the kids outside for an
12 instructional block every day. We notice that our health
13 room visits have decreased. In years prior we've had 600
14 visits, and last year we had 400 visits to the health
15 room. So kids are engaged.

16 Our community partners have purchased
17 indoor aeroponic gardens for our kids to use during the
18 winter when it's not growing season. So there are so
19 many great things. Girls are getting interested in
20 sustainable careers, which it -- being a woman of
21 science, I love that opportunity for our kids. So I just
22 wanted to say, thank you so much for giving us this time
23 to honor what hard work our kids and teachers are doing.
24 Thank you.

25 (Applause)



1 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Thank you,
2 congratulations.

3 MR. OWEN: Next up, if we could have
4 principal Tom Dodd from Leshar Middle School in Poudre
5 School District come forward?

6 MR. DODD: Thank you, I'll go with what my
7 colleagues from Larkspur said; I appreciate the
8 opportunity to come down here to the Board Meeting and be
9 recognized. I'm with two outstanding teachers myself:
10 Joe Dickson is a health and physical education teacher at
11 Leshar; Allison Pearce is a English Language arts teacher
12 at Leshar. They accompanied me to Washington back on
13 July 22nd for the ceremony along with a math teacher, Rob
14 Brachers (ph), who couldn't be here today to -- to kind
15 of get excited about the work we're doing and recognize
16 the work for all of our staff.

17 It's these folks and a lot of folks back
18 at our building worked really hard to put the pieces in
19 place to really teach the whole child and look at our
20 wellness programs and look at our environmental education
21 in our classrooms, as well as our -- our -- reducing our
22 impacts environmentally on our building.

23 Poudre School District has a long history
24 of prioritizing green building practices. When we build
25 a new school up in Poudre School District, which serves



1 the Fort Collins area, they really try to do it right and
2 look at effective -- building an effective environment
3 that's conducive to high levels of learning. But not
4 just new schools, we also work hard to take an old school
5 like ours and keep it as -- as conducive, like I said, to
6 high quality education as we can. We were built in 1960,
7 as was mentioned in the introductory comments. We've
8 been around a little while. But we've really worked hard
9 --

10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Hey now, it's not
11 that long ago.

12 MR. DODD: Well, it's not, you're right,
13 it's not. But in Fort Collins, we're one of the older
14 schools and with a very diverse population -- the most
15 diverse population. We have about 42 percent of our
16 students qualify for free and reduced lunch eligibility
17 support. About 28 percent of our students have gifted
18 and talented identifications. About 35 percent identify
19 with a minority group. And we work really hard at the
20 whole child piece.

21 And our wellness practices, led by a lot
22 of our teachers, largely Ms. Dixon; we've done 3K's,
23 we've done adventure races, we've -- we've -- we've even
24 given out pedometers to our staff on TCAP administration
25 time to encourage active proctoring and count steps and



1 create incentives around it. We've had Biggest Loser
2 competitions for our staffs around weight loss and we try
3 to make it fun, just like we do with our kids, to -- to
4 get kids active.

5 We've -- you won't find a trash bin in our
6 building that's not next to a single stream recycling
7 bin. We've worked really hard at our hot composting
8 program where we divert about 65 percent of our waste
9 from the landfill. We've partnered up with a lot of
10 local area opportunities like the Fort Collins utilities
11 and program in various Colorado State University
12 departments to bring guest speakers in to talk about some
13 of our practices.

14 We've created a sustainable leadership
15 program at Leshler. Ms. Pearce actually leads a group
16 called The Global Explorers in the Southwest Four Corners
17 area, not too far down there from Mesa. And they raft
18 the San Juan River, learn about the flora and fauna of
19 the area, and do a service project on the Navajo
20 Reservation.

21 So the Green Ribbon School's three pillars
22 are something that we've really -- like, Larkspur and
23 Mesa, and Boulder Valley, and it's been a pleasure
24 meeting some of our colleagues from the state in this
25 process. We've really tried to live in our building,



1 both students and staff. So thanks for that recognition.
2 I appreciate the opportunity to kind of represent our
3 awesome staff and students who are working hard to do the
4 right thing. Thank you.

5 (Applause)

6 MR. OWEN: And lastly we have Ms. Guida
7 Carol (ph) from Boulder Valley School District.

8 MS. CAROL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
9 Commissioner Hammond, and State Board of Education for
10 hosting us here today. And for the endorsement of all of
11 our applications forward. The Boulder Valley School
12 District is honored to be here and to have been selected
13 for the recognition of U.S. Department of Education, the
14 Green Ribbon Program.

15 As a district, we are long time supporters
16 of integrating sustainability into our operations in
17 education. Healthy schools are crucial for healthy
18 children and a healthy planet. And while BVSD still has
19 work to do to achieve our long term visions of
20 sustainability for the district such as net zero energy
21 capable buildings and zero waste best practices at all of
22 our sites, we are proud of all we as a community have
23 accomplished to date.

24 The sustainability work in our schools
25 would not be possible without the support and



1 collaboration of so many people, including the parents
2 and the students biking to school every day, working to
3 create and maintain gardens. Teacher supporting
4 sustainability in the curriculum. Food services staff
5 providing healthy meals with local and organic offerings
6 to our students. Custodians and maintenance acting as
7 champions for efficiency, and integrative best --
8 integrative best management, best practices. And the
9 district leadership and community partners supporting
10 this important work every day.

11 We have so many partners; I couldn't even
12 begin to name them all. This recognition will help
13 continue to build momentum for more great work in the
14 future by the BVSD community. We've met most of our five
15 year goals around sustainability and working on a plan
16 for the next five years. We want to lead by example and
17 create healthy learning environments for our students and
18 give them the tools they need to create a sustainable
19 future. Thank you very much.

20 (Applause)

21 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Well, congratulations
22 all, on behalf of the Board. Thank you for leading by
23 example. We appreciate what you're doing to inspire
24 others to move in a positive direction both in schools
25 and in the districts. It's time for pictures. Shall we



1 start with the -- the screen? Alex, keep your crew
2 together, we're going to get a picture here.

3 (Pause for pictures, indiscernible -- multiple people
4 speaking at once)

5 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Larkspur Elementary, if
6 you folks want to come up front here.

7 (Pause for pictures, indiscernible -- multiple people
8 speaking at once)

9 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Leshar Middle School?

10 (Pause for pictures, indiscernible -- multiple people
11 speaking at once)

12 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: And Boulder Valley.

13 (Pause for pictures, indiscernible -- multiple people
14 speaking at once)

15 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Let's have a round of
16 applause for our Green Ribbon Schools.

17 (Applause)

18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: The meeting is now
19 over, all the participants (indiscernible) --

20 (Applause and cheers)

21 (Indiscernible -- multiple speakers)

22 CHAIRMAN LUNDEEN: Well, we're not going
23 to that yet because we've got this charting authority,
24 which is time. And it's set for -- we've actually got
25 five minutes. Let's take a -- Deb is out of the room



1 anyway, so we're missing a Board Member. So we'll take a
2 two minute break.

3 (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 April, 2019.

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

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