

# Reform slate takes race

## Tough battle for schools ends with voters' decision

### Staff report

Candidates favoring the current direction of the reform-oriented Douglas County School Board won all four races, after months of heated electioneering on both sides.

Unofficial results released at 11 p.m. Election Day showed the closest race

was in District E, where incumbent Doug Benevento led challenger Bill Hodges 51.9 percent to 48.1 percent, with a margin of 3,615 votes separating them.

In District B, Jim Geddes led 52.6 percent to 47.4 percent over Barbara Chase.

In District D, Judi Reynolds held a 52 percent to 48 percent lead over Julie Kettm.

In District G, incumbent Meghan Siverthorn held a 53.5 percent lead over Ronda Schlotting's 46.5 percent.

In each race, about 95,000 votes were counted, with a possibility of a few thou-

sand more remaining to be tallied.

Reynolds, who was at a vote-watch gathering at the Fowl Line sports bar in Castle Rock, was looking forward to serving her four-year term. "The majority of people like the way things are headed and want to see them implemented," she said.

Benevento saw a mandate in the re-



sults. "The voters elected a slate of candidates who have articulated a clear point of view of where it is we want to go. So we are going to move in that direction and talk to people and listen. Clearly there are a lot of voters who feel the other way and we need to understand that," he said.

"The voters have elected four candidates who believe in parental choice and who believe in performance pay. It's a very

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日本人高校生がキャスルビュー高校に到着し、挨拶をする様子 (10月30日)

## 日本人高校生、キャスルビュー高校訪問

洪水により計画変更をすることになった日本人高校生の受け入れ校に、キャスルビュー高校は名乗りをあげる。

訪問予定であったポールダー高校が洪水の被害に遭った時、9名の日本人高校生は自分達のアメリカ訪問が中止の危機的状況であったのを感じました。しかし、日本語プログラムのある高校探しが始まった時、9名はキャスルビュー高校、そして、世界言語教諭のソア・チェセス氏へと導かれました。事態の好転です。

「我々は日本語を教えている高校を見つける必要性がありました。そういう高校があるのと無いのでは全然違います。」と、山本英明氏は言います。山本氏は毎年行われる土幌高校のアメリカ訪問のとりまとめ役であるイリー市在住です。「ソアと連絡が取れた時、ほっとしました。

これまでのアメリカの高校の先生と比べても、希望の持てるとても具体的に詳細なプランを提示してくれました。」

チェセス教諭は今回の状況をこのように見えています。「ポールダーの洪水は我々ダグラス学区にとっては新たな進展であった」と。

「今回の土幌高校の訪問は私達にとってとても喜ばしいことです。」とチェセス氏は言います。

10月30日、土幌高校の9名の生徒と引率教諭はキャスルビュー高校に到着し、ここで4日間(実際には5日間)を過ごしました。それぞれ日中はキャスルビューの生徒と共に過ごし、夕方以降はホストファミリーと共に過ごしました。

土幌高校の紙田清教諭と生徒はキャスルビュー高校の盛大な歓迎に驚きました。土幌高校一行が車輪付きのスーツケースを押しながら学校の図書室へ入ると、キャスルビュー高校の生徒はkonnichiwaの日本語とお辞儀で一行を迎えました。

紙田教諭は「温かい歓迎にとっても感動しました。また、キャスルビュー高校にこんなにも大勢の生徒(1000人以上)がいたとは驚きです。土幌高校は小規模校なので。」と話します。

土幌は人口約7000人の農業の町で、土幌高校には約1600人の生徒しかいません。

土幌高校の生徒は、様々な場面でアメリカの生活習慣に驚いている様子です。

「飲み物のサイズがとても大きいです。」と話すのは安楽涼くん。

「トイレにある手を拭くための紙が自動的に出てきました。すくひっくりしました。」とは吉田豪君。

「ゴミの分別はしないのでしょうか。」と観察するのは早川耕太郎君。

更に、日本のほとんどの高校では制服着用が義務付けられています。また、化粧やアクセサリー等の着用も禁止されていると紙田教諭は話します。

これら様々な違いがあるにも関わらず、土幌高校の生徒はアメリカの高校にすぐに順応している様子でした。

## Castle Rock road project gets moving

### North Meadows Extension will add connection to I-25

#### By Virginia Grantier

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Construction officially began with an Oct. 29 groundbreaking for what Castle Rock officials are calling the town's largest road construction project ever — a two-mile-long road, costing about \$65 million, that will give The Meadows subdivision, which is west of Interstate 25, another way to get to I-25.

It's expected the new road will take off about half of the traffic now using Meadows Parkway to and from the Founders Parkway Interchange with I-25, says Dan Sailer, project manager and Castle Rock's assistant director of public works.

The new road will be located about a mile north of Meadows Parkway. It will begin where North Meadows Drive currently ends, near Castle View High School in The Meadows, and continue all the way west to I-25. It's a complex project involving among other things the construction of two interchanges and two bridges, and the involvement of the Federal Highway Administration, Sailer said.

But growth is requiring that it be undertaken now, he said. Meadows Parkway is a stretch of road that's currently stretched — as that's now a main access point for commuters and factory outlets shoppers.

"Intersections along Meadows Parkway at I-25 and between U.S. 85 are nearing capacity level during peak hours," said Sailer.

The most recent traffic counts for a 24-hour period on three segments of Meadows Parkway show an average of about 30,733 vehicle trips — both directions — on Meadows Parkway in the segment from Prairie Hawk Drive to U.S. Highway 85 (Santa Fe Drive); an average of 31,964 trips for the U.S. 85 to Factory Shops Boulevard segment; and the largest volume, 52,358 trips, in the Factory Shops Boulevard to I-25 segment.

And those numbers are expected to grow. The Meadows currently has about 14,500 residents and is only about 55 percent to 60 percent built out, according to information from Caroline Kipp, a town

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# Project

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spokeswoman.

The project, called the North Meadows Extension, is being funded in part by a 2005 bond issue and a \$10.5 million contribution from Douglas County, and is expected to be done in late 2015.

The project involves among other things construction of two new Interchanges, one at Interstate 25, and one over U.S. Highway 85 — as well as two bridges, one over Plum Creek and Union Pacific Railroad, and the other over Burlington Northern/Sante Fe railroad tracks, Saller said.

Also involved is getting easements from about 30 homeowners whose backyards back up to North Meadows Drive near the high school so that a sound wall can be built to mitigate noise for them. Another sound wall will be needed for The Pines Apartments west of U.S. Highway 85, as the new road heads west between those apartments to the south and Castle Pines Village to the north.

"This is a massive project, something we don't typically see (at the municipal government level)," Saller said.

He said one of the major challenges, which will be dealt with during the project's last phase, Phase 3, will be poor soils in an alluvial-fan area where the interchange needs to be built over U.S. 85.

It will mean that instead of bringing in dirt and building on that, workers will have to dig down to bedrock and build structures to support the interchange, Saller explained. The resulting interchange will



Castle Rock town officials throw the first shovel of dirt at the Oct. 29 groundbreaking ceremony near Castle View High School of a two-mile two-year road project that will extend Meadows Drive to Interstate 25. Photo by Virginia Gantier

look similar to the Titan Road Interchange, which is north on U.S. 85.

Dealing with such issues will be a Greenwood Village design and engineering firm, Tsouvaras Stimmans Holderness, and the general contractor, Edward Kraemer & Sons Inc., a Wisconsin firm with a regional office based in Castle Rock that has a national reputation, particularly as a bridge specialist, and is currently involved in the I-70 twin tunnel project.

"They've got a great reputation ... We have such an outstanding team," Saller said.

Castle Rock Town Council recently approved a \$2.34 million contract to start construction of part of Phase 1, basically dirt work and some utility work in the area of Castle View High School. That area is shown in yellow on a map that can be viewed at <http://crgov.com/DocumentCenter/View/5235>.

"We are thrilled that the day is here that we will see earth moving on this project, after years of preparation and hard work by many," Mayor Paul Donahue said after the approval. "This is truly a historic milestone for the Town of Castle Rock."

## 日本人高校生、 キャスルビュー高校訪問

「土幌の生徒はアメリカ到着以来ずっとこちらでの生活を楽しんでいます。昨日は、初めてウエンディーズ（ファーストフード店）へ行き、自分たちで注文をしました。また、パークメドウズ（ショッピングモール）では買い物も楽しみました。ですが、土幌生徒にとって今回の訪問の一番の思い出は、この高校の生徒と共に過ごしたことになることと確信しています。」と紙田教諭は話します。

（キャスルビュー高校を管轄する）ダグラス学区の教育に関する政策の一部に改訂がありました。以前の政策では、留学生受け入れ可能人数に制限がありました。それが今回の改訂で9名の日本人高校生の受け入れが可能になりました。9月3日、キャスルビューの生徒が教育委員会を説いたのです。以前は在籍生徒300人に対し1名の留学生のみの受け入れでした。それが今回の改訂で、校長の判断により可能な範囲で最大限の人数を受け入れられるようになったのです。

チエセス教諭とキャスルビュー高校の生徒たちは歓迎パーティー、バレーボール、日本・西洋をテーマとしたダンスの他、様々なアクティビティ（活動）を計画しました。

土幌高校をもてなすことを私達は心から楽しんでます。留学生が来校する度に私達はこのような思いです。国際理解や国をまたいだ友好関係において重要なことは、相手の言葉に通じているということだけではありません。それよりも、それぞれの方と、相手に自分を知ってもらおうという意思の方が、友好関係を結ぶ上でより影響力を持つと思います。」とチエセス教諭は話しました。

土幌高校のアメリカ研修でキャスルロック市での滞在が焦点となり、一行は10日間の研修の最終日をカルフォルニアで迎えました。



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