



MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Washington County School District
121 W Tabernacle, St. George, Utah 84770
May 9, 2017
4:00 p.m.

Present: Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Terry Hutchinson, Board Member Laura Hesson, Board Member Becky Dunn, Board Vice President Kelly Blake, Board Member LaRene Cox, Superintendent Larry Bergeson, Business Administrator Brent Bills, Assistant Superintendent Richard Holmes, Assistant Superintendent Rex Wilkey, Executive Director Lyle Cox, Executive Director Bob Sonju, Communications Director Steve Dunham, and Communications Specialist Cody Plumhof.

Minutes: Kajsia Boyer

Reverence offered by Superintendent Larry Bergeson.

Member Cox presented a motion to go into a closed session at 1:10 p.m. Member Dunn seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Present: Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Terry Hutchinson, Board Member Laura Hesson, Board Member Becky Dunn, Board Vice President Kelly Blake, Board Member LaRene Cox, Superintendent Larry Bergeson, Business Administrator Brent Bills, Assistant Superintendent Richard Holmes, Assistant Superintendent Rex Wilkey, Executive Director Lyle Cox, Executive Director Bob Sonju, Communications Director Steve Dunham, and Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer.

CLOSED SESSION

Property and Personnel Items

Member Seegmiller presented a motion to go into a working session at 2:41 p.m. Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

WORK SESSION

Insurance Update – Lyle Cox

Lyle Cox said he had sent an insurance update to the Board. The District will have 40% of the employees on the high deductible plan next year. There were 584 employees who chose to move to a high deductible plan next year. There were also several employees who waived their insurance next year and will just join their spouses insurance. Over 300 individuals participated in the workshops and Insurance Vendor Fair. The District now has a stack of insurance information to enter for enrollment. Information has been received on the new wellness Fitbit program. The District will purchase the Fitbit for benefited employees and spouses. There will also be an app available to upload data. David Stirland would like to Board to lead out with a challenge for employees. The District is hoping the wellness program will help with utilization. The District is still working on the required steps or time need to complete the program. The plan is to have the program ready by July.

There will also be an option for employees to enter time online. David Stirland mentioned that he has heard no complaints about the insurance.

Dual Immersion – Rex Wilkey/Richard Holmes

Rex Wilkey said Majestic Fields is ready to move forward with Portuguese. Crimson View would also like to do a program. Richard Holmes said a pocket of students in the Desert Hills cone-site would need to go to the Dixie cone-site or the Crimson cone-site. The parents will be responsible to transport their students. A bus will not be provided to the out of boundary school. There is no state funding for the busing. Becky Dunn suggested changing the Dual Immersion program letter. The students were in the boundary and would have had busing until the boundaries were changed. The letter should state that we will continue the program through secondary, but they may be assigned to an out of boundary school.

Boundary Update – Richard Holmes/Rex Wilkey

Rex Wilkey said that he might need to make a couple more changes to elementary boundaries in the Apple Valley area and in the Dixie Sun, Legacy, Crimson View, and Little Valley areas. Richard Holmes reviewed the proposed boundaries and said the recommendation would be for proposed boundary map one for Crimson Cliffs, map three for Desert Hills, and map one for Pine View. He mentioned that the principals feel comfortable with the boundary changes. The Board briefly discussed the demographics of the high schools. They also discussed the AP courses at Pine View High School. There are some parents that feel there are not the same concurrent enrollment opportunities. Distance learning could provide additional options through Snow College. David Stirland said we should have the same core AP classes at each of the high schools. Students also have the opportunity to attend the program at a school offering the program.

ACE Program – Richard Holmes

Richard Holmes mentioned the proposed ACE Program under the direction of the Success Academy. They are moving forward with the magnet school. The program will focus on IT classes and will be housed in the East Elementary building. This would be another opportunity for our students to gain skills in this area. They are planning to start the program this fall.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson reported that St. George Academy High School has requested that their students be allowed to participate in the JROTC program at Pine View High School. We do allow Tuacahn students to participate at Dixie and will allow those students the same opportunity. The school will need to pay for the students, and students will need to provide their own transportation.

Legislative Information – Brent Bills

Brent Bills reported on the legislative bills that affect the District.

HB 62 requires that the Board have a policy for school employees who experience abusive conduct from a student or parent. The school board may offer training for parents and students.

HB 92 restricts the use of physical restraint in schools. Physical restraint is only allowed for protection from physical harm. The District may require the parents of a student that destroys school property to pay for the damages. The District may withhold grades, diploma, and transcripts until the damage is paid for.

HB 212 provides a \$5000 bonus to teachers in high poverty schools. Schools with 20% of enrolled students classified as intergenerational poverty or 70% or more of the students qualifying as free and reduced lunch. Teachers must achieve a median growth percentile of 70 or higher in 3-5 grades.

HB 231 combines the teacher and administrator evaluation tool. The same tool can be used. It eliminates the educator-specific wage increase requirements. Eliminates many of the evaluation

provisions.

HB 303 Requires diaper changing stations in all newly constructed or remodeled government buildings.

SB 97 S1 requires board-meeting minutes to have links that connect the minutes to the meeting recording at the place in the recording where the matter is proposed, discussed, or decided.

SB 102 requires a local school district to have a list of individuals that are allowed access to education records and requires individuals to complete training.

SB 150 Sets the order in which information must be stated for a bond ballot proposition.

SB 234 S1 defines a low performing school as one that fails in the bottom 3% for two consecutive years. It allows a low performing school more flexibility in contracting with a turnaround expert. It changes the exit criteria to statistical measurements, instead of a letter grade.

Foundation Update – Steve Dunham

Steve Dunham reported on meeting with the Foundation Board. They had one question on the finances. He has talked with Brent Bills who is willing to meet with them. He feels they are moving forward. He is trying to be proactive in addressing their concerns. They are still working to outline the position before it is posted. The position will be full-time/benefited. Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned that Steve Dunham has handled the challenges well.

Arizona/Utah Students Update – Brent Bills

Brent Bills said Colorado Unified School District has approved the contract on their end, pending legal review. He reviewed the contract as included in the board packet, including the payment information. The contract does not include preschool students. If a student is Special Education, the IEP will be looked at and the additional amount for services will be paid.

Strategic Plan Progress Update – Larry Bergeson

Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned meeting with the teachers. He has also scheduled to meet with students and classified employees. Surveys are going out to parents, students, and the university. Data will be looked at over the summer. The end goal is to have a working document for the August meeting that can be shared with the public. It will include a five-year plan with tracking to see how things are going.

Follow-up Items from Previous Meeting

Rex Wilkey shared survey information from Majestic Fields on a mascot and colors. The first choice is Mustangs with blue and silver. The Board agreed for them to proceed.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson reported on the Samaritan Feet Program. The organization and Wal-Mart washed feet and gave new shoes for every student and employee at Legacy Elementary.

Board Member Feedback

Open Discussion of the Board

1. UHSAA Update – Craig Seegmiller

Craig Seegmiller reported that the UHSAA Board was cut to 15, with only six regions represented. Our District is now represented by someone from Logan. They will be staggering the terms and the 4A region will open again in 2018. He discussed pending legislation that could make changes in the future. UHSAA has filed for a preliminary injunction. He would like to run for the position again in January.

2. USBA Update – Kelly Blake

Kelly Blake had nothing to report.

3. MBA Update - Laura Hesson

Laura Hesson reminded the Board that she sends out the monthly reminders. She asked that they remember to hold constituent meetings and invite Bob Sonju to do parent PLC training.

4. DXATC Update – LaRene Cox

LaRene Cox said by law the DXATC will need to change from an “applied” college. They are going to make a change using a big “X” in the name. Graduation is scheduled for May 31st. David Stirland suggested scheduling a time for the School Board to go and look at the new building. Superintendent Larry Bergeson talked about more support and discussions for sharing facilities and teachers to offer programs for students. LaRene Cox said the school offers a lot of certificate programs rather than tech classes. Students from Washington County School District took first place in robotics. The Board would like to invite them to come and share their projects after the national competitions.

5. Foundation Update – David Stirland

A Foundation update was given earlier in the meeting.

6. FCAOG Update – Terry Hutchinson

Terry Hutchinson said they are still talking about the block grants. If changes are made, the county would get less and the cities would get more. Some of our students and families may be affected by changes to block grant.

7. Audit Committee Update – Becky Dunn

Becky Dunn said a committee meeting would be held the end of May or June.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson reported on a meeting held with the Washington County Water Conservancy District. The average growth in the county is at 3-4% over the past few years. We have been lumped into the state average of 1.5%. Terry Hutchinson said that is one reason they may be pulling us from the block grants because we are getting too big.

Member Hutchinson presented a motion to go into a closed session at 3:26 p.m. Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Present: Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Terry Hutchinson, Board Member Laura Hesson, Board Member Becky Dunn, Board Vice President Kelly Blake, and Board Member LaRene Cox.

CLOSED SESSION

Personnel Items

Member Hutchinson presented a motion to go into an open meeting at 3:59 p.m. Member Dunn seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Items for Board Review

1. Enrollment
2. Safe Schools
3. GRAMA Requests

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Washington County School District was held after due, legal, and timely notice being given to all members and interested parties. Board President David Stirland called the meeting to order and welcomed all visitors. Board members present were

Craig Seegmiller, Terry Hutchinson, Laura Hesson, Becky Dunn, Kelly Blake and LaRene Cox. Staff members present were Superintendent Larry Bergeson and Business Administrator Brent Bills.

OPEN MEETING – 4:00 p.m.

Board President Welcome – David Stirland

Pledge of Allegiance – Board Member Hutchinson

Reverence – Board Member Hesson

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes

1. March 6, 2017 Special Meeting of the Board of Education
2. April 11, 2017 Meeting of the Board of Education
3. April 21, 2017 Special Meeting of the Board of Education

B. Financial Report

C. Personnel Items

Member Blake presented a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items A through C.

Member Seegmiller seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BOARD ACTION ITEMS

No comments were given.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Dual Immersion – Rex Wilkey/Richard Holmes

Rex Wilkey recommended that a Portuguese Dual Immersion program be approved at Majestic Fields Elementary. There has been a considerable amount of discussion with parents of the school in making this decision. The parents would like a dual language program at the school. Terry Hutchinson said this is a first step and there are still secondary issues that need to be addressed and considered. The new school will have a dual immersion/STEM focus.

Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the Portuguese Dual Immersion Program at Majestic Fields Elementary School. Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Secondary Boundaries – Richard Holmes

Richard Holmes shared the proposed boundaries changes for Crimson Cliffs, Desert Hills, and Pine View cone-sites. The recommendation would be to approve map #1 for Crimson Cliffs, map #3 for Desert Hills, and map #1 for Pine View. Richard Holmes said he has met with parents and committees to look at growth. The committees included city officials. He has also met with principals and parent groups of each of the communities. With consideration and feedback, they feel with is the best consideration. Projected enrollment would be around 1200 at Pine View High School, 750-800 at Desert Hills High School and close to 1000 at Crimson Cliffs. Crimson Cliffs will open fall of 2019. There may be some growth that would require additional changes prior to opening. David Stirland mentioned that this decision has received a lot of consideration. Terry Hutchinson mentioned there has also been a lot of parent input.

Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the boundary changes with flexibility for alterations, as we get ready for the opening of the new schools. Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Non-Contributory Retirement Plans – Brent Bills

Brent Bills explained that we are required to have a board resolution to approve that we will continue to pay for the contributory part of the retirement plan.

Member Cox presented a motion to approve the continuation of the contributory retirement. Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Digital Learning Resolution Policy – Tony Campbell

Tony Campbell asked for approval of the Digital Learning Resolution Policy. There has been no feedback received

Member Blake presented a motion to approve the Digital Learning Resolution Policy. Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

2017-2018 School LAND Trust Plans – Laura Hesson

Laura Hesson said the plans have been reviewed. Some schools still need to make some changes. Laura Hesson briefly explained about the School LAND Trust program and the role of community councils. The rules are set in legislation and help parents become involved in the school. Schools receive money based on the number of students. The council determines the greatest academic need and builds a plan around those needs. School plans are reviewed by the local school board and the state for approval. Certain criteria does have to be met in spending the funds.

Member Dunn presented a motion to approve the 2017-2018 School LAND Trust Plans with the changes submitted from the Board review. Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Comprehensive Guidance Program – Dave Gardner

Dave Gardner explained the ongoing resolution of support needed for the comprehensive Guidance Program. It is state required to make it retroactive for this year and next. Last year all schools in our District passed their review and are considered to be high performing.

Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the Comprehensive Guidance Program for this school year and for the 2017-2018 school year. Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Principal Selection – Rex Wilkey/Richard Holmes

Superintendent Larry Bergeson recommended, due to the principal resignation at Diamond, that Brandon Yost be moved from vice principal at Hurricane Middle School to principal at Diamond Valley Elementary and that Shaun Yaggi be made the assistant principal at Hurricane Middle School.

Member Hutchinson presented a motion to approve the recommendation to move Brandon Yost to the principal position at Diamond Valley and to move Shaun Yaggi to the assistant principal position at Hurricane Middle School. Member Seegmiller seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Arizona/Utah School Contract – Brent Bills

Brent Bills explained the request for the contract between schools in Hildale and Colorado City. Some students may be attending the school of choice without living in city. The contract would create a tuition agreement for students going between schools. The amount set would be 1.5% of the WPU for 1st through 12th grades and 1.75% of the WPU for kindergarten. The amount for those with an IEP would be adjusted to meet the financial cost of those students. The contact would be reviewed annually. There is a cap of 15 students over the equal number of students allowed to enroll to help balance the number allowed to switch. Ultimately our responsibility is to education students and create every opportunity for students to succeed.

Member Blake presented a motion to approve the Arizona/Utah School Contract. Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proposed Final Budget for 2016-2017 and Proposed Budget for 2017-2018 – Brent Bills

Brent Bills said the budget will have a 30-day review and noted that there would be additional changes before the June budget meeting. He reviewed the revenue and expenditures included in the Proposed Final Budget FY 2016-2017 and Proposed Budget FY 2017-2018 book. Next year it is projected that we will have 1200 new students. The projected revenue and expenditures are \$211,000.00. Most of the revenue comes from the state. He briefly reviewed the different fund budgets and reported that fiscally we are doing well. There will be four new schools opening in the next few years. He said that the District does need to save money ongoing to open the buildings. He estimated that we would need about \$4.7 million additional dollars over the next couple of years. He reported that the District has a triple A rating with Fitch and the double A rating with Moody's. Brent Bills also reported that the District would be replacing the fleet cars. There were 16 Ford Fusions purchased. He said we purchase them and sell them every couple of years. The cars get really good gas mileage and we are able to sell them for about \$3500 less than they were purchased for.

Policy 1330 Employee Leave – Lyle Cox

Lyle Cox explained the changes to Policy 1330 Employee Leave. We have not approved much of the types of leave needing change in a while. We have allowed for Jury Duty, but have also had court ordered subpoena leave and applied it as Jury Duty. It has not been clear on professional leave. Military leave has changed and it has been determined it will be best to follow the Family Medical Leave Act. We have not approved leave of absence to try out employment in another district. There was also concern with PLC days and not being allowed to use sick leave. He has received comment on the early-out day prior to Thanksgiving. If we have to bring it back, it would go back to early out day as negotiated. Terry Hutchinson explained an exception for travel cost reimbursement. He did like the provision that allows a spouse with military leave to return. The policy will have a 30-day review period.

Policy 4100 Graduation Requirements/School Credits – Richard Holmes

Richard Holmes explained the changes to Policy 4100 Graduation Requirements/School Credits under 4.1.1. There is a new rule for course grade forgiveness. Students are allowed to repeat the course or take a comparable course. If a student goes through the process and earns a better grade, the grade would be changed to show the new grade. The LEA must receive notification. The course would be elective, but would count for required course. Richard Holmes said credit is earned in grades six through 12. Much of the credit would be for online programs. It also covers dual language accredited programs.

RETIREMENT AND YEARS-OF-SERVICE RECOGNITIONS

David Stirland thanked employees for years of service and expressed appreciation for the work that has been done. Superintendent Larry Bergeson shared some statistical information.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Student Achievement – Brad Ferguson

Brad Ferguson reported on surveys sent to parents and students on the district's strategic planning. He shared links with the School Board to review the live data. The surveys will run through the end of the year.

Instructional Technology – Lawrence Esplin

Lawrence Esplin said there has been interesting things happen with technology over the years. The transition has been well done. We now have over 30,000 students (29,000 k-12). There were zero Chromebooks in our schools ten years ago. We now have 19,000 - almost 1:1. Parents can access

information electronically. We continue in striving to build the ability to use technology. It is not enough to just have the technology, but we need teachers that know how to use it and students who do use it.

What's Right in WCSD Schools - Postponed

Reports

1. Superintendent

Superintendent Larry Bergeson had nothing to report.

2. Board

The board members had nothing to report.

3. Association

The associations has nothing to report

4. PTA/PTO/Community Council

Mindi Barker thanked the School Board and district administration for a fantastic year. She will be continuing as PTA president this year.

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – 3 min. each

1. Deborah Lin shared that parents at Pine View High School want the school to be the best that it can be. There are great things at the high school and the parents appreciate the improvements that have been made. Parents have individually contacted the school about the concerns and want to be proactive with changes to the school. She said some parents feel that the new boundaries are creating “have” and “have not’s.” They feel that Pine View High will have a high low poverty enrollment, creating disparity. She requested that the Board level the playing field. Low-income students take more resources, pulling money away from other students. She said that the school has the oldest facilities and parents feel that many times they just get band-aids to fix the problems. She requested that they build it equal to other schools before building another new high school. She also mentioned that Pine View high school is ranked in the lowest five percent academically. State grades show Pine View High has had a “C” grade for three of last four years. She feels they need to raise academic level of the school. The parents will meet with the administration, but would like support of the Board to be proactive.

2. Matthew Kreitzer addressed the Board about teacher morale, the 5x5 block, and personalized learning. He said being a teacher requires so much, but teacher morale is at lowest. Some of causes include teacher evaluation. He also mentioned that teachers hate the 5x5 block and student’s sluff out. He asked the Board to stop the confusion. He said students don’t get it in class and are then signing up for a study skills class. He said that 63% of students at Pine View High School don’t have a full schedule. He said that personalized learning is the current wave. Computers and TVs don’t teach. Computers were never used as they are now. Kids have nine hours a day using technology. He feels it just creates more work.

Board President David Stirland adjourned the meeting at 5:52 p.m., as there was no further business to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT