



MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Washington County School District
121 W Tabernacle, St. George, Utah 84770
May 8, 2018
4:00 PM

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 HR Director Lyle Cox, Executive Director Craig Hammer, Executive Director Bob Sonju, Technology Director Lawrence Esplin, Executive Director Steven Dunham, Communications Specialist Cody Plumhof.

Minutes: Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer

Reverence offered by Superintendent Larry Bergeson.

Member Blake presented a motion to go into a Closed Session at 12:03 p.m. Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Present: Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Terry Hutchinson, Board Member Becky Dunn, Board Member 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 Craig Hammer, Executive Director Steve Dunham, Executive Director Bob Sonju, and Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer.

CLOSED SESSION

Personnel Items

Contract Negotiation Items

Legal Items

Member Dunn presented a motion to go into a Work Session at 1:37 p.m. Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

WORK SESSION

David Stirland reviewed the Graduation schedule and acceptance of graduates. Remarks should be kept brief.

Board Software Program

Robert Martinez reviewed and trained the Board on the new Board software program.

Strategic Plan – Larry Bergeson

Superintendent Larry Bergeson reported on the work being done with the Strategic Plan. He is planning to work on it more during the summer. He explained it would contain a goal and show a continuum over the next several years to the final result. He will need input from the Board. Craig Seegmiller said the plan needs to be measurable and trackable. Superintendent Larry Bergeson reviewed areas he plans to include in the planning.

Finland Update – Bob Sonju

Bob Sonju shared highlights from the Finland trip. The group went to see what makes their education system so successful and to look at what we could do different. He shared a PowerPoint with informal observations between the two countries. Teachers in Finland are very respected. There are no assessments given for accountability. Teachers spend five years in training to become a teacher. Only select participants are chosen in the path of becoming a teacher. We are very standards driven and they are very learning driven. Finland has a climate of complete trust with the profession. Superintendent Larry Bergeson said the schools visited are structured with learning and thinking spaces to study. Formal education begins at the age of seven. David Stirland said individuals could earn a master's degree with no cost. Everywhere they traveled, the people spoke English. Superintendent Bergeson said most students master three languages; Finnish, Swedish, and English. Laura Belnap said schools only goes from nine to one each day. Superintendent Larry Bergeson explained an activity using colored cards to represent how they feel. The students do not feel pressured or stressed about grades and tests. Bob Sonju said the District administration would take the information to look at the effective practices and see what we can do to make changes.

Insurance Update – Lyle Cox

Lyle Cox said we are in the process up notifying the employees of the enrollment. There will be a \$100 cost for employees and spouses who choose not to participate in the Wellness Program this year. They have been notified. Things are moving along well and most employees are accepting the increased cost. There have been a few denied requests for procedures, but the District is working with Regence. David Stirland asked if there is data to support the Fitbit program. Lyle Cox mentioned that there are a number of correlations such as attendance that could be looked at.

CT High School Update – Richard Holmes

Richard Holmes reported on the CT High School planning. The administration has met with several groups including parents and business leaders. His concern is we won't be able to offer all the paths business leaders would like. It will be hard to narrow down the pathways. Bob Sonju suggested that the administration will need to be prepared to answer why we don't just use the Dixie Tech building on the hill as we issue our upcoming bond. Terry Hutchinson suggested sharing information on the radio. Superintendent Larry Bergeson said once individuals understand, the approval of the idea is solid. David Stirland suggested including the compelling reasons for not using the building such as the safety of our students. Bob Sonju pointed out that if the District doesn't build the CT high school, another high school would be needed. Steve Dunham said he would be able to help create a video about the plans for the school, including Dixie State University and Dixie Technical College on the video to show their support. Superintendent Larry Bergeson said this would prolong the building of a regular high schools. He also mentioned that the administration will have three years to develop the program.

Three Falls/Coral Canyon Boundary Change – Rex Wilkey

Rex Wilkey reported on the elementary boundary changes between Three Falls Elementary and Coral Canyon Elementary. He has met with parents. The proposed boundary would leave about 62 students in the Three Falls boundary for the Dual Immersion program. It would take approximately 70 students to Coral Canyon Elementary. It was mentioned that there would probably be the need for another elementary school in the area over the next couple of years. Kelly Blake asked about concerns with students crossing Riverside Drive to go to Panorama. Rex Wilkey said the city will have a crossing guard to help the students going across.

Crimson Cliffs Eligibility – Craig Hammer

Craig Hammer explained the concern with eligibility as we open the new high school. He shared visiting with several districts throughout the state to see what they have done. He shared the proposal for what the

District could do. It has been decided to open freshman sports at Crimson Cliffs to allow more students the opportunity to play. They will have football, volleyball, basketball (boys and girls), baseball and softball. The freshman students will not be able to play up. In the fall, the high school will also have golf, cross country, tennis, soccer, swimming, wrestling and drill; then track, soccer, tennis, girl's golf in the spring. Eligibility would need to be established in the new high school boundary. Students wanting to stay and play on the previous high school boundary team would be considered transfer students. Senior student would be given a choice of which school to enroll in. He asked that the Board members preach, "play where you live." We want to be fair to all students.

NSBA Follow-up

Snow Canyon Track and Turf Replacement – Craig Hammer

Craig Hammer shared the RFP costs for putting in the track and turf. The recommendation would be to select Hughes Construction.

Brent Bills reviewed the bond balance of \$69,943,630. He also shared the remaining balances on contracts in progress. The remaining costs are approximately \$65,416,422. There is \$4,527,208 remaining that could go toward the next bond projects.

Board discussed the bond and considered the amount to bond, allowing for a cushion and extra premium.

Follow-up from Previous Meeting

OPEN DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD

Healthy Dixie Update – Craig Seegmiller

Craig Seegmiller said Healthy Dixie is planning to come next month to present awards.

USBA Update – Kelly Blake

Kelly Blake said the USBA meeting is on Friday.

MBA Update – Laura Hesson

Laura Hesson sent an email to the Board with the MBA assignments.

Dixie Tech Update – LaRene Cox

LaRene Cox said Dixie Tech is holding interviews for a new president. The new president will take the seat in July. She said the college is on board with what we are trying to do.

Foundation Update – David Stirland

David Stirland reported on the success of the Kite Festival, which could bring up to \$50,000 for literacy programs. The event was one of highest attended. There are some differences of opinion on the Foundation Board in how the money raised should be spent. The Board may want to discuss it in the future.

FCAOG Update – Terry Hutchinson

Terry Hutchinson said the FCAOG did not meet in May. They will be meeting again in June and are anxious to hear about CT high school plans.

Audit Committee Update – Becky Dunn

Becky Dunn asked the administration for a follow-up on Medicaid next month.

ITEMS FOR BOARD REVIEW

Enrollment
Safe Schools

GRAMA Requests Department Reports

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 President Stirland

Reverence – Member Hutchinson

Pine View High Student Video National Recognition

Mindi Barker recognized Porter Christensen, a Pine View High School student, for receiving the Outstanding Interpretation award in the national PTA Reflections competition. Porter Christensen did the whole video production including the acting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

- 1. April 10, 2018 Meeting of the Board of Education**
- 2. April 12, 2018 Special Meeting of the Board of Education**
- 3. April 23, 2018 AM Special Meeting of the Board of Education**
- 4. April 23, 2018 PM Special Meeting of the Board of Education**
- 5. April 30, 2018 Special Meeting of the Board of Education**

Financial Report

Personnel Items

Becky Dunn asked about salaries being paid from the Capital Projects fund. Brent Bills explained that a certain percent of the capital funds can be used to pay salaries related to the facilities projects.

Becky Dunn asked about expenses in the M&O account for textbooks. Brent Bills explained that the total budget for the new Reach for Reading program is just under \$2 million. Some schools are also purchasing additional materials.

Member Hutchinson presented a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items A through C. Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BOARD ACTION ITEMS

No comments were given.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

2018-2019 School LAND Trust Plans Submitted for Board Review

Laura Hesson expressed appreciation for all the work of the schools to submit and complete the plans. Terry Hutchinson recognized the parents that participate on the school community councils and have involvement in how the funds are spent.

Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the 2018-2019 School LAND Trust plans.

Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Snow Canyon High School Track and Turf Replacement Bid – Craig Hammer

Craig Hammer reviewed the Snow Canyon High School Track and Turf Replacement bid. Two bids were received. The low bid is with Hughes Construction for \$2,163,840. The committee recommendation is to select Hughes Construction. He is hoping for a completion by August. The contractor and subs have committed to complete the project. Replacement of the bleachers will be included in the bond.

Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the selection of Hughes Construction for the Snow Canyon High School Track and Turf replacement. Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Comprehensive Guidance Program – Dave Gardner

Dave Gardner asked for the ongoing support of the Board for the Comprehensive Guidance Program. Schools are involved with Data Projects, Interim Reviews, and Hope Squads. He shared the counselor ratios and information about concurrent enrollment.

Member Blake presented a motion to approve support for the Comprehensive Guidance Program. Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Contributory Retirement Plans – Brent Bills

Brent Bills said the District has to approve paying for the employees who are still on the contributory retirement plan. There are only about five employees still on the plan.

Member Dunn presented a motion to approve the Contributory Retirement Plans. Member Seegmiller seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Three Falls/Coral Canyon Boundary Change – Rex Wilkey

Rex Wilkey shared the need for an elementary boundary change between Three Falls Elementary and Coral Canyon Elementary. Several options are still being looked at.

Member Dunn presented a motion to table the approval of a boundary change between Three Falls Elementary and Coral Canyon Elementary. Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Architect for CT High School – Craig Hammer

Brent Bills reported on the SIOQ for architecture work previously. The SIOQ is good for five years. The District recommendation would be to select Naylor Wentworth Lund for the architecture work of the CT high school. The District administration would like to get the design work going.

Member Hesson presented a motion to approve the selection of Naylor Wentworth Lund as the architect for the CT High School. Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Policy 0005 Board of Education – Lyle Cox

Lyle Cox said the policy change recommendations come from recodified references in Utah Code and as result of an audit by the URS. The current policy is not in compliance with the Utah Code. The changes will clarify the correct way to identify eligibility using a representing district list. It also clarifies that appointed officers of the District are not exempt from coverage.

Policy 3110 Emergency Preparedness – Michael Lee

Michael Lee said the policy has not been updated since 1996. The policy changes will help create consistency in how we do drills throughout the District. He has been working with the police department to determine what they need in the Emergency Preparedness Plan. He also explained the confusion with reasonable delay between the police department and the Fire Marshal. The policy will include a compromise of a 60 second delay that is acceptable with the agencies. Michael Lee said when a fire alarm is pulled, the firehouse is notified and may already be preparing before the call is placed. Board members mentioned a couple of examples where previous training helped students know how to react in the situation.

Policy 3120 Fire Drills and Dismissal (Emergencies) – Michael Lee

Michael Lee said the change would be that the Board consider rescinding the policy and including the information in Policy 3110.

Proposed Final Budget for 2017-2018 and Proposed Budget for 2018-2019 – Brent Bills

Brent Bills shared the proposed final budget for 2017-2018 and the proposed budget for 2018-2019. The budget can be found on the District website. He briefly reviewed the budgets and explained where the money comes from and how it is being spent. The actual tax rates will be received in June. The District considers a 5% inflation amount and 3% growth when estimating taxes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Instructional Technology – Lawrence Esplin

No report was given.

What's Right in WCSD Schools

Utah Online K-8 – Laura Belnap

Laura Belnap shared that online students have a lot of different activities that they do. They spend 25-35% of their time on the computer and receive about 100 lbs. of paper work. She shared some of the students and the activities students are involved in. The school has a choir. They learn the music in different locations, but sing together. She shared about several activities including a rocket project, talent sharing, parades, science fair, chimes choir, and tech classes. They are making great stepping-stones for students at Utah Online.

Hurricane Intermediate School - Brad Christensen

Brad Christensen shared a flyer with information about Hurricane Intermediate School. He explained the ROAR program. Students receive ROAR awards when they do great things. The awards have a UPC code so they can track how many awards are given. One of the favorite award choices is the "front of the line" pass. He reported on the office referral program. They are keeping data on that as well. It is helping them to have better communication.

REPORTS

Superintendent

Superintendent Larry Bergeson shared positive comments he has received about our District. He mentioned that Washington County School District has four of the six nationally recognized Model PLC schools.

Superintendent Bergeson recognized two Huntsman Award winners from Washington County School District; Amy Barton and Crongy Breedlove (volunteer).

He also recognized Carol Huebner for receiving the Superstar in Education award.

Board

David Stirland recognized the Elks organization who has donated \$41,000 in scholarships.

David Stirland also recognized the Board for the time spent and their continued efforts for the students in Washington County School District.

Association

Amy Barton expressed appreciation for the Board coming to participate with the Insurance Committee and allowing her to be involved in the insurance discussions.

She expressed appreciation for the administrations involvement with negotiations.

She mentioned that WCEA has awarded three scholarships this year to students of members. The scholarship winners will be announced later. She also mentioned Carol Huebner's recognition.

She reported that thirteen members would be attending the Legislative House of Delegates next week.

She shared that there are two UEA members that received Huntsman awards this year. Participants are active and involved in the big picture.

PTA/PTO/Community Council

Mindi Barker expressed appreciation for the Dual Immersion program at Diamond Valley. She mentioned that the region PTA would be training all the presidents on financial issues, being transparent, fundraising, spending, money being granted to schools. She wants the principals to know that they are there to help in the schools.

Retirement/Years-of-Service Awards

The School Board, Superintendent Bergeson, and Brent Bills recognized employees who have worked in Washington County School District for 20 years and 30 years, and those who are retiring from Washington County School District.

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – 3 min. each

Karly Terry/Linda Anderson/Natalie Hardy - Three Falls PTA

The Three Falls PTA shared a video about the benefits of students being able to play outdoors and the effects of sun exposure. The school PTA raised funds, over \$40,000, from local businesses to provide sunshades for the playground. They received several bids for the shades. The contractor bid selected is a little over \$60,000. The PTA requested \$22,000 from the District to purchase the sunshades. Superintendent Larry Bergeson said the District has looked at including sunshades on the bond. He said the District would look to see if there are funds to help with the request. David Stirland expressed appreciation for the efforts made to raise funds.

Ben Scott

Ben Scott shared concerns about receiving a call from a school saying his child was delinquent and would not be served lunch. He did not realize the account was negative and did go to the school and paid the balance for the year that same day, but his child was still denied lunch that day. The office told him that if she had come to the office, they would have given her a granola bar and juice. He did communicate with the principal who said he would take care of it. This was during SAGE testing. Students are being pressured to do the collection part and talk with their parents. Since that time his daughter has received another note saying she was delinquent. His daughter was scared to go back in for lunch. When he called, he was told it had been put in the teacher's box a week earlier and the account was paid. He asked that the schools not deny children lunch and find other solutions for collections. Superintendent Larry Bergeson said that is not our policy and we do not want students to go without lunch. He said the District would follow through with the principals and provide training for the principals again.

Greg Brooks

Greg Brooks said there is not a clear policy on school lunch. He encouraged the Board to write a policy that says no child will be denied lunch. He is also concerned that even when the school had the money in the system, it was not communicated to the lunch program. He asked the Board to look at a policy.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President David Stirland adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m. as there was no further business to discuss.