



**MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**121 WEST TABERNACLE, ST. GEORGE, UTAH 84770**  
**MAY 14, 2019**  
**4:30 P.M.**

**Reverence offered by Member Hutchinson.**

*Present: Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Terry Hutchinson, Board Member Laura Hesson, 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, Communications Director Steven Dunham, Communications Specialist Cody Plumbhof, Washington County Commissioner Victor Iverson, Washington County Commissioner Dean Cox.*

*Minutes: Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer*

**WORK SESSION**

**Washington County Commissioners**

Commissioner Dean Cox reported on the HCP property. There are still a few private lands in the HCP. Individuals can only walk in the HCP on designated trails. Those who own property cannot get any beneficial use of their property. He mentioned that he has been working with one of the property owners on bringing the property out, however the property owner is concerned about retroactively paying the property tax. If the county acquired the property it would stay in the HCP. Commissioner Victor Iverson said the property is appraised as if it is in Green Springs. They would like to continue to help him get the tax issue resolved. Dean Cox said the original proposal for HCP only included SITLA property, but the federal government required additional private property. Property that has been traded out has now been developed and the tax base in the county has grown. He feels that the property should not have been taxed as the owners cannot use it. They would like the support of the School District as the District is the largest tax entity in the county. Brent Bills pointed out that the District will really not be losing anything. The property has been tied up since 1989. Dean Cox mentioned that the commission is looking at trading BLM property to build a reservoir in Warner Valley. Victor Iverson said development in the county is about keeping the kids here. Our communities are going to change. He feels we need the LPP to have water here. The cost to the county will be less impactful than when Quail Creek Reservoir was put in. David Stirland said he has requested to have a member of the School Board serve on the Water Board. The county commission would need to approve that. Victor Iverson said more elected officials have been added on and they would be willing to talk about that. The Water Board currently has seven members. Dean Cox said the water rights that they are trying to secure are actually from Flaming Gorge. The water would go down the Green River into Lake Powell and then be pulled from Lake Powell and brought to Washington County. The water is Utah water. Putting in Quail Creek allowed move individuals to move to Washington County. They bonded for \$33,000,000. The LPP pipeline would be a 7% bond. If we continue the way we are, the cost of water in the desert will increase. Water in the county will continue to increase with or without the pipeline. It was mentioned that a University of Utah study shows that in 2050, Washington County will have a population of 500,000. Victor Iverson reported that Mike Carr has done a great job helping with intergenerational poverty. He said having involvement from the school district has been great.

**Board Member Hutchinson presented a motion to go into a closed session at 3:46 p.m. Board Member Seegmiller 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 Member Kelly Blake, Board Member LaRene Cox, Superintendent Larry Bergeson, Business Administrator Brent Bills, Assistant Superintendent Richard Holmes, Assistant Superintendent Rex Wilkey, HR Executive Director Lyle Cox, Communication Director Steven Dunham, and Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer.*

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Personnel Items

**Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to go out of the closed session at 4:24 p.m. Board Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

## **WORK SESSION**

### **Crimson Cliffs/Washington Fields School Visits**

The Board members toured the new Crimson Cliffs High School and Washington Fields Intermediate Schools. They also drove by the home being built by students in the Pine View High School construction program.

### **Dixie Sun Rebranding – Susan Harrah**

Susan Harrah shared the new name suggestions for Dixie Sun Elementary. She said there have been meetings with parents. The proposed name of Paradise Canyon received the most votes. There was some concern expressed about the name identifying a neighborhood. The Board consented with the selection of Paradise Canyon Elementary as the new school name, the new mascot being the Pumas, and school colors being navy, silver, and teal.

### **School Fee Schedule – Richard Holmes/Brent Bills**

Richard Holmes briefly reviewed the proposed School Fee Schedule. There was one addition to the Co-Curricular fees adding the AFJROTC CIA program and camp fees to the schedule. The program travels to several different states, but only a few students qualify to attend. The Ibigawa Exchange Program fees were also added.

### **Student Success Framework (TSSA) – Cheri Stevenson**

Cheri Stevenson reviewed the timeline and framework. With School Board approval, the schools will then set up their budget and create a plan. Schools will look at data they create the plan. Information for the plans was taken from S.B. 149. Examples will be available for schools. Schools will also be gathering information from stakeholders.

### **Lake Powell Pipeline Letter – Larry Bergeson**

Superintendent Larry Bergeson reported on a meeting with the Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCD). They have asked the District for a letter of support showing the understanding for the need of water in the District and for the pipeline project. The District has drafted a letter that shares support for the pipeline and the concern for the costs. The letter suggests that all options should be exhausted to help pay for the pipeline, so the School District and families don't feel the burden. Karry Rathje, WCWCD, said some letters would go to the paper. They want the letters to express support during this last public comment period. Superintendent Larry Bergeson said the School District is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest water user in the county. They would like our support. He feels the proposed letter has voiced our concerns with the support. The District is concerned about future water for our children. There is also concern with the cost of impact fees to the District, financial burden for teachers, and failing of future bonding. The Board discussed their willingness to do a support letter. It was mentioned that in the past the Board has not done letters of support. Brent Bills said if support is given it should relate to education and our needs to support education. LaRene Cox suggested making it more simplified as a statement or resolution.

Kerry Rathje said the pipeline project will be paid for by the state. Washington County residents will pay for the water they use. It won't burden the tax payers with the total cost of the project but would be paid for over generations. The WCWCD has been careful not to create a burden on the users. Currently water users pay \$1.14/1000 gallons of water. They have studied alternatives and she said the LPP is the most

economic option. They have asked for support from some of the largest water users in the county. The WCWCD has to plan for water needs years in advance. The percentage base is so much lower on this project than Quail Creek. Superintendent Bergeson will draft a statement for the board to consider.

**Insurance Open Enrollment and Transition to EMI – Tammara Robinson**

Presentation postponed.

**Insurance Committee Responsibilities – Lyle Cox**

Presentation postponed.

**Naming of New Elementary School – Rex Wilkey**

Presentation postponed.

**Instructional Technology – Tony Campbell**

Presentation postponed.

**NSBA Board Reports**

Reports postponed.

**OPEN DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD**

**Healthy Dixie Update – Craig Seegmiller**

**USBA Update – LaRene Cox**

**MBA Update – Laura Hesson**

**Dixie Tech Update – Terry Hutchinson**

**Foundation Update – David Stirland**

**FCAOG Update – Becky Dunn**

**Audit Committee Update – Kelly Blake**

There were no updates given.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson briefly mentioned the proposed pathways for CT high school. They are planning for nine strands.

**ITEMS FOR BOARD REVIEW**

- A. Enrollment
- B. Safe Schools
- C. GRAMA Requests
- D. 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 – 4:30 p.m.**

**Board President Welcome – President Stirland**

**Pledge of Allegiance – Member Dunn**

**Reverence – Member Cox**

**Foundation Presentation – Steven Dunham**

Steven Dunham reported on the success of the Foundation Golf Tournament. Paul Hatch and Rick Schofield presented a check for \$68,638. Rick Schofield recognized Vasu Mudliar for all work and effort he has put into making the Golf Tournament a success. The Foundation's goal last year was to award all the classroom grants, which the Foundation was able to do. He said the Foundation is hoping to do it again next year.

**PUBLIC HEARING – BOND PROJECT ITEM CHANGE**

**The Washington County Board of Education will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. to receive public comment on a proposed change to the approved 2019-2023 Bond Projects that would include reallocating the funds for the phone system at Sunset Elementary to Little Valley Elementary as Sunset Elementary already has a VoIP phone system in place.**

No comments were given.

#### **BOARD ACTION ITEM**

##### **Bond Project Item Change to Reallocate Sunset Phone System funding to Little Valley Elementary**

**Board Member Hutchinson presented a motion to approve the reallocation of Bond funds for a phone system at Sunset Elementary to Little Valley Elementary. Board Member Dunn seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **A. Minutes**

- 1. April 9, 2019 Meeting of the Board of Education**
- 2. April 29, 2019 Special Meeting of the Board of Education**

##### **B. Financial Report**

##### **C. Personnel Items**

**Board Member Blake presented a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items. Board Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

No comments were given.

#### **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

##### **2019-2020 Board Meeting Calendar**

**Board Member Dunn presented a motion to approve the 2019-2020 Board Meeting Calendar. Board Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

##### **2019-2020 School LAND Trust Plans**

**Board Member Hesson presented a motion to approve the 2019-2020 School LAND Trust Plans. Board Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

##### **Policy 1332 FMLA, ADA and District Sick Leave – Lyle Cox**

Lyle Cox said one comment was received with concern about requiring doctor certification. He said the feedback was noted but suggested that it is not a bad idea for individuals who will be out for several days to see their doctor. It may be good for them. If they are only missing a day here or there a note is not needed.

**Board Member Blake presented a motion to approve Policy 1332 FMLA, ADA and District Sick Leave. Board Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

##### **Policy 3400 School Fees/Solicitation of Funds – Richard Holmes**

Richard Holmes briefly reviewed the changes to the policy that updated the code and included verbiage in state law of what documentation is acceptable. The fee schedule is no longer in the policy but will be linked to the policy.

**Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve Policy 3400 School Fees/Solicitation of Funds. Board Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

##### **2019-2020 School Fee Schedule – Richard Holmes**

Richard Holmes briefly reviewed the additional changes to the fee schedule. He said the administration has tried to listen to the concerns. There may still be changes that happen as needed.

**Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve 2019-2020 School Fee Schedule with changes. Board Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

#### **Contributory Retirement Plans – Brent Bills**

Brent Bills said the District is down to two or three employees still in the contributory retirement plan. Some were grandfathered in and opted to stay on. The Board must give approval every year.

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

#### **Comprehensive Guidance Program – Dave Gardner**

Dave Gardner asked for Board approval to support the Comprehensive Guidance Program in the District. Comprehensive Guidance is on the secondary level. He said that ongoing needs continue to increase for counselors.

**Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the Comprehensive Guidance Program. Board Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

#### **Student Success Framework (TSSA) – Cheri Stevenson**

Cheri Stevenson requested approval of the TSSA framework. It explains how money can be spent and salaries that can be paid. The money is new money through S.B. 149 and is directed by stakeholders at the school to improve student achievement. Member Hutchinson said this is another way that parents can direct how money is spent in the school and encouraged parents to be involved.

**Board Member Hutchinson presented a motion to approve the Student Success Framework (TSSA). Board Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

#### **Construction Manager Bid – Craig Hammer**

Brent Bills said the District has had a hard time keeping up with priority and bond projects. The District has had one construction manager. The administration would like another construction manager to help with projects. Two companies responded to the bid; Zwick Construction and Hughes General Contractors. The recommendation would be to approve both companies for six months.

**Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the selection of both Zwick Construction and Hughes General Contractors as Construction Managers. Board Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

#### **Property Acquisition – Craig Hammer**

**Board Member Hutchinson presented a motion to table the property acquisition approval. Board Member Dunn seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

#### **Water Canyon High School SRO Contract – Brent Bills**

Brent Bills said Hildale City would like to have an SRO at Water Canyon High School. We have an SRO there, but there was no signed contract. Board approval is needed for the contract.

**Board Member Hutchinson presented a motion to approve the Water Canyon High School SRO Contract. Board Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **Policy 1100 Filling Positions – Lyle Cox**

Lyle Cox explained the proposed changes to clarify the policy. The changes define provisional employees as those who have not completed the years necessary to achieve career employee status. This is governed by statute in Utah Code as 3 years and up to 5 years. Provisional can be extended to 5 years. A principal or supervisor with concerns must identify concerns and take it to the superintendent to extend the years. Lyle Cox said another proposed change relates to in-district transfers. The change eliminates the independent committee and follows the procedure outlined in Policy 1720.

#### **Policy 1200 Pay and Compensation – Lyle Cox**

Lyle Cox said the proposed policy change allows principal leaders to be paid a stipend. The current policy does not allow administrators to be paid a stipend and needs to be changed to allow the new principal leader positions to be compensated.

#### **Policy 1900 Professional Development – Lyle Cox**

Lyle Cox said the Northwest Association has been renamed the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. They are recognized as the accrediting institution. The changes correct the name and references for the organization.

#### **Policy 1450 Discipline and Termination, and Non-renewal of Contract – Lyle Cox**

Lyle Cox said the policy change eliminates the reference to deliberate conduct. It leave it as conduct that exposes the district to censure. The change will make the policy clearer.

#### **Policy 2110 Safe Schools Policy – Richard Holmes**

Richard Holmes reported on the policy changes and meeting with the assistant principals. There were a few areas with questions. He received some changes from Member Cox needing clarification. The policy has been given to our legal counsel for review. The assistant principals feel good with what was done and feel it will be helpful.

#### **Proposed Final Budget for 2018-2019 and Proposed Budget for 2019-2020 – Brent Bills**

Brent Bills reviewed the proposed budgets. The numbers will continue to be updated with negotiations and tax updates. The adoption of the budgets will be June 18<sup>th</sup>. The TSSA funding will also be added under state resources. Brent Bills reviewed the budget revenues and expenses in each of the fund accounts

### **INFORMATION**

#### **Student Achievement – Internship Program – Mike Hassler/Travis Muir/Travis Cook**

Mike Hassler shared a video showing the success of the Student Internship program in Washington County School District. The video included an interview with a student who shared his internship success and experience working at an animal clinic. Travis Cook, Utah State Board of Education, said that Washington County School District is the gold standard for Internship Work-based Learning work in the State of Utah and has been nominated for a national award and recognized formally at the state level.

#### **What's Right in WCSD Schools**

##### **Santa Clara Elementary School – Nadine Hancey**

Nadine Hancey said this is the 40<sup>th</sup> year for Santa Clara Elementary. Parents refer to school as a little hidden gem. It is a great neighborhood school. She reported on the school's STEM Expo with class projects. The kids were able to display and explain their projects. The school is doing the Chinese Dual Immersion program. She briefly reported on a Chinese culture event. Santa Clara Elementary has a good music program through BTS. They have focused on reading this year. She said the library is the heart of the school. This past year students had passports to earn stamps for reading different genre. Students read 4,571 books through the passport program. She also mentioned the Breakfast Book clubs and interventions for at-risk students. She said there is pride at Santa Clara Elementary and the school is steeped in tradition.

##### **Crimson Cliffs Middle School – Brian Stevenson**

Brian Stevenson briefly reported on the school's first year. He said the student council was amazing. They focused on uniting school culture and spirit of the students from both schools. His student council prepared a video to share on what they have done in the first year. Some of the things included were the Friday activities, afterschool parties at the end of quarter, a pancake appreciation breakfast, and efforts for spreading positivity throughout the school.

### **REPORTS**

#### **Superintendent**

Superintendent Larry Bergeson reported on the following recognitions:

Bria Thompson, Red Mountain Elementary, won the Department of Natural Resources Water Education Poster Contest. Kelly McDonald said that Bria was the overall state winner and received \$100. The school also received \$125 as part of the award.

Red Mountain students were also invited to participate in the Spike 150 graphic novel creation. Kelly McDonald said eight schools were able to participate with the graphic novels for the Spike 150 celebration. Students in Red Mountain's 4<sup>th</sup> grade illustrated Abraham Lincoln's part in the story of the railroad. A copy of the set was given to each of the state representatives and given to every school in the state.

Jeanne Fernandez, Fossil Ridge, was selected for the Superstar in Education Award. He mentioned that this is not an easy award to earn.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned that Blaine Monkres were honored for outstanding service to amateur football at the 25<sup>th</sup> annual celebration. Coach Monkres coached programs at five different high schools with many victories.

The Dixie AFJROTC program received the Distinguished Unit Award.

#### **Board**

No reports were given.

#### **Association**

No reports were given.

#### **PTA/PTO/Community Council**

No reports were given.

#### **RECOGNITIONS**

##### **Years-of-Service Recognitions**

##### **Retirement Recognitions**

#### **PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – 3 minutes each**

**Doug Meacham**, Snow Canyon High School, is a new teacher and coach. He has loved his experience here in Washington County. He said the Snow Canyon team has been invited to participate in a Maui tournament. He would love to see the program be able to participate. He realizes there is a policy but would hope to be allowed to participate. Recruiters are looking at players during these preseason tournaments. He feels this is a great opportunity for students to go and participate and have cultural experience. Organizer of tournament would like to bring teams on a rotational basis and in turn bring teams to St. George. He requested that the Board look at the policy and allow an exception. Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned it has been discussed with the Board. The District will continue to consider options and other requests.

**Board Vice-President Kelly Blake adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m. as there was no further business to discuss.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**