



UNAPPROVED MINUTES

February 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The regular board meeting of the Piute County School District Board of Education was held on **February 13, 2024** at the Piute County Courthouse in Junction, Utah. President Jeremy Pearson called the meeting to order at **3:30 P.M.** Present was Jeremy Pearson, Teresa Morgan, Erin Jensen, and Rick Dalton. Neccia Dalton was virtually present. Also present was Superintendent Koby Willis and Business Administrator Dallas Sylvester. Guests at the meeting were: Shauna Bagley, Russ Lee, Heather Fautin, Jennifer Christensen, Dustin Shakespear, Jeri Sylvester, and Paul James.

Work Meeting: The board, Superintendent Willis, and Dallas Sylvester met to review the plan for the Master Board Award Program for the upcoming year.

Opening Remarks:

- Jeremy Pearson welcomed everyone to the meeting. After the pledge of allegiance was recited, opening remarks were given by Erin Jensen.

Program Reports:

- **CTE Program Report**
 - Jennifer Christensen and Dustin Shakespear presented the board with the CTE program report.
 - They explained what the Snow College Snow-Mobile is and how it will travel to each school to assist students in passing off CTE skills.
 - Piute High School students have completed 19 pathways in this school year.
 - The school counseling program review will be on April 11th.
 - The CTE program review will be 2024-2025.
- **PHS Principal Report**
 - Shauna Bagley gave the board the PHS principal report.
 - She mentioned that the theme for staff motivation this year is the honey bee and how bees work together. She has focused on sharing characteristics of honey bees at faculty meetings to help motivate the staff at the high school.
 - She gave a report on the accreditation that the high school just went through.
 - She explained that the accreditation report mentioned that students' needs are being met.
 - Some of the strengths of the district identified are: there is a positive culture in the school, there is great communication, and the staff feels like they have a voice in what is happening in the district.

- She shared four suggested goals as a result of the accreditation to work on.
 1. Increased focus on mental health.
 2. Better utilization of assessment data.
 3. Improve professional development program.
 4. Improvement of diversity and inclusion.

- Shauna mentioned that declining enrollment at the high school is a big challenge right now.
- She gave an update on the four-day school week.
- She shared that average daily attendance has increased by .5%.
- Shauna mentioned that the high school teachers are ahead in their curriculum this year due to the 4 day school week.
- She explained that students have missed less school for extracurricular activities due to having no school on Fridays.

- **OES Principal Report**
 - Heather Fautin gave the board the principal report for Oscarson Elementary.
 - She mentioned that the staff has chosen to work on motivation this year and they have been using several different strategies to implement that are research-based.
 - A “Top Dog” student is chosen each week.
 - The school meets everyone Monday morning for a flag ceremony and a school cheer.
 - The school has focused on SEL assemblies that are centered around motivation.
 - The school has focused on building community this year.
 - She shared highlights from each classroom in the school with the board.
 - She shared that the school doesn’t have a lot of data to measure improvement this school year, but from their own observations they have noticed the following:
 - Overall absenteeism is down this school year.
 - I-Ready and Acadience scores on low motivated students have improved.
 - Students have wanted to participate more this year.
 - Students’ quality of work has improved.

- **CES Principal Report**
 - Russ Lee gave the board the principal report for Circleville Elementary School.
 - There are currently 91 students K-6 at CES.
 - 10 students have individualized education plans.
 - 25 students are receiving speech services.
 - There are 25 preschool students this year.
 - There are 13 ESL students at the school this year.
 - He showed the board an Acadience Learning reading report that tracks student progress throughout the school year.
 - The school has been working to approve attendance at the school. He mentioned that they have a popcorn party each month for the class that has the best attendance.
 - He mentioned that students receive dojo tags to recognize them for positive student actions.
 - He mentioned that the summer reading program provides each student with 4 books that are delivered to them through the mail.
 - He explained to the board the different activities that the school does throughout the school year.

Public Hearing:

- **2024-2025 School Fees Schedule**
 - Superintendent Willis presented the public with the 2024-2025 school fees schedule.
 - The school fees schedule outlines the maximum fees students can expect to be charged for different sports, clubs, and activities.

Public Comments:

- The board gave time for the public to make comments.
 - No public comments were made.

Business Items:

- **National Social Media Litigation**
 - Superintendent Willis mentioned that the school district has the opportunity to join other school districts in national social media litigation.
 - William Shinoff from Frantz Law group joined the meeting virtually to present information to the board about the litigation.
 - Right now, there are 21 school districts from Utah who have joined the lawsuit.
 - The lawsuit is to sue social media companies for intentionally addicting children to social media platforms.
 - The defendants are Meta, TikTok, Snapchat, and Youtube.
 - The trial will begin around September of 2025.
 - This is not a class action, it is a mass action litigation.
 - If there is no financial recovery, the district will not have to pay any attorney fees.
 - The purpose of the lawsuit is to make social media platforms safer for children to use.
 - Teresa Morgan made a motion to approve the school district to participate in the mass action litigation. Erin Jensen seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- **Harmony Education/ SOEP/ Online School**
 - Superintendent Willis gave an explanation of what a partnership with Harmony Education would look like.
 - A student would enroll in the school district and the district would contract with Harmony to provide online education to the student.
 - Representatives from Harmony Education were on the Zoom link to explain more about the partnership and answer questions from the school board.
 - The board made no formal decisions on a partnership with Harmony Education or pursuing an online school.
 - The school board will continue to look into the possibility of starting an online school.
- **Appointment of Superintendent**
 - A draft of the superintendent contract for fiscal years 2025-2026 was presented to the board.
 - Erin Jensen made a motion to approve the appointment of Superintendent Willis as the superintendent for fiscal years 2025-2026. Teresa Morgan seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **Appointment of Business Administrator**
 - A draft of the business administrator contract for fiscal years 2025-2026 was presented to the board.
 - Rick Dalton made a motion to approve the appointment of Dallas Sylvester as the business administrator for fiscal years 2025-2026. Erin Jensen seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **Piute County School District Calendar 2024-2025**
 - Superintendent Willis presented the board with the draft of the school district calendar for 2024-2025.
 - Erin Jensen made a motion to approve the school district calendar for 2024-2025. Teresa Morgan seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **School Fees Policy #6015 Annual Review**
 - Superintendent Willis presented school fees policy #6015 to the school board for annual review.
 - The school board reviewed the policy and made no changes.

- **School District Specific License for Warren Archer**
 - Superintendent Willis mentioned that the district will need to approve a school district specific license for Warren Archer to teach an EMT course at the high school.
 - Erin Jensen made a motion to approve an LEA specific license for Warren Archer. Rick Dalton seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **New Elementary Schools Architectural Services**
 - Superintendent Willis mentioned that the committee met today to select an architect for the new elementary schools.
 - The committee will notify the firm that was selected tomorrow and work towards price negotiation.
 - If a price can't be agreed on with the selected firm, the district will contact the second firm and negotiate price with them.

- **Governor Cox's Cellphone Request**
 - Superintendent Willis asked Shauna Bagley to give a report on the newly implemented cell phone policy at the high school.
 - Shauna mentioned that the staff at the high school has implemented rules and guidelines for cell phones in the classroom.
 - She mentioned that the students have reacted positively to the changes.
 - Shauna explained that we need to teach students how to use their phones appropriately and responsibly.

- **Americorps Math Mentors**
 - Principal Lee explained the Americorps Math Mentor agreement to the board.
 - Americorps specializes in helping students improve their math abilities.
 - Americorps has a program that will pay for a math mentor paraprofessional to come into the school and assist students.

- The mentor will have to apply through Americorps and will have to spend at least 70% of their time helping students with math.
- The mentor will use ST Math to work with students.
- The school district will not have to cover any of the costs, all costs will be covered by Americorps.
- Teresa Morgan made a motion to approve the agreement with Americorps Math. Erin Jensen seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **Teen Center and Bus Garage Update**
 - Superintendent Willis gave the board an update on the construction for the teen center and the bus garage.
 - The construction for the teen center is now out for bid.
 - The bus garage plans are almost ready to go and the project will be put out for bid soon.

- **Softball Field Proposal**
 - Superintendent Willis mentioned that the district would like to construct a new softball field north of the existing baseball field.
 - He presented the board with images of possible locations and orientations of the new field.
 - The board will continue looking into the design and construction of the new softball field.

- **Consortium Food Services Director Position With Garfield**
 - Piute County School District and Garfield County School District would like to create a shared full-time Food Service Director position between the two school districts. The position would ensure fiscal and operational compliance in Food Service programs. This position would provide support for school cooks and cook managers.
 - It is estimated that the district would cover between 20-25% of the cost of the position and Garfield would cover 75-80% of the position.
 - The fiscal agent will be whatever district the employee lives in.
 - The school district will continue to work with Garfield School District to figure out the details of the position.
 - Teresa Morgan made a motion to approve the consortium for a food services director with Garfield County School District. Erin Jensen second the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **Approval of Minutes and Vouchers**
 - Rick Dalton made a motion to approve the January 2024 board meeting minutes, the January payroll, and district vouchers 24000511-24000602. Erin Jensen seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **New Hires, Assignments, and Reassignments**
 - Superintendent Willis presented the new hires in the district. They are as follows:

New Hires:

- Hire Eric Jessen as the head track coach.
- Hire Rodney Mayo as an assistant track coach.

- Rick Dalton made a motion to approve the new hires. Erin Jensen seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Information Items:

- A. Employee Statements of Intent Update-** Superintendent Willis presented the board with the employee statements of intent update.
- B. Proposed New Necessarily Existent Small Schools Funding Formula-** Superintendent Willis gave the board an update on the proposed new NESS funding formula.

Executive Session : None

Adjournment

- At 6:43 P.M. Rick Dalton made a motion to adjourn the **February 13, 2024** meeting of the school board. Teresa Morgan seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.