

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

April 16, 2024

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District met in a Board Meeting and Closed Executive Session Tuesday, April 16, 2024, in the Board Room of the Administration Building at 465 South 400 East, Suite 300, Salt Lake City, Utah.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: President Nate Salazar, Vice President Bryce Williams, Jenny Sika, Ashley Anderson, Mohamed Baayd, Bryan Jensen, Kristi Swett, and student member Jaziayah Evans.

Members Excused:

Also Present: Elizabeth Grant, Superintendent; Alan Kearsley, Business Administrator; Isaac Astill, Executive Director of Auxiliary Services; Sandra Buendia, Executive Director of Educational Equity and Student Services; Yándary Chatwin, Executive Director of Communications and Community Relations; Logan Hall, Executive Director of Human Resource Services; Tiffany Hall, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning; Kristina Kindl, General Counsel; Leeson Taylor, Chief Officer of School Leadership and Performance; Sam Quantz, Chief Information Officer; Liz Baldwin, Administrative Assistant to the Business Administrator; and others.

In accordance with the agenda prepared for the Board Meeting on April 16, 2024, six motions were made. Items are reported as listed on the agenda and not necessarily in the order they were considered.

1. BOARD MEETING OPENS FOR CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was called to order by President Salazar, who presided.

At 4:37 p.m. the motion was made:

\*(1) That the Board meet in closed session to discuss the character or professional competence or physical or mental health of an individual, pending or reasonably imminent litigation, collective bargaining, and the deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems. The motion was approved unanimously.

\*\* (Jensen and Swett)

Present for the closed session were President Salazar, Vice President Williams, Ashley Anderson, Mohamed Baayd, Bryan Jensen, Kristi Swett, Elizabeth Grant, Alan Kearsley, Kristina Kindl, Leeson Taylor, and Logan Hall.

2. PUBLIC MEETING CONVENES

Exhibit: 3B2  
Board Meeting: 03/19/2024

A. OPENING ITEMS

1. Welcome

President Salazar welcomed everyone to the meeting. He recognized Bri Deleon and Adrienne Lobato representing the Salt Lake Association of School Administrators (“SLASA”), James Tobler and Mike Harmon representing the Salt Lake Education Association (“SLEA”), Chris Krogh representing the Salt Lake Transportation Association, Elia Ocampo representing the Buildings and Grounds Association, and Tonya Slaughter representing Child Nutrition.

VOTE RECORD	AYE	ABSTAIN	NAY	ABSENT
WILLIAMS	1,2,3,4,5,6			
SIKA	1,2,3,4,5,6			
ANDERSON	1,2,3,4,6	5		
SALAZAR	1,2,3,4,5,6			
BAAYD	1,2,4,6	5	3	
JENSEN	1,2,4,6	3,5		
SWETT	1,2,3,4,6	5		
A Absent	Ab Abstention	F Failed		
N "No" Vote	NA No Action	T Tabled		
W Withdrawn	*Unanimous Approval			
**Members Making Motion				

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice President Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Recognitions:

a. 2024-25 Student Board Member

President Salazar welcomed Hilina Teklemehdin and read a brief introduction of the new 2025-25 Student Board member. She introduced herself and is excited to be an advocate for her peers.

b. 2024-25 Alternate Student Board Member

President Salazar welcomed Mary Jane “Vasey” Payne and read a brief introduction of the 2024-25 Alternate Student Board Member.

c. Battle of the Books Winning Teams

Dr. Tiffany Hall, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning thanked the district teacher Librarians, the Salt Lake Education Foundation, and those who helped make Battle of the Books a success. She shared pictures and winners in each of the several brackets.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

\*(2) A motion was made that the Board approve the 29 items on the Consent Agenda as listed below. The motion was approved unanimously.

\*\* (Baayd and Anderson)

1. Purchases/Accounting Reports
  - a. Increase-Arbiterpay
  - b. Increase-Grainger
  - c. Increase-Joe Granato
  - d. Increase-Joe Granato FFVP
  - e. American Mechanical-AC Replacement
  - f. Harmon & Sons-Fertilizer
  - g. Subscription-Relayhub
  - h. Lawn Mower-Turf Equipment
  - i. Teacher Laptops-Vendor
  - j. Under 50K Change Orders and POs; Under 50K POs (Excel)
  - k. Budget Report
  - l. Payment Voucher Report
  - m. School Financial Reports
  - n. Administrative Stipend Report
2. Minutes for the Board Meeting March 19, 2024
3. Minutes for the Board Meeting-April 1, 2024
4. Human Resource Services Report
5. Student Overnight Travel
6. 2023-24 Board Calendar
7. Appointment of 2024-25 Student Board Member
8. Updated Board Policies:
  - a. C-1: Family and Community Engagement
  - b. G-5: District Reconfigurations and Long-Term School Closures
  - c. G-8: Transporting Students
  - d. G-16: Naming and Renaming Facilities
  - e. G-21: Youth Suicide Prevention Programs
  - f. 1-4: Board Authorized Charter Schools
  - g. I-14: Student Planning, College and Career Readiness, School Counseling, and Work-Based Learning
  - h. I-22: Use of Copyrighted Materials
  - i. P-8: Acceptable Employee Use of Internet, Computers, and Network Resources

Superintendent Elizabeth Grant asked for a point of privilege. She introduced Ryan Oaks as the new 2024-25 East High School principal and expressed her excitement for the upcoming school year. Mr. Oaks came forward and introduced himself to the board.

C. REQUEST TO SPEAK

Karen Kempe-Schultz spoke about the need to increase the number of teachers in schools with high English Language Learner populations.

Courtney Lee spoke on behalf of Bonneville School Community Council about the start and end times for elementary schools.

Jenny Makosky spoke about the Magnet Extended Learning Program (ELP) and enrollment.

Amanda Longwell spoke about school closures, new contract positions, and competitive bidding.

Amy Fehlberg spoke about bathroom safety in the high schools.

One written comment was received and has been attached to the Official Minutes.

D. REPORTS

1. Capital Projects Fund Budget

Business Administrator Alan Kearsley reviewed the Capital Projects Fund Budget and answered questions from Board members. He shared the purpose of this fund and some of the budget highlights for the 2024-25 fiscal year. He explained the process for creating the 2024-25 fiscal year budget.

Board member Anderson asked what the best way for the public to stay engaged in the possible bond topic. Mr. Kearsley explained the process of how information would be gathered from the public regarding adding a bond to the November ballot for public vote.

2. School Closure and Boundary Adjustment Transition Activities Update

Superintendent Grant provided an update on school closures and boundary adjustments. She said the Human Resource Services department has placed employees associated with closing schools in new positions throughout the district. She said the district has been working with the city to make sure all walking and busing routes will be safe for students and their families. She thanked all those who have been working to help create a seamless transition for students, their families, and employees.

Board members asked questions about current walking routes and shared a concern of crosswalks missing flags.

3. Cell Phone Use Survey Summary

General Counsel, Kristina Kindl and Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Dr. Tiffany Hall explained the data gathering process and shared a summary of the survey data. Ms. Kindl reviewed Board Policy S-11: Student Electronic Devices in Schools and compared this policy with other model policies regarding cell phone use. Both Dr. Hall and Ms. Kindl answered questions from Board members.

Board members discussed possible reasons why students are using cell phones in schools and the concern of creating a balance between using them for instructional and personal access. The board asked the Board Policy Subcommittee to come up with recommendations for the Board regarding how to move forward with cell phone use in schools.

E. DISCUSSION AGENDA

1. 2024-25 School LAND Trust Plan

Dr. Leeson Taylor, Chief Officer of School Leadership and Performance reviewed with the Board how to access the LAND Trust Plans and a timeline for the process of possibly approving the plans. Superintendent Grant said reviewing the plans gives the Board an opportunity to become familiar with the plans, so they can answer questions when the topic is discussed in future meetings with the community.

2. Weapons Detection Systems Survey Summary

Dr. Taylor said the goal of weapon detection systems is to create a safe and secure environment for learning to occur. He provided a summary of the data collected during this survey. He concluded by answering questions from the Board.

Superintendent Grant asked the Board to provide feedback that will help the district make thoughtful decisions for creating safe schools.

3. Washington 4-6 Magnet Program Update

Dr. Tiffany Hall and Extended Learning Program Supervisor, Dr. Alex Parsons provided an update on the Washington Elementary School's pilot 4-6 Magnet ELP and possible program alternatives. They answered questions from the Board. Board members expressed concerns of the enrollment differences at each Magnet ELP location.

<sup>AN</sup>(3) A motion was made to move the Washington 4-6 Magnet ELP Update to the action agenda. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 to 2 with Board Member Jensen voting to abstain and Board Member Baayd voting no.

\*\* (Williams and Sika)

4. New Contract Positions

Business Administrator Kearsley and Logan Hall, Executive Director of Human Resource Services, answered questions from Board members. Board members spoke about prioritizing new positions that serve students. Superintendent Grant asked the Board to consider the amount of work and the value of adding positions to help keep the work moving forward.

\* (4) A motion was made to move New Contract Positions to the action agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

\*\* (Anderson and Baayd)

F. ACTION AGENDA

Items moved to the action agenda.

Washington Pilot 4-6 Magnet ELP Update

Prior to the motion Superintendent Grant clarified the two options for Washington's pilot 4-6 Magnet ELP.

<sup>AF</sup> (5) A motion was made to maintain the Washington pilot 4-6 Magnet ELP as discussed in the PowerPoint for another year. The motion did not pass with Board members Swett, Jensen, Baayd, and Anderson voting to abstain.  
\*\*(Sika and Swett)

Prior to voting the Board discussed 2 options and expressed wanting to make thoughtful decisions about the pilot program for the students and parents directly affected.

New Contract Positions

\* (6) A motion was made to approve the New Contract Positions. The motion was approved unanimously. Board Member Jensen added comment with his vote expressing trust in the Finance Committee and Business Administrator Kearsley.  
\*\*(Williams and Anderson)

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Grant mentioned that the HB257 bill will go into effect May 1, 2024. She briefly summarized the bill. To make sure the district complies schools must notify students of the law, develop privacy plans as needed, and address any violations. She also shared with the Board some of the fun things happening in the schools including Pre-K students participating in a science grant involving LEGOS to help with STEM learning, school Earth Day events, and how 84 % of juniors in district high schools participated in ACT test.

H. BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS

Board Member Jensen spoke about the decision-making process to approve the Consent Agenda. He said the recent National School Boards Association (NSBA) conference attended by Board members was beneficial and hopes at some time to be able to share some of what was taught during the conference. He concluded by sharing some upcoming dates for meetings that Board members can choose to attend.

Board Member Swett spoke about working together to make sure correct information is shared with the public.

Board Member Anderson gave committee updates. She invited Board members to attend the upcoming Earth Day Expo. She spoke about making sure students' dignity is not violated and thanked administrators for quickly resolving any issues.

Vice President Williams spoke about the NSBA conference he attended. He also shared 2 upcoming events he will be attending, Rose Park Elementary School Raptor ride, and an Ensign Elementary School Earth Day event.

Board Member Baayd thanked the district for the great things happening in the district. He urged everyone to be aware of feelings and emotion associated with upcoming changes in schools.

Board Member Sika she expressed love for the district and the hard work happening.

President Salazar thanked Ms. Swett for her service at the national level and for representing the Salt Lake City School District. He attended Edison Elementary School's recent Career Day and said it was a huge success.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by President Salazar at 9:55 p.m.

---

Alan Kearsley  
Business Administrator

LB

**Salt Lake City School District  
Addition to the Minutes of the Board Meeting 4/16/2024**

\*The Official Minutes of the Board Meeting held on April 16, 2024, will be posted upon approval by the Board of Education.

**OFFICIAL EXHIBITS OF BOARD MEETING**

Official exhibits provided to the Board and made available to the public as part of the meeting agenda can be found [here](#).

**ADDITION TO THE MINUTES**

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District acts by a vote of a majority of the Board members in an open and public meeting. Statements by individual Board members, in or out of Board meetings, written, oral, or in social media, do not necessarily represent the views of the majority of the Board or any other Board member. Nevertheless, out of respect to the elected office that each Board member holds and consistent with state law and Board policy, the Board allows its members to attach to Board meeting minutes any other information that any member requests. When the Board votes to approve minutes, that vote signifies that the minutes are a correct record of what occurred and what was asked to be included in the minutes. It does not signify any individual Board member's agreement with the substance of the content.

The following information was distributed in the public meeting of the Board, and has been included in the minutes at the request of the Board member(s):

Additions to the minutes:

[Written Public Comment – Paula Novak  
Battle of the Books 2024](#)