

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Study Session
and Closed Executive Session

February 16, 2016

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District met in a Board Study Session and Closed Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 440 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Heather Bennett, Vice President Tiffany Sandberg, J. Michael Clára, Rosemary Emery, Melissa Ford, Katherine Kennedy, and Kristi Swett.

Members Excused: Christian Cortes, Student Member.

Also Present: Superintendent McKell Withers; Janet M. Roberts, Business Administrator; Kristina Kindl, Director of Policy and Legal Services; Kathleen Christy, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Equity and Advocacy; Craig Ruesch, Interim Executive Director, Human Resources; Barbara Kuehl, Chief Academic Officer; Brian Conley, Chief School Improvement Officer; Larry Madden, Chief Operations Officer; Michael Williams, Director of Development and External Relations; Linda Richins, Principal, Clayton Middle School; Susan McFarland, President, Salt Lake Education Association (SLEA); Florence Vincent, board legal counsel from Prince, Yeates and Geldzahler; Janet Clark, representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association; Jason Olsen, Public Information Officer; David Litvack, Deputy Chief of Staff Salt Lake City Mayor's Office; Allison Sisam and Tamara Suzuki from the Business Administration Office, and others in the audience.

In accordance with the agenda prepared for the Board Study Session of February 16, 2016, five motions were made. Items are reported as listed in the agenda and not necessarily in the order they were considered.

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

1. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Litigation, Negotiations, and/or Property

At 6:03 p.m. a motion was made, after which members excused the audience and remained in the board room:

*(1) That the board meet in Closed Executive Session to consider litigation, negotiations, and/or property.

** (Kennedy and Sandberg)

Board Study Session

February 16, 2016

Present for Closed Session for litigation, negotiations, and/or property were Heather Bennett, Tiffany Sandberg, J. Michael Clára, Rosemary Emery, Melissa Ford, Katherine Kennedy, Kristi Swett, McKell Withers, Janet Roberts, Kristina Kindl, and Florence Vincent, board legal counsel from Prince, Yeates and Geldzahler.

Board members adjourned from the Closed Executive Session for litigation, negotiations, and/or property at 6:17 p.m.

B. Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual

VOTE RECORD	AYE	NAY	ABSENT
BENNETT	X		
CLÁRA	X		
EMERY	X		
FORD	X		
KENNEDY	X		
SANDBERG	X		
SWETT	X		
A Absent	Ab Abstention	F Failed	
N "No" Vote	NA No Action	T Tabled	
W Withdrawn	*Unanimous Approval		
**Members Making Motion			

At 6:18 p.m. a motion was made:

*(2) That the board meet in Closed Executive Session to consider character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

** (Swett and Emery)

Present for Closed Session for Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual were Heather Bennett, Tiffany Sandberg, J. Michael Clára, Rosemary Emery, Melissa Ford, Katherine Kennedy, Kristi Swett, McKell Withers, Janet Roberts, Kristina Kindl, and Florence Vincent, board legal counsel from Prince, Yeates and Geldzahler.

Board members adjourned from the Closed Executive Session for character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual at 6:35 p.m. and returned to the Board Study Session at 6:38 p.m.

2. BOARD STUDY SESSION

- President Bennett welcomed everyone to the Board Study Session, and excused Christian Cortes, Student Board Member and thanked the students from Clayton Middle School for coming. She outlined the purpose of the Study Session. She recognized the presence of David Litvack, Deputy Chief of Staff Salt Lake City Mayor's Office, and asked him to join the board at the table. She also recognized Susan McFarland, President, SLEA and Janet Clark, representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association.
- Bryce Gillars & Conner Webb, students at Clayton Middle School, led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

*(3) A motion was made that the board approve the one item included in the Consent Agenda. The item is listed below.

**(Swett and Sandberg)

1. The Purchasing Report dated February 16, 2016, including a breakdown of items costing over and under \$50,000, and increases to existing purchase orders.

B. REPORTS

1. Mayor's Request. President Bennett expressed the board's approval to provide a place at the table for a representative from the Mayor's office. She clarified the Mayor's representative will not be a voting member of the board. She said the board is considering the Mayor's request to participate in closed sessions regarding the selection of a new Superintendent. Mr. Litvack thanked the board for accommodating the request and stated the request from the Mayor's office is based on a desire to work together so that all students have an opportunity to succeed.
2. Addressing Community Concerns Raised in Public Comment. President Bennett stated there was a suggestion to add an item to the agenda in order to address issues raised during the request to speak portion of Board Business Meetings. Individuals addressing the board will be contacted by a staff member who will follow up on their issues in the next Study Session.
 - a. Meeting with Community Leaders. At the February 2, Board Business Meeting, members of the public addressed the board on Education Equity. They had submitted a letter to the board. President Bennett reported she drafted a response to the letter with the caveat she was not speaking on behalf of the board. She e-mailed a copy of the letter to all board members. The board will continue to discuss ongoing concerns.
 - b. Clayton Middle School Magnet Extended Learning Program (MELP) Busing Concerns. Ms. Kuehl shared a presentation regarding busing concerns. She noted it was the same presentation she presented to Clayton Middle School patrons last week. She proposed a change to MELP busing to address possible inequities. She shared seventh grade MELP data. She would like MELP busing to become more equitable, and transportation to be used more effectively. A copy of the presentation has been added to the official minutes.

Ms. Kuehl proposed a program she believes would be more consistent regarding MELP program boundaries, noting students with a "home" magnet program would be transported according to state transportation guidelines. Students choosing an alternate magnet program may be provided with a UTA bus pass, a process already in place for West High School students.

Ms. Kuehl addressed concerns from board members, and answered questions regarding the MELP program. Ms. Roberts answered questions about state reimbursement for transportation.

^W(4) A motion was made to move the Clayton Middle School Magnet ELP Busing issue to the action agenda. The motion was withdrawn by the maker.
**(Clára)

Prior to withdrawal of the motion, President Bennett stated she did not see a reason to move MELP busing to the action agenda as it had not been posted as an action or discussion item. Ms. Vincent stated the board cannot act on an item that was not on the Discussion Agenda. The board discussed concerns about equitable busing and suggested a study of MELP placement and transportation be conducted.

Board members thanked the Clayton Middle School students for coming, and encouraged parents and students to talk to Ms. Kuehl if they have any questions.

C. STUDY TOPICS

1. 2016-2021 Student Achievement Plan: Equity and Advocacy Goals. Dr. Christy spoke about the definition of Educational Equity and Excellence. She stated the essential goals are to put specific timelines in place and address issues that have been raised by the community, the equity leadership team, and Salt Lake Association of School Administrators (SLASA). She said equity provides additional support so all students can achieve the same excellence goals. Dr. Christy distributed a document entitled "Salt Lake City School District Educational Equity". She also distributed SAGE data for Language Arts, Science, and Math, and a strategic planning template that outlines goals for Educational Equity and Advocacy. Dr. Christy said she is expanding professional development to include a five year plan being developed with SLEA and the University of Utah. Copies of these handouts have been added to the official minutes. The board discussed the template and suggested changes.

Ms. Emery distributed a report that showed a decrease in average class sizes for ninth and tenth grade. She believes students are falling through the cracks. Superintendent Withers spoke about earnest and persistent efforts to keep kids in school. President Bennett would like to see snapshots three times a year. A copy of the report has been added to the official minutes.

Budget Development, Legislative Action, and Board Priorities. Ms. Roberts spoke about Senate Bill 38, which is the charter school local replacement bill that could affect funding for the district. She said the Utah State Office of Education (USOE) miscalculated the district's liability since 2009. She said even if the law doesn't change, the district will have to pay an additional \$700,000 next year, and approximately \$335,000 more for charter schools if S.B. 38 passes. Ms. Roberts distributed the Charter School Funding Timeline and Charter Schools Enrollment &

Funding Charts. Copies of Ms. Roberts' handouts have been added to the official minutes and will be included in board members Annual Budget Development binders for the board members.

Superintendent Withers distributed a chart comparing State funding for fiscal year 2008, before cuts were made, and 2016, and total funding per student for the same period. A copy of this report has been added to the official minutes. Ms. Roberts will put a copy in the Annual Budget Development binders for the board members.

D. DISCUSSION AGENDA:

1. Logistics of Next Steps in the Superintendent Search. President Bennett discussed the application process and noted the consultants will be at the district office March 14–16, 2016. The consultants will help narrow the field of applicants, and have presented options for the interview process. It was suggested that small groups of board members meet with the semi-finalists. President Bennett stated the consultants have expressed the need for confidentiality during the process. She referred to the important dates in exhibit D1, and asked that board members arrange their schedule accordingly. President Bennett noted final interviews would be conducted in a public meeting.

E. ACTION AGENDA:

1. Board Support of Equity Priorities

President Bennett discussed the letter the board drafted in response to the memo received from a subcommittee established to inform and advocate. She referred to the definitions of educational equity and social justice that Dr. Christy had distributed. She would like the board to consider the re-drafted letter, and definitions.

*(5) A motion was made that the board accept the response letter to the group of District Administrators.

**(Ford, Swett)

Prior the approval of the motion, President Bennett handed out the revised letter explaining the changes. A copy of the letter has been added to the official minutes. It was decided to discuss the definitions of educational equity and social justice a later date.

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

1. Miscellaneous Updates:

ESSA Implementation. Board members requested discussion about Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in a study session. Superintendent Withers stated new Federal regulations need to be in place by August of this year. Superintendent Withers will continue to provide updates to the board.

Legislative Update. Superintendent Withers distributed a list of current bills that are being tracked by the legislative committees. A copy of the list has been added to the official minutes.

2. Other Reports.

Superintendent Withers distributed a current late start survey chart. A copy of the chart has been added to the official minutes. The three traditional high school principals have been considering two starting times. Board members discussed the next steps for high school start times.

Superintendent Withers stated this Friday is the Utah School Boards Association (USBA) Day on the Hill. Superintendent Withers invited board members, and said representatives from the Governor's office will be in attendance.

President Bennett spoke about the superintendent search focus group meeting held with high school students. She said she was impressed with the students' perspective, changes they would like to see in the district, and with their leadership.

Superintendent Withers noted teachers could go to the Capital to meet their legislators on the non-student professional development day, March 4, 2016.

G. ADJOURNMENT

The Board Study Session was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Janet M. Roberts
Business Administrator

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Salt Lake City School District
Addition to the Minutes of the Board Study Session 2/16/2016

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 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):

Magnet ELP Busing Presentation	Agenda Item B2(b)
Salt Lake City School District Educational Equity	Agenda Item C1(a)
USOE SAGE Data for Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science	Agenda Item C1(b)
Strategic Planning Template for Educational Equity and Advocacy	Agenda Item C1(c)
Salt Lake City School District FTE Change Needed to Achieve An Average Class Size of 30 in 9 th & 10 th Grade	Agenda Item C1(d)
Charter School Funding Timeline	Agenda Item C2(a)
Charter Schools Enrollment & Funding Charts	Agenda Item C2(b)
Comparison of State Funding FY 2008 to 2016	Agenda Item C2(c)
Revised Draft of Response distributed by President Bennett	Agenda Item E1
2016 General Session Legislation – Bills being tracked	Agenda Item F1(a)
Summary of SLCSO Start Time Survey	Agenda Item F1(b)