

January 2023 Board Meeting

Meeting Location: District Office and Virtual

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Members present

Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lucille Cody, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

Others present

Superintendent Ron Nielson, Business Administrator Tyrel Pemberton, Human Resource Director Laura Palmer, Assistant Superintendent Julie Holt, Assistant Superintendent Christine Fitzgerald, Paul Murdock, Kari Pugh, Jennifer Johnson, Trevor Olsen, Brenda Whitehorse (*virtual*), Tom Corrao, David Brown, Aaron Brewer, Jared Brown, Eva Ewald

Meeting called to order at 3:00 PM

A. Approval of Agenda - 3:00 p.m.

1. Agenda Approval

Motion to Approve the Agenda, including time during Public Session to allow for new board member congratulations following swearing in.

Motion by Steve Black, second by Nelson Yellowman.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lucille Cody, Lori Maughan, Steve Black

Abstain: Colleen Benally

2. New Board Member Oath of Office- Jennifer Johnson- 3 min

School District Accountant and certified Notary Jennifer Johnson conducted the swearing in of new board member Colleen Benally and returning elect board member Nelson Yellowman.

3. Board Leadership Position Elections- Ron Nielson- 5 min

It was proposed that due to the outcome of the County Elections and the adjustments to the board as a result, Merri Shumway would be the At Large Board Member for the duration of the 2-year board term remaining in her and Board Member Nelson Yellowman's tenure. Ms. Shumway agreed. No official action was necessary for this designation.

Motion to nominate Lori Maughan as Board President for the position of Board President.

Motion by Steve Black, second by Merri B Shumway.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lucille Cody, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

Motion to cease nominations for Board President.

Motion by Nelson Yellowman, second by Colleen Benally.

Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lucille Cody, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

Motion to nominate Steve Black for the position of Board Vice President.

Motion by Lori Maughan, second by Merri B Shumway.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lucille Cody, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

Motion to cease nominations for Board Vice President.

Motion by Merri B Shumway, second by Colleen Benally.

Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lucille Cody, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

B. Appoint New Board Member - District #2

1. Ranking of District #2 Candidates – Laura Palmer – 15 min

Human Resources Director Laura Palmer outlined the procedure for ranking the four applicants for the District #2 appointment. She noted that the ranking will be displayed for public view but board member names will remain anonymous. All board members received an email containing the SurveyMonkey link to rank the applicants. The initial ranking resulted in a tie between Kyle Hosler and MariAnell Barton. A second ranking survey was sent and conducted anonymously. The ranking showed the members ranked Ms. Barton highest ranked choice, with Mr. Hosler being second.

2. Action to Solidify top Candidate Ranking for District #2 Board Member

Motion to appoint MariAnell Barton as the interim school board representative for District 2.

Motion by Steve Black, second by Nelson Yellowman.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lucille Cody, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

3. New Board Member Oath of Office – Jennifer Johnson – 5 min

School District Accountant and certified Notary Jennifer Johnson conducted the swearing in of new board member MariAnell Barton.

C. SJ Quest Update

1. Spotlight Report- Late Start/Snow Day Procedure Manual- Ron Nielson- 3 min

Superintendent Nielson shared the Emergency Response Manual with the Board and noted the sections pertaining to student safety in regard to Winter Storm and Snow Days. He outlined the processes followed when decisions are made by administration that affect schools, extracurricular activities and student transportation when it comes to adverse or unsafe weather.

Board Members Nelson Yellowman and Colleen Benally noted concerns regarding muddy roads, power outages and other unexpected variables.

D. Board Discussion Items *(Note, discussion items not discussed before 5PM break will be discussed later in the agenda at the board's discretion)*

1. Targeted School Improvement Update - Christine Fitzgerald - 5 min

Assistant Superintendent Christine Fitzgerald submitted an overview of the Fall 2022 Targeted School Improvement (TSI) status. She noted that the criteria to be selected for TSI is to perform consecutively below the 5% threshold for two consecutive years, and the criteria to exit the TSI program is to perform above the 5% threshold for two consecutive years. Potential rule changes may be presented during legislative sessions.

2. Concurrent Enrollment Update - Christine Fitzgerald - 5 min

Assistant Superintendent shared the Concurrent Enrollment participation numbers for the secondary schools in the district. She expressed appreciation to USU for providing the programs for our students. She noted that participation numbers declined specifically due to Covid-19 circumstances in several schools. With classroom and face to face instruction returning, it is expected the participation numbers will increase. There is also increased grant and funding sources directed to Concurrent Enrollment, as well as added course offerings that are expected to bring positive participation results.

3. TES School Land Trust Amendment - Christy Fitzgerald - 5 min

With a delay in hiring a Paraprofessional at TES, there was excess budgeted funds available, added to some carryover, created available funds which the SCC and parents requested to use to

cover the cost of at-home STEM kits for families to use, as well as purchasing STEAM related take-home books.

4. Capital Plan Follow-up - Tyrel Pemberton - 30 min

Business Administrator Tyrel Pemberton shared an overview of recommended capital projects and fund breakdown for each. The projects are in alignment with discussions that have been held over the past several months and the summary proposes the four most urgent projects.

Remodeling schools for more secure entryways is the highest priority, with remodeling transportation bays and offices, the Blanding Elementary School Rebuild and building and key management following. Superintendent voiced his support of the business administrator's proposal of the 4 projects, and noted that these projects have also been verified as urgent needs with facilities director.

It was noted that the State funding that has been discussed from the state would likely be more accessible if the district prepares all bids, evaluations, and locations as soon as possible so projects can be "shovel ready" and prepared to move forward as soon as the funding is earmarked at the State level.

Mr. Pemberton assured the board that we are not spending any money that did not NEED to be spent, and is necessary. He noted that the district may have opportunity for future applications for funding from the state, and will have better opportunity to receive funding if we are more progressed in the process administratively.

Board Member Merri Shumway voiced her support of the projects, specifically the Blanding Elementary Rebuild. Board Member Nelson Yellowman shared his agreement that the board and district should move forward and position themselves for future potential funding.

5. Superintendent Search Process Discussion- Ron Nielson- 10 min

Board Members expressed their support of the in-house applicants that have submitted applications for the position. It was determined that candidates in-house will be interviewed on February 8th, starting the meeting in the morning in order to have one travel day for out of town board members. Applicants will be notified by the Human Resource office with their interview time. Human Resources Director Laura Palmer was directed to send standard sample questions to the board members for their review and the board could also suggest questions they would like to be considered for the interview. Administration would finalize the list prior to the interview date and submit it to the board members for review.

6. Secondary Schools Winter Activities Schedule and applicable 150 Mile Forms - Ron Nielson - 5 min

Secondary Schools Winter Activities Schedules for WHS and ARL are submitted for review, along with applicable 150 Mile forms. The board discussed the policy regarding overnight trips for middle schools; administration stated that overnight trips are approved for Junior High

schools if the student is participating in a Region or State level competition. Administration will review these closely on a case-by-case basis. Albert R. Lyman petitioned for potential overnight trips for FFA Region and State Competitions. District Administration will discuss the policy and parameters with ARL Principal and FFA advisors to ensure policy is followed.

7. USBA Annual Conference Share: Ron Nielson- 5 min

Superintendent Nielson opened the discussion, inviting board members to share any information they received from the USBA Annual Conference held earlier in the month. New Board Member Colleen Benally commented that she was enlightened as to how much goes into the board and the work that needs to be done by the board, specifically house bills and governmental activism from the board. Board Member Merri Shumway commented that reporting "near misses" pertaining to Risk Management was discussed as a potential tool to get a better picture of school safety, safety incidents and needs in schools and on school property. Currently the culture is to report "incidents" however, "near misses" of incidents can also bring valuable information.

8. Proposed 2023-24 Fee Waiver & Spend Plans/Program Sustainability Fees & Policies 6130 Students, Tuition, Fees and Fines & 1145 Relations with the Public and Fundraising and Donations - Discussion- Ron Nielson- 5 min

Superintendent Nielson and Business Administrator Pemberton presented the proposed Fee Waiver and Spend Plans/Program Sustainability Fees for the upcoming school year. The board is required to review the plans and request public comment pertaining to the plans for a minimum of two board meetings. State Law states that the plans must be approved by April 1st to remain in compliance. The proposed plans could be approved in the February 8th meeting, or they could be approved in the March 8th meeting.

9. HB 215 Funding for Teacher Salaries and Optional Education Opportunities Discussion – Ron Nielson – 10 min

Superintendent Nielson gave an overview of HB215, and emphasized statewide concern. The bill would create a salary and benefits increase (except for Classified and Administrative staff), as well as a \$8,000 scholarship per student for alternative education options for students should they opt out of Public School. The Senate passed HB215 today, and will move to the Legislature.

10. SJSB Board Meeting Dates Adjustments – Lori Maughan – 5 min

Due to schedule conflicts from Board President Lori Maughan, she requests moving the April 12th board meeting to April 5th.

E. School/Director - Board Reflection Opportunity 4:00 p.m.

1. Student Services Report - Trevor Olsen- 10 min

Student Services Director Trevor Olsen shared goals, progress highlights, celebrations and challenges of the programs under his department. He noted the emphasis on Mental Health in schools and communities, and discussed collaborations with social workers and mental and physical health agencies in all communities. Building space for crucial private conversations is a challenge in all schools, many times counselors will schedule shared space if needed. Challenges in basic student needs such as food and shelter are also on the forefront of concern. Mr. Olsen commented that the resources for student assistance, whether physical, emotional, or mental are being advertised and promoted via various social media platforms and in printed material, including the social media app SafeUT which students can access help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Mr. Olsen highlighted and commended his Crisis Response Team and noted that they also struggle with space to function with confidentiality in the crowded schools, but they have been vital in many difficult situations and have been very effective and quick to assist.

2. IEC Director Report- Brenda Whitehorse- 10 min

Bilingual Education Director Brenda Whitehorse shared program objectives, Title VI goals and Johnson O'Malley program goals, program outlines for the NYCP (Native Youth Community Project) objectives, and gave updates on the current progress of programs under the Bilingual Education program. She noted celebrations including the Heritage Language Conference, new NYCP funding and increased resources and lesson plan curriculum development for faculty. She noted that some significant challenges include lack of seat instruction time for Heritage Language classes in the K-6 grades, need to have better access and utilization of student achievement data and needs assessments for Native American students, and improving PLC meetings.

F. Break - @ 5:00 p.m.

G. Welcome and Recognition of Guests - 6:00 p.m.

H. SJ-2 Recognition Awards

1. San Juan Sweet Job Award: Monique McDermott

2. San Juan Sweet Job Award: Wendy Haws

I. Citizen Comments

1. Citizens' Comments

All comments were submitted via email and read into Public Record by Board Clerk Eva Ewald.

Citizens Sara Flannery, Annette Adams and Cheyna Palmer commented regarding the concern for lack of gymnasium space for youth sports teams. They noted the benefits of physical and mental health to youth when active in youth programs.

Citizen Cheyna Palmer also commented regarding Snow Days and Virtual Learning Days decisions, as well as a concern regarding lack of resources or attention to students who test advanced for their grade level.

J. Closed Session *(at Board discretion, Closed Session may be moved)*

1. Purchase, exchange or lease of real property

2. Litigation

3. Personnel

Motion to go into Closed Session to discuss Personnel.

Motion by Merri B Shumway, second by Nelson Yellowman.

Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, MariAnell Barton, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

K. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes

2. Revenue Reports

3. Expenditure Reports

4. School Expenditure Reports

5. Monthly Checks

6. Board Travel Reports

7. Personnel Report(s) and Information

8. Home School Requests

9. Student Hearings

10. School Land Trust Amendments

11. SJSJSD Revised School Spend Plans

12. Approval of all Consent Agenda Items

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Nelson Yellowman, second by Colleen Benally.

Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, MariAnell Barton, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

L. Public Aid- Native American Policy and Procedures- Public Hearing and Input

1. Impact Aid Overview and Application Review – Tyrel Pemberton/Ron Nielson – 10 min

Business Administrator Tyrel Pemberton gave a summary of Impact Aid Funding, how it is calculated and requirements to qualify for funding. He noted that the SY2022 Impact Aid funding amount was \$7,559,940.00, increasing over \$600,000.00 from SY2021. Mr. Pemberton gave a brief overview of how the funds are distributed, noting that \$4,000,000.00 is put into the general fund to help the entire district pay for any and all operational expenses. The next \$2,000,000.00 is budgeted to the capital fund to help pay for buildings and maintenance, including construction. And any remaining amount over \$6,000,000.00 has been put into building reserve for future capital projects or new construction.

2. Native American Policy and Procedures Manual – Ron Nielson – 5 min

Superintendent Nielson shared the updated SJSD Indian Policies and Procedures for board review. He noted that this document has been presented to the Navajo Tribe Committee who oversees the Education Department, as well as the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. He also noted that he has had ongoing collaboration with both departments and feels they are pleased with the communication and outreach efforts from the District. Tribal Consultations are a mandatory requirement to receive Impact Aid funding, and the district has taken great efforts to maintain open and positive relationships with the tribal offices in the area.

Superintendent Nielson also shared any comments that have been submitted from stakeholders over the past year regarding the education of Native American students, as well as the official responses from the District. Student Participation Data was also included in the report.

3. Public Comment focused on SJSD Impact Aid Application/Process

No Public Comment focused on SJSD Impact Aid Application/Process.

M. Possible Action Items

1. 2023-24 SJSD Impact Aid Application

Motion to accept the 2022 SJSD Impact Aid Application.

Motion by Merri B Shumway, second by Nelson Yellowman.

Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, MariAnell Barton, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

Motion to revise the motion to approve the 2023-24 SJSD Impact Aid Application.

Motion by Merri B Shumway, second by Nelson Yellowman.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, MariAnell Barton, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

2. SJSD 2023-24 Native American Policy and Procedures Document

Motion to approve the SJSD 2023-24 Native American Policy and Procedures Document.

Motion by Nelson Yellowman, second by Colleen Benally.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, MariAnell Barton, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

3. Capital Project Recommendations

Motion to move forward with the four projects listed in the document provided in the board packet for capital projects.

Motion by Merri B Shumway, second by Steve Black.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, MariAnell Barton, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

4. Business Administrator's Contract July 2023-2025

Motion to signal an intent to renew the contract with the current Business Administrator with the actual approval of the contract to be done next month to give the new board members a chance to study it.

Motion by Steve Black, second by Merri B Shumway.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, MariAnell Barton, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

5. HB 215 Funding for Teacher Salaries and Optional Education Opportunities

No Action Needed

6. Future Board Meeting Date Adjustments

Motion to change the Board Meeting for April from the 12th to the 5th.

Motion by Nelson Yellowman, second by Colleen Benally.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, MariAnell Barton, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

7. TES School Land Trust Amendment

Motion to accept the TES Land Trust Amendment.

Motion by Nelson Yellowman, second by Merri B Shumway.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, MariAnell Barton, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

8. 150 Mile form / ARL & WHS

Motion to approve the 150 Mile Forms for WHS and ARL with Administrative oversight.

Motion by Steve Black, second by Merri B Shumway.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, MariAnell Barton, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Colleen Benally

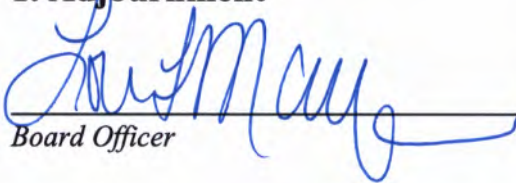
N. Information Items

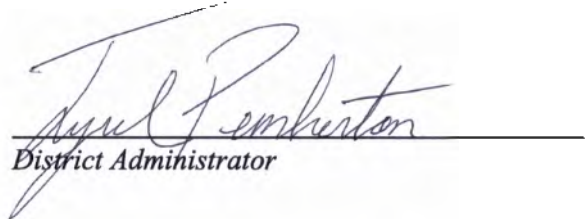
- 1. USBA Day on the Hill – Capital Rotunda – February 6, 2023**
- 2. SJSJ District Spelling Bee – SJH Auditorium – February 6, 2023**
- 3. Next Board Meeting - February 8, 2023 @ DO/Virtual**

4. USBA Board President/Vice President Workshop Training – 8:30 AM-1:00 PM – Nebo School District, Spanish Fork UT

O. Adjournment

1. Adjournment


Board Officer


District Administrator