

**MINUTES OF THE  
UTAH STATE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
Thursday, April 10, 2014 – Board Rooms  
USOE

**DRAFT**

**Members Present:**

Chair Tim Beagley  
Vice Chair Dean Brockbank  
Member Robert Enger  
Member Bruce Davis  
Member Kristin Elinkowski  
Member Howard Headlee

**Members Absent:**

Member Laura Belnap (attending via phone conference)

**Staff present:**

Marlies Burns  
Jennifer Lambert  
Janene Bowen  
Jo Schmitt

**Others present:**

Kim Burningham, Roderic Land, Teresa Theurer, Susie Scherer, kami Orr, Jason Haskell, Jeff Biesinger, Matt Lovell, Debby Llewelyn, Tyler Bastian, Shelley Nordick, Rick Peterson, Wade Watts, David Moss, Leif Nelson, Kent Fuller, Alan Shino, Angie Peterson

**Call to Order**

Chair Tim Beagley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Tim Beagley led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Chair Report**

Chair Tim Beagley informed the SCSB there will be a board meeting held in May and in July, but no meeting in June. Also, Chair Beagley informed the SCSB there are two conferences they can participate; one in June, the NAPCS (National Alliance for Public Charter Schools) Conference held in Las Vegas, and the NACSA (National Association of Charter School Authorizers) Conference being held in Miami in October. Chair Beagley included the USBE Board meeting update and informed the SCSB that all four of the recommended new charter schools were approved for the 2015-2016 school year (GreenWood, MyOptions, Terra Academy and Vanguard Academy). Legacy Preparatory Academy's amendment request was also approved.

**Consent Calendar**

**MOTION:** Member Bruce Davis moved and Member Robert Enger seconded to approve the consent calendar (minutes of the SCSB meetings held March 13, 2014). The motion was carried unanimously.

**Legislative update**

Chair Tim Beagley informed the SCSB that the Charter School Section received \$354,000 of ongoing funding, to increase the Charter School staff at USOE. Also, the local replacement funds were approved for \$13 million. HB 36 - the bill that provides preference in enrollment for children of grandparents on a school's founding and

governing boards passed and was signed. HB419 passed, which made changes to what is in a charter application vs the actual agreement and made some modifications to retirement. SB218 passed, giving USBE direction to give high priority to schools that are in high growth areas, also if a priority preference school is approved, preference is given to students that live within 2 miles of the school.

**Amendment request – American Preparatory Academy**

Representatives from American Preparatory Academy informed the SCSB of their request of a satellite school in the Nebo School District serving grades K-12 and 675 students beginning in the 2014-2015 school year.

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Dean Brockbank moved and Member Bruce Davis seconded to recommend approval to the USBE the amendment request. The motion carried unanimously.

**Amendment request – The Ranches Academy**

Representatives from The Ranches Academy informed the SCSB of their request of a satellite school in the Alpine School District serving grades K-6 and 364 students beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

**MOTION:** Member Kristin Elinkowski moved and Member Bruce Davis seconded to recommend approval to the USBE the amendment request. The motion carried unanimously.

**Amendment request – George Washington Academy**

Representatives from George Washington Academy informed the SCSB of their request to add 50 additional students in grades 7-8 beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, with a total student enrollment of 1, 075. Also, to approve the technical changes to the charter with the understanding the school will work with the Charter School Staff to revise the performance measures at a later time.

**MOTION:** Member Howard Headlee moved and Member Robert Enger seconded to recommend approval to the USBE the amendment request. The motion carried unanimously.

**New charter application – Roots Charter High School** proposes to open in West Valley City with an ultimate enrollment of 300 students in grades 9-12, beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. Roots Charter High School targets students who are at risk of academic failure in the greater West Valley City area and instill them with the knowledge, skills and ability to live healthy, productive and sustainable lives. Graduates are proficient in math and reading and well prepared for post-secondary education through authentic learning that develops ecological literacy, academic accomplishment, strong character, and a commitment to community.

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Dean Brockbank moved and Member Bruce Davis seconded to recommend approval of Roots Charter High School to the USBE to open in the fall of 2015. The motion carried unanimously.

**Revise Charter School Performance Standards *Financial Performance & Sustainability* measures and metrics**

Member Robert Enger led the discussion regarding the Charter School Performance Standards Financial Performance and Sustainability of charter schools. A document was distributed for discussion regarding performance measures structure showing indicators, measures, metrics, targets and ratings.

After discussion, Member Robert Enger moved and Vice Chair Dean Brockbank seconded to adopt the financial performance standards with facility costs inserted. Member Howard Headlee amended the motion to initiate their use pending a review at the next SCSB meeting, showing all schools' data. Member Robert Enger and Vice Chair Dean Brockbank were amendable to the amended motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

**Discussion on possible revisions to rules:**

R277-480 – *Charter School Revolving Account*

**MOTION:** Member Howard Headlee moved and Member Robert Enger seconded to recommend the proposed rule changes to the USBE. The motion carried unanimously.

R277-472 – *Charter School Student Enrollment and Transfers and School District Capacity Information*

**MOTION:** Member Howard Headlee moved and Vice Chair Dean Brockbank seconded to recommend the proposed rule changes to the USBE. The motion carried unanimously.

R277-470 – *Charter Schools – General Provisions*

**MOTION:** Member Howard Headlee moved and Member Robert Enger seconded to recommend the proposed rule changes to the USBE to include deleting changes in Section 1, Part F and Part J; Section 6, Part B and Section 9. The motion carried unanimously.

R277-482 – *Charter School Timelines and Approval Processes*

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Dean Brockbank moved and Member Bruce Davis seconded to recommend the proposed rule changes to the USBE to include the additional changes to Section 5, Part C. The motion carried unanimously.

R277-481 – *Charter School Oversight Monitoring and Appeals*

**MOTION:** Member Bruce Davis moved and Vice Chair Dean Brockbank seconded to recommend the proposed rule changes to the USBE. The motion carried unanimously.

**School report and Board Action – Aristotle Academy**

Representatives of Aristotle Academy updated the SCSB of their process of being removed from warning status. Kent Fuller, Principal of Aristotle Academy, informed the SCSB they have eliminated the Bridge Learning Program at the school and those students have been removed from the school's system and been assigned to other schools. Mr. Fuller informed the SCSB of different practices and processes the school has implemented to improve financial and academic performance as well as student enrollment.

After discussion, Chair Tim Beagley stated he was impressed with the school's efforts, but feels there is a considerable amount of work still needed before being removed from warning status. Chair Beagley directed the Charter School Staff to gather together a more complete picture of the school, both financially and academically and have Aristotle Academy return next month to the SCSB meeting to address their performance. He also stated the SCSB wants some resolution, either to continue the warning status with some well-defined goals that need to be reached, or potentially put them on probation with some very specific, bright lines they have to pass.

**School report and Board Action – Wasatch Institute of Technology**

Representatives of Wasatch Institute of Technology updated the SCSB the status of acquiring a facility for the school. Wasatch Institute of Technology informed the SCSB they have identified four potential lease sites, two in Jordan School District, two of them in Murray City School District. One of the sites is a former school, one a former library, one is a charter school opening this fall, and the other option is placing portable classrooms on the preferred site in Day Break. Three of the lease sites require no improvements in excess of \$100,000.

After discussion, Chair Tim Beagley stated he feels the SCSB is nervous at this stage of preparation. Because of families and students who need to make decisions and school districts and schools who need to hire their teachers, it is very late in an unfortunate game. Mr. Beagley suggested Wasatch Institute of Technology continue with their efforts to get a lease to Director Burns by April 15<sup>th</sup> and signed by May 1<sup>st</sup>. And if the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline is not accomplished, come back to the SCSB to negotiate the terms of another year for the school to start.

**Adjourn:** Motion was made by Member Bruce Davis to adjourn at 1:55 p.m.