

Minutes
Northeastern Utah Educational Services
Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 28, 2023, 10:30 am
Wasatch School District Office
Heber City, UT 84032

Present:

Superintendents Jerre Holmes, Andy Jensen, Dale Lamborn, Greg Maughan, Bruce Northcott, Paul Sweat, Rick Woodford, Jason Young, Soldier Hollow Charter School Executive Director David Phillips, Uintah River High School Principal Brittany Luck, Weilenmann School of Discovery Executive Director Steve Williams, Duchesne Business Administrator Dee Miles, Executive Director Piper Riddle and Secretary Amy Davis. Board Members absent include Superintendent Jill Gildea, Terra Academy Executive Director Bill Zenner and Winter Sports School Executive Director Tess Miner-Farra.

Welcome:

Supt. Maughan, Board Chair of the NUES Board opened the meeting of the Northeastern Utah Educational Services Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 10:30 am. Supt. Maughan welcomed everyone.

Action Consent Calendar:

Motion to approve the consent calendar as presented made by Supt. Jensen. Motion seconded by Supt. Young. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: Region Items (action may be pending):

Supt. Maughan referred board members to the JLC priorities along with the talking points assigned to board members and recommended an informal discussion with legislators. Supt. Lamborn suggested letting the legislators speak about current topics first with a discussion about the priorities and talking points to follow. Ms. Riddle stated that she attended the CUES legislative luncheon and requested board members share positive things that are going well in their districts in addition to the talking points. Board members discussed priorities and talking points for the legislative luncheon.

Information:

Next NUES Board Meeting – Tuesday, January 23, 2024 @ 9:30 AM at NUES
Sterling Scholar: March 12, 2024 at UVU Orem, UT
NUES Region Art Show Week #1: April 22-26, 2024 in Heber at Wasatch High Library
NUES Region Art Show Week #2: April 29-May 3, 2024
URSA Conference – July 15-17, 2023 at Richfield, UT
FY24 NUES Board Meeting Schedule

Meeting adjourned.

NUES November Legislative Discussion

Present:

Supt. Jerre Holmes	Supt. Andy Jensen
Supt. Dale Lamborn	Supt. Greg Maughan
Supt. Bruce Northcott	Supt. Paul Sweat
Supt. Rick Woodford	Supt. Jason Young
Director David Phillips	Director Brittany Luck
Director Steve Williams	Duchesne BA Dee Miles
Director Piper Riddle	Sec. Amy Davis
Park City Curriculum Dir. Stacey Briggs	CUES Director Jason Strate
Supt. Kodey Hughes	Wasatch Board Marianne Allen
Wasatch Board Kimberly Dickerson	Wasatch BA Jason Watt
USBE Jennie Earl	Gov. Sr. Advisor Brittney Cummins
Senator Winterton	Senator Johnson

Supt. Maughan welcomed everyone at 12:30 and referred the group to the JLC priority list. He encouraged an informal discussion of the priorities as well as current legislative topics.

Supt. Maughan pointed out the first priority of increased WPU funding and requested feedback from the group. Senator Johnson replied that the request of increase on the WPU is likely more than the legislature will be able to allocate. The goal is always to increase funding for education but the reality doesn't allow for such an increase. Senator Winterton stated that during the past few years, there has been federal funds to use; however, that money is running low and will need to be allocated in 2024 and used by 2026. The legislature is committed to funding the commitments made in the last couple of years. Senator Johnson stated that there won't be any cuts but the request is more than circumstances will allow. Ms. Cummins stated that the Governor's budget will be presented next week and the projections are showing a typical investment into public education. Supt. Woodford expressed the need for inflationary costs to be addressed. Funding discussed.

Senator Winterton notified the group regarding the upcoming school safety laws and mandates. He expressed the need for school safety; however, funding needs to be provided with the mandates. Supt. Woodford recommended that the funding for additional school safety be included on the WPU. Discussion on school safety and funding.

Supt. Holmes inquired about retirees returning to work. Senator Johnson stated that he has been in support of retiree re-hiring. The only concern is the possibility of an increase in retirees with a change in law. Senator Winterton stated that there is a bill circulating to change the retirement law for retirees returning to work within 90 days. Ms. Cunningham stated that the bill will enable education, law, firemen, etc. to be able to return to work after retiring. Discussion on retirement laws.

Ms. Earl inquired about and requested feedback regarding the early literacy program. Board members expressed the value and necessity of early literacy program. Discussion on the early literacy program along with the early learning coaches in the NUES region.

Supt. Northcott stated that the APPEL program is very valuable to Daggett School District. He reported on successes and requested continuation of the program. Discussion on APPEL program.

Senator Johnson reported on the upcoming sensitive materials bill. The importance of the bill is that it distinguishes books that are taken out of the system for objective rather than subjective reasons. Supt. Maughan emphasized local control over sensitive materials rather than statewide. Discussion on sensitive materials.

Supt. Lamborn referred to the JLC priority of increased funding for RESA's. The services NUES provides makes a huge difference to the region districts. The funding mechanisms for RESA's have changed over the years but the funding change last year did not include any cost-of-living increases. Most state agencies have funding mechanisms in place to include cost-of-living increases but the RESA's do not have that. Discussion on the current RESA business case and RESA funding.

Ms. Dickerson inquired about conversations regarding impact fees for local school districts. Senator Winterton stated that Representative Mike Kohler has tried to hard to implement impact fees for local school districts but the legislative answer is no to any impact fees.

Supt. Maughan expressed gratitude for the support and dedication to public education. He encouraged the continuation of communication with local districts. Senators Johnson and Winterton requested phone calls or texts rather than emails for any concerns during the legislative session.

Meeting adjourned.