

Minutes
Northeastern Utah Educational Services
Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 9:30 am
35 South Main
Heber City, UT 84032

Present:

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

Welcome:

Supt. Maughan, Board Chair of the NUES Board opened the meeting of the Northeastern Utah Educational Services Board Meeting, Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 9:35 am. Supt. Maughan welcomed everyone.

Action Consent Calendar:

Motion to approve the consent calendar as presented made by Supt. Lamborn. Motion seconded by Supt. Sweat. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: Region Items (action may be pending):

Ms. Riddle acknowledged and wished a happy birthday to board members celebrating birthdays for November through January.

Ms. Riddle referred board members to the NUES January 2024 board report showing mid-year funding and updates for NUES and staff. She highlighted funding for each NUES employee. Board members discussed NUES funding. Supt. Lamborn inquired about how to utilize the virtual psychologist. Ms. Riddle will share contact information so SPED directors can contact the virtual psychologist directly. Ms. Riddle then notified board members of the mental & behavioral grant surplus funds currently awarded to NUES. She presented and explained three proposals for use of the surplus funds: 1) contracting with Liz Howcroft as BCBA and reducing her contract to part-time, 2) contracting with the Cook Center for Parent Coaching access, 3) BCBA contracted services. Board members discussed the proposals. Ms. Riddle then explained the flow-through funds received from LEA's. Supt. Sweat proposed that the Wasatch Back Conference be a Wasatch County School District conference. However, the region LEA's will be invited and handled through Wasatch District with a per person price breakdown. Board members discussed the Wasatch Back conference and agreed to have Wasatch School District plan and host the Wasatch Back conference in the future.

Ms. Riddle referred board members to the NUES BCBA Contractor Proposal. The proposal includes mental health funding to contract with BCBA's in practice for part-time, hourly efforts to support NUES. Ms. Riddle notified board members that she contacted local Universities, ProCare Therapy and ABA Centers in Utah to contract with BCBA's. Supt. Lamborn informed the board of the need for a BCBA in Rich District and reported that the Rich SPED Director had a contact in Wyoming that NUES has been able to contract with to provide BCBA contracted services to Rich District. He then stated that even if a third-party is contracted, it is difficult to get them as often as you need them due to their involvement in other places. The need for qualified BCBA's is huge. Ms. Riddle reported that NUES is currently holding an RBT course to make a conservative effort to build RBT knowledge and/or Registered Behavior Technicians to assist behavior teams in retaining sustainability. Supt. Maughan requested input from board

members in regards to seeking additional third-party support to provide BCBA services since the current NUES staff are unable to meet the needs in the region. If the board would like to make it a priority, Ms. Riddle can send out MOU's to secure third-party BCBA services using the one-time mental health funds. Ms. Riddle stated that Ms. Clark can be the hub of the team and services can be assigned to individual districts. She then reported that ProCare Therapy would charge approximately \$98 per hour for virtual BCBA services. Board members discussed BCBA services in the region. Supt. Sweat suggested Ms. Riddle secure outside third-party BCBA services and bring the contract to the next board meeting for board approval.

Ms. Riddle referred board members to the revised contract for Liz Howcroft. Board members discussed the services provided by Ms. Howcroft in Duchesne and Daggett Districts. Supt. Sweat made the motion to move the BCBA contract item from discussion to action item for voting. Supt. Young seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Supt. Sweat made the motion to approve the amended contract for Liz Howcroft to continue providing BCBA services in the NUES region. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Riddle referred board members to the new-hire proposal for the full-time mental health open position. The grant allows qualified personnel to include school social workers, school therapists, school nurses, BCBA's and school counselors. NUES received an application last week and interviewed for the role of a social worker/therapist to coordinate preventative mental and behavioral health services across the region, supporting families, educators and communities, overseeing partnerships with community mental health organizations. Supt. Sweat inquired about hiring a social worker/therapist position or continue looking for a BCBA. Board members discussed the services the social worker/therapist would provide along with the need for BCBA services. Supt. Lamborn suggested approving the position or moving the discussion to the February meeting for additional conversation. Supt. Northcott made the motion to hire the new position as proposed. Supt. Holmes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Supt. Maughan inquired about any legislative or USBE updates. He expressed concern over NESS funds. He also expressed concern with Kera Birkeland's bill and how it affects schools especially in the South Summit Recreation Center. Supt. Maughan reported that he invited Ms. Birkeland to present to the JLC on Friday.

Supt. Sweat inquired about several programs being moved to the WPU and referred to an article by Howard Stevenson in the Deseret News regarding DLI funding. Board members discussed WPU, DLI and NESS funding.

Ms. Riddle reported that Supt. Lamborn is presenting at the cowboy caucus on Friday morning. He will update the caucus on URSA. Supt. Lamborn expressed concern over the RESA funding in the future. He also expressed concern with the southern districts traveling to Park City and participating in the 2025 URSA conference.

Supt. Holmes stated that there is no reporting for UHSAA. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2024.

Discussion Roundtable:

Supt. Holmes inquired about mental health screening nights. Are LEA's required by law to provide mental health screening nights or are they strongly suggested? Board members discussed mental health screening nights.

Mr. Williams stated that he is looking for two busses to purchase and inquired about busses for sale in the region. Mr. Phillips stated that he is looking for bus drivers as well. Supt. Sweat will inquire about any busses for sale at Wasatch District.

Supt. Northcott notified board members that he is being interviewed by a study that is inquiring about the BTS program. Daggett currently does not participate in BTS. He expressed concern with the push for the strict BTS program that does not work in his district. Ms. Riddle inquired about Daggett integrating the BTS program if the rules weren't as stringent. She then stated that the NUES BTS Coach could be the coordinator and help implement the program in Daggett, if interested.

Information:

Next NUES Board Meeting – Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2024 @ 12:30 AM at State Capitol
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.