

Jordan School District
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
January 23, 2024

The Board of Education of Jordan School District met in study, general, and closed sessions on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, beginning at 4:01 p.m. at JATC South (Board Conference Room), 12723 S. Park Avenue (2080 West), Riverton, Utah. The sessions were also provided electronically via YouTube.

STUDY SESSION

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Tracy J. Miller, Board President
Niki George, Board First Vice President
Darrell Robinson, Board Second Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Bryce Dunford, Board Member, arrived at 4:25 p.m.
Marilyn Richards, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
April Gaydosh, Administrator of Schools
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Kurt Prusse, Director, Purchasing
Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
Dave Rostrom, Director, Facility Services
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant
Robert Conder, AV Department
Johnathan Ward, Financial Advisor, Zions Public Finance
Ryan Bjerke, Bond Counsel, Chapman & Cutler

President Miller presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a study session to discuss the following:

A. Naming of New Elementary School in Herriman

April Gaydosh, Administrator of Schools, said the school naming process is similar to what has been done previously. She provided the Board with a tentative timeline for naming the new elementary and recommended sending the first survey January 26, 2024 to the community, Board members, and Herriman City mayor's office. This survey will be used to solicit school name suggestions and a subsequent survey will be used to invite the public to rank the top five selected names.

Dr. Godfrey said the name should give a sense of identity to the school and could be changed if the school is converted to a secondary school at a later date. Board members agreed to proceeding as specified on the timeline for naming the new school in Herriman.

B. Seismic Study Update

Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services, briefly reviewed a timeline of communication regarding seismic study funding. He said after initially being told Jordan was approved for the grant, months later information was received that the District was excluded from receiving the funding due to a clerical error.

President Miller said she contacted congressman Owens' office to request help in this matter and was told they would look into the issue. She asked Board members for input on moving forward with or without the grant.

Mr. Rostrom estimated the cost to perform the seismic study would not exceed \$231,000, of which the District would be responsible for thirty percent if the grant was received.

President Miller recommended directing staff to move forward as soon as the grant approval letter is received to expedite the seismic study. She called for a motion.

MOTION: It was moved by Marilyn Richards and seconded by Darrell Robinson to direct staff to move forward immediately with a seismic study using the selected vendor upon receipt of the federal grant.

It was clarified by the Board if the grant is not received, the seismic study will not move forward and there will be further discussion in the February 13, 2024 Board study session.

President Miller called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Review of Lease Revenue Bond Reimbursement Resolution and Lease Revenue Bond Authorizing and Delegating Resolution

John Larsen, Business Administrator, said the Board gave prior approval to move forward with a lease revenue bond option for building a new school in the Village 9 Daybreak area. He introduced Johnathan Ward, Financial Advisor with Zions Public Finance, and Ryan Bjerke, Bond Counsel with Chapman & Cutler, inviting them to give more information about lease revenue bonds.

Bryce Dunford arrived at 4:25 p.m. and joined the meeting in progress.

Mr. Ward presented an overview of various types of bonds and their structure. Mr. Ward explained lease revenue bonds are used to fund capital projects and use existing cash flow to repay the obligation. He discussed tentative timing for required procedures:

1. February 27, 2024 – Declaration of intent by the Board to reimburse itself using a lease revenue bond
2. March 19, 2024 – Meeting for consideration of resolutions
3. March 19, 2024 – Public Hearing, including prior public notice of the hearing

Mr. Bjerke discussed the three required resolutions: the reimbursement resolution, and approving the issuance of lease revenue bonds by both the Board and Local Building Authority. He further explained the roles of the Board of Education and the Local Building Authority in the bond process and public hearing requirements.

Mr. Larsen explained the term on a lease revenue bond would be 17 years and could be paid off early, depending on how the bonds are sold.

The Board agreed with moving forward with the proposed timeline for a lease revenue bond.

D. Discussion on Administrative Policy DP358 *Employee Discrimination and Harassment*

President Miller said Policy DP358 was last revised in 2015, so she worked with Paul Van Komen, Board legal counsel, who recommended some changes. She shared a draft with the Board, noting verbiage adjustments and a revision to the complaint procedure which extended the time a complaint could be submitted.

Board members considered creating a separate policy on sexual harassment. They also discussed extending the complaint period to 180 days, instead of the former 45 days and the consistent use of the phrase “discrimination and harassment” throughout the document. It was decided to bring Policy DP358

back for discussion at the February 13, 2024 Board meeting and to consult District staff about creating a separate sexual harassment policy.

E. Discussion on Administrative Policy DP305 *Placement and Assignment of Personnel*

Dr. Godfrey said the policy originated in 1969, and thus needs revision. He shared a draft of the revised policy with Board members and noted confusing and excessive language was eliminated. Additional wording changes were suggested, including school and class placement decisions being “free of undue personal bias.”

After recommended changes are made to the policy, it was decided to bring it back to the February 13, 2024 study session for further discussion.

F. Cell Phone Policy

Dr. Godfrey said this discussion was prompted by recent legislative focus on cell phone use in schools and a letter Utah Governor Cox sent to all LEAs and principals requesting they consider removing cell phones from schools. Currently, there are various school or classroom cell phone rules with no uniformity across the District. He asked 1) if local control should remain or a Districtwide policy be created; and 2) if a pilot program was started and grant money available, would the Board be interested in providing devices to lock cell phones during the school day.

Board members discussed current legislative bills regarding student cell phone use; using a survey to assess parent, student, teacher, and administrator feelings on the matter; the need to further define or revise current policy; and what applicable pilot programs might be available.

Due to the time constraint, it was decided to finish the Cell Phone Policy discussion and agenda item G, *Legislative Review*, in a subsequent study session following the general session.

At 6:08 p.m., the meeting adjourned. The general session started at 6:32 p.m.

GENERAL SESSION

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Tracy J. Miller, Board President
Niki George, Board First Vice President
Darrell Robinson, Board Second Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Bryce Dunford, Board Member
Marilyn Richards, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Carolyn Gough, Administrator of Teaching & Learning
Brad Sorensen, Administrator of Schools
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Kurt Prusse, Director, Purchasing
Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
Jason Skidmore, Director, Career & Technical Education
Rochelle Waite, Principal, Riverton High School
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant
Robert Conder, AV Department
Nichole Coombs
Joanna McLean

President Miller presided and conducted. She welcomed those present. Seth Christensen, Sophomore Class President, and Gabby Van Leuven, Sophomore Class Secretary, conducted a flag ceremony. Kelsi Knight, Student Body Historian, and Bre Smith, Junior Class Historian, led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverence was given by Alli Sorenson, Junior Class Vice President at Riverton High School.

Celebrating Riverton High School

Brian Scott, Student Body President of Riverton High School, presented information to the Board about the good things happening at this school, and reviewed some of the programs and activities in which students and faculty members participate.

Resolutions of Appreciation

Marilyn Richards read a Resolution of Appreciation for the following former Jordan District employees who recently passed away:

Denny Simkins Kastelic Carlisle – employed by Jordan District from 1963 to 1967, and 1971 to 1994
Sharon Abrams Jenks – employed by Jordan District from 2010 to 2023
Sharon Marie Long – employed by Jordan District from 1981 to 2008
Bonnie Lou Petersen – employed by Jordan District from 1971 to 2002
Karen Koenig Siegler – employed by Jordan District from 1986 to 2002

Board Member Recognitions

Lisa Dean announced that Joel P. Jensen Middle School will be holding a Birthday Bash on February 15, 2024 to celebrate their 40 years of existence. Ms. Dean also gave a reminder that January 25, 2024 will be open houses at both locations of the Jordan Academy for Technology & Careers to showcase the variety of programs offered to students.

President Miller expressed appreciation for the Unified Sports programs in Jordan District.

Superintendent's Recognitions

Dr. Godfrey said February is "Love the Bus" month, a time to express appreciation for school bus drivers and transportation employees. He said he has a deep appreciation for what they do to keep students safe.

I. Public Comments

A. Comments by Elected Officials

No mayors or elected officials were in attendance.

B. Patron Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items

Nichole Coombs, a parent, expressed frustration over broken bleachers at Copper Hills High School, saying it makes it difficult for spectators to view sporting events. She asked the Board to allocate funds to fix the bleachers as soon as possible.

Joanna McLean, a teacher, said cell phones are a huge distraction for students and disrupt their opportunity to learn.

President Miller invited Mr. Larsen, business administrator, to read comments submitted to boardcomments@jordandistrict.org from the following individuals, whose comments are summarized below:

Alyssa Beynon, a teacher, said students would benefit greatly from a Districtwide cell phone policy.

Jill Bodine, a teacher, said cell phones in schools are distracting, increasing social isolation, limiting student creativity, and causing a decrease in test scores. She asked the Board to be proactive in cell phone policies and remove phones from instructional time.

Wendi Stewart, library media specialist, asked that books not be removed from schools in response to passive-aggressive posts on social media.

Rebekah Turcsanski, a teacher, said cell phones are a disruption in the classroom and asked for a District policy regarding cell phone use in schools.

II. **General Business – Consent Agenda**

A. **Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Items**

1. **Minutes**

Minutes of the Board of Education meetings held December 12, 2023 and January 9, 2024, were presented to the Board of Education for approval.

2. **Board Meeting Calendar 2024-25**

The proposed 2024-25 Board Meeting Calendar was presented to the Board of Education for approval. A copy of this calendar is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 1)

3. **Evaluation of Superintendent of Schools**

The Board presented an evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools according to policy BSC204 *Monitoring Superintendent Performance*. Based on the evaluation, it is the Board of Education's intent to renew Dr. Godfrey's contract when it is due for renewal in June.

4. **Evaluation of Business Administrator**

The Board presented an evaluation of the Business Administrator according to policy BSC205 *Monitoring Performance of the Business Administrator*. Based on the evaluation, it is the Board of Education's intent to renew Mr. Larsen's contract when it is due for renewal in June.

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Marilyn Richards to approve Consent Agenda items A1 through A4, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

B. **Motion to Accept Consent Agenda Items**

1. **Expenditures**

Expenditures for the month of December 2023 were provided to the Board of Education.

2. **Financial Statement**

The financial statement through December, 2023, was provided to the Board of Education. A copy is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 2)

3. **Personnel – Licensed and Education Support Professionals**

Personnel changes for the month of December 2023 were provided to the Board of Education.

4. **Recommendation to Issue Certificates for Home Instruction**

It was recommended that the students whose parents have filed affidavits pursuant to Utah Code 53G-6-204 shall be issued certificates excusing them from attending public school.

5. **Non-Compliance Report**

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Brian Barnett to accept Consent Agenda items B1 through B5, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

III. **Bid Recommendations**

A.	<u>School or Department</u> Sunset Ridge Middle School	<u>Items for Bid</u> HP Chromebooks & Google Licenses
	<u>Bidders</u> Bluum USA, Inc. Howard Technology Solutions Insight Public Sector Software House International (SHI) VLCM	<u>Amount of Bid</u> \$107,041.50

Purpose: To purchase HP Chromebooks and Google Licenses for Sunset Ridge Middle School

Budget: Teacher Student Success Act (TSSA) and Land Trust Funds

Recommendation: It was recommended awarding the contract to the lowest responsive, responsible and acceptable state contract bidder, Software House International (SHI). The company complied with the specifications, terms, and conditions outlined in the bid documents.

MOTION: It was moved by Niki George and seconded by Lisa Dean to approve the bid for HP Chromebooks & Google Licenses at Sunset Ridge Middle School, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Larsen estimated there are about 65,000 Chromebooks in the District. He said they expire in five years and most schools are on a replacement rotation. He said school computer technicians work to make the computers last longer and there has been a decrease in textbook costs as Chromebooks have been utilized more throughout the District.

B.	<u>School or Department</u> Career & Technical Education	<u>Items for Bid</u> Laser Engravers
	<u>Bidders</u> High Country Technology Consultants	<u>Amount of Bid</u> \$155,070.00

Purpose: To provide laser engravers for six of the middle schools in the District

Budget: Carl D. Perkins Grant

Recommendation: It was recommended awarding the contract to High Country Technology Consultants, as they were the only Offeror. They are the educational distributor for Epilog in the Intermountain West region and the only distributor who bid on the solicitation.

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Brian Barnett to approve the bid for Laser Engravers for Career & Technical Education, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

Jason Skidmore, Director of Career & Technical Education, said the following criteria was used to determine the six middle schools that would receive laser engravers this year: interest from the CTE teacher, demographic in course sequence, and feasibility of venting the machines. He said the Perkins grant expires in June, but they anticipate being able to approve laser engravers for the remaining six middle schools in the 2024-25 school year.

C.	<u>School or Department</u> Board of Education Audit Committee	<u>Items for Bid</u> Financial Auditing Services
	<u>Bidders</u> Squire & Company, PC	<u>Amount of Bid</u> \$444,000.00 (cumulative five year total)

Purpose: To provide financial auditing services for the District as required by state and federal regulations

Budget: Audit Expense

Recommendation: It was recommended to award the contract to Squire & Company, PC, as they are the only firm to respond to Jordan's RFP.

MOTION: It was moved by Bryce Dunford and seconded by Marilyn Richards to approve the bid for Financial Auditing Services for the Board of Education Audit Committee, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. **Special Business**

A. **Recommendation to Approve Revisions to Administrative Policy D200 *Philosophy of Instruction***

Dr. Godfrey said Policy D200 was revised to include advance parental notification regarding those that will be performing at a school assembly.

Public Comment

No patrons signed up to address the Board regarding this Special Business item and no patrons accepted the invitation to speak.

A copy of Administrative Policy D200 *Philosophy of Instruction* is attached at the conclusion of these minutes (Attachment 3)

MOTION: It was moved by Brian Barnett and seconded by Lisa Dean to approve revisions to Administrative Policy D200 *Philosophy of Instruction*. The motion passed unanimously.

B. **Recommendation to Retire Administrative Policy AA447 *Out-of-District Student Enrollment***

Brad Sorenson, Administrator of Schools, said this policy was last revised in 2009. Programs mentioned are no longer in existence and the policy is not needed as the content has been included in other areas.

Public Comment

No patrons signed up to address the Board regarding this Special Business item and no patrons accepted the invitation to speak.

MOTION: It was moved by Marilyn Richards and seconded by Darrell Robinson to approve the retirement of Administrative Policy AA447 *Out-of-District Student Enrollment*. The motion passed unanimously.

C. **Recommendation to Approve Revisions to Administrative Policy DE501 Curriculum Adoption and Review Committee**

Carolyn Gough, administrator of Teaching & Learning, said Policy DE501 has been revised per Board member recommendations. President Miller recommended further wording revisions, apologizing for the last minute change. She said primary instructional materials should adhere to the same regulations as supplemental materials mentioned in item D2.

MOTION: It was moved by Tracy Miller and seconded by Darrell Robinson to amend Administrative Policy DE501 *Curriculum Adoption and Review Committee* to change item A1 to be “aligned to the Utah Core Standards, specified course standards, Utah state laws and regulations, applicable USBE rules, and JSD Board Policy.”

Marilyn Richards recommended the same wording be used in item D2 regarding supplemental materials.

President Miller called for a vote on the motion to amend Policy DE501. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: It was moved by Marilyn Richards and seconded by Brian Barnett to amend Policy DE501 to align items D2 and D3 (regarding supplemental materials) with the aforementioned wording revision in item A1. The motion passed unanimously.

President Miller called for a motion to approve the amended policy.

MOTION: It was moved by Brian Barnett and seconded by Marilyn Richards to approve amended Policy DE501 *Curriculum Adoption and Review Committee*.

Public Comment

No patrons signed up to address the Board regarding this Special Business item and no patrons accepted the invitation to speak.

President Miller called for a vote to approve amended Policy DE501 and the motion passed unanimously.

A copy of Administrative Policy DE501 *Curriculum Adoption and Review Committee* is attached at the conclusion of these minutes (Attachment 4)

D. **Recommendation to Approve Revisions to Board Policy GP110 Public Participation in Board Meetings**

President Miller said Policy GP110 has been changed to align with changes in the State law and to allow patron comment first, followed by comments from those outside the District should time permit. In addition, it specifies that comments will only be taken on things germane to the authority of the Board and should be age appropriate.

Public Comment

No patrons signed up to address the Board regarding this Special Business item and no patrons accepted the invitation to speak.

A copy of Board Policy GP110 *Public Participation in Board Meetings* is attached at the conclusion of these minutes (Attachment 5)

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Marilyn Richards to approve revisions to Board Policy GP110 *Public Participation in Board Meetings*. The motion passed unanimously.

V. **Information Items**

A. **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Godfrey attended a musical "Broadway Review" at Riverton High School and recognized the students and teachers, Clin Eaton and Kelly DeHaan, for the great production. He said they will be featured in a future Supercast episode.

VI. **Discussion Items**

A. **Committee Reports and Comments by Board Members**

Niki George gave a reminder of the upcoming PTA Region VI Reflections Award Night scheduled for February 8, 2024 at Copper Mountain Middle School and noted State Reflections winners will be recognized at the Board meeting on March 19, 2024. Region VI PTA awards will be announced at the April 23, 2024 Board meeting.

Ms. George mentioned that Battle of the Bands will be held at Herriman High School on March 8, 2024 and she gave the following information from the Government Relations Committee:

- JLC Thursday evening virtual meetings are being held, which include a brief overview of legislative bills.
- Board members should share opinions or concerns with Tracy Miller, who is the voting JLC member.
- The Committee is looking into ways to better connect with cities and new city council members through outreach efforts.

Lisa Dean thanked staff at JATC South for providing Board members snack boxes for every meeting.

Darrell Robinson noted the Jordan Parent Advisory Committee (JPAC) is meeting Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at JATC South. After consulting with Board members, it was decided another meeting will be held April 2, 2024.

President Miller gave a reminder about the Jordan Education Foundation Donor Appreciation Lunch on Wednesday, January 31, 2024.

Superintendent Godfrey requested feedback on the draft "Bulletin Board" newsletter that was sent to Board members. Minor wording and formatting changes were discussed and Dr. Godfrey said a final version will be sent out soon. He expressed gratitude to the Communications staff for their work on the newsletter.

At 6:47 p.m., President Miller declared the meeting adjourned and announced that the Board would return to study session.

STUDY SESSION, Continued

Those recognized or signed in as present:
Tracy J. Miller, Board President

Niki George, Board First Vice President
Darrell Robinson, Board Second Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Bryce Dunford, Board Member
Marilyn Richards, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant

President Miller presided and conducted. The Board of Education continued its study session to discuss the following:

G. Legislative Review

Dr. Michael Anderson thanked the Board for all they do to engage with legislators. He gave a reminder about the February 8, 2024 USBA Day on the Hill and Student Body Officer Day on the Hill scheduled for February 22, 2024.

Dr. Anderson provided a legislative update, reviewing bills that would impact Jordan School District and/or public education. Bills of interest and items of concern include the following:

- SB86 - sponsored by Senator Fillmore, intended to discontinue Lease Revenue bonds
- Funding for education; how much the Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU) will be next year
- Referendum bills, including new language that states tax increases are subject to referendum
- HB257 - discusses transgender bathrooms in public buildings. Indemnification language was added recently and it passed the House by a supermajority this week
- HB119 - regarding the possession of a firearm by a school employee
- A bill sponsored by Representative Jimenez that gives credit reimbursement to teachers who install a biometric safe in their classrooms
- SJR10 - allowing for an extra WPU for education

Other bills that would affect the District in a positive way include:

- HB11 - regarding water efficient landscaping
- SCR1 - a resolution recognizing school support staff
- HB172 - allowing for students, regardless of documentation, to participate in athletic activities

F. Cell Phone Policy, continued

President Miller asked Board members if they had further thoughts about agenda item F, Cell Phone Policy, that was discussed earlier.

Board members discussed the process of writing a policy and obtaining public input. Darrell Robinson recommended informing the Jordan Parent Advisory Committee (JPAC) the Board is looking into creating a Districtwide school cell phone policy. Dr. Anderson said there may be more information on legislative bills regarding cell phone use in schools by the next JPAC meeting.

President Miller proposed hiring a public opinion research company to create and distribute a poll to parents, employees, and students. Board members agreed to start the RFP process for a polling entity. The RFP results will be brought to the February 13, 2024 study session, where further cell phone discussion will ensue.

MOTION: It was moved by Bryce Dunford and seconded by Marilyn Richards to direct staff to move forward with a Request For Proposal (RFP) to select an entity to do research with the public regarding cell phone usage in school.

John Larsen asked about the types of survey methods to be included in the RFP as all have different costs and benefits. It was decided to use a phone survey and focus groups.

President Miller called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

MOTION: At 8:53 p.m., it was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Marilyn Richards to go into closed session. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Tracy J. Miller, Board President
Niki George, Board First Vice President
Darrell Robinson, Board Second Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Bryce Dunford, Board Member
Marilyn Richards, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services

President Miller presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; property, potential litigation, negotiations, and security measures. The closed session discussion was recorded and archived.

MOTION: At 9:43 p.m., it was moved by Bryce Dunford and seconded by Brian Barnett to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

/II

Attachments