

MINUTES
Board Regular Meeting
Iron County School District
2077 W Royal Hunte Dr., Cedar City, Utah
Tuesday, January 23, 2023
5:30 p.m

Members present

Ben Johnson, Dave Staheli, Jeff Corry, Lauren Lewis, Tiffiney Christiansen, Megen Ralphs, Stephanie Hill
Also in attendance: Superintendent Lance Hatch, Business Administrator Todd Hess, Kevin Garrett, Roy Mathews, Steve Burton, Janette Stubbs and Monica Torres

MEETING OPENING

President Ben Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Bob Tingey offered a prayer.

Gavin Hawkley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- Minutes of the December 5, 2023 Special Meeting and the Minutes of the December 12, 2023 Regular Meeting
- Audit and Approval of Warrants
- Employment of Personnel
- LEA Specific License
- Home School/Exemption from School Attendance
- Recommendation for Release of Students from School (JEG-R)

Mr. Corry made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Staheli seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Recognitions

There were no recognitions.

Public Comment

Robert Chamberlain introduced his nephew, Sully John, to perform a tribal dance.

Sheryl Stratton spoke about cancel culture and gave examples of recall votes in other states. She asked the Board to reinstate the Redmen name.

Sadie Hinck, student at CHS, spoke about the cell phone ban being proposed by Governor Cox. She urged the Board to not ban cell phones in the high schools. Cell phones in classrooms are more of a tool than a distraction and they help promote responsibility.

Shoni John, mother of Sully John, explained her son loves to dance for the people who don't have a voice. He loves to share his culture. She encouraged the Board to listen to community members and do what is best for the community.

Lisa Davis read a letter written by former community member, Boyd Redington encouraging the Board to reinstate the Redmen name.

Natalie Anderson, Miss Iron County, spoke about her community initiative, helping to protect children from child abuse and preventing it through education.

Andrea Nelson spoke about reinstating the Redmen name.

Students from the Canyon View High School Lacrosse Team presented the Board with a treat and thanked them for allowing lacrosse in their school.

Ray Alvey, community member, spoke about the rapid growth of Cedar City and the lack of construction workers in the area. He asked the Board to think about a high school construction program to educate .

Business Administrator's Report

Business Administrator Todd Hess indicated he had no concerns with the monthly budget reports. There were no questions from the Board. He informed the Board of specific bills to keep an eye on in the upcoming legislative session.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Hatch thanked Sully for his performance. For his report he highlighted SUCCESS Academy and Cedar High School. Superintendent Hatch also read the summary of the Canyon View Middle School Investigation written by Robert A Dent,

Lieutenant Colonel, Utah Army National Guard.

Board Member Report

Mrs. Christiansen expressed appreciation for the staff at Cedar High School. She also thanked Natalie Anderson, Miss Iron County, for her presentation, and Sully for sharing his talents. She thanked the schools in the district for creating a culture that people want to work in. She briefly reported on the USBA Conference she attended earlier this month.

Mr. Staheli spoke about his visit to Three Peaks Elementary and Parowan Elementary. He pointed out there have been weak spots in the iReady program and said he was impressed with the way teachers have worked through them. He also expressed appreciation to Sully for his dance.

President Johnson also thanked Sully for his dance. He reported he has had the opportunity to take part in Vision Iron County and spoke of the way education plays into the growth and opportunities. He spoke of his meeting with the Parowan High School community council. He thanked the facilities management employees in the district for all they do. He also thanked the front offices in schools and the district office building as well as the teachers and professionals throughout the district. The impact teachers have is amazing.

Mr. Staheli also thanked Superintendent Hatch and all those involved in the situation at Canyon View Middle School.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Continuous Improvement Expert (CIE) for South Elementary School

Steve Burton, Executive Director of Elementary Education, recommended approval of Innovation Education. The Continuous Improvement Expert will provide support in helping South Elementary achieve goals that were selected from a comprehensive needs assessment. He explained that through the RFP process, Innovations Ed was chosen. The total was \$93,015, which the grant covers.

Mrs. Hill made a motion to accept Innovations Ed in the implementation of the Continuous Improvement Expert for South Elementary. Mr. Staheli seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

South Elementary School Improvement Plan - Elevate

Mr. Burton informed the Board that South Elementary applied for and received a grant from USBE called the Elevate Grant. The grant will provide \$375,000 to help the school meet their School Improvement Plan. He highlighted Smart Goal #3 regarding attendance. The attendance rate at South Elementary dropped to 60% over the last few years. Their goal is to increase from 69% to 90% in attendance. There are also math and language arts goals tied to the improvement plan.

Mr. Corry made a motion to approve the South Elementary School Improvement Plan. Mrs. Hill seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Exception to Policy GCPC Early Retirement Incentive

Mrs. Ralphs made a motion to reject the request for the exception to Policy GCPC Early Retirement Incentive as discussed in closed session. Mr. Corry seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

SUCCESS Academy Amendments

Superintendent Hatch reminded the Board the reason the amendments are coming to the Board is because we are the authorizers of the charter.

Mrs. Ralphs made a motion to approve the two amendments in the MOU's as outlined. Mrs. Christiansen seconded the motion. Mr. Corry mentioned he didn't agree with the portion of the MOU that allows siblings of students already enrolled, and children of current SUCCESS Academy employees or board members preferential enrollment status. Superintendent Hatch explained the reason for this is to keep families together in the same school. This helps with travel for activities, etc. Ben Kaufman, director of SUCCESS Academy, pointed out the two things Mr. Corry mentioned were written in the original agreement and the Board is only approving the amendments today, not the original MOU. Mrs. Ralphs explained the process the SUCCESS Academy Board followed when writing the MOU and pointed out the most discussed item was making sure everyone was okay with the lottery system and it was fair. Mrs. Hill advised that the terms are nothing out of the ordinary. **President Johnson called for a vote. All board members voted in favor. The motion passed.**

Renewal of Business Administrator Contract

Mrs. Christiansen made a motion to approve the contract for the business administrator. Mrs. Ralphs seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Superintendent Hatch made reference to a question raised by Mr. Corry about section 12. It previously read, Business Administrator acknowledges and agrees to be subject to the policies of the ICSD. If Policies contradict this Agreement, this Agreement shall control. The second sentence now reads, If **specific ICSD employment Policies** contradict this Agreement, this Agreement shall control. The reason for the change is there are many employment policies that cannot apply to his position because of the nature of this contract. The Board thanked Mr. Corry for noticing the need for the change in language.

Retire Policy DFD Rental and Service Charges and Policy DFD-E Request for School Equipment

Vice-President Lewis made a motion to retire Policy DFD Rental and Service Charges, and Policy DFD-E Request for School Equipment. Mrs. Ralphs seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Policy JFB Safe Schools

Superintendent Hatch reviewed the proposed change to the language on page 4 of the Policy JFB Safe Schools. The Board reviewed this change in the work meeting. This is a first reading.

ECAD Internet Safety Policy

Business Administrator Todd Hess explained the minor changes made to the policy since the work meeting including the date at the top of the document. The content of the policy has not changed. This policy is a first reading.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:07 p.m. Vice-President Lewis made a motion to enter into a closed meeting to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual as well as to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation. Mr. Corry seconded the motion. By voice vote, the board member voted as follows:

Tiffiney Christiansen - aye

Megen Ralphs - aye

Stephanie Hill - aye

Ben Johnson - aye

Lauren Lewis - aye

Jeff Corry - aye

Dave Staheli - aye

Superintendent Hatch requested Janette Stubbs and Roy Mathews also attend the closed meeting.

At 7:23 p.m. Mrs. Ralphs made a motion to come out of the closed meeting. Mrs. Hill seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

At 7:24 p.m. President Johnson adjourned the meeting.

Board President

Business Administrator