

Minutes
Northeastern Utah Educational Services
Board Meeting
Thursday, February 22, 2024, 1:00 pm
Utah Capitol, East Senate Building
Aspen Room

Present:

Superintendents Andy Jensen, Greg Maughan, Bruce Northcott, Paul Sweat, Rick Woodford, Jason Young, Weilenmann School of Discovery Executive Director Steve Williams, USBE State Board Member Jennie Earl, Manila Elementary School Principal Alan Staggs, Manila High School Principal Camille Browning, Executive Director Piper Riddle and Secretary Amy Davis. Board Members absent include Superintendents Jill Gildea, Jerre Holmes and Dale Lamborn, Soldier Hollow Charter School Executive Director David Phillips, Terra Academy Executive Director Bill Zenner, Uintah River High School Principal Brittany Luck 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, Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 1:00 pm. Supt. Maughan welcomed everyone.

Action Consent Calendar:

Motion to approve the consent calendar as presented made by Supt. Northcott. Motion seconded by Supt. Woodford. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: Region Items (action may be pending):

Ms. Riddle acknowledged and wished a happy birthday to board members celebrating birthdays for February.

Ms. Riddle notified board members of the update on the BCBA contracted services discussed at the January board meeting. Katie Clark, is heading up the NUES BCBA team with Liz Howcroft as a part-time employee. They are currently teaching an RBT course to increase capacity in the mental health system in the region. Ms. Riddle referred board members to the overview of the mental health team at NUES, highlighting the continual support of Holly Todd, NUES Crisis Response/MTSS/PBIS/School Counseling, the new contracted BCBA's including Staci Horsely who is working solely with Rich District, Sholeh Arabia and Trisha Iannotta-Bieszczad, working as remote/virtual BCBA's. She then notified board members of the new contract with Dana Blazzard, RBT/BCBA-in-training that will be available on Fridays for in-person services and possible full-time future BCBA. Mr. Williams inquired about how to contact the new BCBA assigned to Weilenmann. Ms. Riddle responded that Mr. Williams can contact Ms. Riddle or Ms. Clark directly to begin the remote services. Ms. Riddle then explained how the remote BCBA services can be utilized throughout the region.

Ms. Riddle reminded board members of the applicant discussed for the Mental & Behavioral Health position at the January board meeting. The applicant chose to remain with the current employer. Ms. Riddle stated that she received another application from someone with the same qualifications. She told the applicant that the position was on hold for the time being. Ms. Riddle then inquired about trying to continue to fill the open position or hold off until spring and fill the position for the next school year. Supt. Woodford asked Ms. Riddle's recommendation on filling the position. Ms. Riddle responded that she feels the best thing to do is wait until spring and re-post a fresh post for the next school year and start again. Supt. Woodford suggested following the recommendation of Ms. Riddle. Board members discussed the open position and agreed to hold off until spring to re-post the open position. Ms. Riddle

indicated that every LEA is short-staffed in the area and encouraged participation in the RBT courses offered through NUES to grow your own staff. Ms. Riddle then reminded board members that Katie Clark will be working as a school psychologist intern and BCBA next year. Ms. Clark will be working under the supervision of a Wasatch school psychologist in South Summit, North Summit and Wasatch. Ms. Riddle will circulate back to the board regarding contracted BCBA services to see if the board would like to continue with the virtual/remote BCBA services. Ms. Riddle encouraged the board to contact her if they know of any private BCBA's in their areas that would be interested in contracted services in the region.

Ms. Riddle reported that the NUES team has been working on providing more accessible information through the service reports. She then presented the new service and explained the data points showing hours spent in the region as well as the meetings attended. NUES employees began using the new report on January 16, 2024. She presented the charts showing percentages of time spent in the region for each NUES employee. Board members discussed the new report along with the charts showing the percentages. Ms. Riddle encouraged additional feedback from board members collectively or individually about how to continue to inform stakeholders with meaningful information. Supt. Woodford encouraged similar reporting to the legislature from all RESA's showing data that meets the needs of rural Utah. Ms. Riddle will plan to duplicate the efforts of Mr. Mossman by submitting an annual report every June to USBE and the legislature that includes the charts. She noted that the annual report is not something that she has seen across all four RESA's but will continue with reporting from NUES.

Ms. Riddle notified board members of the Sterling Scholar at UVU on March 12, 2024. She informally invited all board members to attend with formal invitations to follow.

Ms. Riddle announced the Utah Art Education Association Educator of the Year as Liz Brown at NUES. Liz Brown will be recognized at the UAEA Conference on March 6, 2024.

Ms. Riddle informed board members that USBE will be contributing \$75,000 towards the early learning coach positions at each RESA. She reported on how the early learning coaches benefit the LEA's in the region along with the cost benefit. Supt. Maughan stated that if USBE only allocates \$75,000 towards the early learning coaches, the board may need to contribute financially to maintain the level of support. Supt. Sweat inquired about the budgets for the early learning coaches. Ms. Riddle responded that the budget for each coach is approximately \$180,000 each. Board members discussed the early learning coach positions at NUES. Ms. Riddle proposed that board members discuss the benefits of the positions in the individual districts and then be prepared to discuss financial scenarios and proposals at the March board meeting.

Supt. Maughan reported that the NESS formulas are still being discussed. There will likely be some changes proposed while HB533 is on the floor. Board members discussed HB533.

Supt. Maughan expressed appreciation for USBE Board Member Jennie Earl and her support for public education. Ms. Earl stated that there is an interest to help districts be successful. Ms. Earl stated that she will check on the specifics of the early learning coach funding.

Supt. Young inquired about S.J.R. 10 that includes the constitutional change. He notified board members that legislators are seeking JLC leadership support for the bill. Board members discussed S.J.R. 10.

Supt. Maughan inquired about HB460 where an employee can refuse to do something part of their job if they believe it violates religious, moral or philosophical beliefs. Board members discussed HB460.

Ms. Riddle reported that at the last URSA meeting, there was a request for URSA to formally support HB262. HB262 includes the land trust bill that was discussed in JLC. URSA chose to formally support the bill due to JLC being in support of the bill as well. As a reminder, the call for presentations at the URSA conference is now open with conference registration opening in March. Ms. Riddle encouraged board members submit a proposal to present at the URSA Conference. Josh Ship will be the keynote speaker this year in Richfield, July 15-17, 2024. Upon completion of the URSA Conference this year, NUES will proceed with planning the URSA Conference in Park City in 2025. The keynote speaker in 2025 will be Jim Knight. Ms. Riddle stated that the book "The Instructional Playbook: The Missing Link for Translating Research into Practice" will be given to participants. Ms. Riddle proposed a possible evening event featuring Jim Knight since he is such a renowned speaker for those not attending the full conference.

Supt. Sweat stated that there are no new updates from UHSAA. The next UHSAA meeting will be in 2 weeks where they will begin re-alignment.

Discussion Roundtable:

Supt. Woodford inquired about HB84. He expressed the need for school safety and the concern with the message that opposing the bill would send to the public. He encouraged board members to work with Representative Wilcox and support amendments to the bill. Board members discussed HB84.

Supt. Northcott expressed concern with the bill from Senator Fillmore regarding performance pay. Ms. Earl stated that rewarding good teachers has been on the radar for many legislators; however philosophically, it's not the best premise to go off of. She then stated that many bills will not pass due to low or no funding. Ms. Earl encouraged proactive discussion with legislation on what works and what doesn't work moving forward.

Information:

Next NUES Board Meeting – Tuesday, March 26, 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.